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Echoes of Excellence



Photo by Carol Friedman



Welcome to the great Philander Smith College!

The first quarter of 2003 has been amazing thus far. You cannot miss the unparalleled growth on our campus exhibited by three new state-of-the-art facilities: 1) new Library and Technology Center (currently open); 2) Science and Health Mission Center (opening January 2004); and 3) student residence hall (opening Fall 2003).

In addition, the old PSC gymnasium is being renovated as the Sherman E. Tate Student Recreation Center, named in honor of our Board of Trustees Chairman who is an alumnus and has been a great supporter of the college. We are very proud of the transformation on our campus as we continue to grow to meet the needs of our students.

The Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center opened for students at the beginning of the year. A formal ceremony with the Reynolds Foundation was held on March 7. The Philander Smith Collegiate Choir sang as more than 500 people gathered to dedicate and tour the facility.

The dedication ceremony followed a very successful corporate luncheon to benefit the Dr. Katherine Mitchell Scholarship Fund. Over \$100,000 was raised to benefit academically promising students enrolling in Philander Smith College in the 2003-2004 school year.

We also are excited about new corporate relationships. As part of a yearlong celebration of our 125 years of excellence, we have generated over \$500,000 of in-kind marketing and advertising support from Alltel, Lamar Advertising, and Comcast. These contributions

have resulted in the production of a PSC television commercial, airtime, and billboard advertising to prospective students. We appreciate these corporations and look forward to continuing our work with them.

Opera legend Jessye Norman will visit Little Rock to perform with the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir, under the direction of Lawrence Hamilton, at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church. The event will be held on Sunday, April 13, and proceeds will benefit PSC's music department. A special dinner/fundraiser with Ms. Norman will be held at the home of Max and Kaki Mehlburger on Friday, April 11. Lawrence Hamilton and members of the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir will provide entertainment at the dinner.

Finally, have you noticed the impressive list of nationally and internationally known lecturers that recently visited our campus? They include Kevin Powell, Author, Political Activist and hip-hop historian; Dr. Julianne Malveaux, Author, Economist and Lecturer; Norman Hill, President of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute; and Dr. Na'im Akbar, Clinical Psychologist, Activist and Scholar, Florida State University. These and others have elevated the consciousness of our students, faculty, administration, and the community at large.

We are "Building Traditions of Excellence."

Trudie Kibbe Reed, Ed. D.



Lt. Governor Winthrop Rockefeller sits with other guests before helping to cut the ribbon during the dedication ceremony for the Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center. (page 6)

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Kendall Science and Health Mission Center (back cover)



More than 500 people gather for the Annual Katherine P. Mitchell Scholarship Fund President's Luncheon, an event that raised more than \$100,000 for the scholarship fund. (page 7)

Echoes of Excellence is published semi-annually with news from the Office of The President of Philander Smith College.



Workers walk the beams on the frame of a utility room atop the ongoing construction of the Kendall Science and Health Mission Center. (photos and story on back cover)

PSC Hosts Opera Legend:

Jessye Norman comes
to Little Rock in April



World-renowned opera star Jessye Norman will perform “Faure Requiem” and a selection of spirituals at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 13 in Little Rock. The performance, to benefit the Philander Smith College Music Program, will be in the sanctuary of Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, 4823 Woodlawn. Miss Norman will perform with the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir and the Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church Choir, under the direction of Lawrence Hamilton, director of choral music at Philander Smith. Seating will be limited to 500 persons, according to Hamilton.

Miss Norman has been described as “one of those once-in-a-generation singers who is not simply following in the footsteps of others, but is staking out her own niche in the history of singing.” Her performances this year will include song recitals in London, Paris, Vienna, Brussels, Munich and Cleveland.

She will also give orchestral performances in Washington, D.C. for the season opening of the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center and in Athens at a summer concert at the famed Herodus Atticus Amphitheater. In Moscow she will sing the opening and closing concerts in the International Music Festival “Vladimir Spivakov Invites.”

“As you can see from her schedule, Miss Norman will be appearing in cities around the world,” Hamilton said. “So for Little Rock, Arkansas, to be among them is truly remarkable. We are excited that she will be coming to Little Rock. What an unbelievable opportunity for music lovers in central Arkansas to hear one of the most extraordinary voices ever.”

Hamilton and Miss Norman



have been friends since he served as her musical director for an AIDS benefit concert produced by Miss Norman in New York City six years ago. “She believes in what we’re trying to do at Philander Smith,” Hamilton said, “and she wants to help young people.”

Miss Norman made history in 1997 when she was the youngest recipient to be selected for the Kennedy Center Honor, the United States’ highest award in performing arts. She has been honored with more than 30 honorary doctorates from colleges, universities and conservatories around the world.

In 1984 the French government bestowed upon Miss Norman the title *Commandeur de L’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* and the National Museum of Natural History in Paris named an orchid for her. Five years later she was awarded the *Legion d’Honneur* by French President Mitterand, and in 1990 was named *Honorary Ambassador to the United Nations* by U.N. Secretary-General Xavier Perez de Cuellar.

Miss Norman’s recordings have won numerous awards, including Grammy Awards for *Songs of Maurice Ravel* and *Wagner’s Lohengrin* and *Die Walkure*. Her *Bluebeard’s Castle* with Pierre Boulez and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra received the Grammy Award for best opera in 1999. Three years ago Miss Norman released her first jazz CD *I Was Born In Love With You*, music of Michel Legrand.

Miss Norman serves on many boards of directors, including The New York Public Library, the New York Botanical Garden, *Citymeals-on-Wheels* in New York City, The Dance Theatre of Harlem, The National Music Foundation, The Elton John AIDS Foundation and the Lupus Foundation. She is national spokesperson for both the Lupus Foundation and The Partnership for the Homeless.



Under Way

New Student Living Facility

A new three-story dormitory is under construction at the southeast corner of the Philander Smith College campus. The facility will contain approximately 130 dorm units, with two beds and a private bath in each unit. Several of these rooms will be wheelchair accessible and a number of the larger rooms will be designated for honors students. Each room will contain two desks, two closets, two sleeping areas and will be fully wired for technology. In addition, there also are two director's suites available for staff use. Each floor will have two laundry rooms, extra storage and a small snack/kitchen area. The main lobby on the first floor will include offices for the dormitory staff, a TV lounge, computer room, exercise room and large lounge area. The developer for this project is Collegiate development from Dallas, TX. Construction began in January 2003, with expected completion in August 2003.





Grand Opening

Philander Smith College cuts the ribbon for the Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center on March 7, 2003. More than 500 people attend the ceremony and tour the new facility.



Joe van den Heuvel, assistant to the President, Taco Williams, Miss PSC, Dr. Sherman Tate, Board Chair, Dr. Reed, President and Lt. Governor Winthrop Rockefeller officially open the Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center by cutting the ribbon.



Participating in the unveiling of the bust of Donald W. Reynolds as part of the dedication ceremony were (from left) Bishop Felton May, PSC President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed, from the Reynolds Foundation: Mr. John Schlereth, trustee, Ms. Barbara Hanna, trustee, Mr. Steven Anderson, president, and PSC Board of Trustees Chair, Dr. Sherman E. Tate.



President's Luncheon

Annual Event Raises more than \$100,000 for the Katherine P. Mitchell Scholarship Fund

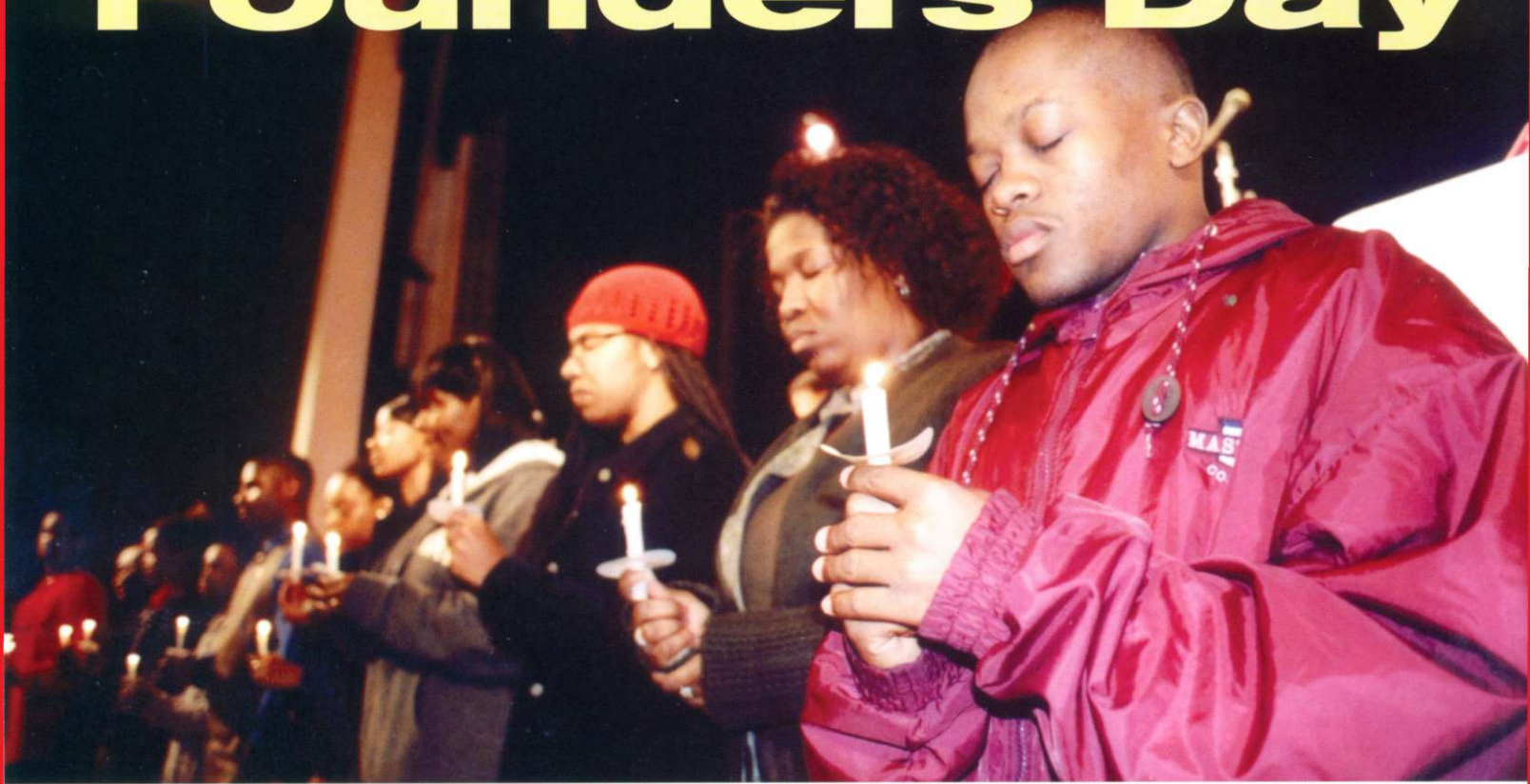


(above left) Dr. Reed and Charles Stewart, VP of Community Development for Regions Financial Corporation and PSC Board of Trustees member, present Dr. Sherman Tate with an award of appreciation for 15 years of service as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. (above right) Taco Williams, Miss PSC and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., presents her soror, Dr. Katherine Mitchell, with an award of appreciation. The award was presented at the 2nd annual scholarship luncheon named in Mitchell's honor and highlighted her dedicated and outstanding service to PSC.



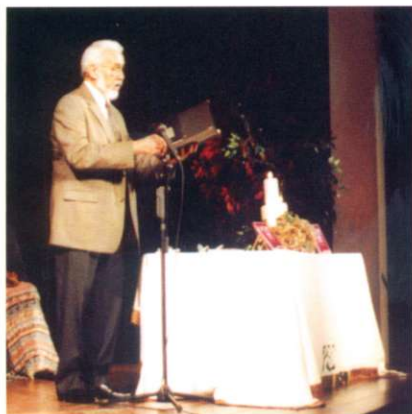
Sherman Hemsley and PSC student Raven Alexander (above left) perform "An Angel Any Day Now", a comedy spoof of recent challenges at the college. The skit was written by Dr. Marinelle Ringer, Assistant Dean of Instruction. Sherman Hemsley serenades "Everybody's Got An Angel" to Dr. Reed (above right). The song is being released to raise funds for scholarships for PSC students.

Founders' Day



Philander Smith College Celebrates 125th Anniversary

Philander Smith College celebrated Founder's Day with a Chapel Service entitled "Becoming Free in 2003." Ms. Kathryn F. Worthen, PSC alumnus and president of the National Alumni Association, delivered the keynote address. PSC President Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed and Ms. Worthen, (right) light candles to promote unity across campus among student organizations, faculty, and staff. Mr. Charles Rodgers, PSC alumnus and Reynolds Library assistant (below) sings "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" during the service. Dr. Reed (below center) presents a plaque for outstanding service to Ms. Worthen.



PSC President Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed receives:

Honors



Dr. Sherman Tate, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Philander Smith College, recently announced that the 125-year-old college would soon have a new address in honor of the school's 11th president, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed. The College, working with the City of Little Rock, has officially changed the name of the street in front of the school's administrative building to Trudie Kibbe Reed Drive. In the photo above, Mr. Washington Humphrey, assistant Physical Plant Director, installs one of the new street signs.

& Awards

Philander Smith College President Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed was presented an individual award by Rep. Tracy Steele during The Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission's ninth annual "A Salute to Greatness" Community Service Awards. The event was held on January 16, 2003, at a gala in Little Rock's Double Tree Hotel. Each year, the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission awards individuals and organizations from across the state with the "Salute to Greatness" Community Service Awards to people who display an extraordinary commitment to the humanitarian efforts espoused by Dr. King, such as interracial cooperation, nonviolence and community service.



Photo by Ronald Armstrong of Ralph Armstrong Photography Studio

Excellence In Action



Fulbright Scholar Presents Lecture

Dr. Bertram Osuagwu, a Fulbright Scholar, presented a lecture at Philander Smith College titled "International Education in an Ever-Changing World" on January 24, 2003. The event was sponsored by the PSC Multicultural and Diversity Committee. Dr. Osuagwu highlighted some of the changes and challenges affecting students and educators in the new millennium. In photo at left, Bill Schlientz, committee chair, is presenting a plaque from Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee certifying that Dr. Osuagwu is an official "Arkansas Traveller" for his efforts to promote diversity and the Igbo language and culture.

Teacher of the Year Honored

Mrs. Katherine Wright Knight, Arkansas Teacher of the Year, completed her teacher education training at Philander Smith College. She was recently honored during Homecoming Chapel ceremony in recognition of her accomplishments as an outstanding educator and a wonderful representative of our teacher education program. A plaque of honor was awarded to her on Thursday, February 20, 2003.

Dr. Chima Uko Igwe, Chair, of the Education Division is shown presenting a plaque to Mrs. Knight on behalf of our President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed. Pictured L-R: Dr. William Lindsey, Dean of Instruction, Mrs. Katherine Wright Knight, Arkansas Teacher of the Year, Mr. D.A. Lams, President of the Student Government Association 2002-2003 and Dr. Chima Uko Igwe.



Afro-Brazilian educators Visit PSC

Recently a group of Afro-Brazilian educators paid a visit to PSC as part of the International Visitor Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Professor Walter Nunn of the UALR International Center was instrumental in coordinating the visit. The visitors were primarily interested in learning more about higher education among the African-American population in the U.S. and the role of Historically Black Colleges in advancing equal opportunities of African Americans. In this regard, Professors Dr. Rapheal Lewis and Dr. Katherine Mitchell delivered lectures and conducted discussions on topics of interest including the role, function and history of Philander Smith College. The president of Philander Smith College, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed and Academic Dean Dr. William Lindsey also welcomed the visitors to campus. The names of the visitors along with their interpreter are as follows: Mr. Cesar Augustor C. Xavier, Ms. Rosalia de Oliveira Lemos, Mr. Carlos Alberto Santos De Paulo, and Ms. Elisabete Aparecida Pinto.





Excellence at work

Lawrence Hamilton Performs in "The Piano Lesson"
Alltel sponsors PSC Night to raise funds for UNCF

THE PIANO LESSON
AUGUST WILSON

Where: Arkansas Repertory Theatre, 601 Main Street
Day: Tuesday, February 4th
Reception & Silent Auction: Six O'Clock pm
Curtain: Seven O'Clock pm

On the town with ALLTEL
Benefitting Philander Smith College United Negro College Fund

ALLTEL

For More Information please contact Sybil Bunn at the UNCF Office



Lawrence Hamilton (center), Director of Choral Music at Philander Smith College, portrays "Whining Boy" in August Wilson's "The Piano Lesson." Alltel sponsored the event at the Arkansas Repertory Theatre and proceeds benefited PSC's United Negro College Fund. Hamilton is an Tony-award winning entertainer who has appeared on Broadway and throughout the world.



Dr. Davy Presents Workshop

Dr. Freddy Davy, a Philander Smith College alumna who currently serves as the Director of the Honors College at Hampton University, presented a workshop on "Building Effective Community in Times of Transition" at the annual Faculty/Staff Institute. Dr. Davy says that she considers coming to Philander Smith College "an honor and a blessing." Dr. Davy also encouraged other PSC alumni to "give back" to the college with their time and resources. After the event, Dr. Davy returned the honorarium she had been given for her workshop as a donation to the college.

The Harry R. Kendall Science & Health Mission Center

The Harry R. Kendall Science and Health Mission Center construction is progressing on schedule. The building consists of a north wing (five class sized labs, five research labs, two classrooms, greenhouse, core instrumentation room, solvent room, animal research room and a 140-seat lecture hall), a south wing (conference center, office space and kitchen) and a grand two-story lobby. The building's north wing has been designed so that it can be expanded eastward to the existing science facility and a third floor possibly added in the future.



Taking Shape



Philander Smith College

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