



Cathy Hughes School of Communications *eblasts*

****Good news on the recent accomplishments of our CHSOC faculty, staff, students, and alumni ****

April 2023

HU27 Accepted Students Day – The Cathy Hughes School of Communications welcomed accepted students for the Class of 2027 on campus April 14th for a visit and brief session about the school. In the session, the different departments highlighted their degree requirements, internship opportunities, and award-winning alumni and faculty. Dean **Gracie Lawson-Borders**, **D'Andre McIntyre**, **Tiwiya Savoy** and chairs **Ingrid Sturgis** and **Ovetta Harris**, and **Emily Crammer**, assistant chair, and **Jabari Richardson**, Mr. CHSOC were there to discuss and answer questions.



Research Symposium 2023 – The School of Communications had three students whose research was selected to be presented during this year's Research Symposium. The three students and their paper titles: **Camille King**: "*The Future of Black Capitalism: The Effect of Modern Media on Black Businesses During the COVID-19 Pandemic*;" **Evin Guilford**: "*You are What You See: African American Sitcoms and Their Impact on Generation Z and Millennials' Perception of African American Self and Group Identity*;" **Summer Brown**: "*From Riots to Reporting: How America's Political Climate Affects News*"

Who Killed Malcolm X? – Alumnus **Abdur-Rahman Muhammad**, host of the acclaimed Netflix documentary, "Who Killed Malcolm X?" spoke to Professor **Sheryl Johnson**'s Howard Entertainment Capstone students last month.

Successful Dissertation Defense – Beverly Khabo, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, has successfully defended her dissertation titled “*Family Language Policy and Planning Dynamics Among Selected Transnational Ethiopians in Washington, D.C.: Three Case Studies.*” The committee members are as follows:
Dr. Richard Wright – Dissertation Committee Chair; Dr. Ovetta Harris - Dissertation Advisor; Dr. Jay Lucker – Dissertation Committee Member; Dr. Alem Hailu – Dissertation Committee Member; and external examiner Dr. Linda Bland Stewart, Senior Speech Language Pathologist Montgomery County Public School Systems'

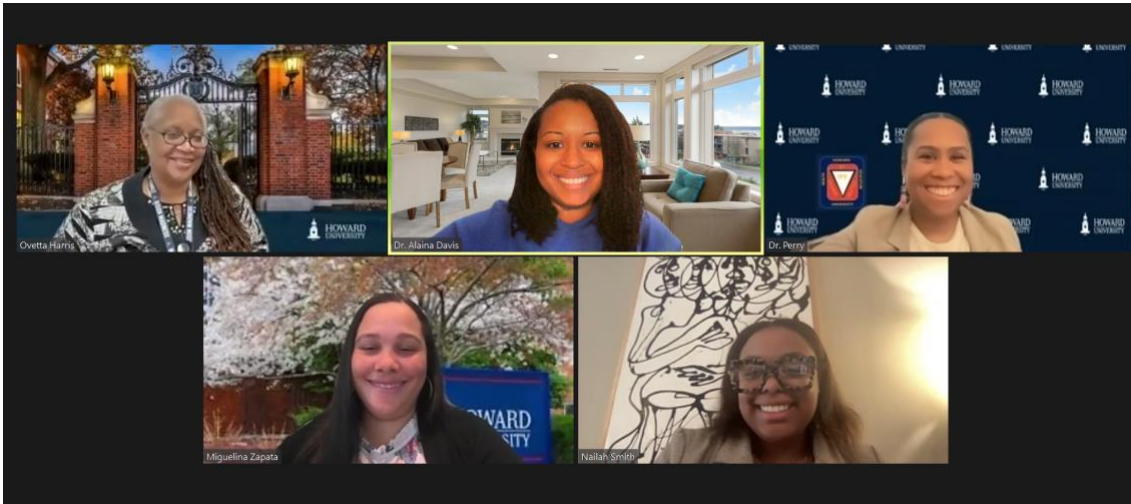


Gracie Awards – The #1 nationally syndicated radio show for women of color, Café Mocha Radio, has once again been selected as a *National Radio Award* winner by the Gracie Awards for its timely and relevant interview feature *The Manns Tackle Black Families and Depression*, featuring Tamela and David Mann. Café Mocha Radio is executive produced by award-winning broadcast veteran and alumna **Sheila Eldridge**, president and CEO of Miles Ahead Entertainment & Broadcasting and syndicated nationally by Compass Media.

Trusting the News – Professor **Jennifer Thomas** was a panelist at the Virginia News Summit event last month in Richmond, VA. It was hosted by Virginia Humanities and the Karsh Institute of Democracy. The two-day event examined the changing role of Local and National News and its effect on society. Professor Thomas was a panelist for "Trusting the News". The conversation highlighted the ways in which news outlets and readers interact with one another and the integral relationship between local news and a healthy democracy.

PSAid Contest – **Armani Brown, Damani Falconer, Christion Carter, Shatterra Robinson, and Chynna Anthony** are the proud winners of the annual PSAid contest. The USAID Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) and USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance sponsor a public service announcement (PSA) design competition for college students. The winners in the 17th annual contest created PSAs to explain why ‘Cash is Best’ when donating to international disaster relief efforts.

Master’s Thesis – **Nailah Smith**, a Master's candidate in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders has successfully defended her thesis titled, "*Perceptions, Feelings, and Attitudes about Cannabis Therapy as an Alternative Treatment for Acquired and Developmental Neurological Conditions: Implications for Speech-Language Pathologists*" The committee members: Dr. Ovetta Harris, Chair, Dr. Valencia Perry, Advisor, and Dr. Miguelina Zapata.



Fulbright – Professor **Jennifer Thomas’** Fulbright Specialist Program will take place this summer. It was awarded in 2020 but was paused due to the pandemic. The U.S. Department of State has approved the project proposal with Rhodes University in Makhanda, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa (in their school of Journalism and Media Studies). Her prospective dates are July 10- August 20, 2023.

ECA 2023 – Graduate students in Communication, Culture and Media Studies program presented at the Eastern Communication Association Conference last month. The picture below was taken after they finished up their third panel on organizational case studies!



Capstone Winning Team – The Howard Entertainment Capstone announced its student team that won overall and the students who ranked the highest in their respective disciplines. The winners are:

First Place Overall: Team #5 - A Better Day

Production: **Darius Spencer**

Script: **Shawn Smith**

Legal: **Chanel Ricks**

PR/Advertising: **Amarachi Nwankwo**

Marketing: **Olivia Llanga**

First Place Script Category: Team #4 - Priceless (**Chloe Gill**)

First Place Production Category: Team #5 - A Better Day (**Darius Spencer**)

First Place Marketing Category: Team #3 - Blood in the Water (**EJ Smither**)

First Place Legal Category: Team #5 - A Better Day (**Chanel Ricks**)

First Place Public Relations Category: Team #5 - A Better Day (**Amarachi Nwankwo**)

NBASLH – Howard University is an affiliate organization who sponsored the opening session of the 2023 annual conference of the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing (NBASLH) which was held here in Washington DC April 20-22. **COSD** Faculty and graduate students presented research seminars and posters.



PLEASE NOTE: If you have news and would like to submit it to our CHSOC e-newsletter, please use the [Submission Form](#). Complete the form or send an email to socdean@howard.edu.