

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

September 2023

Alumni Speak – The Cathy Hughes School of Communications will host an Alumni Speak panel featuring Michelle D. Hord and Michelle Miller during Homecoming Week 2023. The talk is at 1 p.m., Friday, Oct. 20th. Both will speak about being authors and focus on their time at the university. Following the talk, we will host our CHSOC 2023 Annual Alumni reception from 4-6 p.m., Oct. 20^{th and} both events are in the Auditorium, MET Bldg. We encourage all alumni to attend!



HU in Ghana – Student **Rebecca Haynesworth** had the opportunity of a lifetime to visit the African continent, representing her family, the Cathy Hughes School of Communications, and Howard University. The goal of the study abroad trip was to produce a multimedia story around a specific topic given to students. Haynesworth and her partner were assigned the topic of "History and Culture." On this three-week cultural exchange, Haynesworth says she was blessed to develop a heightened sense of self as an African student in the Diaspora, and her social responsibility as such. The program was in partnership with Emerson College in Boston and curated by Hilltop Global Group.

Preserve and showcase Black media – Alumna **Maya Cade**, a Library of Congress Scholar in residence, and the Black Film Archive founder is using her grant from the Library of Congress to expand people's conception of Black film. When New Orleans native Cade began curating the Black Film Archive two years ago, it was partially to counter the pervasive, and inaccurate, narrative that Black film concerns itself mostly with slavery and trauma. "Instead of shaming people for thinking that Black films come from pain, I thought there was a way to present them with the truth," she says, which is that Black films have always addressed a wide range of topics and universal experiences.

Child Advocacy Award – Professor **Stacey Patton** received the Distinguished Contribution to Child Advocacy Award from the Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice.



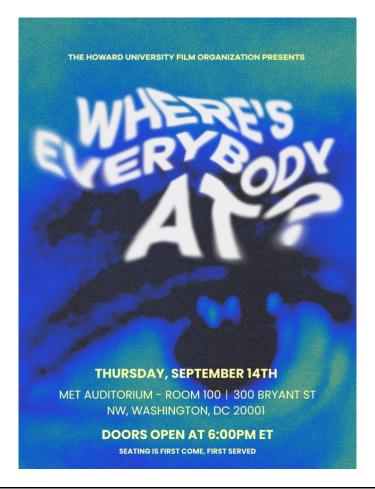
Wakanda Makhanda – Professor Jennifer Thomas was featured in the Grocott's Mail. Professor Thomas was back in the motherland during the summer to share her skills and expertise with Rhodes University students and lecturers as a Fulbright Specialist Fellow. This program allows scholars to travel to different parts of the world to share their knowledge and expertise.

Fox Soul GM – Alumnus **D'Artagnan Bebel**, is a trailblazer. Bebel, SVP-GM of KRIV (Fox) and KTXH (MNT) Houston, was appointed by Fox Soul as the general manager and head of programming for the streaming network. Bebel will continue in his Houston roles and will be replacing Fox Soul GM James DuBose who is pursuing other opportunities. He also won the TAB Pioneer Broadcaster of the Year award!

Stockholm City Film Festival – Professor **Heidi Gerber-Salins**' film "ALLIANCE," A Documentary Film about the Alliance Jewish Farming Colony, is a winner at the Stockholm City Film Festival. She served as senior sound editor and associate producer on the project, which was completed in April of this year.



Where's Everybody At?— The **Howard University Film Organization** (**HUFO**) student group hosted a screening of its inaugural short film series, *Where's Everybody At?*, on September 14th in the MET Auditorium. The screening was followed by a short panel featuring some of the talented students who worked to bring the series to life. The film is a culmination of the hard work of more than 60 undergraduate and graduate students at Howard University! HUFO created this series in an effort to explore the afro surreal situations that students experience as HBCU students in America. HUFO also created this project to give undergraduate and graduate students at Howard a space to develop their talents, gain filmmaking experience, and connect with Black professionals in the industry.



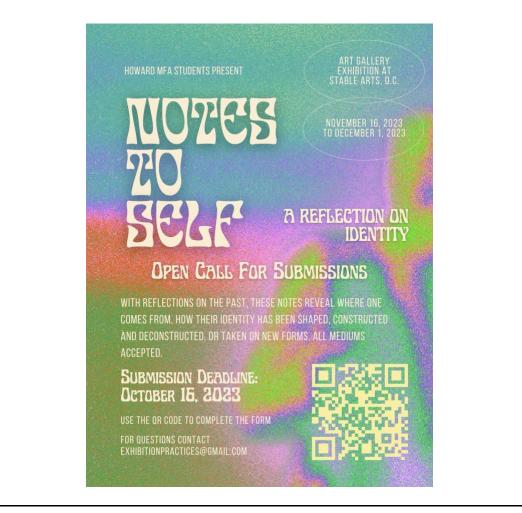
President of SUNY Oswego – Alumnus **Dr. Peter O. Nwosu** was recently named president of SUNY Oswego. Nwosu is currently provost and senior vice president for academic affairs and student success in the Herbert H. Lehman College. Previously, he was provost and vice president for academic affairs at Clark Atlanta University and associate vice president for academic programs and accreditation liaison officer at California State University, Fullerton.

Diversity in Media – **Jasper Smith**, a senior journalism student, is the winner of this year's Scholarship for Diversity in Media from *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Smith serves as editor in chief of The Hilltop, the student newspaper at Howard and the nation's oldest Black collegiate newspaper. In addition, she served as a digital-media intern at *aimed* and as an HBCU Student Journalism Network Fellow.



Romas Sakadolskis Journalism Forum – The U.S. Department of State invited Professor **Jennifer Thomas** to travel to Vilnius, Lithuania September 19-23 to serve as the special guest and keynote speaker for the Romas Sakadolskis Journalism Forum. The three-day conference aimed to strengthen media literacy and resilience to disinformation. It engaged established journalists and media professionals, academicians, and aspiring journalists. In addition to presenting the keynote address, Professor Thomas conducted a master class with aspiring journalists and met with independent journalists from Russia.

Note To Self – Howard University students from the School of Communications and the Fine Arts Department are hosting an art gallery exhibition on November 16, 2023, featuring. *Notes to Self: A Reflection on Identity*, presented by two MFA students at Howard as part of the Exhibition Practices course, surrounds the idea of knowing where one has come from to understand where they are going.



Interim President of California State University, Bakersfield – Alumnus **Dr. Vernon B. Harper, Jr.** will become interim president of California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB), effective Dec. 31. Harper is currently provost and vice president of academic affairs at CSUB. Previously, he was dean of academic programs at the school. Harper holds a bachelor's in communication from Pennsylvania State University; a master's degree in rhetoric and communication from West Chester University; and a doctorate from Howard University.

Honors Lecturer– Alumnus **George Daniels** was the 50th Honors Lecturer at the 106th annual AEJMC conference in DC in August.



50 Years of Hip-Hop – Performers, academics, and music enthusiasts gathered at Howard University to celebrate the 50th anniversary of hip-hop. The conference held in August, "Hip Hop 50: Past, Present, and Future," was one of dozens of events taking place across the nation and included workshops focused on women in hip-hop, and artificial intelligence in

the music industry, and mental health. Professors **Tia Tyree and Roger Caruth** were included on a panel on the legacy of hip-hop's cultural impact, what experts and icons of the field see as the benefits and downsides of the burgeoning industry.

McGannon Award – CCMS alumna **Dr. Alisa Valentin** will receive the McGannon Award for her work to diversify public media policy. The award event is on October 24. Her award will be given during the Annual Parker Lecture, a major civil rights event in DC.

