

THE 128TH COMMENCEMENT

FOR THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES (1888-2016)



10:00 A.M.
SATURDAY · MAY 7, 2016
STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER
101 E. MARKHAM STREET
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



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MG (RET) Harold Gwatney	Dr. Bettye Brown <i>Faculty Representative (Ex-Officio)</i>
Ms. Lisa A. Menzies	
Mr. Arthur Montgomery, '68	

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Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr., <i>President</i>
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Ms. Rhonda Lovelace, '89, <i>Dean of Students</i>
Rev. Ronnie Miller-Yow, <i>Dean of Campus Culture and Religious Life</i>
Mr. Maurice Osborne, <i>Dean of Enrollment Management</i>
Mr. Brian Clay, '08, <i>Director of Campus Information Systems</i>

HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Officially founded in 1877, Philander Smith College is the result of the first attempt west of the Mississippi River to make education available to freedmen (former African-American slaves). The forerunner of the College was Walden Seminary, named in honor of Dr. J. M. Walden, one of the originators and the first Corresponding Secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society. In 1882, Dr. G. W. Gray, president of Little Rock University, the institution for the Arkansas Annual Conference, met Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Mr. Philander Smith of Oak Park, Illinois, while soliciting funds. The late Mr. Philander Smith had been a liberal donor to Asiatic Missions and had developed an interest in the work of the church in the South. In making her gift to Dr. Gray, Mrs. Smith designated \$10,500 for Walden Seminary. The trustees accepted the gift and gave it special recognition by changing the name of the struggling Walden Seminary to Philander Smith College. A new site for the school had already been purchased at Eleventh and IZard Streets. The gift made by Mrs. Smith was a significant contribution toward the construction of Budlong Hall, the first brick building on the new site.

Philander Smith College, which has a rich Christian heritage and acknowledges a definite obligation to The United Methodist Church, was also chartered as a four-year college on March 3, 1883. The first baccalaureate degree was conferred in 1888. The Presidents of Philander Smith College are recorded as follows: The first president is the Reverend Thomas Mason who resigned in 1896. He was succeeded by Reverend James Monroe Cox, Professor of Ancient Languages. Dr. Cox who retired in 1924 was

succeeded by the Reverend George Collins Taylor, a graduate of the College. Dr. Taylor served as president from 1924 to 1936. In May, 1936, Dr. Marquis LaFayette Harris succeeded Dr. Taylor. Harris, who greatly enhanced the College, was succeeded by Dr. Roosevelt David Crockett, a graduate of the College on June 1, 1961. Dr. E.T. Dixon, Jr. took office on January 1, 1965 as Philander's Sixth President. Succeeding Dixon was Dr. Walter R. Hazzard who took office as the Seventh President of the College on July 1, 1969. Succeeding Hazzard was Dr. Grant S. Shockley who took office on January 1, 1980 as the Eighth President of Philander Smith College. Dr. Shockley was succeeded by Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr. who was elected unanimously by the Board of Trustees and took office August 20, 1983. When Dr. Carter resigned the presidency in August 1987, he was succeeded by Dr. Myer L. Titus, a 1954 graduate of the College. Dr. Titus retired as President on June 30, 1998. Elected by the Board of Trustees in February 1998 as the Eleventh and first female President of Philander Smith College was Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed. In 2004, Dr. Julius Scott succeeded Dr. Reed as Interim President. In 2004, the Board announced the selection of Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough as the Twelfth President of the College. In May 2012, Dr. Kimbrough resigned from the presidency. On July 1, 2012, Dr. Johnny M. Moore, a 1989 graduate, became the Thirteenth President of the College. Following the resignation of Dr. Moore in February 2014, Dr. Lloyd Hervey, a 1968 alumnus of Philander Smith College, was named Interim President. Succeeding Dr. Hervey was Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr., the Fourteenth President of the College, who took office on January 1, 2015.

MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

Philander Smith College is a small, privately supported and historically Black, four-year liberal arts institution related to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. Currently offering four degrees, including the Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Business Administration, and the Bachelor of Social Work, the College's mission is: "To graduate academically accomplished students, grounded as advocates for social justice, determined to change the world for the better." Philander Smith College, the only United Negro College Fund (UNCF)-member institution in Arkansas, strives to provide a quality college education for all regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin or ethnic background.

ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT SERVICES

President Roderick L. Smothers, Sr., Ph.D, Presiding

PRELUDE.....Ms. Theresa Webb, '13
Organist

PROCESSIONAL.....*Pomp and Circumstance March No.1, Trio* Felix Mendelssohn

INVOCATION..... The Reverend Ronnie Miller-Yow
Chaplain/Dean of Campus Culture and Religious Life

SCRIPTURES
Old Testament..... Mr. William Currin, '17
New Testament..... Mr. Wendell Smith, '18

MUSICAL SELECTION..... The Philander Smith Collegiate Choir
Mr. Karliss Chapple, '01, Director

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS* Little Rock Jr. ROTC, Central High School

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM.....*Star Spangled Banner*..... F. Scott Key

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were go gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION..... *Lift Every Voice* arr. by James W. Johnson/J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might,
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.

GREETINGS FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEESDr. Etta Carter, '63
Vice Chairwoman, Philander Smith College Board of Trustees

GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTYDr. Cynthia Burroughs
President, Faculty Senate

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE OCCASIONDr. Hazel Arnett Ervin
Vice President for Academic Affairs

REFLECTIONSMiss Ronay Coleman, '16
Senior Class President

THE GENERAL BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND MINISTRY'S EXEMPLARY
TEACHER AWARD, 2015-2016

MUSICAL SELECTIONThe Philander Smith Collegiate Choir

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER..... Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr.
14th President, Philander Smith College

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESSThe Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee
U. S. House of Representatives, 18th Congressional District of Texas

MUSICAL SELECTIONThe Philander Smith Collegiate Choir

CONFERRING OF DEGREES CEREMONY

CONFERRING OF DEGREES Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr.
14th President, Philander Smith College

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' AUTHORIZATIONDr. Etta Carter, '63
Vice Chairwoman, Philander Smith College Board of Trustees

PRESENTATIONS OF CANDIDATES AND GRANTING OF DEGREES

Candidates for **The Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters**
will be presented by Dr. Etta Carter, '63, *Vice Chairwoman, Board of Trustees*



Candidates for **The Bachelor of Science Degree**
will be presented by Dr. Lloyd E. Hervey, '68, *Interim Chair, Division of Education*
and Dr. Samar Swaid, *Chair, Division of Natural and Physical Sciences*



Candidates for **The Bachelor of Social Work Degree**
will be presented by Dr. Daniel Egbe, *Chair, Division of Social Sciences and Social Work*



Candidates for **The Bachelor of Business Administration Degree**
will be presented by Mr. Bruce James, *Interim Chair, Division of Business and Economics*
and *Philander Smith Management Institute (PSMI)*



Candidates for **The Bachelor of Arts Degree**
will be presented by Dr. Lia Steele, *Chair, Division of Humanities*
and Dr. Daniel Egbe, *Chair, Division of Social Sciences and Social Work*

MUSICAL SELECTION..... The Philander Smith Collegiate Choir

INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ... Mr. Ronald W. Newsome, '71
President, National Alumni Association

CLOSING REMARKS..... Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr.
14th President, Philander Smith College

ALMA MATER..... The Philander Smith Collegiate Choir

ALMA MATER

Dear Alma Mater, tried and true,

We'll win respect and love for you,

We pledge our hearts to you each day,

To do our best, at work, at play.

Dear PSC, when from your fold,

We'll lift the dear old Green and Gold.

O'er Alma Mater vigil keep,

Her high ideals we'll strive to meet.

When college days are at an end,

Our hearts will ever toward you bend.

With loyalty, we'll always be,

A part of you, Dear PSC.

(Written in 1968 by Dr. Carl Gordon Harris, '52)

BENEDICTIONRev. Ronnie Miller-Yow
Chaplain/Dean of Campus Culture and Religious Life

RECESSIONAL.....Trumpet VoluntaryJeremiah Clark

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

(Posthumous) Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

Mr. Lawrence Hamilton

Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

Colonel Marc A. Garcia

Bachelor of Science

Natural and Physical Sciences

Adams, Steven David

Magna Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Arthur, Bright

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Baker, Jessica C.

Cum Laude

Barnett, Tye Ayana *

Magna Cum Laude

Bates, Tamara LaShay

Cum Laude

Boakye, Jeffrey

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Bryant, Andranes DaleVonya

Cum Laude

Bryant, Tiffany La`Shell

Cum Laude

Byrd, Ronisha T.

Cum Laude

Carter, Cara Lynn

Davis, Arserio

Davis, Jakeira Elizabeth

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Delancy, Kishon Kenneth

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Egbe, Jaron Ebot *

Fisher, Alexandra Paige *

Frazier, Jamila **

Magna Cum Laude

Hamilton, Breiona Shauntae

Summa Cum Laude

Hardy, Sabrina Michelle

Magna Cum Laude

Hill, Latavia

Cum Laude

Holland, Tierra Annastasia

Cum Laude

Holland, Toria Angelique

Magna Cum Laude

Jackson, Taylen

Jiang, Li

Magna Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Jones, Terecia Anginay

Keith, Julius C.

Cum Laude

Marlow, Tamar Chenell

Cum Laude

Ofori, Bernice

Magna Cum Laude

Olawoyin, Olamide

3rd Rank in Class

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Parker, Briana Duchess LaToi

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Paschal, Courtney R.

Petty, Bathsheba Irene

Magna Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Pinder Jr., Kingsley Gordon

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Robinson, Zana Monique

Cum Laude

Sampay, Zafarya

Cum Laude

Smith, CeDale Malik

Vaughn, Kinatta Monchel

Warner, Cartier Tivon

Wood, LaDijah Imani *

Cum Laude

Young, Chet Rashad

Summa Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Bachelor of Social Work

Boatwright, Edwanda Lamonnia

Cum Laude

Flint, Bentley

Lawson, Brianna Genice

Magna Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Turner, Kaylon Ashley Ja`Mila

Wade, Jemika Unique **

Williams, Ahmad Malik *

Bachelor of Business Administration

Ball, Jarrett D. **

Ballard Jr., Markelle Robert

Barbee Jr., Charles Darnell

Cum Laude

Belcher, Tanaeya Kaprise

Magna Cum Laude

Brown, Brittany Dominique

Bynum, Kayla Septoryea

Chaney, Juquecia LaVette

Coleman, Ron`ay Shere`e Maxine

Magna Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Courtney-Lee, Jessica Andrea

Darby, Simeund Paris **

Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Dean, Yakira Akiva

Cum Laude

Dodson, Ashley Lynn

Distinction in Field

Ferrell, Vatsana Phanavanh

Cum Laude

Distinction in Field

Glenn, Shawn Joseph

Grice, Megan

Cum Laude

Hamilton, Dedra Marie **

Hampton, LaTosha

Hansberry Jr., Ramon P. **

Haynes, DeShondra Charice

Hill, Rosalyn R.

Holt, Christine Ashley **

Cum Laude

Howard, Eric D.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Bachelor of Business Administration (continued)

James, Lawrence Bernard	Manson, Shaonia C. G.	O'Guinn III, Prentice Ceola
Johnson, Natasha Nicole	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Mayberry, Demetric L.	Parker, Shannon Lezette
Johnson-Brazle, Angelita Evette		<i>Cum Laude</i>
<i>Cum Laude</i>	McCullough, Angela Rena` **	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>	Runnels, Kewanis Emeri **
King Jr., Arvin Keith **	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Kubeczka, Loretta Jones **	Mlambo, Brighton Batsirai	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
Leeks, Steven	<i>1st Rank in Class</i>	Smith, Carvon
Lewis, Brittany Chavon	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>
	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Thompson, Precious Coylene
Lewis, Sherica Lachelle	Moncur, Regene Antionette Terez	Veasley, Christina M. **
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Walker, Sara Imani
Long, Danielle Erin	Moore, Corey Darel	<i>Cum Laude</i>
Manning, Tanisha Naomi	Ollie, Nelson Deion	Wilson, Deedra La` Faye **
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>	Wright, Zyra Devette
		<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
		Zeigler, Herman Sylvester

Bachelor of Arts

Baker, Sh` Queria Santaye	Grant, Phillip LaVelle`	Reed, Trunell Leon
Berry, Edwenna M.	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Roy, Damesha N.
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Hall, Marquitta Antonia	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
Brock, Montolliea S.	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Sloan, Brittany Janet
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>
Collins, Jamieria Rochelle	Heard, Tamara Raquel	Sloan, Jasmine Monique
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Hollimon, Jermaine L. **	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Howell, Alexander	Smith, Christopher Lynn
Crockett, Shequera Donshell **	Ivy, Trevor Austin	Terry, Jade Nicole
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Jackson, Joseph McMullen	<i>Cum Laude</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>	Wells, Lauren Elaine
Cyrus, Demeco Tyvell	James, Brooke Mikel	<i>Cum Laude</i>
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Westmoreland, Whitney Danielle
Davis-Bowman, Sualen	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>1st Rank in Class</i>
Denton, Kayla Geonette	Johnson, Kelondria Jochel **	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Leonard, Brittany Janae	White, Bianca Nichelle
Ezell, Lavaisa Selene	McVay, LaQuisha Shunta`	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
<i>Distinction in Field</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	White, Briana Necole
Freeman, Jalin Ajene`	Moore, Samantha Hope	<i>Cum Laude</i>
Gaines, Asiaionna	<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Distinction in Field</i>	Wilkerson, Tre` von Christian Damian
Galloway, Anthony Maurice	Murphy, Bria Jade Spencer	Willis, Auston S.
<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>
Gary, Kristen Natasha *	Naji, Bernadette Volia	Woods, KeAngela Olivia
<i>Cum Laude</i>	Phillips, Amia Lyndsey	
Gayden, Loretta	<i>Cum Laude</i>	* Summer Graduate
	Redmond, Cecilia Victoria	** Fall Graduate

*While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of graduate information prior to the printing deadline, the listing of a name in this program should alone an indication that the person received a degree from Philander Smith College. Conversely, the absence of a student's name from this list does not necessarily mean they were not awarded a degree. All rankings published in the program are subject to final verification by the Office of the Registrar.

(POSTHUMOUS) HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

LAWRENCE HAMILTON

The life and career of the late Lawrence Hamilton is abounding with accolades and accomplishments which support his nomination to receive the College's Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree. The son of Dr. Oscar and Mae Dell Hamilton, Lawrence Hamilton was born on September 14, 1954, in Foreman, Arkansas. Growing up in the small, southwest town, Lawrence received support from family, church and community to follow his dream of obtaining a degree in music. In 1976, he graduated from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education with concentrations in voice and piano. A man of faith, social consciousness, and par excellence in the arts, Lawrence Hamilton returned to his southwest community after college and through performing and visual art programs, supported by the Arkansas Conference of The United Methodist Church and the THEA Foundation, he mentored at-risk teens, promoting positive expressions about life and ways to rise above obstructive circumstances to become the best one could for a better world.

The indelible imprint Mr. Hamilton has left goes far beyond Arkansas. His successful career as an actor and musical director began on one of the most renowned stages in the world—Broadway in New York City. His career boasts many definitive acting roles in such major productions as the following: *Sophisticated Ladies*; *The Wiz*; *Uptown---Its Hot*; *Porgy and Bess*; *Big River Play On!*; and *Jelly's Last Jam*. Other film, acting, and television credits would follow, such as, *Fences*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Looking Over the President's Shoulder*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Souvenir* and



Crowns, *The Night They Saved Christmas*, *All My Children*, *The Cotton Club*, *The Last Ride*, *The Riddle of Stinson*, and *Purlie*. As a culminating tribute to his life in film, television, Broadway and beyond, Lawrence Hamilton was interviewed and honored in the Fall 2010 season of *Tales from the South* which is a series specifically for National Public Radio (NPR).

In addition to his much celebrated stage career, Lawrence Hamilton has also performed in a concert at the White House under the Ronald Reagan Administration with the legendary Lena Horn and in Rome, Italy, at the Vatican before Pope John Paul. On other occasions, Hamilton served as musical director for the renowned opera legend Jessye Norman and as vocal coach/arranger for the pop group *New Kids on the Block* as well as vocal coach and arranger for actor Mark Wahlberg during Wahlberg's entertainment career as *Marky Mark*.

Never forgetting his Arkansas roots, Mr. Hamilton returned to Little Rock and served in many leadership positions for Philander Smith College including Choral Director (2002-2009) and Director of Cultural Affairs in the Division of Humanities (2009 – 2013). In 2005 he was inducted into the Arkansas Hall of Fame.

On April 3, 2014, Lawrence Hamilton departed this life. His death was mourned from Los Angeles to New York and abroad. In keeping with the core values of the College, it is with honor and joy that Lawrence Hamilton--son, uncle, teacher, artist, humanitarian, and servant leader--is being recommended for the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Philander Smith College.

HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

COLONEL MARC A. GARCIA



Colonel Marc A. Garcia, a federal retiree, is noted as an accomplished leader, diplomatic problem-solver, strategist, and civic servant. Today, he is recognized as the recipient of the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters Degree from Philander Smith College. A 1980 graduate of Hampton University, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science, Colonel Garcia has an outstanding record of more than thirty-years of exemplary leadership. Nominated by Ronald Reagan, former President of the United States, confirmed by the U.S. Senate and promoted to Colonel, Garcia has developed extensive experience working as a liaison with military and civilian stakeholders at federal, state, and local levels regarding international law enforcements and security. He has also served as Federal Emergency Management coordinator, military police battalion commander in Baghdad, executive officer to the Deputy Commanding General of the Army Reserve, instructor at the U.S. Army War College, and diplomatic Attache' to presidential cabinet members and ambassadors.

In recognition of the depth of Colonel Garcia's career, he has earned memberships in the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association; Diplomatic Security Special Agents Association; American Criminal Justice Association; Military Police Regimental Association; and Florida Supreme Court (as a Certified Court Mediator). Recognizing the values conveyed by the Colonel's "leadership," "service," and his ability to give back, other institutions have rewarded him with honorary citations. Those include: the United Supreme Council 33rd Honorary Degree and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky Commission as a Kentucky Colonel (i.e., Honorary Aide De Camp).

Philander Smith College joins other institutions and groups in acknowledging that "leadership" and "service" come in many distinguished and meritorious shades and degrees of recognition. The College also joins other institutions and groups in recognizing Colonel Marc A. Garcia for his exceptional meritorious leadership and service to his nation and for his personal intentions to reach back and to share his extensive knowledge and experiences in order to empower aspiring students and his fellow man.

THE HONORABLE SHEILA JACKSON LEE

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, TEXAS

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is an influential and forceful voice in Washington. She is serving her eleventh term as a member of the United States House of Representatives, and she represents the 18th Congressional District of Texas, centered in Houston, which is regarded as the energy capital of the world. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is considered by many as the “Voice of Reason,” for she is seen as dedicated to upholding the Constitutional rights of all people. During the Congresswoman’s tenure in Congress, she has served on various committees, including the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, and Judiciary. In the 110th and 111th Congress, Congresswoman Jackson Lee served as Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection. As Chairwoman, Congresswoman Jackson Lee was a leader in support of enhanced technology, better intelligence, increased airplane cargo inspections, increased security for railroads, and implementation of the 9/11 Commission Report.



The depth of the influence of Congresswoman Jackson Lee can be measured in many other ways. She led the fight for passage of the Fair Sentencing Act and garnered unanimous support to amend the 2012 Defense Authorization Bill that created a day of honor for the return of our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. She has authored several immigration bills, such as H.R. 750, the “Save America Comprehensive Immigration Act,” which sets forth a comprehensive and humane solution to the immigration problem; introduced legislation to enhance federal enforcement of hate crimes with

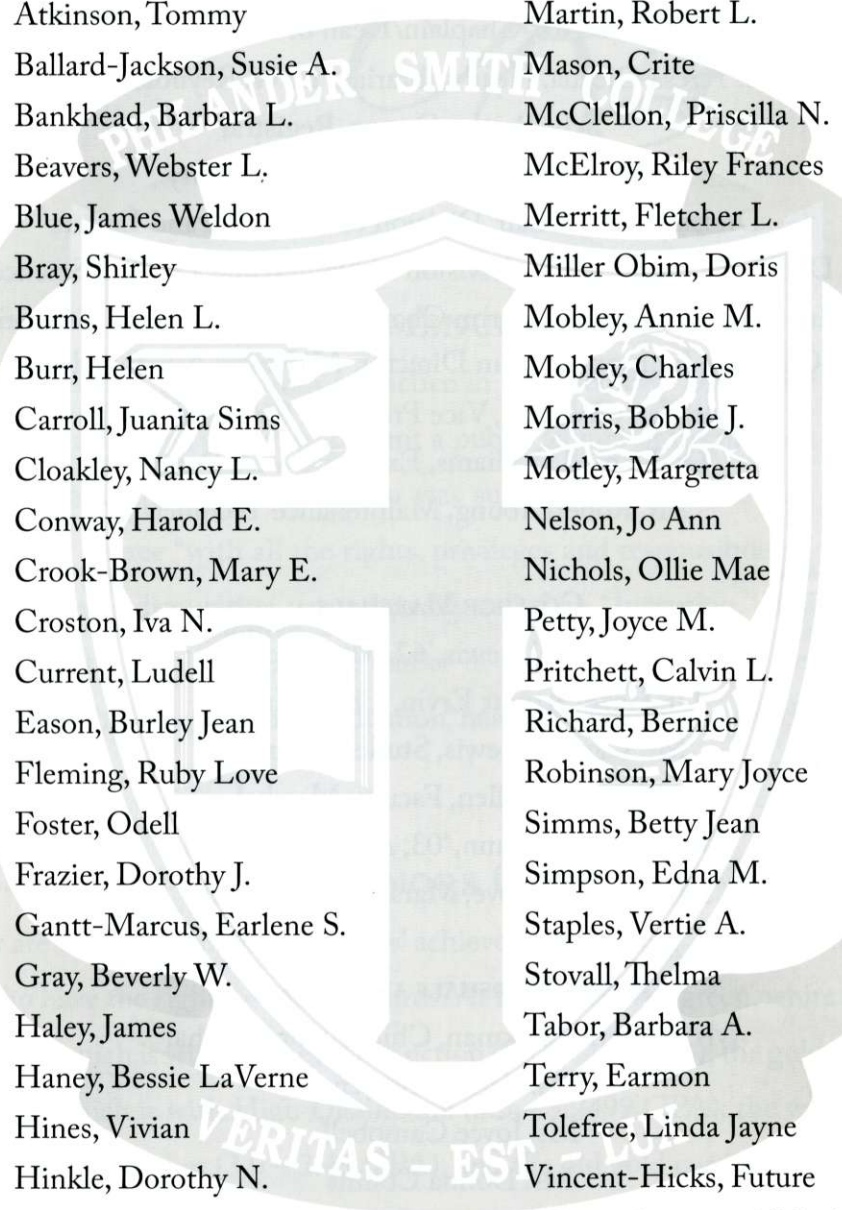
H.R. 254, the David Ray Hate Crimes Prevention Act; played a significant role in the renewal and reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act; and contributed an amendment to the NASA reauthorization bill that will ensure equal access for minority and economically disadvantaged students to NASA’s education programs. In addition, Congresswoman Jackson Lee launched the Dr. Mae C. Jemison Grant Program to work with institutions serving

minorities to bring more women of color in the field of space and aeronautics.

Congresswoman Jackson Lee is a frequent guest on network and cable news including Face the Nation and MSNBC. She has been hailed by Ebony Magazine as one of the “100 Most Fascinating Black Women.” Congressional Quarterly named her as one of the 50 most effective Members of Congress and U.S. News and World Report named her as one of the 10 most influential legislators in the House of Representatives. Her hometown newspaper, the Houston Chronicle named her as one of the Most influential and prolific legislators on Capitol Hill.

Earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Yale University with honors, and a J.D. from the University of Virginia Law School, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is celebrated for her personal and political milestones. In keeping with its core values, Philander Smith College welcomes her presence as an influential and prolific legislator, a celebrated woman of color, and as a brilliant voice of reason.

CLASS OF 1966 - 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Adams, Gloria J.	Lackey, James R.
Anderson, James O.	Lewis, Maxine
Anderson, Rachell N.	Lusk, Bettye Lou
Atkinson, Tommy	Martin, Robert L.
Ballard-Jackson, Susie A.	Mason, Crite
Bankhead, Barbara L.	McClellon, Priscilla N.
Beavers, Webster L.	McElroy, Riley Frances
Blue, James Weldon	Merritt, Fletcher L.
Bray, Shirley	Miller Obim, Doris
Burns, Helen L.	Mobley, Annie M.
Burr, Helen	Mobley, Charles
Carroll, Juanita Sims	Morris, Bobbie J.
Cloakley, Nancy L.	Motley, Margretta
Conway, Harold E.	Nelson, Jo Ann
Crook-Brown, Mary E.	Nichols, Ollie Mae
Croston, Iva N.	Petty, Joyce M.
Current, Ludell	Pritchett, Calvin L.
Eason, Burley Jean	Richard, Bernice
Fleming, Ruby Love	Robinson, Mary Joyce
Foster, Odell	Simms, Betty Jean
Frazier, Dorothy J.	Simpson, Edna M.
Gantt-Marcus, Earlene S.	Staples, Vertie A.
Gray, Beverly W.	Stovall, Thelma
Haley, James	Tabor, Barbara A.
Haney, Bessie LaVerne	Terry, Earmon
Hines, Vivian	Tolefree, Linda Jayne
Hinkle, Dorothy N.	Vincent-Hicks, Future
Hodges-Griffo, Joyce V.	Wheat, Armacie O'Neal
Horton, Russell W.	Whitaker, Peggy L.
Horton, Zephyr L.	Williams, Annie M.
Hughes, James	Wiliams, Etta M.
Johnson, Norma Grace	Zackery, Hazel
Kirkland, William H.	

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Dr. Hazel Arnett Ervin, Chief Marshal
Mr. David J. Lewis, Student Marshal
Ms. Adria Allen, Faculty Marshal
Mr. Roderick Dunn, '03, Alumni Marshal
Dr. Jesse Hargrove, Marshal for the Dais

FLOOR MARSHALS AND USHERS

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Ms. Vernita Bowens
Ms. Joyce Campbell
Ms. Donna Collins
Ms. DesRee Ellison
Ms. Ebony Flannigan
Mr. Alvin Harris
Mrs. Anita Hatley
Dr. Lois Sheer
Ms. Donna Young


Commencement & Regalia

COMMENCEMENT

The term “Commencement” derives from a practice in the Medieval University where it was customary for a candidate for an academic degree to present a public lecture or disputation to the faculty and other scholars gathered to hear it. If the disputation was successfully defended and accepted, the candidate was “Admitted” to the degree “with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.” This first public lecture or disputation was originally called an “Inception.” It signified the beginning or “Commencement” of the scholar’s academic career in the degree to which he had been admitted. The ceremony surrounding this inception or “graduation” has subsequently come to be called Commencement.

HONORS CORD

The honor cords are used to recognize students’ achievements during commencement, and they identify those students who have the right to wear the cords. At Philander, the green, white & gold cord represents Summa Cum Laude which is with Highest Distinction (3.75 - 4.0 GPA); the gold & white cord represents Magna Cum Laude which is with High Distinction (3.5 – 3.7499 GPA); the white cord represents Cum Laude which is with Distinction (3.0 – 3.49 GPA); and the old gold cord represents Distinction in Field of Study. Various other colors are used to identify members of the Honors Society; fraternities; sororities; and other.



ACADEMIC REGALIA

The distinctive dress associated with academic processions and convocations dates from the Middle Ages, when long-sleeved, hooded gowns were necessary for warmth in the unheated stone colleges. Most of the scholars were clerics in holy orders, and they wore cloaks to which were attached hoods that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads. Over the centuries, much diversity occurred in academic costumes. To bring some order to this diversity, in 1894 in the United States, the Intercollegiate Commission met in New York and agreed on a code of academic dress which has become the standard for most colleges and universities. According to this code, both the styling and color of the regalia have significance. The design of the gown indicates the degree. The bachelor's gown is simple, with a full sleeve. The master's gown is much like the bachelor's except for the long sleeves, which hang loose. The doctor's gown is fuller and more elaborate. It has velvet edging and three velvet stripes on the full sleeves. Usually, the color of the gown is black. Hoods, which are worn over the gowns, are similar for all degrees, although differing slightly in length. The candidates for the bachelor's degree usually do not wear the hood. The hood has a velvet edging which indicates the area of the degree, and the inside or lining of the hood is satin in the colors of the college or university granting the degree. A partial list of the degree colors to be found on the edge of the hood or the trimming on the doctor's gown is given below. The usual cap, proper for all degrees, is the black mortarboard, although some colleges use the beret. Tassels, usually black, are worn over the left front quarter of the cap for a degree holder and on the right for a candidate for a degree. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders may also wear tassels in the colors of the college or university granting the degree.

Agriculture - Maize

Music - Pink

Arts, Letters, Humanities - White

Medicine - Green

Business Administration - Drab

Oratory Speech Silver - Gray

Dentistry - Lilac

Philosophy - Dark Blue

Economics - Copper

Physical Education - Sage Green

Education - Light Blue

Public Administration - Peacock Blue

Engineering - Orange

Public Health - Salmon

Fine Arts, Architecture - Brown

Science - Golden Yellow

Forestry - Russet

Social Science - Cream

Journalism - Crimson

Social Services - Citron

Law - Purple

Theology/Divinity - Scarlet

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