

THE 7TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE HISTORYMAKERS



Thursday & Friday,
Sept. 29-30, 2016



ABOUT THE HISTORYMAKERS

The HistoryMakers is a national 501(c)(3) non-profit research and educational institution committed to preserving and making widely accessible the untold personal stories of both well-known and unsung African Americans. Through the media and a series of user-friendly products, services and events, *The HistoryMakers* enlightens, entertains and educates the public, by helping to refashion a more inclusive record of American history.

Our Vision:

To capture America's history one person at a time, creating a priceless video collection and giving those involved their special place in history. To educate the world about the struggles, determination and achievements of African American life, history and culture.

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE HISTORYMAKERS

The goals of our *Back To School With The HistoryMakers* program are to put black leaders (our *HistoryMakers*) in direct contact with young people all across the nation and to:

- Encourage student achievement, parental involvement, increased test scores, high school graduation and successful college entry and matriculation;
- Bring African American leaders into schools to engage with the community and motivate students directly;
- Bring additional resources into public school systems such as *The HistoryMakers* Digital Archive of oral history interviews;
- Raise awareness of the achievements of accomplished African Americans in their local communities.



Students at Turner-Drew Language Academy in Chicago, Illinois

The HistoryMakers challenge students to

COMMIT

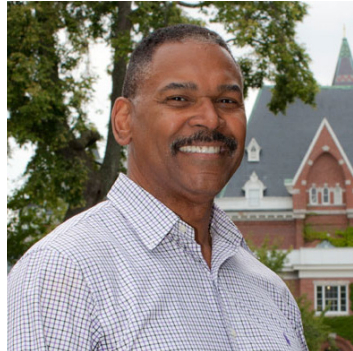
to their education

*The HistoryMakers on
American Black Journal Online:*



“It’s important that students know that it doesn’t stop with the classrooms they’re in today. I’m still reading, I’m still learning, I’m still gaining wisdom.”

— HistoryMaker Martha Reeves
Motown Singer



HistoryMaker Eddie Jenkins, Jr.
(Football Player and Labor Lawyer)

***At Fletcher Maynard Academy
in Cambridge, Massachusetts:***

“Mr. Jenkins prepared a slide presentation with pictures of himself, his family and other well known public figures that our students were able to recognize. He was direct with his audience and also gave them a challenge, asking them to express their dreams and think about what they need to do to reach their goals.”



Students at First Ward Creative Arts Academy in Charlotte, North Carolina recite the commitment pledge, led by HistoryMaker Mary C. Curtis (Former Editor at The New York Times)

“It is my intent to share those experiences – my years of nonsuccess and my years of success – and how working hard has been the keystone to that life.”

— HistoryMaker The Honorable
Reverend Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr.
Former Mayor of Philadelphia



**The HistoryMakers on
900AM WURD
Philadelphia:**

“Kids need to know they have value. Society needs to know that the black community has value. What our HistoryMakers represent is that value and that’s why the Back to School program is so important.”

*—Julieanna Richardson
Founder and Executive Director of
The HistoryMakers*

“Many of the students need to hear from people that grew up in similar circumstances - schools that are under-resourced, in economically challenged neighborhoods and with horrible reputations. Burrell and Williams really impacted the students with a ‘can do’ attitude and ‘never sell yourself short.’ I was very impressed.”

*—Mark O’Brien
Paul Robeson High School Teacher
Chicago, Illinois*



*HistoryMaker Rufus Williams
(Nonprofit CEO and Former Chicago Board
of Education President) at Paul Robeson
High School in Chicago, Illinois*

The HistoryMakers’ Speakers Encourage TIMS Students

*Jacquelyn Carlisle
The Tuskegee News*

On Sept. 30, students at Tuskegee Institute Middle School (TIMS) made a commitment to history and, in return, received a special meeting with important figures from Tuskegee’s past and present. TIMS participated in the program *Back to School with The HistoryMakers* as notable figures from the Tuskegee area discussed their contributions to the world and gave growing minds good advice on how to achieve success in all they strive to accomplish.

The HistoryMakers’ Col. Legand Burge was one of the speakers. He is the former dean of the College of Engineering, Architecture and Physical Sciences at Tuskegee University. He started in 1999 after a 30-year career in the United States Air Force. Herman Brenner White, physicist and staff scientist at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for over three decades and who is known for his particle physics work regarding mesons and quarks, was also a speaker.

Spearheaded by teacher and event chair James Jackson and school principal Rosemary Wright, students, faculty and administrators organized a professional program to accompany the morning discussion. The strength of the program came through the words of the speakers.

Burge is an Oklahoma native with a family background in military engineering. It set him on a similar path where his love of science and dedication to his country would find him working in the same field.

He encouraged students interested in science to stay on that path — as he did.

“If you have a love or passion for something, that is what you need to do,” he said. “I love science and it has allowed me to do the things I love to do. And it has afforded to pay me.”

He encouraged the students to be committed to themselves, their families, to pay their taxes and to vote. “Be committed to help your community,” he concluded.

White, a native of Tuskegee, attended Tuskegee Institute High School (the building that now houses TIMS). He gave the school and city credit for his current achievements. “This community provided me with everything I needed to succeed,” he said.

White told students he developed an interest in science at an early age and that the teachers here in Tuskegee prepared him for everything he needed to accomplish all the things he did. White’s message was simple — Don’t Quit.

“The work you are doing now here at TIMS is the basis for your success,” he said. “Never quit. Commit to succeed. You may not yet know what success means, but commit right now to be the best students you can possibly be.”

The HistoryMakers’ focus is to capture the stories of accomplished black Americans and create an accessible digital collection to serve as a resource for students, teachers, scholars, documentary producers and media. As far as Principal Wright was concerned, the organization’s mission couldn’t be more timely or useful.

“History is very important,” she told her students. “You have to know your history to know where you’re going.”

Baltimore HistoryMakers Give Back to City Schools

The Baltimore Times



HistoryMakers Ronald Gilbert Baker (Photographer) and Donald Baker (Photographer) share their stories with Annapolis High School

The past year has been tumultuous for our nation and the world at large. Deleterious to our society and our youth is the lack of civility, role models and examples of success. In response, *The HistoryMakers*, the nation's largest African American video oral history archive has expanded its annual day of service, *Back to School With The HistoryMakers*, into a yearlong program that kicks off this fall with classroom and assembly visits by African American leaders, and will continue throughout the year with student and teacher training, donation of its unique online digital archive to public and charter schools, and contests and awards that celebrate the work of our youth.

"If we do not take seriously the need to motivate and channel our youth even in times of tremendous acrimony and discontent, we will end up with a society that none of us wants to have. Our goal at *The HistoryMakers* is to be part of the solution, not the problem. We are committed to the notion that our nation's youth, both minority and non-minority, will benefit from the stories of real world African American high achievers who have overcome obstacles in their path to success," said *The HistoryMakers* Founder and Executive Director, Julieanna Richardson. An example of such a story is that of physicist Frederick Oliver, who was born in Baltimore and attended a segregated elementary school in Sparrows Point, Maryland.

"When I started school in the first grade, I was sort of behind everyone else. A lot of the kids could read in the first grade and I always remember that," Oliver reminisced. Oliver discovered his love and aptitude for physics in high school and went on to become a top consultant to national defense firms such as the Naval Research Laboratory and Argonne National Laboratory. Students in Baltimore will hear similar accounts of inspiration and perseverance on Thursday, September 29, 2016, when Oliver joins four others in Baltimore City schools. Hundreds of other African American HistoryMakers will kick off the 7th *Annual Back to School With The HistoryMakers* program nationwide on September 29 and September 30, 2016.

This year, the program is expanded to include student and teacher training on the use of The HistoryMakers Digital Archive, Black History Month Speak Out Assemblies and The HistoryMakers Digital Archive Contest.

WHAT MAKES A HISTORYMAKER?

A HistoryMaker is someone who:

- Is African American by descent
- Has made significant accomplishments in his or her own life
- Is associated with a particular movement, organization or association that is influential or important to the African American community

HISTORYMAKER CATEGORIES

- ArtMaker
- LawMaker
- PoliticalMaker
- BusinessMaker
- MediaMaker
- ReligionMaker
- CivicMaker
- MusicMaker
- ScienceMaker
- EducationMaker
- MedicalMaker
- SportsMaker
- EntertainmentMaker
- MilitaryMaker
- StyleMaker

HistoryMaker Denyce Graves Visits Baltimore School to Share Story of Operatic Success

Zoe Zellers, Fox 45 News



A local operatic HistoryMaker with an international reputation is bringing her expertise and candid story of her path to success to the Baltimore School for the Arts. On Thursday, famed mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves, a D.C. native, will host a special class from 2 to 4 p.m.

The performer, who was recently featured as part of a buzzworthy, star-studded dedication ceremony for the opening of Washington D.C.'s National Museum of African American History and Culture, will stop by the Baltimore performing arts school to lead a master class with a handful of vocal students. Then, Graves will host a Q&A session and talk to students about her own school experiences, offer career insight and detail her journey to the top of the global operatic food chain.

"Having our kids meet one of the leading African American opera singers in the world is a huge thrill," Dr. Chris Ford, director of BSA, says, "It helps our students envision their potential futures."

The role model and star, best known for her portrayal of the title role in Bizet's "Carmen," will be "challenging our

students to commit to their education," says Stephanie Jayakanthan, the school's director of marketing and communications.

Graves' appearance is a part of a national project this fall, *Back to School with the History Makers*. The year-long program is a series of nation-wide events that will bring 400 leading African American voices into schools to share their stories, motivate students and discuss topics related to the African American experience especially as the presidential campaign season is underway. HistoryMakers are going 'back to school' in 51 cities and across 28 states.

her story of perseverance and commitment in the high-stakes performing arts realm.

"Her life story is an inspiration for our students," says Edwards, who adds, "She started off singing one of her first lessons with one of our former teachers, Laretta Young. She did her schooling at an institution similar to BSA (Duke Ellington School for the Arts). Many of our students can see themselves having a similar career or following a similar path."

With the program now in its seventh year and flourishing, Graves' visit to the Baltimore School for the Arts on Thursday

"Having our kids meet one of the leading African American opera singers in the world is a huge thrill"

Mellaseh Edwards, Baltimore School for the Arts' music department head, arranged Graves' visit with *The HistoryMakers*, and explains just why it's so important for students to have the opportunity to connect with the mezzo-soprano and hear

is one of this year's featured *The HistoryMakers* events. Graves, by the way, stays busy balancing performing operatic roles across the world, taking time to make educational appearances such as these, and juggling responsibilities as an active

member of the vocal faculty at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.

The HistoryMakers, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, is the country's largest African American video oral history archive, which is also an excellent digital resource for classrooms. To date, the organization has interviewed over 2,700 HistoryMakers with the goal of creating an archive of 5,000 interviews or 20,000 hours of unique, first person testimony in a one-of-a-kind digital archive for teachers, students and the general public.

The HistoryMakers' founder and executive director, Julieanna Richardson emphasizes, "We are committed to the notion that our nation's youth, both minority and non-minority, will benefit from the stories of real world African American high achievers who have overcome obstacles in their path to success."



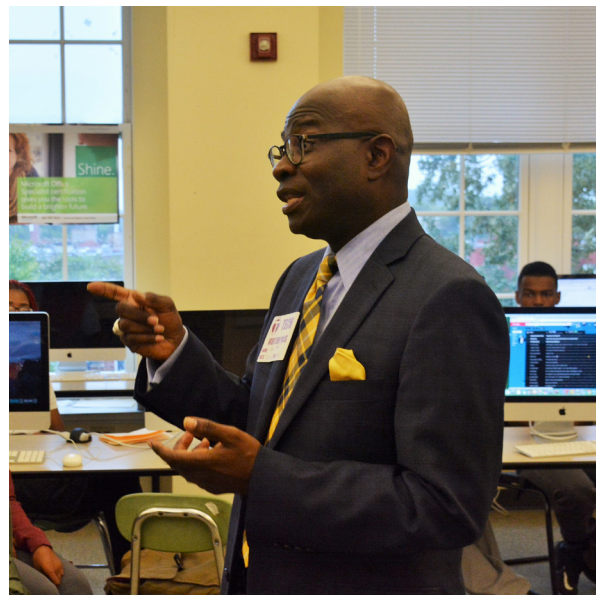
HistoryMaker Denyce Graves (Opera Singer) at Baltimore School of the Arts in Baltimore, Maryland

The HistoryMakers encourage students to engage in a valuable part of the nation's history

Back to School with The HistoryMakers is a national, year-long initiative that encourages students to make a long-term commitment to their education. To continue inspiring students all year long, this year *The HistoryMakers* is donating access to its digital archive to all participating charter and public schools. Students will have unprecedented access to an important part of American History through *The HistoryMakers* Digital Archive.

"I'm going back to the school in the next month to meet with students who are interested in design to talk to them about a program at The Ohio State University."

— *HistoryMaker Noel Mayo*
Industrial Designer



HistoryMaker Armstrong Williams (Political Commentator and Radio Host) speaks at McKinley Technology High School in Washington, D.C.

Schools had students research the participating HistoryMakers, encouraging them to interact with the historical context of the lives and stories heard .

On WTVB Channel 9

"No matter what your color is, you can always make history. If you just believe in yourself, and have the right people around you, anything is possible."

— Trinitee Burns
Tyner Academy Senior
Chattanooga, Tennessee



Students at Providence St. Mel School
in Chicago, Illinois

The HistoryMakers on Local Memphis Channel 24

"Our students need to know that African Americans can do anything they set their minds to."

—Audrey Johnson
Hamilton Middle School Principal
Memphis, Tennessee

At Friendship Technology Preparatory Academy:

"Dr. Allen Sessoms related well with the students as he shared his life story. He met with students after the program to discuss their college plans."

—Malika Mays
Friendship Technology
Preparatory Academy Teacher
Washington, D.C.

The HistoryMakers brings history to classrooms with Black leaders at city schools

Tatyana Bellamy-Walker
The Amsterdam News

During this year's back-to-school season, dozens of black American leaders will visit classrooms across the city.

The HistoryMakers, an African American oral history archive, is providing a year-long program to educate youth about black history.

City classrooms will be introduced to the first African-American female journalist to join WABC-TV news, Roslyn "Roz" Abrams, jazz trombonist Dick Griffin, lawyer and diversity activist Kenneth Standard, speechwriter and presidential appointee, J. Terry Edmonds, a press release said.

Founder and Executive Director of *The HistoryMakers* Julieanna Richardson said it is important for students of color to share pride in their culture.

"Our communities have become increasingly disconnected and more separated around socioeconomic lines," Richardson said. "It's different than when I grew up. Everybody went to the same church and lived in the same communities."

Richardson added, "People need to see others who are successful and accomplishing things with their lives. It's a way to lift up the race."

The city's public and charter schools will receive a donation of online digital archive, student and teacher training and contests and awards that commemorate the work of youth.



HistoryMaker Michele Coleman Mayes
(Vice President of the New York Public Library)

"The digital archive will contain over 9,000 hours of testimony," Richardson said. "It's being used in schools. Some to teach vocabulary and context, some to teach about role models and others to teach primary source material in the curriculum."

Past events held in Washington, D.C. and Chicago included President Obama's senior adviser, Valerie Jarrett, and South Side hip-hop artist Common, respectively.

On Sept. 30, the launch of the seventh annual *Back to School with The HistoryMakers* program kicked-off at Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change, a school largely for students of color.

Nonprofit executive Dennis Terry and vice president, general counsel and secretary for the New York Public Library, Michele Coleman Mayes, shared stories of success and challenges within the workforce.

"They talk to the kids about their own journeys," Richardson said. "We ask that the teachers prepare them before the HistoryMakers come into the classroom."

Richardson continued, "The day is designed to get people to commit to their education."

The HistoryMakers designated the Library of Congress to serve as a repository for its collection of more than 20,000 hours of first-person testimony for the archive.

"We want to get our digital archive in every school around the United States," Richardson said. "So little still is known about black history ... this is a very important time when our nation is fraught with a lot of division and violence."

Richardson added, "This is a chance to bring the community together."

Building a collection of more than 5,000 interviews is not an easy task. The program has interviewed more than 2,700 HistoryMakers over the past 17 years.

A single *The HistoryMakers* interview can cost up to \$10,000 for production, encoding, digitizing and staff fees.

"You don't build a collection like this without a lot of heavy lifting," Richardson said. "It hasn't been an easy walk, but we are here."

This fall, 400 HistoryMakers will visit 51 cities and 28 states across the U.S.

MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Back to School with The HistoryMakers fosters meaningful relationships that leave a lasting impression on both the students and the HistoryMakers. Many HistoryMakers return to the schools on their own to continue to build relationships and to spread positive change.

On WLIT-FM 93.9, Chicago

“Last year we were at Paul Robeson High School. There are only 200 students in the school right now, and about 100 of them are homeless. And we brought in Tom Burrell, who founded and created the largest African American advertising agency in the nation. He had gone to that school. He was telling the kids that he came from a home with no books on the shelf, and when he arrived at Paul Robeson, he said he found himself and went on. And the kids, you should have seen them. He got their attention, and he has since adopted that school.”

*—Julieanna Richardson,
Founder and Executive Director
The HistoryMakers*



*HistoryMaker Oliver McGee, III
(Civil Engineer and Howard University Professor)*

“Students loved Mr. McGee. They are still talking about him. He’s going to have all 112 students go to Texas Tech University to tour the different science and tech labs on what he named ‘Coronado Day’.”

*—Dr. Vickie Cooper
Coronado High School Teacher
El Paso, Texas*

The HistoryMakers on 93.1 WZAK Cleveland:



“What’s so important is that they get to see people who look like them who have comfortable careers, who drive nice cars, who have nice homes, and who are not just athletes and entertainers. There are options for these students.”

*— HistoryMaker Julian Manly Earls
Director of the NASA’s Glenn Research Center*

“Students are in desperate need of role models that can broaden their view of what’s possible for them. Otherwise they are stuck in a world of limited possibilities”

*—HistoryMaker John H. Hall, Jr.
Chemist and Academic Administrator
Morehouse College*



The HistoryMakers Showcases Successful Black Women Leaders in Schools

Shantella Y. Sherman
The Afro

Chicago based non-profit, *The HistoryMakers*, recently organized classroom visits from influential African Americans to schools across the nation. Designed to showcase a model for success among African Americans, more than 400 “HistoryMakers” encouraged and empowered D.C. students to aggressively reach for their goals.

Industry standouts like community leader Peggy Cooper Cafritz, civil rights icon Ernest Green, mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves, who spoke at Baltimore School For The Arts on Oct. 6, and public relations guru Priscilla Clarke were among the September 29 HistoryMakers opening the Back to School day of service.

The HistoryMakers’ Founder and Executive Director Julieanna Richardson told the AFRO that if the need to motivate and channel black youth is not taken seriously, it could prove critical for society. “Our goal at *The HistoryMakers* is to be part of the solution, not the problem. We are committed to the notion that our nation’s youth, both minority and non-minority, will benefit from the stories of real world African American high achievers who have overcome obstacles in their path to success,” Richardson said.

Particularly for African American girls, the role of mentors and role models drastically reshapes career paths, life goals, and self-awareness. According to The Office of Juvenile Justice Programs, 87 percent of young women who attended mentoring programs went to college within two years of high school graduation; 52 percent were less likely to become pregnant during their teenage years; and 46 percent were less likely to use illegal drugs and alcohol.

into either space – go unheard,” Ewell told the AFRO. “It’s important that we see ourselves represented fully in American history and I think having so many powerful black women share their stories resets the boundaries for a lot of us . . . it shows that we can do it too.”

For HistoryMaker Priscilla Clarke, who spoke to students at Ward 8’s Anacostia Senior High, the goal was to inspire students to dream and introduce them to real

“Having so many powerful Black women share their stories resets the boundaries for a lot of us . . . it shows that we can do it too.”

The HistoryMakers, in its promotion of resilient, intellectually savvy, and principled black female leaders, according to Woodrow Wilson High School student Liana Ewell, has given voice to the accomplishments of Black women in the scheme of racial uplift that is often overlooked.

“When you think of Black history a lot of the focus is male and when you think of American women, the focus tends to be white, so the stories of black women and girls – which don’t necessarily fit

people from diverse backgrounds and who have faced various challenges.

“I am honored to be a part of this platform that informs and educates our youth to achieve their goals. I am also extremely excited about the new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture and the resources and historical knowledge it provides that can be shared with all generations,” Clarke told the AFRO. “I shared with the students how proud it makes you walking through our doors of history at the national mall.”

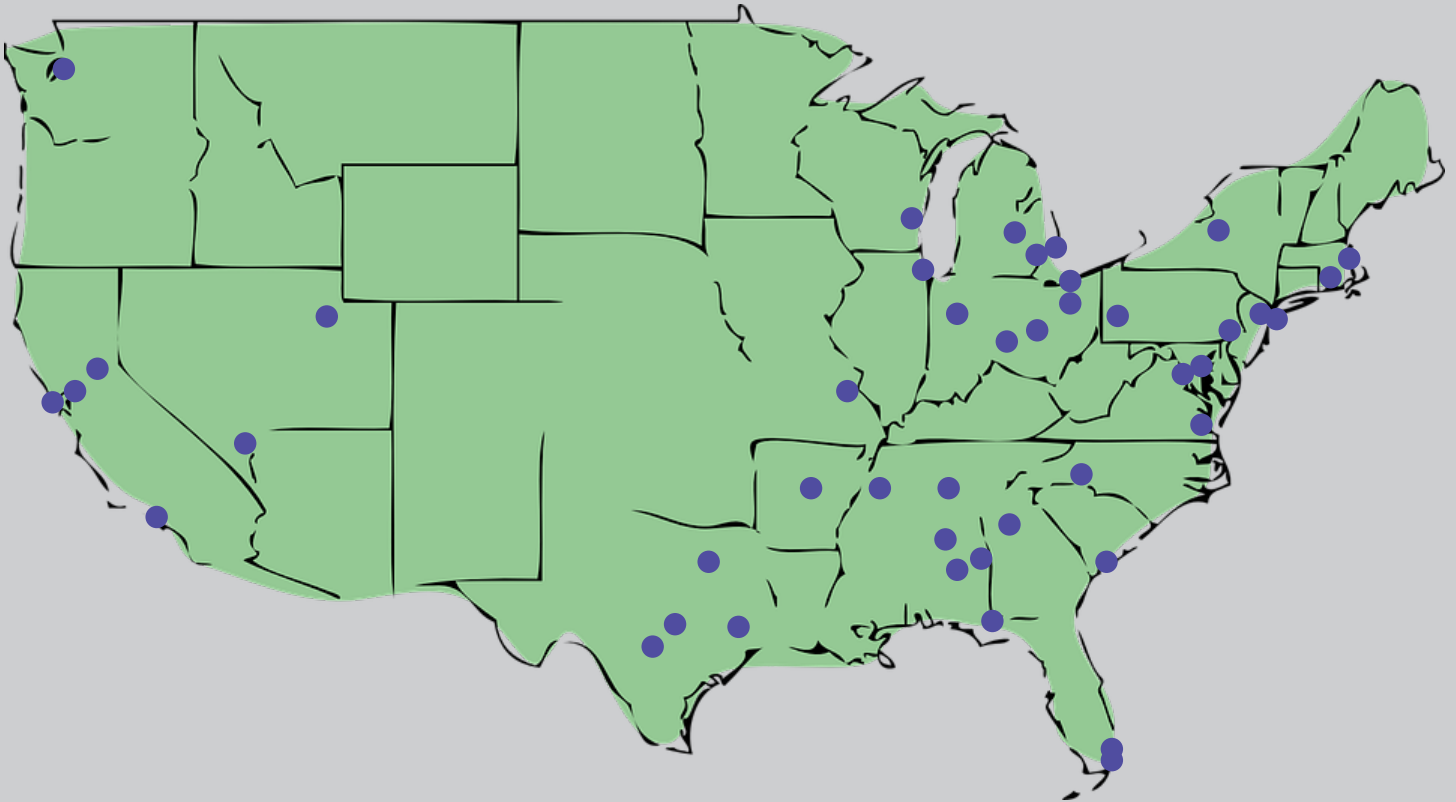
Many of the barriers to black female academic and economic success, according to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Legal Defense Fund and the National Women’s Law Center joint research “Unlocking Opportunity for African American Girls,” are facilitated by longstanding structural barriers, but also by not being able to see the success they desire surrounding them. *The HistoryMakers* answers that deficit past and present.

“Our girls need role models. They need to know that in every area of endeavor the black women have achieved,” Richardson told the AFRO. “There is so much about the lived Black history experience that we still need to know about. The memories in *The HistoryMakers’* collection go back to the 1700s.”



HistoryMaker Peggy Cooper Cafritz (Former President of the Washington, D.C. Board of Education) at Duke Ellington School of the Arts that she founded

CITIES REACHED BY THE BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE HISTORYMAKERS PROGRAM



BY THE NUMBERS

400
HistoryMakers

51
Cities

28
States

Alabama

-Birmingham
-Montgomery
-Tuskegee

Arkansas

-Little Rock

California

-Los Angeles
-Oakland
-Sacramento
-San Francisco

Florida

-Fort Lauderdale
-Miami
-Tallahassee

Georgia

-Atlanta

Illinois

-Chicago

Indiana

-Indianapolis

Maryland

-Baltimore

Massachusetts

-Boston

Michigan

-Ann Arbor
-Detroit
-Lansing

Missouri

-St. Louis

Nevada

-Las Vegas

New Jersey

-Englewood

New York

-New York
-Syracuse

North Carolina

-Charlotte

Ohio

-Akron
-Cleveland
-Columbus
-Dayton

Pennsylvania

-Philadelphia
-Pittsburgh

Rhode Island

-Providence

South Carolina

-Hilton Head
Island

Tennessee

-Chattanooga
-Memphis

Texas

-Austin
-Dallas
-Houston
-San Antonio

Utah

-Salt Lake City

Virginia

-Hampton

Washington

-Seattle

Washington, DC

Wisconsin:

-Milwaukee

HistoryMaker Dr. Andrew Williams Talks to MPS Students About a Career in Computer Technology

Karen Stokes
The Milwaukee Courier



*HistoryMaker Dr. Andrew Williams
(Electrical Engineer and Academic administrator
Marquette University)*

Marquette University student, John Williams always knew that he wanted to study computer science while growing up in College Park, Georgia.

"I grew up around computers so computer science was an option that stuck out because I was exposed early on," Williams said.

Now Williams is looking forward to graduating in December with a degree in Computer Science.

Research shows that African Americans are underrepresented in computer science fields.

"A large part of the problem with attracting minority students into computer science programs has to do with awareness," said Hakim Weatherspoon, assistant professor in computer science at Cornell University. "I think that if students understood the tremendous career opportunities for computer science graduates, there would be more interest."

"It's not the environment you grow up in that determines where you can go in life. . . You need to have a vision that's bigger than what your life is now. Get the education."

A study by the Computer Research Association reveals that concerning African American bachelor degree enrollment and awardees there is a 5.6 percent representation in the computer fields and even less on the Masters and Ph.D levels.

According to the Harvard Business Review, many students decide early on not to give computer science a try. A key challenge is finding ways to inspire more students to try computer science.

By 2020, there will be an estimated 1.4 million engineering and computer jobs in the U. S., and there will not be nearly enough American computer science graduates to fill those jobs.

Williams (22), is a student of Dr. Andrew B. Williams (no relation) in the Electrical and Computer Science department at Marquette University.

Dr. Williams is a professor and Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Marquette and is a ScienceMaker with the *Back to School with The HistoryMakers* program. He was recently a featured speaker at the Milwaukee School of the Arts.

The *Back to School with The HistoryMakers* program is an annual yearlong program that kicked off Fall 2016, and will continue throughout the year with classroom and assembly visits from African American leaders.

The HistoryMakers, the nation's largest African American video oral history archive is a non-profit organization which records the personal histories of well known leaders like President Barack Obama, General Colin Powell, poet Nikki Giovanni and computer engineer Dr. Andrew B. Williams.

"If we do not take seriously the need to motivate and channel our youth even in times of tremendous acrimony and discontent we will end up with a society that none of us want to have," said Julieanna Richardson, founder and executive director of *The HistoryMakers*. "We are committed to the notion that our nation's youth both minority and non-minority will benefit from the stories of real world African American high achievers who have overcome obstacles in their path of success."

Dr. Williams was born in Junction City, Kansas, where crime levels tend to be higher than Kansas's average level. But in junior high, he became curious about the video games he played and saw it as a way out.

"I saw asteroids, and was curious not only to play them but how do you build computer software," said Dr. Williams.

Dr. Williams joined Marquette University after serving in 2004 as the assistant professor in computer and information department at Spelman College in Atlanta. In 2008, Apple Inc. CEO and co-founder Steve Jobs appointed him the first senior engineering

diversity manager at Apple.

“Faith and God was a strong driving force in my life behind what I do and how I deal with obstacles,” Dr. Williams said.

The students at Milwaukee School of the Arts appeared excited and were fully engaged in Dr. Williams’ lecture and how computer science fit in with what students already enjoyed doing.

Dr. Williams talked to the students about STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). STEAM is a curriculum in educating students in those disciplines by implementing them together and how they can offer real world applications and solutions.

“You can have fun, be creative and you can use it to help people. A lot of the skills you need, you already have. You’re creative and if you see a problem you try to solve it,” Dr. Williams explained.

***“You can have fun, be creative
and you can use it to help people.
A lot of the skills you need, you
already have.”***

The computer science field is lucrative. Dr. Williams mentioned that salaries for computer engineering jobs after college started out at \$80,000 a year and a Ph.D, doctor of philosophy, will make \$1 million more than a person who doesn’t have a Ph.D.

Dr. Williams performed a demonstration with “Rosie the Robot” to illustrate how robots can be used in everyday life to solve problems. Rosie demonstrated how she could be used as an exercise coach through exercise and dance. Dr. Williams also discussed Da Vinci surgical robots and how they were currently being used in healthcare.

“If you understand math, you can understand more about how robots work,” said Dr. Williams. “Math is a language to communicate an abstraction of something that’s real.”

The goal of *Back To School with The HistoryMakers* is to motivate students, to be a part of the solution.

“It’s not the environment you grow up in that determines where you can go in life. You can have high expectations,” Dr. Williams said. “You need to have a vision that’s bigger than what your life is now. Get the education.”

THE HISTORYMAKERS IN THE MEDIA



The 7th Annual
*Back to School with
The HistoryMakers*
was covered on a
variety of tv and
radio stations:



*HistoryMaker Dr. William Bundy (U.S. Navy Commander and Professor)
being interviewed by Christina Myers from ABC Channel 6*

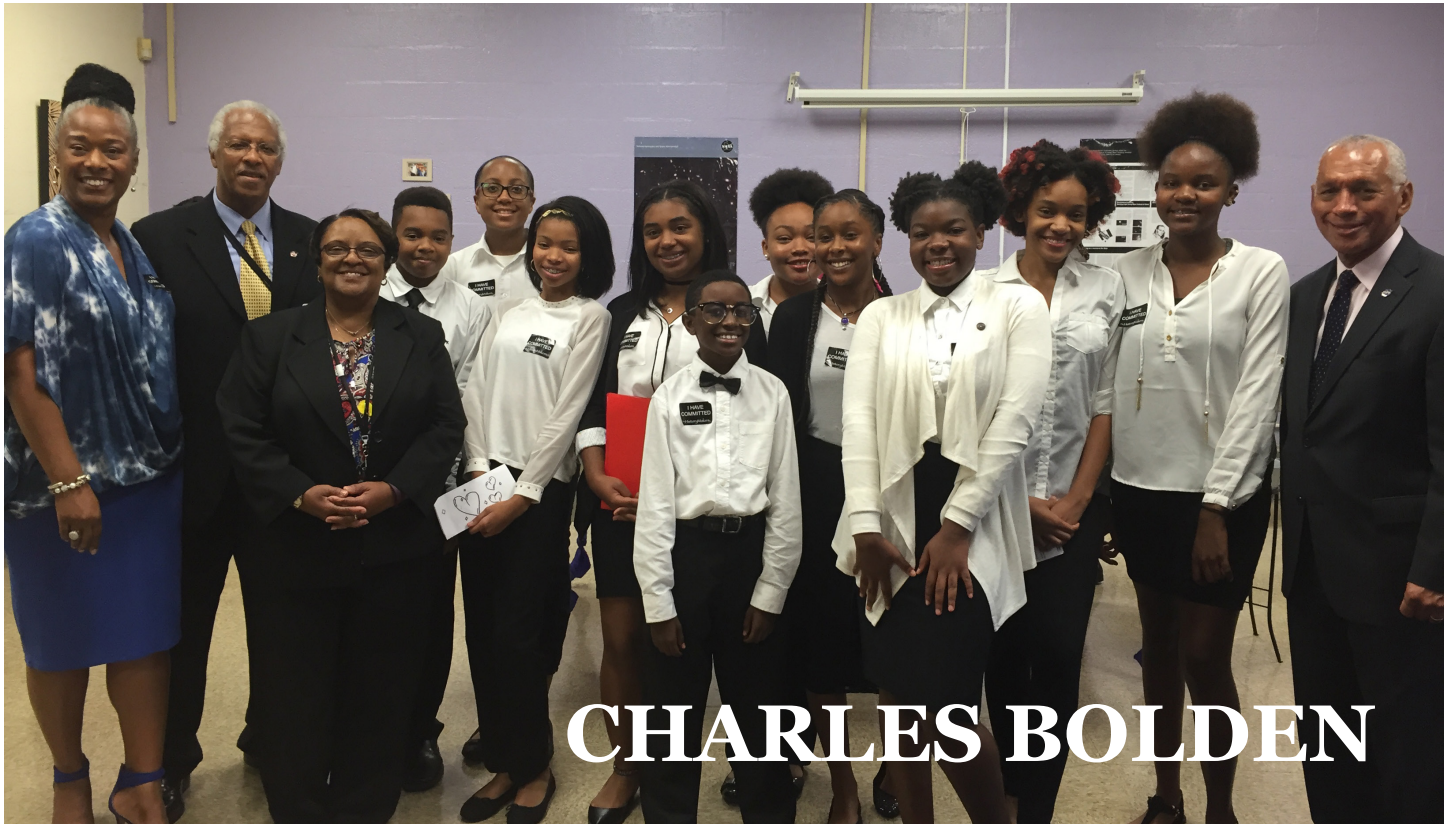
And Radio One Coverage:

Baltimore
Charlotte
Cleveland
Columbus
Dallas
Detroit

Houston
Indianapolis
Philadelphia
St. Louis
Washington, D.C.



NASA Administrator Bolden Visits John Hanson Montessori, Inspires Students



The Andrews Gazette

In an effort to nurture the development of self-motivated, self-confident and independent students while helping them become college and career-ready through the *Back to School with The HistoryMakers* program, John Hanson Montessori hosted NASA Administrator Charles F. Bolden, Jr. for a special school visit Sept. 29 in Oxon Hill.

Bolden, who was accompanied by fellow Office of Education Deputy Associate Administrator Dr. Roosevelt Johnson, met with a few staff members, students and parents during a welcome reception and then participated in a school assembly. Bolden gave a presentation entitled “NASA’s Journey to Mars and Beyond.” Afterwards, Bolden and Johnson took a tour of the school and visited select elementary classrooms.

“I think it’s an awesome opportunity for children to see particularly people of color in positions of prominences – and an Obama appointee,” Katrina Pinder, John Hanson Montessori principal, said. “Along with [Bolden’s] visit comes also curric-

ulum that we can use. There are online connections that we now have access to because we participated in *The HistoryMakers*’ event so that our children can continue to learn more about NASA.”

Parent Teacher Student Association Vice President Kelly Davidson said she believes Bolden’s visit presents an opportunity for a potential partnership with NASA.

“It’s a big deal because we have a LEGO robotics program for our younger students, [kindergarten] through third grade, and we were trying to introduce some sort of STEM after-school programming for our older students,” Davidson said. “In talking with Mr. Bolden and Mr. Roosevelt, they just gave us a ton of people to contact. They told us to reach out to NASA so they can possibly sponsor some students or sponsor the program in its entirety. Today was such a huge win to possibly build that partnership, but also to expose our kids to people of color who look like them who are in those fields.”

Having been the first in her immediate family to attend college, Davidson said

she understands the importance of helping students become college and career ready at an early age.

Davidson, former president of the Campus Activities Board at Prince George’s Community College, said it’s one thing to encourage students, but another to put students in the shoes of someone who’s actually accomplished goals and can hear his or hers journey.

“In talking with Mr. Bolden and Mr. Roosevelt, they just gave us a ton of people to contact. They told us to reach out to NASA so they can possibly sponsor some students or sponsor the program in its entirety.”

Tia Breckenridge, a school counselor, applied to *The HistoryMakers* program in July on behalf of John Hanson Montessori. Breckenridge said being a part of *The HistoryMakers* program is “an experience out of this world.”

“I had to meet with our STEM committee and talk to them about all the resources that NASA was giving the school so that they can share it with the students,” Breckenridge said. “Our population doesn’t always see professionals who are African American. Bolden is definitely phenomenal and so, hopefully, he will inspire many, if not all, to reach their dreams. He’s not really focused on everyone becoming a scientist or astronaut, but [more so encouraging them to stay] committed to their education to make their own dreams a reality.”

The daughter of a former quality assurance engineer at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, Su’Rae Witcher, 13, said Bolden inspired her to explore science and think about her future career goals.

“I thought it was really nice he took the time to come to our school and talk to us. It was really neat to learn new stuff,” Witcher said. “He opened up my mind to thinking about going into a field that involves science. It’s good to have a role model like Mr. Bolden because he can guide you to go on the right path.”

Other eighth grade students like Pilar Gore, Sasha Carter and Hailee Estep learned the importance of staying on the right path.

“I learned that you always have to work hard,” Gore said. “Everything you do now affects you in the future, so just do everything to your fullest.”

Carter agreed that one must have a “can-do attitude” to be successful.

“I think a lot of our students got a lot out of what Administrator Bolden had to say,” Carter said. “I took (away from the speech) that you should never say never and try your best at what you really want to accomplish.”

Having had the opportunity to oversee the transition from 30 years of space shuttle missions to a new era of exploration focused on full utilization of the International Space Station and space and aeronautics technology development, Bolden leads NASA’s team and manages its resources to advance the agency’s missions and goals.

Outside of his administrative role, Bolden is on a personal mission to spearhead a new era of STEM for students around the country, one school at a time.

“They can do anything that they want to do. They can try to mimic the *HistoryMakers*,” Bolden said. “I would have never, ever dreamed of any of this when I was growing up in Columbia, South Carolina to be the first African American to serve full-time as a NASA administrator under the first black president. It’s been pretty super for me. I’ve been with him for seven years now and I’ll never forget this. I’m doing something I never dreamed of doing.”



HistoryMaker Charles F. Bolden, Jr. (NASA Administrator) visits John Hanson Montessori in Oxon Hill, Maryland

RELATABLE ROLE MODELS



HistoryMaker Amelia Ashley-Ward (Editor, Journalist and Owner of the Sun-Reporter Publishing Company)

“Bringing in a guest speaker who can contribute to bridging the gap between classroom knowledge and real life scenarios can be tricky. However, adding a guest speaker who was raised in the same community is more valuable than a textbook or a curriculum guide. Having a speaker such as **Amelia Ashley-Ward** is a surefire way to enhance students’ educational experience, because if she did it, why can’t my students do it?”

—Emmanuel Stewart
Dr. George Washington
Carver School Principal
San Francisco, California



HistoryMaker Willis “Bing” Davis (Mixed Media Artist) connects with a student at Belmont High School in Dayton, Ohio

King/Drew Gets a Visit From Greg Mack and Dr. Karen Hill-Scott

Shannen Hill
The LA Sentinel

The HistoryMakers went “Back to School” as the organization sent 400 members to schools across the U.S. to talk about their journey to success and give the teens inspiration and information to think about on Friday, September 30.

The organization focuses on sharing the life stories of thousands of African Americans and this year, they sent Greg Mack of 94.7 The Wave radio station and Dr. Karen Hill Scott, creator of California’s largest non-profit child development agency, to King/Drew Magnet High School to talk with some of the students.

“The kids were able to connect with them. *The HistoryMakers* program is great because they get an opportunity to see people who made history, live in action,” said Principal Reginald Brookens. “They get to hear their stories, ask them questions and interact with them in a way that wouldn’t be possible if they just read about them.”

Mack discussed his career as one of the pioneering radio hosts for West Coast hip-hop. The students were excited as he told them stories about what it was like when N.W.A. first came out, but also gained an understanding that a lot of work and long hours have to be put in to get and maintain a career. He also stressed the importance of education to the students.

Scott, who also teaches at UCLA, gave 10 tips for being successful in college. She told the students to introduce themselves to their professors and to try to stay out of the dorm room as much as possible. She also told the students to have pride in where they come from. She talked about how there will be students who are wealthy, but reminded the students that wealth doesn’t have to only be material and that they have richness in their life experiences that others don’t have.

“I feel like I come here and I can see the kids from

“I went to school not far from here, so I wanted them to know that it’s possible to do what you love and be successful at it.”

where I came from really on track for greatness. It really is gratifying,” said Scott. “And I went to school not far from here, so I wanted them to know that it’s possible to do what you love and be successful at it.”

“The kids were able to connect with them. The HistoryMakers program is great because the students get an opportunity to see people who made history, live in action”

— Principal Reginald Brookens,
King Drew Medical
Magnet High School,
Los Angeles, California

The event was set up as an assembly in the auditorium and went through four, one-hour class periods with different students coming in each time. After hearing what the speakers had to say, the students were given the opportunity to ask questions and have one-on-one conversations with Mack and Scott.

“I love speaking to kids. They’re just so cool,” said Mack. “I was always over here in Compton when I was over at 1580 KDAY, so to be able to come and speak to the kids, I was like ‘yeah.’ I’d much rather come here than any other area.”

King/Drew wasn’t the only high school in Los Angeles that received visits from some influential speakers. Susan Miller Dorsey High School and Crenshaw Senior High School were among the other schools in the area that participated in the *Back to School with The HistoryMakers* program.



HistoryMaker Greg Mack (Radio Host at KDAY AM 1580)

THANKS TO

PARTICIPANTS IN THE 7TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE HISTORYMAKERS

Alabama

Birmingham

Green Acres Middle School

Joe Dickson

Jeanette Jones

Malachi Wilkerson Middle School

Lt. Gen. Willie Williams

Reverend Calvin Wallace Woods, Sr.

Montgomery

Southlawn Middle School

The Honorable Vanzetta Penn McPherson

The Honorable Myron Thompson

Tuskegee

Tuskegee Institute Middle School

Legand Burge, Jr.

Herman Brenner White, Jr.

Arkansas

Little Rock

Hazen High School

Bob Nash

Stuttgart High School

Janis F. Kearney

California

Los Angeles

Crewshaw Senior High School

Benjamin Wright

King Drew Medical Magnet High School

Karen Hill-Scott

Greg Mack

KIPP Scholar Academy

H. B. Barnum

Phyllis Tucker Vinson Jackson

Santa Monica High School

T'Keyah Crystal Keymah

Susan Miller Dorsey High School

Dina Ruth Andrews

Lee Bailey

Thomas Jefferson High School

Steve McKeever

H. Mitsy Wilson

Oakland

Markham Elementary

William Lester, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr Elementary School

Gibor Basri

Sacramento

Rosa Parks Middle School

Frank Washington

San Francisco

Dr. George Washington Carver Elementary School

Amelia Ashley-Ward

Wallenberg High School

Cecil Hale

John Watson

Washington DC

Anacostia Senior High School

Priscilla Clarke

Ballou Senior High School

Curtis Symonds

Bethesda-Chevy Chase High

Terry Jones

Billy Martin

Calvin Coolidge High School

Lilia Abron

James Early

Cardozo Senior High School

Paul Delaney

Frank Smith

Columbia Heights Educational Campus

Ernest Green

Damascus High School

Dr. Janice Hutchinson

Samuel Williamson

Eastern Senior High School

Riley K. Temple

EL Haynes Public Charter School

James Phillips

Yanick Rice-Lamb

Ellington School Of The Arts

Peggy Cooper Cafritz

Raymond Jackson

Friendship Collegiate Academy PCS

Will Gunn

Sgt. Maj. Michele Jones

Allen Sessoms

Gaithersburg Middle School

The Honorable James Gadsden

Garrison Elementary School

Ramona Edelin

Reverend Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith

John F. Kennedy High

A. Peter Bailey

Reginald Stuart

John Hanson Montessori School

Gen. The Honorable Charles Bolden, Jr.

Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy Public Charter School

Roger Gore

James Johnson, Jr.

Maya Angelou Public Charter School

William Gerald Fletcher, Jr.

Elaine Jones

McKinley Technical Senior High School

John Terry

Armstrong Williams

National Collegiate Preparatory PCHS

Lt. Gen. Larry Jordan

Tyrone Mitchell

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School

Reverend Marcia Dyson

Sylvester Monroe

Phelps ACE High School

David "Oggi" Ogburn

Pine Crest Elementary

Dr. Lillian M. Beard

Richard Montgomery High School

Maureen Bunyan

Jacques Cook

Rocky Hill Middle School

Nan Arrington Peete

Roosevelt STAY Senior High School

Gen. Vincent Patton, III

Harry G. Robinson, III

School Without Walls SHS

Denise Rolark-Barnes

Rodney E. Slater

Seaton Elementary School

Deborah Lathen

Takoma Park Middle School

Ronald Jewell

Joan Langdon

The Washington Metropolitan High School

Sam Ford

Richard Prince

Washington Math Science Tech PCHS

William A. Hawkins

Westland Middle School

Leonard Haynes, III

Fern Hunt

Wheaton High School

Clive Callender

Darryl Hill

Woodrow Wilson High School

Russell Williams, II

Florida

Fort Lauderdale

Blanche Ely High School

Charles W. Cherry II

Andrew Ingraham

Dillard High School

Cecil Hayes

Niara Sudarkasa

Miami

Booker T. Washington High School

Dorothy Fields

Bea L. Hines

MAST@Florida International University

Evan Forde

Tallahassee

Griffin Middle School

Augustus Colson

Roselyn Williams

Georgia

Atlanta

Arabia Mountain High School

Juanita Baranco

Dorothy Cowser Yancy

Atlanta Youth Academy

Vernon Smith

Benjamin E. Mays High School

Howard Brown, Jr.

Robert Franklin

Ray Robinson

Conley Hills Elementary School

Joseph Henry Beasley

Joseph N. Boyce

Fred Armon Toomer Elementary School

Gale Horton Gay

Ronald Mickens

Jean Childs Young Middle School

The Honorable Brenda H. Cole

Alfred Msezane

John Wesley Dobbs Elementary School

Juliet Dobbs Blackburn-Beamon

Sylvia Bozeman

Almeta Cooper

Lithonia High School

Sharon Hall
Cornell McBride, Sr.
The Honorable Dr. David Satcher

Rainbow Elementary School

Jim Alexander
Leona Barr-Davenport
Linda Torrence

Ralph J. Bunche Middle School

Ayanna Howard

Ron Clark Academy

Daryl Shular
Frank Ski

Seaborn Lee Elementary

Condace Pressley

The Best Academy At Benjamin S. Carson

Amalia Amaki
Ernie Suggs

Tri-Cities High School

John H. Hall, Jr.

Savannah**Hubert Middle School**

Shirley James

Illinois**Chicago****A.N. Pritzker Elem School**

Barbara Bates

Arthur J. Dixon Elementary School

Alfreda Burke
Rodrick Dixon

Beasley Academic Center

Lynn Carol Allen
Geoff Brown

Chicago Vocational Career Academy High School

Patricia Andrews-Keenan
Leslie Outerbridge

Crown Elementary Community Academy Fine Arts Center

Blanton Canady
Vincent Lane

Earle STEM School

Yvette Moyo
Marshall Thompson

Genevieve Melody STEM School

Abe Thompson

George Henry Corliss High School

Reginald Weaver

George Manierre Elementary School

Howard Saffold

Helen M. Hefferan Elementary School

Kahil El'Zabar
The Honorable Bobbie Steele

Illinois Mathematics & Science Academy

Glennette Tilley Turner

John B. Drake Elementary School

Reverend Dr. Leon D. Finney, Jr.
Eugene Morris

John D. Shoop Math-Science Technical Academy

Robert Dale
Darryl W. Dennard

John Marshall Metro High School

The Honorable Sophia H. Hall

Joplin Elementary School

Reverend T. L. Barrett, Jr.
Renee Ferguson

Langford Academy

The Honorable Howard Brookins, Sr.
Donald J. Jackson

Little Black Pearl Art & Design Academy

Bob Black
Reverend Dr. Calvin Morris

Martha M. Ruggles Elementary School

Jacquelyne Grimshaw
Delano O'Banion

Melody Elementary School

Roma Jones Stewart

Newberry Elem Math & Science Academy

Kathleen E. Bethel
Carolyn Armenta Davis

Paul L. Dunbar Career Academy

The Honorable William Cousins, Jr.
Kenneth D. Rodgers

Paul Robeson High School

Thomas J. Burrell
Rufus Williams

Percy L. Julian High School

The Honorable Dorothy Tillman
N. Don Wycliff

Perspectives Charter - IIT Math & Science Academy

Reverend Dr. Harold E. Bailey
Steve Baskerville

Providence-St. Mel High School

James Hill, Jr.

Quest Academy

The Honorable Larry Bullock

South Loop Elementary School

Renetta Earledeane McCann

South Shore International College Prep

Larry Huggins
Charles "Chuck" Smith

St. Sabina Academy

Father George Clements
Patric McCoy

Sullivan High School

Esther "E.T." Franklin
Robert A. Harris

Turner-Drew Elem Language Academy

Reverend Dr. Stanley Keeble
Dorothy R. Leavell

Westcott Elementary

The Honorable Dorothy Brown
Dr. James Hill

Young Women's Leadership Charter School of Chicago

Madeleine Moore Burrell
Dori Wilson

Youth Connections Charter Schools Olive Harvey Middle College

Robert Tutman
Lee H. Walker

Youth Connection Leadership Academy

Robert T. Starks
Standish E. Willis

Indiana**Indianapolis****Broad Ripple High School**

Carl Hines

Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School

Jerry Harkness

Maryland**Baltimore****Annapolis High School**

Donald Baker
Ronald Gilbert Baker

Baltimore City College High School

E. R. Shipp

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute

James Earl Reid

Baltimore School For The Arts

Denyce Graves

New Town High School

Thelma Daley

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School

Knowlton R. Atterbeary
Frederick Oliver

Massachusetts**Boston****Boston Renaissance Charter Public School**

Robert C. Johnson, Jr.

Fletcher/Maynard Academy

Eddie Jenkins, Jr.

Higginson-Lewis K-8 School

Askia Toure'

Jeremiah E. Burke High School

Benaree P. Wiley
Fletcher "Flash" Wiley

Milton High School

Napoleon Jones-Henderson

Muriel Snowden International School

Jemadari Kamara

Neighborhood House Charter School

Frank Dale Morgan

New Mission High School

The Honorable Charles Walker

Prospect Hill Academy Charter School

Scott Edwards

Michigan**Ann Arbor****Carpenter School**

Billy Joe Evans
George Shirley



*I believe what The HistoryMakers is doing with its Back to School program is important and will help **change lives** for the better.*

*Seeing people who look like them and who have similar experiences helped to **connect** in ways that will prove invaluable .*

*Thanks to The HistoryMakers for allowing me to add my voice to the **chorus of positive change**.*

God bless...

Harry Boomer

Proud HistoryMaker



*HistoryMaker Harry Boomer
(Broadcast Journalist and
Radio Personality on WOIO)*

Detroit

Marcus Garvey Academy
The Honorable Craig Strong

Martin Luther King Jr. Sr High School
Tom A. Goss

Spain Elementary/Middle School
Luther “Badman” Keith

Missouri
St. Louis

BKG Pamoja Prep Academy
The Honorable Anne-Marie Clarke
Steven Roberts, Sr.

Griffith Elementary School
Jamala Rogers

Nevada**Las Vegas**

Matt Kelly Elementary School
Linda Marie Allen

West Preparatory Academy
Shelley Fisher
Merald “Bubba” Knight, Jr.

New Jersey**Englewood**

Dwight Morrow High School
Allison J. Davis

New York**New York**

Frederick Douglass Academy
Debbye Turner Bell
Robert Dottin

Granville T. Woods MS 584
John Atchison

High School of Fashion Industries
Patti Carpenter
Leonard Davis

PS 197 John B Russwurm School
Roz Abrams
Douglas Holloway
The Honorable Debra James

PS 273 The Wortman School
Alfred Richard Fornay

Queens Gateway To Health Sciences Secondary School
Arthur Wellesley French

Ronald Edmonds Learning Center #2 MS 484
J. Terry Edmonds

Thurgood Marshall Academy For Learning & Social Change
Michele Coleman Mayes
Dennis Terry

Vanguard High School
Lisa Cortes
Dr. Donna M. Mendes

Syracuse
George Fowler High School
George Langford

North Carolina
Charlotte
First Ward Creative Arts Academy
Mary C. Curtis

Ohio**Akron**

STEM Middle School
Fannie Lee Brown
The Honorable Dorothy Jackson

Bedford

Glendale Primary School
Steven A. Minter

Cleveland

Caledonia Elementary School
Julian Manly Earls

Chambers Elementary School
The Honorable C. Ellen Connally

Daniel E. Morgan Elementary School
Harry Boomer

Heritage Middle School
Edward Parker

Mayfair Elementary School
Dominic Ozanne

Columbus
Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center
Lewis E. Dodley
Gene Harris

Independence High School
Noel Mayo
The Honorable Ray Miller

Dayton

Belmont High School
Willis Bing Davis

Thurgood Marshall STEM High School
Willis Bing Davis

Pennsylvania**Philadelphia**

Benjamin Franklin High School
Frederic Bertley
The Honorable Theodore A. McKee
Norma Pratt

Creative And Performing Arts
Molefi Kete Asante

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The Honorable Reverend Dr. W. Wilson Goode, Sr.

Pittsburgh

Mckeesport Area High School
The Honorable Cynthia Baldwin

Pittsburgh Colfax K-8
Marcia Sturdivant

Rhode Island**Providence**

Classical High School
Wayne Bowen
Sgt. William Bundy

South Carolina**Hilton Head Island**

Hilton Head Island High School
Emory Campbell

Tennessee

Chattanooga
Tyner Academy
Fred Cash
Samuel Gooden

Memphis

Booker T. Washington High School
Walter Bailey, Jr.
Mark Stansbury

Hamilton Middle School
Fred Davis

The Honorable A C Wharton, Jr.

Havenview Middle School
Rochelle Stevens

Texas**Austin**

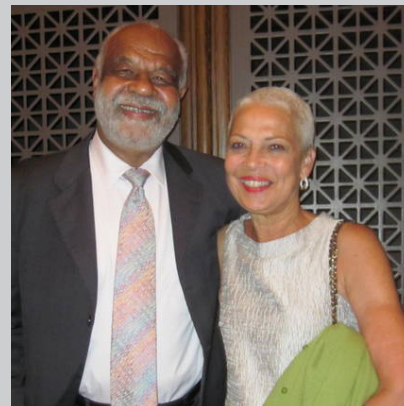
Akins High School
John S. Butler

Dallas

KB Polk Center for Academically Talented and Gifted
Ernest Levert
Dr. Shawna Nesbitt

“The Wileys talked, answered questions, and did a classroom visit. It was great for the students to see examples of African American leaders in different fields”

— Kristina Kelleher-Bianchi
Jeremiah E. Burke High School Teacher
Boston, Massachusetts



HistoryMakers Fletcher “Flash” Wiley (Lawyer and Civic Leader) and Benaree P. Wiley (Former CEO of The Partnership)

KB Polk Elementary School
Mollie Belt

Houston

M.C. Williams Middle School
Myrtis Dightman
James M. Douglas

The Lawson Academy
David Garrison
The Honorable Kenneth M. Hoyt
David Lattin

Lubbock

Coronado High School
Oliver McGee, III

San Antonio

St. Philip’s College
William Davis

Utah**Salt Lake City**

Nibley Park School
Ronald Gerald Coleman
The Honorable Shauna Graves-Robertson

Virginia**Hampton**

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Dennis Biddle

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Andrew Williams

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