

Nnamdi Azikiwe '30

#### FIRST FEMALE PRIME MINISTER OF NAMIBIA

Kwame Nkrumah

'39

Historic 'FIRST' places Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila '94 among Azikiwe and Nkrumah

# FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

Dear Alumni and Friends of Lincoln University:

Greetings and best wishes as classes commence for the 2015-16 academic year, the 161st year since the founding of Lincoln University. Since my arrival at Lincoln, my experience has been quite busy, eventful and extremely satisfying.

My wife, Dorothy, and I arrived on campus late in the evening on June 30, and spent our first night in the wonderful accommodations of the Thurgood Marshall Living-Learning Center.

Although we had visited earlier in the spring, the beautiful weather the next day highlyshowcased Lincoln's buildings and picturesque grounds. The first day at Lincoln was incredible and foretold the experience of the days and weeks that followed.

To date, we have met many members of the Lincoln Family, students, alumni, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees as well as friends and supporters from the Chester County area – all representing a community of very proud and friendly people. Lincoln has welcomed us with open arms and now our extended family includes all of you.

On July 17, Dorothy and I also enjoyed the company of the Board of Trustees at a reception at the President's House and the next day, we attended the Annual Alumni Picnic. It too, was a beautiful day and I was happy to meet the more than 300 alumni and their family members in attendance.

In my ongoing interactions, I have been asked repeatedly about my plan or vision for the university. My initial response has been to simply state that I am here to help Lincoln realize its fullest potential as a distinguished institution of higher learning, which has a stellar past and will have an even more outstanding future.

Lincoln University will have a sustainable future and from the beginning of this academic year, we, as a community, will endeavor towards that end. I have high expectations of all of us, and if we expect excellence in all we endeavor to do, we will experience success.

Open and transparent communications will be the norm and the good of Lincoln and its students will be paramount among our goals and strategic priorities. Now, general statements of intent and such broad based platitudes will not suffice to have us succeed; thus, I have a long list of expectations for our time together at Lincoln. I have heard from alumni, the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students that they all have specific expectations. I will continue to seek and receive input from the Lincoln family as I have found that input extremely helpful.

So far, I have asked for responses to the following questions:

- 1. How long have you been at Lincoln?
- 2. What do you consider to be most revered at Lincoln? Its strength?
- 3. What do you consider the item(s) or issue(s) that need to be improved at Lincoln?
- 4. What can I do to assist you as we address some of the concerns listed in 3 above?
- 5. General/specific expectations of me as interim president?
- 6. Other comments.

I have received excellent and very thoughtful responses that will help us move forward to accomplish our collective goals.

We will review the 2013-2018 Lincoln University Strategic Plan and determine the degree of progress we have made; discern our strengths, weaknesses and the opportunities and threats that we may face as we carry out our mission and vision. We will determine if changes are needed and to what extent we have positioned Lincoln for a strong sustainable future. I will make every possible opportunity available for ongoing input and contributions from all Lincoln constituents.

The 20th century legacy of Lincoln is outstanding and its graduates renowned; the start of the 21st century should be just as stellar for our university. We will be good stewards of our time and resources and will make all alumni proud to proclaim that they are graduates of Lincoln University.

Again, "expect excellence, experience success" – an important statement that will pay great dividends for us all.

Best regards,

Sichar Speer

Richard Green, Ph.D. Interim President





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#### A MAGAZINE WHERE BEING THE FIRST MATTERS | FALL/WINTER 2015/16

# $\frac{\text{AMONG THE}}{\text{FIRST}\,\overline{\text{AND}}\,\text{FEW}}$

#### FROM THE EDITOR

Our alumni never cease to impress me. I say this not because I am among them, but because we do what many avoid doing, and that is being FIRST or among the few. Not many desire the burden or challenge to tread an unpaved and untested road or dare to join an elite circle or company of individuals.

It's too difficult. It's too dangerous.

Rather, most hesitate or wait until someone else braves the terrain, clears the obstacles, confirms the path or when the masses have done so and affirmed it as safe and the trendy thing to do.

For us, however, it is a tradition that became a part of our DNA when we first entered and then finally departed through the university's storied alumni arch.

We come from a university of firsts and distinctions, a university that stakes its brand on taking not only students who graduated first in their high school class, but also those who were first in their household to attend college, transforming them into trailblazers or global leaders in their respective fields.

Amusingly, when society argues that few FIRSTS are left to attain, a Lincoln alumnus finds and achieves it. Such is the case with our cover feature on Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila '94, recently sworn in as the fourth prime minister of Namibia and the FIRST female to hold the position.

Not since 1963 when Nnamdi Azikiwe '30 became the FIRST president of Nigeria or Kwame Nkrumah '39 became the FIRST prime minister of the Gold Coast in 1951, then subsequently Ghana's FIRST prime minister once it became independent, and finally its FIRST president after it became a republic in 1960, has an alumnus risen to such heights in an African government.

We also recognize the life, work and influences of Dr. Martin Kilson, the FIRST African American tenured-



professor at Harvard University. Kilson, who as an undergraduate at Lincoln, was inspired by the legendary scholar, W.E.B. Dubois, who he first encountered at a Lincoln University Convocation and was also mentored by Dr. Horace Mann Bond, the university's FIRST African American president.

Others, while not FIRST, dare to be among the FEW.

Jay Hunt '00 and his wife, Joy, who opened *Elite Feet*, the only, and possibly the FIRST, athletic footwear and accessories store in Middletown, DE and Michael Bailey '91, who joined the unique company of inventors and small business owners with his *Lil' Bambinos Treasures Maxi Bottle*, a multi-functional, economical and environmentally-friendly baby bottle, and his startup baby products company, *Parents Little Treasures, LLC*.

Anthony G. Stepney '90, a PGA Golf professional, who already numbers among less than 100 African Americans of the 28,000 PGA members and apprentices, is also pursuing his PGA Certified Class A Professional designation, similar to a master's degree in academic circles, followed by the PGA Master's Professional in Player Development – the association's highest credential for its golf professional membership.

This issue of *LION* highlights those as well as other alumni, students and faculty, who are also strengthening our long, literary tradition, who are educators, filmmakers and even choreographers.

Lastly, we revisit a legendary scholar as well as two community leaders and revolutionaries, who among them were jailed as well as made the ultimate sacrifice for self-determination and freedom for our people.

And as such, we, alumni, continue as FIRST and FEW to embody, LION.

Hail, Hail Lincoln!

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Eric Christopher Webb '91 Editor

#### **LION** FALL/WINTER 2015/16

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# ROAR

#### TURMAN NAMED ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

#### Lincoln University recently named Kevan Turman'01, MSR '08 associate vice president of development. He assumed his post July 1.



Turman, 36, who served as campaign manager for the university's Student's First Campaign for the last year, will lead the execution of a comprehensive fundraising plan that maximizes annual giving, leadership gifts, planned giving as well as foundation and government relations.

He will also actively manage a personal portfolio of major gift prospects to secure significant philanthropic gifts for the university's top fundraising priorities.

Previously, he served as special assistant to the president and was the director of development at Grambling University in Grambling, Louisiana before returning to Lincoln in 2012. He also held prior positions as director of the annual fund at Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, associate director of alumni clubs and young alumni programs at the University of Delaware and director of alumni relations at Lincoln.

#### **BUTTON SERVES AS GUEST LECTURER IN ROME**

Dr. Marilyn Button, professor of English, was among two guest lecturers in literature at the National Endowment for the Humanities' sponsored summer institute for teachers in Rome, Italy, July 3-30.

"The Monuments of Rome in English Culture" institute allowed 25 teachers from around the United States, who were interested in making connections between their disciplines and the humanities, classics, history and social sciences, to examine the classical roots of Western thought as they view in person the monuments which reflect Rome's great achievements.

Dr. Button's focus, "Rome in the British Literary Imagination," examined the ways in which the classical and biblical world views are evident throughout English literature from Chaucer to T.S. Eliot. **1** 

romanmonuments.utep.edu

#### **ROAR** Lincoln's *first graduate* and co-founder featured on bookmark

One of the first graduates and co-founders of Ashmun Institute (now Lincoln University) will continue to be found not only within the pages of history, but between the pages of a wide variety of books.

#### By Eric Christopher Webb '91

James Ralston Amos, an 1859 graduate, is among the latest historical figure from Chester County, some nationally known while others lesser known, to be featured on a series of 22 bookmarks so far created and distributed by the office of State Senator Andy Dinniman.

"Sen. Dinniman's background is in history and he's very interested in this," says Adam Cirucci, communications director for the state senator. "We want to make sure we give students the opportunity to learn about individuals from Chester County that have made contributions to our region, to our state and (to the nation)."

The Amos bookmark was created in collaboration with Dr. Cheryl Renee Gooch, dean of the university's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, who also edited, On Africa's Lands: The Forgotten Stories of Two Lincoln-Educated Missionaries in Liberia. The book chronicles the lives and missionary experiences of James and his brother, Thomas.

Amos, already a Methodist minister, sought help from Rev. John Miller Dickey to gain acceptance to a seminary to continue his formal education, but was denied because of prejudice. As a result, he was educated by Dickey, who he assisted in raising moral support and money to charter what is now Lincoln in 1854.

He and his brother, Thomas, who also graduated in 1859, were

also leaders in Hosanna Church, which stands outside the gates of the university. The church was an Underground Railroad station and hosted abolitionist meetings.

"Lincoln has a great history and we're happy to give it its due," he says. "We could probably do a whole series on its alumni."

Others figures include Dr. Hazel Brown, the first African American woman to achieve the rank of Chief of the Army Nurse Corps, the Rev. Francis Allison, a religious leader, educator and statesman who founded the New London Academy, a free school that eventually became the University of Delaware, Ida Ella Ruth Jones, a selftaught artist who painted in the folk art style and became known as "the Grandma Moses of Chester County," Dr. Ann Preston, a medical professional, abolitionist and women's rights pioneer who became the first American woman to be elected dean of a medical college and went on to found the Women's Hospital of Philadelphia and Isaac Israel Hayes, a physician and Arctic explorer who journeyed past the Arctic Circle to map new geographic regions.

The bookmark series, which was started in 2011, are available at Chester County schools and libraries.

#### JAMES RALSTON AMOS

imes Ralston Amos was the co-founder of Ashmun Institute (later renamed Lincoln University), one of the nation's first African American institutions of education. Amos was a Metbodist minister when be sought help from Reverend John Miller Dickey to gain acceptance to a seminary to continue bis formal education. He was also a praying man. Unable to gain acceptance to seminaries that denied bim because of bis race, Amos walked twenty-eight miles weekly to study with Dickey. At the beginning of bis walk Amos would read the Rible and pray by a stone that served as bis altar. When Ashmun's first building was being constructed, Amos's prayer stone was placed in its foundation. Amos belped raise moral support and money for Ashmun Institute which was chartered in 1854. He and bis brother, Thomas Henry Amos, were among the first students to graduate in 1859 when they sailed to Liberia to serve as missionaries. In 1902, Lincoln University built Amos Hall to commemorate the brothers' pioneering efforts. Before James and Thomas became missionaries they were leaders in Hosanna Church near Oxford, PA which was an Underground Railroad station and bosted abolitionist meetings. The **Chester County Historical Society has** recognized the Amos brothers as Underground Railroad agents.

Photo Courtesy of Lincoln University

"Lincoln has a great history and we're happy to give it its due," he says. "We could probably do a whole series on its alumni."



### ALUMNA ELECTED AS FIRST FEMALE PRIME MINISTER OF NAMIBIA

Historic 'FIRST' places Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila '94 among Azikiwe and Nkrumah

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

While Presidential candidate and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton vies for the highest elected position in the United States government as well as to be the first woman, nearly 8,500 miles away in southern Africa another woman has made history.

In March, Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila '94 was named and sworn in as the fourth prime minister of Namibia, also making her the first female in that capacity. What makes her appointment resonate even more is that she is the first Lincoln University alumna and only the third alumnus overall to rise to the highest levels of any government, African or otherwise.

Not since Nnamdi Azikiwe '30, who was named the first president of Nigeria in 1963 or Kwame Nkrumah '39 who was named the first president of Ghana in 1960, has any alumnus held a similar distinction. Both Azikiwe and Nkrumah were also recognized for other "FIRSTS" before becoming their respective countries' first presidents. Azikiwe was also Nigeria's first president of the Senate and Nkrumah was the first prime minister of the Gold Coast and subsequently Ghana.

"For this post, I have chosen a young, dynamic and pretty young lady," Incoming President Hage Geingob was quoted in *The Namibian Sun*, who she replaces as prime minister. "She is well-groomed in management and particularly in financial management, an area in which she possesses vast experience. Therefore having someone with sound financial fundamentals at the helm will be an advantage."

> "I want to live up to the expectations," says Kuugongelwa-Amadhila during a press conference announcing her appointment. "My predecessors did their best, but it is no secret that we still face



Nnamdi Azikiwe '30



Kwame Nkrumah '39

UNITY USTICE

enormous challenges as a country. My focus will be on better service delivery by the public sector. We have to deliver services to Namibians. The idea is to keep the momentum."

Geingob explains that her experience as a chief administrator will be invaluable since her office oversees the implementation of various governmental programs and projects. Aside from her accomplishments and expertise, her appointment makes sense for other reasons as well.

Since Namibian women constitute half of the population, the country benefits from the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) Party's 50/50 gender representation, Geingob explained at a Southern African Development Community summit last month. He says that the top four posts in government are split on gender lines.

"Women occupy strategic portfolios such as home affairs, urban and rural development and education with both ministries responsible for lower and higher education headed by female ministers and deputy ministers," he was quoted in *The Namibian*.

Kuugongelwa-Amadhila's meteoric rise through Namibia's government began immediately after her graduation from Lincoln in 1994, where she received a bachelor's degree in economics. She returned to Namibia and took a position as a desk officer in the Office of the President under Sam Nujoma. Nujoma had received an honorary doctorate degree from the university four years earlier. own challenges and I now have to appreciate the task which lies ahead."

Born in Okahao, Omusati, she went into exile with SWAPO in 1980 and at 15, she left for Sierra Leone in 1982. From 1982 to 1984, Kuugongelwa-Amadhila attended Koidu Girls Secondary School and then Saint Joseph's Secondary School until 1987. She arrived at Lincoln

in January 1991.

Tjama Tjivikua, Ph.D. '83, an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Lincoln from 1990 to 1995, remembers.

#### "...as a student, Kuugongelwa-Amadhila was very quiet, but one could tell she was destined for greatness." -Ms. Connie Lundy

Then in 1995, at 27 years old, she was named director general of the National Planning Commission. Seven years later, Kuugongelwa-Amadhila was appointed as minister of finance and held that post until she was named prime minister.

"Kuugongelwa-Amadhila's tenure at the Ministry of Finance would be remembered for her ambitious fiscal targets, which she presented in her first full budget of 2004, of limiting government spending," according to *New Era Newspaper Namibia.* "She was eventually to present the country's first ever budget surplus in 2006-07 and 2007-08. During her tenure, the country employed serious fiscal discipline."

For her meritorious service, she was conferred the *Most Brilliant Order of the Sun*, Second Class on Heroes' Day 2014 by then Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba.

#### **Before her career**

"I come from humble beginnings and it always has been about hard work and learning," says Kuugongelwa-Amadhila according to *The Namibian Sun.* "One does not do things to rise and I never did what I did for recognition and promotion. The prime minister position has its

"Saara arrived at LU in January 1991, with Elizabeth Asino, Ester Hamutenya and Jeff Kaupitua under the (Africa American Institute) AAI scholarship," says Dr. Tjivikua, who is the first rector of the Polytechnic of Namibia and received an honorary degree from Lincoln in 2013. "... they arrived on campus in the dead of winter (Ms. Connie Lundy) took exceptional care of them, ensuring they're housed and fed properly. On their first day or so, I took them to Oxford Mall to buy basic winter clothing and bare necessities...I took care of them throughout their studies there and during some holidays, (when)



Sarah Kuugongelwa Economics, B.S.

was very quiet, but one could tell she was destined for greatness.

"I knew her to be very quiet, but very reflective and introspective as well," she says. "She always took advice very well and you could tell that she felt that she had a heavy responsibility as a Namibian that she knew at some point she would go back and be of service to her country. For me, there was something inside of her. She had a spirit that let me know she was going to do great things. I just felt that. I didn't know in what capacity or when that would be, but I had an inkling when she became the youngest minister of finance."

William K. Dadson, Ph.D., one of her professors in business and entrepreneurial studies department, echoes a similar sentiment, but could not predict what she would become.

#### "I owe a lot of gratitude to Lincoln for helping to prepare me for what I have become..." -Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila

they would spend time at my place in Newark. We cooked big and ate big."

Of the Namibian students, Saara graduated on top of her class and ahead of the other Namibians at that time, Tjivikua says.

Lundy, who has served as the director of international programs and services since 1991, says that as a student, Kuugongelwa-Amadhila Like all business students, he says, she was a member of the business club, but he as others were unaware of any other extracurricular activities.

During her Lincoln years, he taught four to six of her courses.

"Brilliant, very, very sharp, doesn't talk much, but if you engaged her about the subject matter she was very, good," he said. "She was mostly a quiet type of person. She was a deep thinker. She thought before she would say anything."

While Dadson couldn't have predicted that the quiet, very, focused student would rise to the highest levels of her government and be required to address her country's parliament and others, he admits she was much like other international students.

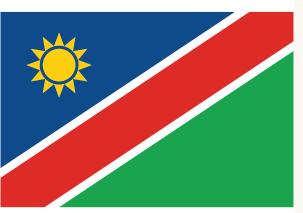
"She never talked much about herself, her life," he says. "Initially, you don't find out much about them (as far as aspirations) until they're gone."

Kuugongelwa-Amadhila credits Lincoln for her preparation.

"I owe a lot of gratitude to Lincoln for helping to prepare me for what I have become and to individuals like (Lundy) and Mrs. Harris (a Lucy Laney Residence Hall advisor) for the personal support and encouragement that (they) provided to all of us while at Lincoln," she says. "In fact, all the Lincoln graduates of our class are making important contributions to the country in different fields, and we found many other Lincoln graduates from before our time who were amongst the senior members of our first government."

Tjivikua says that at least two of her classmates, Asino and Kaupitua, whom she arrived at Lincoln with, are also working in the Namibian government.

"Indeed so much has happened since I graduated from Lincoln," Kuugongelwa-Amadhila says. "I was lucky to find work in my area of study and which gave me an opportunity to significantly touch people's lives. This has been extremely gratifying."



# NEW FACES AT LINCOLN



LATOYA JOHNSON Adjunct Instructor Start date: 7/5/15



MARIA DE LA CRUZ Residence Hall Coordinator Start date: 7/13/15



TAMIA DAVIS Residence Hall Coordinator Start date: 7/13/15



ANTHONY E. SCOTT Assistant Football Coach Start date: 7/20/15

#### ELITEFEET MAKES NEW FOOTPRINTS JASON "JAY" HUNT 'OO AND WIFE

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

The 37-year-old Jason "Jay" Hunt '00 always wanted his own business before turning 40, and it looks like he beat his deadline. Hunt and his wife, Joy, opened Elite Feet - Premier Footwear for the Entire Family on Labor Day weekend in their community of Middletown, DE.



like Emu and others, not found at the local mall. The store plans to offer a specialty service as well.

"We're going to do custom sneakers, mainly Converse with character themes, (professional) sports teams, local teams," he says. They've secured a designer and prices for customization will range from \$35 to \$40.

What also separates *Elite Feet* from *Footlocker* and others is the Hunt's community involvement philosophy. The company, while has yet to open its doors, has already partnered with the local Shoes 2 Share as an official drop off location for their customers and community partners to donate their used shoes.

"We are a mom and pop store and we are a part of the community," he says.

*Elite Feet* also sponsored "Cuts for Kids," a program to provide free haircuts, book bags and school supplies for children 17 and under in the Middletown, DE area, which took place Aug. 30 at the Atmosphere Multicultural Barber Shop.

The Hunts are no strangers to community involvement or to the "Cuts for Kids" program, Jay having established it and operated in conjunction with his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. as well as with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Joy's sorority years earlier.

A chapter founder of the Gamma Mu Nu chapter of Omega (Joy also helped charter the Middletown Alumnae chapter of her sorority), Jay also founded and is executive director of *Omega Icons*, a volunteerdriven services organization dedicated to community empowerment via education and cooperative economics.

"We're mentoring young men of color based on education and striving to be better," he says.

The non-profit, which is staffed by members of his fraternity, conducts mentoring and hosts the Heritage Bowl, a Black history and academic tournament for young people as well as the Heritage Achievement Camp, the Billionaire Boot Camp, a youth wealth management workshop as well as other programs.

"We've hosted the Heritage Bowl for three years at University of Delaware and two years at Lincoln," he said. "We stopped because it got so big, but we're going to bring it back since we're looking for funding."

Located in the Summit Plaza Shopping Center at 5238 Summit Bridge Road, the store boasts a "one stop shop" for the latest styles in footwear and accessories from toddlers to teenagers . . . and for mom and dad too!"

**OPEN NEW SNEAKER STORE** 

"For me, it's all about entrepreneurship," said Hunt, who had a lucrative 13-year career in pharmaceutical sales along with his wife, Joy, before he left to start the business. "I used to drive around on a Sunday to see what was in the vicinity (as far as shoe stores). About 25 miles north is Christiana Mall in Newark and about 25 miles south was Dover Mall in Dover, but nothing was in between other than just Kohl's and Wal-Mart. And they don't carry major brands so I (realized) I could fulfill a niche."

While Hunt says the idea for the store was his, his wife, Joy, also a pharmaceutical sales representative and a certified nutritionist with her own business, *The Joy of Eating Well*, definitely supports him in everything he does.

"She saw the vision in it," he says.

So, Hunt and his wife researched and prepared a detailed business and marketing plan, which included five-year projections for the business, and headed to the bank to secure a loan – a challenging and unsuccessful fete for many entrepreneurs.

"With the good credit, the good idea and the good character, it became a reality," says Hunt, who was able to secure a \$175,000 loan. "Being backed by a bank makes things a lot easier. We ensured that we had enough for three years of expenses. It took a lot of hard work, research and now it's all about putting that effort into reality."

Once opened, he anticipates about \$70,000 in sales revenue by year's end then about \$250,000 to \$300,000 during the regular fiscal year, which he says are conservative numbers. Those numbers also support his contention to open a second store within two years near the University of Delaware in Newark, and possibly a total of five stores in five years.

"I looked at *KicksUSA* in Philadelphia," Hunt says. "They started with one store in the early 2000s and now they have 48 stores."

*Elite Feet* plans to feature all of the national brands customers are accustomed like Nike, Adidas, Ugg and Skechers as well as some exclusive and private brands,

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Greetings Lions!

It is my great pleasure to serve as the Interim Director of Alumni Relations for our alma mater, Lincoln University. Like my decision to enroll here as an undergraduate, the decision to return in a leadership role was not taken lightly. Same as other Lions, I bleed orange and blue. So, the Lincoln Love was there. I felt confident in my skills and abilities. My time at Lincoln combined with my other academic, professional, and life experiences, prepared me to navigate the world, take advantage of opportunities, and tackle any challenge with grace. However, I needed something more than passion and ability. I needed fulfillment. When I thought about Lincoln's future, I was honest with myself about the possibilities. We have a rich legacy, but our future is not promised. Still, I felt like I could make a difference here so, I showed up.

Since my arrival, I have listened and observed to not only to understand more about the University's needs, but also to learn more about the alumni's needs and desires to remain connected to our "Dear Old Orange and Blue." That is of the uptmost importance since the Office of Alumni Relations is the primary communications link between the University and the alumni once we depart Lincoln's stone gates.

Over the next several months, our goal is to nurture the bond between the University and our alumni; to renew alumni interest in, and support for, the University; to strengthen our lines of communication to and from the entire alumni body; to cultivate the relationships with our seasoned alumni; and to improve participation and engagement with our recent graduates.

We will focus on building support, fostering engagement, offering value, and cultivating partnerships. Our four key indicators of progress will be: 1). strengthened operational foundation; 2). increased and improved marketing and outreach to alumni; 3). established programming benefits and services; and 4). improved effectiveness of engagement of the Alumni Association of Lincoln University and other key partners, represented by committed volunteerism and service, increased and accurate data collection, expanded professional services and enhanced signature events among others.,

Ultimately, we aim to provide ways for our alumni to find meaning in their relationship with the University. After all, it is thanks to Lincoln that we show up in the world the way we do. Likewise, it is due to us, the alumni, that Lincoln University shows up in the world the way it does. The alumni play a key role in the advancement of Lincoln University. We cannot assume greatness alone. We want you to be involved in Lincoln University's future.

As an alumna and professional, I was presented with an opportunity to show up. Now, I offer Lions a similar opportunity. The real question is not "Will you show up?" The real question is, "How will you show up for Lincoln University?"

Send me a message on Twitter and Instagram @TakeyahYoung. Let me know how you will #ShowUpForLU.

With Lincoln Pride,

Takeyah A. Young '99 Interim Director, Alumni Relations



"We cannot assume greatness alone. Lincoln University's future needs our involvement."

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Photos by Robert Williams

#### 2015 GREEK-LETTERED ORGANIZATION GIVING CHALLENGE



Sorority: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. \$30,340.40



Sorority: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. 79 Donors



Fraternity: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. \$63,486.00 / 41 Donors

#### **2015 Homecoming & Class Reunion Schedule of Events** Class Reunion Events Celebrating the 0's and 5's

#### Friday | October 9, 2015

**1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Alumni Welcome Center Alumni House

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Alumni Literary Showcase Langston Hughes Memorial Library

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Emeritus Luncheon International Cultural Center (ICC) Gallery By invitation only Reservations required Complimentary for Class of 1965 and earlier

#### Saturday | October 10, 2015

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Alumni Association of Lincoln University Executive and General Body Meeting Location TBD

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Tailgating International Cultural Center Parking Lot Organized by Lincoln University Athletics Reservations Required at LULions. com: \$35/ tailgating space (1 tailgating space = 2 parking spaces)

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Alumni Lounge International Cultural Center

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Alumni Welcome Center International Cultural Center 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Alumni Class Meetings Langston Hughes Memorial Library and other campus locations *Organized by Reunion Classes* 

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Campus Tours Alumni House Walking Tours and Driven Tours *Tours start at Alumni House and last 45 minutes* 

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Pep Rally Lincoln University Organized by Student Life and Development

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Alumni Literary Showcase Langston Hughes Memorial Library

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Women of Lincoln Reception Student Union Building Multipurpose Room Organized by Board of Trustees Chair, Kimberly Lloyd '94

**11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Homecoming Parade** Lincoln Village to Lincoln University Stadium

1:00 p.m. Homecoming Game Lincoln University Stadium Lincoln University vs. Virginia Union University

lincolnuniversityalumni.com/homecoming2015

6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Alumni Awards and Banquet Student Union Building Multipurpose Room *Reservations required* 

8:30 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. Step Show/After Party Manuel Rivero Hall (Main Gymnasium) Organized by Student Life and Development

9:30 p.m. – 2:00 a.m. All-Alumni Homecoming Party Student Union Building Multipurpose Room Hosted by the "All The Way Live Class of '85" Tickets required

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Recent Alumni Reception International Cultural Center Special event for Classes of 2000 – 2015, featuring Inaugural 40 Under 40 Recipients

**5:30 p.m.** – **7:00 p.m. Lincoln Society Reception** President's House *By invitation only* 

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Alumni Concert Ware Center for the Fine Arts Artist: TBA *Tickets required* 

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m. The Ol' Skoolers After Party Student Union Building Multipurpose Room Organized by Board of Trustees Chair, Kimberly Lloyd '94

#### Sunday | October 11, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Dr. Ja Jahannes '65 Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel Organized by Dr. Lenetta Raysha Lee '85

More information: Office of Alumni Relations (484) 365–8131 Schedule, events, event locations and pricing are subject to change without notice.

#### Class Reunion Events

Class of 1970 Friday, October 9 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Class of 1970 Reception Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel Annex

#### Saturday, October 10

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Class of 1970 Banquet Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel Annex Class of 1990

Saturday, October 10 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Class of 1990 Banquet Student Union Building Multipurpose Room

#### Class of 2005 Saturday, October 10

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Class of 2005 Social Gathering Ivory V. Nelson Center for the Sciences Lobby

# A baby bottle that

#### Lincoln alumnus, entrepreneur designs eco-friendly bottle

By Shelley Mix

Michael Bailey's entrepreneurial journey started in 2008 when he and his wife, Monica, became parents to daughter, Micaela. When choosing from numerous baby bottle styles, he noted their high cost and that each growth stage required a new bottle.

"I know I lost a lot of cabinet space when I had this little girl," Bailey says.

In 2009, he conceived of a bottle design that would grow with the child, be economical, environmentally-friendly and reduce clutter. But the economic reality of devoting himself fulltime to becoming an entrepreneur set in.

"I had a great sales job, so I put the idea on the backburner."

Bailey, a 1990 Lincoln graduate in physics with a minor in education, grew up in the Mt. Airy section of Northwest Philadelphia and graduated from the George Washington Carver High School of Engineering and Science. He came to Lincoln through the Lincoln Advanced Science and Engineering Reinforcement (LASER) Program, which operated at Lincoln in the '80s and '90s, to identify minority students who aspired to be scientists and engineers. a prototype. In 2013, he made the jump to working for his start up full time and hired a patent attorney.

Bailey named his company, Parents' Little Treasures.

"Children are priceless; children are a treasure from God."

He named the product, Lil' Bambinos Treasures Maxi Bottle, which Bailey chose to convey "maximum usage" and to appeal to cost-conscious parents.

He set to work understanding what parents wanted. He organized focus groups first with friends, then a church group, and finally online. He consulted a pediatrician.

"I've been doing my homework," he says.

His first call was to fellow Lincoln LASER alum Stacey Eadie, a practicing pediatrician and mother of two.

#### "Children are priceless; children are a treasure from God."

He didn't let go of the idea of starting a company around an ecofriendly bottle, however. In 2012, he contacted a friend in Atlanta to work on the schematic drawings and then hired an industrial designer to take the drawings and put them into a 3D design program to create "I suggested that most of his business will be new parents," Eadie says. "They'll be interested in the safety aspect, durability and if they'll use it again, it will still be intact."

Bailey took Eadie's advice. The bottle is dishwasher safe and made of plastic — instead of glass which can be



under of

by Shelley Mix

Michael Bailey '90, founder of Parents' Little Treasures and inventor of the Maxi Bottle.

costly and can chip or crack — that is free of BPA, PVC, and phthalates. The bottle's opening is also designed to be large enough for any hand size to clean.

#### Persistence

Perhaps no other quality is as integral to a successful entrepreneur as persistence. Other than his wife, no one knows Bailey's persistence better than Terrence Leggett '90, a close friend since freshman year when they lived in Rendell Hall. Both pledged Kappa Alpha Psi, and Leggett continues to be a sounding board for Bailey's plans.

"He is very persistent," Leggett says with a chuckle. "Slightly near annoying, but he's not going to ever give up on his goal. He's always had that personality."

Bailey is researching local manufacturers now.

"I want it made here in the USA to reduce shipping costs and materials, which lessens the environmental impact," he says. "As an employer I want to hire people who live here."

While he continues to secure funding via online crowdsourcing campaigns, he's created a promotional video, taken classes at the Wharton Small Business Development Center, and attended a Black Enterprise Entrepreneurs Conference as well as talked to other business owners to get advice.

#### JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

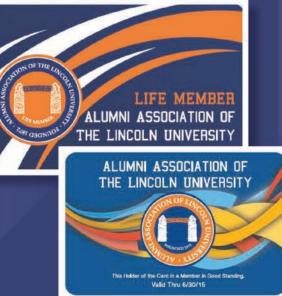


THE PURPOSE OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS TO PROMOTE THE LINCOLN UNIVERSITY AND IT'S ALUMNI BY:

- Cultivating and fostering a close fellowship among graduates, Alumni Chapters and former students of The Lincoln University.
- Encouraging financial support for The Lincoln University.
- Assisting in the recruitment of students to The Lincoln University.
- Working cooperatively with The Lincoln University personnel to develop and implement programs that will benefit the university and the Alumni Association.

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#### 00s



**TONEY EARL, JR. '03\***, a 2014 Beyond the Bars Social Justice Fellow of Columbia University's Center for Justice, is the executive director and founder of M.A.D.E. Transitional Services, an acronym for Making a Difference Everyday. The organization seeks to reduce recidivism and increase public safety by providing the proper

tools for ex-offenders—and by extension their families. In addition, M.A.D.E offers job readiness and life skills training for incarcerated offenders nearing the end of their sentences; mentorship programs and extracurricular activities for at-risk youth; and a transitional housing project, The Fletcher-Boykins Residencies, named for two fallen Lincoln graduates, Craig Fletcher '03 and Rodney "Hog" Boykins '03. **made-transitions.org** 

#### 90s



**OSEI RUBIE '92\*,** co-owner of New Harlem Besame restaurant, recently founded National Standard Abstract (NSA), a full-service title insurance firm in May. While Rubie has a decade of experience in the industry, starting his career at Fidelity National Title, his staff has more than a century of combined experience in the real estate industry of a management of a state industry

having worked on a spectrum of commercial and residential transactions within New York and across the country including mixed use, office, market rate and affordable housing, amusement parks and hospitals. Previously, some of his major New York transactions have included the \$90 million Randolph Houses and the \$15 million Bridge 145 project in Harlem and an \$89 million, 6-building assemblage in East New York. So far, NSA has closed \$16 million in real estate transactions since it began.



#### LYNETTE MEDLEY-THURMAN

'91\* was named interim board president of the COLOURS Organization, Inc., which provides educational advocacy and support mechanisms for LGBT people of color in the Greater Philadelphia area. She

replaces longtime board president John Clayton, who helmed the board for about eight years. Medley-Thurman is a sexual-awareness educator, coach and consultant, who attended Lincoln in the late 1980s and early 90s, but holds a bachelor's degree from Drexel University in mental and behavioral-health sciences and a master's degree from Widener University in human-sexuality education. Currently, she is the director of Enhanced Services at Consortium, Inc., which works with underserved populations and had previously served as a social-services manager at the Department of Human Services. **coloursorganization.org** 

**ERIC CHRISTOPHER WEBB '91,** National Black Authors Tour bestselling author, educator and social entrepreneur, launched his new official website, **WordsbyWebb.com** along with updated social media platforms on Facebook EwebbAuthor, Twitter @ thewordsbywebb, Instagram @webbswords and Youtube channel WordsbyWebb. The website and social media platforms feature new and previously published books, commentary and inspirational quotations as well as news and updates about upcoming book signings, performances, community engagement and other events.



#### 80s

JOHN C. JOHNSTON III '89, a former Lincoln University Trustee, is the senior business development executive for Local Business Marketing Solutions (LBMS) in Rockville, Md., which provides companies and business consultants search engine optimization (SEO), pay per click management, social media optimization, offline marketing strategies as well as web and mobile app development. Ibmsllc.com

70s



#### DR. BOYCE COURTNEY WILLIAMS '74,

president and CEO of the National Alliance for Learning, Inc. (NAL) was one of the keynote speakers at the HBCU Student Success Summit held June 24-27 in Atlanta, GA. Her topic, "*Profile in Higher Education Innovation: Advancing Completion With A Purpose*," was presented during the opening luncheon

on Thursday, June 25. NAL offers the tools and skills necessary to prepare students, faculty, administrators, practitioners, higher education institutions, and the community for today's diverse, globally independent world. With NAL, Dr. Williams is responsible for the primary programmatic thrusts of the organization and also lends knowledge to institutions in areas in which she has developed expertise over the past 20 years. Prior, she was the senior vice president and chief of staff for the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) in Washington, D.C. She received a bachelor's degree from Lincoln in English education as well as a master's degree in urban counseling and psychology and a doctorate degree in counseling psychology from Michigan State University. In addition, she holds honorary doctorate degrees from her alma mater, Lincoln University (PA), Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, Virginia Union University, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff, Stillman College, Lincoln University (MO) and Kentucky State University. natalliance.com

\*Attended, but did not graduate from the university.

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# 



#### Alumnus Anthony Stepney '90 among few African American PGA professionals

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

Corporate relationships are still born on the golf course, and PGA Golf Teaching Pro Anthony Stepney '90 is trying to ensure African Americans aren't removing themselves from contention.

Stepney, who is a PGA Teaching Professional in Orlando and also a program coordinator with the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore's Professional Golf Management program to develop and coordinate diversity and inclusion initiatives, has his own sights set on the PGA's highest credentials in the next six to 12 months – a fete few African Americans have attained.

"All this is about being a life learner, not being comfortable, not being complacent," says the 47-yearold Baltimore native. "I want to be at the highest of the high in teaching designations within the association."

Stepney's journey from golf hobbyist to golf professional, had its impetus with the 9/11 tragedy.

"9/11 gave everyone the posture of reflection," he says. "Think about all those people who went to work and didn't come home. I really started to reflect on what I was most passionate about and it was golf."

At the time, he says he had a great job in training and staff development with the state of Maryland's Office of Policy Research and Systems with its Department of Human Resources, but he decided to pursue his passion.

In 2007, Stepney received his PGA Class A membership. It took him only two and half years – an effort which usually takes most five to seven years and costs between \$10,000 and \$15,000. Typically, he says candidates either pursue the designation through a professional golf management program or attain a PGA apprenticeship.

According to the PGA of America, while the apprentice and university programs differ in significant ways, both require completion of the same curriculum, work experience, PGA Paying Ability Test, and employment or internship requirements.

Leaving nothing to chance, Stepney did both.

"I didn't want to be in position where someone taught you only what they thought you should learn," he says. "I took the extra step in getting a degree in golf operations management and then I did my PGA Apprenticeship at Walt Disney World. I am the only African American under the Walt Disney Company to even complete the PGA program and Disney paid for it."

Of the 28,000 PGA members and apprentices, Stepney estimates that less than 100 are African Americans.

Currently, he is working on his PGA Certified Class A Professional designation, which he says would be similar to a master's degree in academic circles, followed by the PGA Master's Professional in Player Development – the association's highest credential for its non-professional golfer membership.

The PGA itself is represented by its golf professionals, like Stepney, who promote and manage the game of golf through corporate partnerships and course operations and its professional golfers, like Tiger Woods and others, who compete in tournaments nationally and internationally.

Over the years, Stepney, who operates a school in Orlando, has likely worked with no less than 5,000 to 6,000 students. His work with UMES, another Historically Black College & University (HBCU) like his alma mater, Lincoln, is one of few programs of its kind uniquely positioned to prepare African Americans for careers in the industry.

"I think it would be great for (Lincoln to have a similar program), but that would really be far down the road. What is much more attainable is for it to have a golf team and to have aspects (of the program) woven into various majors to have prerequisites for students to learn the game and how relationships are made. The golf course is where that happens. (Aside from that) golf is a \$60 to \$70 billion a year industry and (African Americans) aren't taking advantage of it."

# Channeling Du Bois Bond

#### DR. MARTIN KILSON '53 LIFE AND LATEST BOOK INFLUENCED BY BOTH SCHOLARLY HERO AND INTELLECTUAL MENTOR

By Eric Christopher Webb '91

During a Sunday Convocation at Lincoln University's Mary Dod Brown Chapel, Dr. Martin Kilson, then a 19-year-old college freshman, first encountered W.E.B. Du Bois, the legendary scholar, who called on a 'Talented Tenth' to usher forth black progress. While others were present, it was Du Bois, who lit an inspirational fire in the aspiring young scholar, which led him to trace Du Bois' footsteps, first to Harvard as a graduate and doctoral student and then in his scholarly work.

For more than 50 years, Kilson, 84, has tackled the issues of class and power, and the socio-economic foundations and intellectual requisites of effective political leadership, whether in emerging nations of Africa or the rising middle class throughout the history of African Americans.

Still, it was those formative years at Lincoln, where Kilson found other mentors and examples, which laid the foundation for his study of the African and African American experience as well as shaped his intellectual identity.

"Though I've been formally away from my alma mater some 62 years, what might be called 'my intellectual and spiritual nearness to Lincoln University' has always been very keen and culturally deep-rooted," Kilson says. "Thus from my first year as a graduate student at Harvard Graduate School in the fall of 1953, I kept in contact with Dr. Horace Mann Bond through correspondence, until his retirement. Bond was my major intellectual mentor during my undergraduate years at Lincoln along with the political science professor, John Aubrey Davis, both of whom encouraged me to be a scholar."

Bond, a sociologist and Lincoln alumnus, was the university's first African American president from 1945 to 1957. Kilson also repeatedly acknowledges others at Lincoln, who shaped his intellectual identity and scholarly work, including:

#### VARTIN KILSON TRANSFORMATION OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN INTELLICENTSIA INDUCTOR

#### TRANSFORMATION OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN INTELLIGENTSIA, 1880–2012 (The W.F.R. Du Reis Lectures)

(The W.E.B. Du Bois Lectures)

By Martin Kilson, Ph.D. '53 Foreword By Henry Louis Gates Transformation of the African American Intelligentsia, 1880-2012 (The W.E.B. Du Bois Lectures) Harvard University Press 248 pages \$29.95 hardcover ISBN-10: 0674283546 ISBN-13: 978-0674283541 Social Science/History/Political Science Amazon.com Hup.harvard.edu

#### ... it was Du Bois, who lit an inspirational fire in the aspiring young scholar...

Henry Cornwell (psychologist), Laurence Foster (anthropologist), and Joseph Newton Hill (English literature).

But thanks to Bond's mentorship of Kilson and others, "Bond's pet students," were privy to personal audiences and to meals with Bond's "dearest intellectual friends," one of whom included social anthropologist, St. Clair Drake, whom Bond hired as an assistant professor at Dillard University when he was dean of faculty there. Kilson established a long friendship then with Drake, who was teaching at Roosevelt University in Chicago, IL, but would later join the anthropology department at Stanford University in 1968.

As Ford Foundation Visiting Professors, the two spent a year together at the University of Ghana. Their association and friendship later led Kilson to deliver "The First St. Clair Drake Memorial Lecture" at Stanford in April 1992, which was an analysis of Drake's academic writings on social class and status patterns among African Americans in the south and in northern cities during the first half of the 20th century.

"My overall analysis in 'The First St. Clair Drake Memorial Lecture' was the first deep critique of the then influential group of right-wing Black conservative academics–like Shelby Steele, Glenn Loury, Thomas Sowell, Stephen Carter and others," he says.

It would not be the last time Bond's influence or Kilson's experiences and relationships, which took place and were forged at Lincoln University, would result in scholarly work. During his sophomore year, Kilson enrolled in a course entitled, "The Negro in the Old and New World," which Bond also taught.

One of the course's core themes was the question:

"How do you fashion modern leadership processes for the formerly enslaved American Negro?" Kilson's latest book, *Transformation* of the African American Intelligentsia, 1880 – 2012, finds its roots in this query and takes it a step further "to delineate and analyze the special ideological, political and institutional dynamics that influenced how the African American intelligentsia acquired capabilities that eventually enabled it to assist the modern development of African American society."

The book also draws on his personal roots at Lincoln University and with the Black college experience as well as with the social-gospel teachings of Black churches. His great-greatgrandfather, Reverend Isaac Lee, founded the first A.M.E. church among free Negroes in Kent County, Maryland before the Civil War and his maternal great-grandfather was also among the founders of a church.

As valedictorian of his 1953 graduating class, Kilson later won several prestigious scholarships and fellowships before he earned a master's and doctorate degrees in political science from Harvard University, where he wrote a dissertation entitled, "United Nations Visiting Missions to Trust Territories." Other fellowships provided him the opportunity to conduct field research in Africa. As a result, he published *Political Change in a West African State*, a study of the origins, character and challenges of the emergent political class in Sierra Leone.

His scholarship and efforts propelled him up through the ranks at Harvard, where he also helped integrate its then new Afro-American Studies Department into the life of the university and organized the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, ultimately to become the first tenured-African American faculty at Harvard, where he taught for 42 years before retiring in 1999.

In 2001, Kilson was awarded the *W.E.B. Du Bois Medal*, Harvard's

highest honor for outstanding contributions to African and African American society and culture.

A former Harvard colleague, Dr. Henry Louis Gates, who also wrote the foreword in Kilson's latest book, calls him "one of the founding fathers of African and African American teaching and research at Harvard University" and "Dr. Du Bois" inimitable intellectual heir."

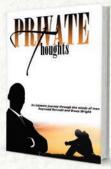
In much of Kilson's books and some 200 essays, the Harvard University's Frank G. Thomson Professor of Government Emeritus has placed himself within the intellectual perspective of W.E.B. Du Bois as he investigates the rights and interests of the black masses and in particular the profound challenges now confronting the African American underclass.

In 2011, he also co-authored, Pride of Lions: A History of Lincoln University: 1945–2007, with fellow alumnus, Dr. Levi A. Nwachuku '67, a follow-up to Bond's seminal work, Education For Freedom: A History of Lincoln University, Pennsylvania.

His involvement with the project was yet another nod to Bond, whose legacy he unapologetically champions and debt he continues to acknowledge. In a 2007 university speech, Kilson, a former member of the university's board of trustees for nearly a decade, seized the opportunity to blast the board's early predecessors on Bond's behalf.

"I've always viewed the Lincoln University Board of Trustees' mode of Bond's exit from the presidency of Lincoln University that he dearly loved as intellectually shameful, so I decided to say as much," he says. "Some of the older Lincoln graduates who read my Address didn't like my critique of the Board of Trustees' dismissal of Dr. Bond, but that didn't bother me."

Dr. Kilson currently resides with his family in the Boston area.

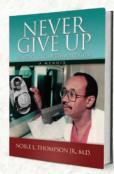


#### **PRIVATE THOUGHTS**

By Bruce Wright and Raymond Bennett '85 Forewords By Eric Christopher Webb '91 and Larry Pearson '85 Quiet As Kept Productions 58 Pages

\$6.00 softcover Short Stories lulu.com

What do men really feel about love and relationships? This collection of short stories by Bruce Wright and Lincoln alumnus Raymond Bennett gives an intimate look inside the thought processes of men. According to one of the forewords, "Private Thoughts represents fragments or scraps of our humanity, brief peeks at who we are, where we have been and what we have been through. They are fodder of barbershop and beauty salon gossip, dormitory room confessions and shared moments of vulnerability. Private Thoughts' greatest gift is that it grants us the opportunity to reflect about our choices and our past, whether we have learned to forgive, let go and move forward, or whether we are still unfortunately living through the same cycle of pain, punishing ourselves again and again for our pasts. Between the lines, we must discern the work's true lesson, and that is forgiveness."



#### **NEVER GIVE UP:** My Struggle To Become A Doctor, A Memoir

By Noble Thompson, Jr., M.D. '64 Tilghman Street Press 238 pages \$29.00 hardcover / \$9.99 Kindle ISBN: 9780989689 Memoir NobleThompson.com / Amazon.com

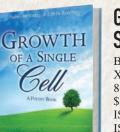
Noble Thompson, Jr., M.D., who was mutilated in a childhood accident and grew up fatherless in the inner city, tells his inspirational story of how he overcame adversity through the nurturing of a strong mother, supportive grandparents and driven by an indomitable will to become an award-winning Board certified physician and nationally-recognized medical-legal expert. *Never Give Up* speaks to countless boys and men abandoned by their fathers as well as to generations of wives, mothers, grandmothers, and families who willingly sacrifice so much to save them.



#### **OSCAR:** The Memoir of a Master Architect

By Oscar Harris, FAIA, '65 & Ann Kimbrough, Ph.D. Sugar Top Publishing 293 pages \$50.00 hardcover ISBN-10: 061587867 ISBN-13: 978-0615872865 Memoir OscarHarrisfaia.com

*Oscar: The Memoir of a Master Architect* follows the remarkable life of Oscar Harris from childhood to becoming one of the most influential minority architects of his time. This memoir takes you behind the scenes of crucial negotiations that opened the door for many minority architects and firm. Harris lays it all on the table as he shares what it took to break into one of the most exclusive professional circles: architecture. In photos and sketches, some never previously seen by the public, Harris reveals the process of transforming major projects from concept to reality.



#### LITERARY LINCOLN

#### GROWTH OF A SINGLE CELL

By Rudolph "Rudy" Nails '04 Xulon Press 86 pages \$10.99 softcover ISBN-10: 1498420125 ISBN-13: 978-1498420129 Literary Collections/Poetry/Religion Xulonpress.com/bookstore

*Growth of a Single Cell* captures the highs, lows, and development of Nail's poetic exploration over the last 20 years. Through this book, he utilizes psalms, prayers, poetry and short stories to cover a cornucopia of topics, including: love, politics, graduation, and death. His transparency allows the reader to understand and relate to Nails' psalms and prayers for today. Nails, a high school math teacher in Delaware, hopes readers will take away that "every person is alive for a reason, with a God-given gift and purpose. We are all necessary in God's plan."



#### WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS HOUSE: A Collection of Words

By Brandi Janay Brandi BeeRocka Janay/ Amazon Digital Services, Inc. 73 pages \$8.00 softcover / \$8.00 Kindle ISBN-13: 978-1514398913 Poetry/Prose amazon.com beerockalinesandspirits.com

Brandi "BeeRocka" Janay is a published author, motivational speaker, inspirational writer and poet. She's widely known for her outspoken voice on Twitter, which has been featured on various blogs and articles; including but not limited to, The Washington Post. She is also known for her admirable and inspirational weekly E-letters entitled, BeeRocka's Buzzing Inspiration. Lastly, with a growing number of over 350 Youtube subscribers, BeeRocka displays her poetic skills as a Youtube sensation. In August of 2015, BeeRocka, published her first anthology, What Happens in this House. WHITH, which details commentary on police brutality, family secrets, love, and finding God, is available in two print versions; an extended version and chapbook, as well as, an E-Book. When she's not working diligently towards expressing herself through writing, she's applying her work ethic towards her academic studies; as a dual major in Sociology and Anthropology at The Lincoln University in PA. You can visit her and learn more at http://www.beerockalinesandspirits.com/.

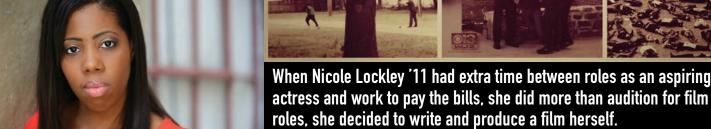
We've all heard the phrase "What happens in this house, stays in this house." But, should it? What about the family secrets; the things that get swept under the rug? What about the opening and closing of doors; the trials and tribulations attached? Or, what about what actually happens behind closed doors and the things that take place in the dark? "What Happens in this House" (#WHITH), showcases the abortions, the molestations, infidelity, black love, paying homage, self-esteem and more situations which takes place in our homes, our lives, and within ourselves. Are your lips sealed? Will you be able to contain what happens under your roof? Journey with BeeRocka, as she invites you into the homes of many; sharing the untold stories of those too afraid to speak, too ashamed to admit, or uncertain on where to begin.

#### LINCOLN IN THE LENS

#### LINCOLN ALUMNA WRITES FILM

#### ABOUT UNARMED BLACK MALE KILLINGS

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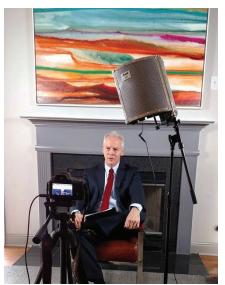


roles, she decided to write and produce a film herself.

By Shelley Mix

When Nicole Lockley '11 had extra time between roles as an aspiring actress and work to pay the bills, she did more than audition for film roles, she decided to write and produce a film herself.

"Just to keep myself busy and give other actors an opportunity," Lockley says of the film's beginnings. "The



message for the film was given to me from God. There are parts in the script that I don't even remember writing. When we were filming, I thought, 'Oh, wow; I wrote that.' It's pretty interesting to hear other people say my words."

The film, "Our Brothers Lives Matter," is a fictional documentary based on true events, real people and real stories. The film follows news reporter Chris O'Neil, played by Anthony Sullivan, as he interviews members of the African American community about their reactions to the recent news stories about unarmed black males being wrongly confronted and killed by police. O'Neil learns that not all African Americans agree about how situations are handled.

#### **Cast Input**

During rehearsals for the film, Lockley and the actor would often finish the formal rehearsal then spend nearly an hour discussing the law enforcement situation.

"I love the fact that the rehearsal gave them an outlet," she says. "I love the reaction of the people in the cast. Every cast member's opinion was voiced someplace in the script."

AILY NEWS

Lead actor Anthony Sullivan practices law but has long been a professional actor.

Sullivan said he is familiar with police shootings through his work as a lawyer and says the problem is not limited to only young black men. He calls the film's topic "a terribly important issue."

"I also know from other professional black men they report a lot of negative encounters with police officers that seem unwarranted," he says. "They aren't safe from being judged regardless of the 'content of their character,' to quote from the script."

#### LINCOLN IN THE LENS

Sullivan adds: "It would be mindboggling to me to have to worry about the things they go through."

To prepare for his role as an "Anderson Cooper-type" reporter, he watched the television news magazine show, "60 Minutes," to get feel of the rhythm of interviews.

"If you're going to do it justice you have to fully invest yourself," Sullivan says. "It was not a short process, but it's a real gift to be able to address a significant social issue. The urgency of this topic made this film all the more satisfying."

#### Vision for the Film

Lockley envisions the film being the catalyst for conversation between the black community and police officers.

"I just want to create the conversation," she says. "I probably won't see the full effects of the film. I want this film to be an eye opener. There can be a change."

Lockley has a personal stake in wanting to see change in the

interaction between police and the community; her own brother will soon join the ranks of the police force, having just been accepted to the Philadelphia Police Academy.

"I want [the black community] to have a relationship with the police force," she says. "They are supposed to protect us. They wouldn't have jobs without us, and we wouldn't have protection without them."

#### **Lincoln Roots**

Lockley, a native of Philadelphia, arrived at Lincoln in Fall 2007. "Lincoln was an easy choice. I always wanted to go to an HBCU."

She was editor of the student newspaper, *The Lincolnian*, and after graduating with a degree in mass communications held several professional positions in journalism and public relations. But ultimately, Lockley moved to Atlanta, Georgia, in March 2014 to return to what she always wanted to do: acting. She chose Atlanta to capitalize on a growing movie scene for young professionals and a lower cost of living than New York or Los Angeles.

Lockley wrote and produced the film, while her former Lincoln classmate Jamaar Connor '11 edited the film; Elvis Obi directed and co-edited the film.

"Our Brothers Lives Matter" is the first film for the three Lincoln alums and their new independent production company, MEN Productions, which has several other productions in progress.

Connor, an Old Bridge, New Jersey native, said he met Obi in high school and Lockley during a group project sophomore year at Lincoln. He credits Lincoln with providing him the opportunity to learn directing and editing through Lincoln's television studio. Obi is also engaged to Lockley.

When filming and editing are complete, Lockley plans to have a screening with representatives from city council, the mayor's office and police force.

> Murray, captain and choreographer, with the Onyx Dance Troupe at Lincoln.

#### LIFETIME CHANNEL TAPS LINCOLN ALUM, ENTREPRENEUR FOR DANCE SHOW KYAISHA MURRAY'S DOUBLE DUTCH TEAM FEATURED ON REALITY SHOW

#### By Shelley Mix

Kyaisha Murray '09 dreamed of ways to combine her love of dance with her desire to start a business. For her first job at age 13, she taught double dutch — a sport using two long jump ropes turning in opposite directions while one or more players jump the ropes simultaneously — to girls in the New York City community of Fort Greene-Clinton Hill. Murray began dancing and jumping rope at age 10, but it was at Lincoln University where her passion for dance took off. Known as "Slim" on campus, she entered Lincoln University in fall 2003 and joined Onyx Dance Troupe, eventually serving three years as the team's captain and choreographer.

After earning a bachelor's degree in business management in 2007, she envisioned opening a dance school and teaching double dutch in New York City.

"Business plus dance: how could I put these two things together?" she asks herself. "This way I get to do something I love while providing for myself. I always knew I wanted to open a business."

In January 2010, Murray, known as "Ms. K." to her students, opened the Ms. K's Dance Academy in the heart of Brooklyn. Murray started her own double dutch team, the Ms. K's Swagga Jumpers, and is now the coach and choreographer.

#### LIONS AT REST

Dr. Keiffer Mitchell, Sr. '63 son of pioneering Civil Rights activist Clarence Mitchell, Jr. '32, '65\*

#### Julian Bond '70\*

son of first African American President of Lincoln University Dr. Horace Mann Bond '23, '41\*

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Lenore "Lynn" A. McGhee former Lincoln University secretary, Physical Plant/MHS Graduate Admissions

\*honorary degree recipient

The spotlight found the Swagga Jumpers quickly. The Lifetime cable and satellite channel featured the team on two of four spring 2015 episodes of the reality show, Jump!, which according to the Lifetime website "provides an inside look at the international competitive event filled with tricks, turns, tears and triumphs..."

Getting her team onto the show took considerable effort; few teams met the strict casting requirements. In order to qualify for the Lifetime show, teams had to have seventh and eighth graders, have performed at the Double Dutch Holiday Classic at the Apollo Theatre in New York City and have been state champions.

Murray's team met the requirements and wowed the casting directors. For two weeks straight, filming continued for long, grueling hours.

"The girls were tired," she says. "I was tired."

While the Swagga Jumpers did not win the competition on the show, the opportunity opened other doors. Since Jump!, Murray's students have performed at Spike Lee's 25th Anniversary of his movie "Do The Right Thing" and were cast in the 2014 Chris Rock film "Top Five."

Her dancers "turned" — as jumping rope is sometimes called — for the American actress, fashion designer and former model Chloë Sevigny at New York Fashion Week.

#### Onyx Dance Troup at Lincoln

A 2003 graduate of the 700-student Brooklyn university-preparatory high school Bishop Loughlin Memorial, Murray focused her college search on Historically Black Colleges and



Murray volunteers to teach people to jump whenever possible, often at schools and block parties.

Universities. "I always wanted to attend an HBCU."

Lincoln introduced Murray to the business side of dance.

As Onyx director, she was tasked with finding an advisor, entering competitions, and arranging travel.

"I got experience on both sides of the fence: as a dance and as a leader," Murray says. "That definitely set the foundation for the dance academy."

Murray adds, "My passion has always been double dutch. I don't think I would have taken dance to this level had it not been for Onyx."

#### **On the Horizon**

Murray is busy running her dance studio, mentoring students, working as a site coordinator at the Bedford-Stuyvesant YMCA in Brooklyn, planning a wedding, and raising her three-year-old daughter.

She continues to live out her dream of dancing and owning a business, just as dreamed of while at Lincoln, but the reality show has helped others understand her love of double dutch.

"It was an awesome experience," she says. "For double dutch to be looked at like a sport... I've been coaching for years, but because of this reality show, now everyone wants to know about double dutch. It's always been around. Whether the show was there or not, I'd still be doing what I'm doing." **I** 



Ms. K's Dance Academy celebrates five years in business.

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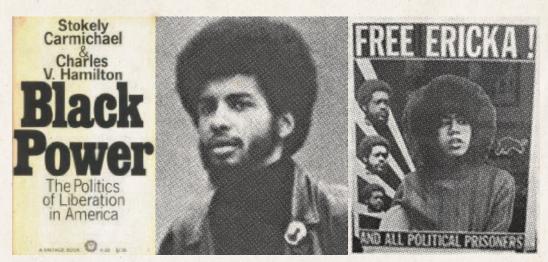
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## WHERE BEING THE FIRST MATTERS



From left to right: Cover of then-Lincoln Prof. Dr. Charles V. Hamilton and SNCC's Stokley Carmichael's revolutionary work, Black Power: the Politics of Liberation in America; Black Panther Party leaders and couple, John and Ericka Huggins.

Lincoln University, its faculty, students and alumni were instrumental in the Black Power and Black Liberation movements of the 1960s. Dr. Charles V. Hamilton, while on faculty, wrote *Black Power: The Politics of Liberation in America* with Stokely Carmichael (Kwame Ture) in 1967. Aside from others, the Black Panther Party's John and Ericka (Jenkins) Huggins met at Lincoln while both were students. After joining the Party in 1967, Ericka became a leader in the Los Angeles chapter and later of its New Haven, Connecticut chapter along with two other women, Kathleen Neal Cleaver and Elaine Brown.

On January 17, 1969, US organization members gunned down John, a leader in the Los Angeles BPP chapter and fellow Party leader Bunchy Carter on the UCLA campus in an infamous feud instigated by the FBI's Cointelpro program.

In May of that year, Ericka and fellow Party leader Bobby Seale were targeted and arrested on false conspiracy charges igniting calls for "Free Bobby, Free Ericka" across the country. The resulting trial, one of the longest and most celebrated of the era, spawned several books, including *Agony in New Haven: The Trial of Bobby Seale, Ericka Huggins and the Black Panther Party* by Donald Freed. After awaiting trial for nearly two years, charges were eventually dropped. Today, Huggins is a professor in Sociology at Laney & Berkeley City College, and Women's Studies at California State University, East Bay.