Awards Committee Members: Gloria Browne-Marshall, Natanya Duncan, Annette Palmer, Sheila Flemming-Hunter (Chair)

The Awards Committee recommends approval of the following 2020 nominees:

**Carter G. Woodson Scholars Medallion Award Nominations**

**John H. Morrow, Jr.**, Franklin Professor of History at The University of Georgia, earned his BA with Honors in History from Swarthmore College (1966) and his PhD in Modern European History from the University of Pennsylvania (1971). In 1971 Professor Morrow became the first African American faculty member in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he taught for seventeen years. During that time, he was selected a National Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher and University of Tennessee Macebearer, the highest honor that a faculty member can receive. Morrow served as Head of the UTK History Department from 1983 to his departure from the University in 1988. Morrow was invited to join the faculty of the University of Georgia in 1988 as Franklin Professor, and in 1991 was elected History Department Chairman, a position to which the faculty elected him again in 2010. He served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1993 to 1995 before returning to full time teaching and research. Twice selected an Honors Professor for superior teaching, he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the history of Modern Europe and of warfare and society. He taught German history as a visiting professor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point spring semester 2005, for which the Department of the Army awarded him its Outstanding Civilian Service Medal.

Press published Jeffrey T. Sammons’s and Morrow’s book, *Harlem’s Rattlers and the Great War: The Undaunted 369th Regiment and the African American Quest for Equality*, which is considered the best and most detailed study of the history of that famous regiment. Morrow is currently writing a manuscript on the global and imperial nature of the Second World War.

**Mary McLeod Bethune Service Award Nomination**

**Dr. Sheila Flemming-Hunter** became enamored with Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune as an undergraduate history major at the university she founded, Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida. That love for Bethune has fueled most of Flemming-Hunter’s scholarly work and her current role as Founder and President of Black Rose Foundation for Children, established in Bethune’s legacy to assist underserved children in Florida and Georgia. She often speaks passionately about Bethune’s impact on her life, especially why she accepted her role as former National President of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. She said, “if Dr. Bethune had time to serve as the Association’s leader, how could I not?” Flemming-Hunter served as ASALH National President 2004-2007 and during her tenure ASALH revised and amended its constitution to include a National Vice President for Programs, added the Development and Human Resources Committees to the Executive Council organizational structure, set parameters for the Executive Council to be the lead donors for the organization, helped broker the major gift of $1.5 million from Wachovia Bank, and signed the partnership with the National Park Service to make the home of Dr. Carter G. Woodson a National Historic Site. As National Chair of the Centennial Committee in 2015, Flemming-Hunter recruited such luminaries as Rev. C.T. Vivian, Susan L. Taylor, and Ambassador Andrew Young to serve on the Centennial National Honorary Committee. During the centennial, the John Hope Franklin Award was presented to Congressman John Lewis. The Centennial Conference remains among one of the largest attendances and financially supported conferences in recent history of the organization.


A member of ASALH for nearly thirty years, Flemming-Hunter is a native of Jacksonville, Florida and resident of Atlanta, Georgia; she is a member of both the James Weldon Johnson
ASALH Branch in Jacksonville, Florida and a founding member of the ASALH Atlanta Branch, where she also serves as Adviser to the Board of Directors.

**Living Legacy Nominations**

**Maurice Daniels** holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology, a master’s degree in social work and a doctoral degree in higher education from Indiana University. As dean of the University of Georgia School of Social Work, Daniels advanced interdisciplinary scholarship and social justice through the development of new degrees, endowed professorships and a research center. During his tenure, the school created dual Master of Social Work degrees in law, public health and divinity—each one a first for the state of Georgia. He also promoted the endowment of two professorships: the Donald L. Hollowell Distinguished Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies, the university’s first distinguished professorship named for an African-American, and the Georgia Athletic Association Professorship in Health and Well-Being. In addition, he ushered the creation of the interdisciplinary Center for Social Justice, Human and Civil Rights. Daniels is the author of “Saving the Soul of Georgia: Donald L. Hollowell and the Struggle for Civil Rights” and “Horace T. Ward: Desegregation of the University of Georgia, Civil Rights Advocacy, and Jurisprudence.” He is the executive producer of four critically acclaimed public television documentaries, including “Donald L. Hollowell: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice,” which originally aired on Georgia Public Broadcasting in 2010.

Prior to becoming dean, Daniels served as the school’s associate dean, director of its Master of Social Work degree program and director of the Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship Program. Honored repeatedly for his research, teaching and service, Daniels was also recognized by the 113th General Assembly of the Indiana House of Representatives with House Resolution No. 74, which acknowledged his “accomplishments in the areas of civil and human rights and social justice.” He also recently received the Award for Excellence in Research using the Holdings of an Archives from the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council for his book on Hollowell. He is co-founder of the Athens Area Habitat for Humanity and the UGA Black Faculty and Staff Organization and played a key role in the establishment of the UGA Institute for African American Studies, Department of Minority Services and Programs and Office of Institutional Diversity. He is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

Thomas “Tom” Joyner-A graduate of Tuskegee University, Joyner is most known for the radio syndicated show, “The Tom Joyner Morning Show,” featuring Joyner and a team of comedians and commentators reporting and discussing the latest news and sports of the day, and playing popular R&B songs from the 1970s through the 1990s as well as contemporary R&B hits. He retired from his morning show on December 13, 2019. Capitalizing on the popularity of the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*, Joyner founded The Tom Joyner Foundation. The mission of the foundation is to support historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) through student scholarship, endowment, and capacity building enhancements. In the foundation’s first month,
$20,000 was raised in 'Dollars for Scholars' scholarship money. Since 1998, it has raised more than $65 million to help keep students enrolled at HBCUs. The charitable foundation prides itself in having the capability of providing donors specifics of what institution and what student is on the receiving end. The Tom Joyner Foundation also hosts an annual cruise named the Fantastic Voyage which also raises money for HBCUs. Joyner is also founder of Reach Media, Inc. and BlackAmerica.com.

Freedom Scholar Nomination

**Dorothy Hines Datiri**-Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and Curriculum and Teaching at the University of Kansas. She received her Ph.D. in Educational Policy in 2014 from Michigan State University; Master’s in Public Administration in 2008 from North Carolina Central University and her Bachelor of Political Science in 2004 from North Carolina State University. Her honors and awards include: Community Engaged Scholarship Award in 2019 for the faculty member at the university of Kansas who is bridging academic scholarship with community engagement; the Social Justice Fellow at the University of Kansas to develop skills to advocate and create systemic change on college campuses; and the Paula Silver Case Award from the University Council of Educational Administrators in 2018 for the most outstanding publication in the *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership* (2015 volume). Included among Datiri’s twelve refereed journal articles are: “You Can Really See the Hate: Confronting AntiBlackness in School Discipline,” *Equity and Excellence in Education*; “The Impossibility of Motherhood in the Ivory: On Race, Gender, and Humanizing Black Mothers”, *Journal of Women and Gender in Higher Education*; and “When Police Intervene: Race, Gender, and Discipline of Black Male Students at an Urban High School”, *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership*. Currently at press with Information Age Publishing is an edited volume by Datiri, M. Boveda, T. Hollis, & E. Lindo, *Racism by Another Name: Black Students, Overrepresentation, and Carcerality in Special Education*. Datiri has seven book articles at press and published four book articles, all relating to her expert areas on education, African American Studies, and women’s studies. She is sought after as a speaker and presenter in the academy and the community making her an excellent nominee for the Freedom Scholar Award.

ASALH Luminary Award Nomination

**Fred Gray** --Attorney Gray has dedicated his entire life to fighting against racial discrimination and for equality under the law for African Americans in Alabama since he completed Case Western Reserve Law School in the 1950s. Attorney Gray has been a stalwart for civil rights for his entire legal career, which reads like a course in constitutional law. When Attorney Gray returned to his hometown of Montgomery in the mid-1950s and set up a law practice, he did not realize that he was about to be thrust into the modern civil rights movement. The arrest of Rosa Parks in December 1955 not only thrust Parks and the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) into the spotlight, it also led to the creation of a new organization to manage the bus boycott that Montgomery’s Black citizenry demanded. Gray became a founding member of the new Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) and was one of the lawyers who bailed Parks out and represented her after her arrest.
Gray would go on to work with the NAACP on other civil rights cases in the state of Alabama, including representing Dr. Charles Gomillion in the first lawsuit to challenge racial gerrymandering in the city of Tuskegee, Gomillion v. Lightfoot (1960). He also represented clients who challenged the absence of Black people on juries in Alabama, voter registration activists and others who were pushing for civil rights in the state of Alabama. Although his cases focused primarily on Alabama civil rights activity, the resulting decisions established legal precedent and changed not only Alabama, but the entire country for African American citizens.

**Council Award of Special Recognition Nominations**

#BlackLivesMatter (BLM) was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin’s murderer. Black Lives Matter Foundation, Inc is a global organization in the US, UK, and Canada, whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes. By combating and countering acts of violence, creating space for Black imagination and innovation, and centering Black joy, the organization has made the phrase “Black Lives Matter” a global testimony to revere black people’s bodies and lives.

The three women the world must thank for this phenomenon are: **Patrisse Khan-Cullors, Alicia Garza, and Opal Tometi.**

- **Patrisse Khan-Cullors** is Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter and Strategic Advisor. She is an artist, organizer, and freedom fighter from Los Angeles, CA. She is also Founder of Dignity and Power Now, a New York Times Best Selling Author, Fulbright scholar, popular public speaker, and Sydney Peace Prize awardee. Patrisse recently toured her multimedia performance art piece, "POWER: From the Mouths of the Occupied," a gripping performance piece highlighting the impact of mass criminalization and state violence in Black communities across the United States.

- **Alicia Garza**, Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter, is an Oakland-based organizer, writer, public speaker, and freedom dreamer who is currently the Special Projects Director for the National Domestic Workers Alliance, the nation’s leading voice for dignity and fairness for the millions of domestic workers in the United States. Since the rise of the BLM movement, Garza has become a powerful voice in the media. Her articles and interviews have been featured in Time, Mic, The Guardian, Elle.com, Essence, Democracy Now!, and The New York Times. In addition, her work has received numerous recognitions, including being named on The Root's 2016 list of 100 African American achievers and influencers, the 2016 Glamour Women of the Year Award, the 2016 Marie Claire New Guard Award, and as a Community Change Agent at the 2016 BET's Black Girls Rock Awards. Most important, as a queer Black woman, Garza's leadership and work challenge the misconception that only cisgender Black men encounter police and state violence. While the tragic deaths of Trayvon Martin and Mike Brown were catalysts for the emergence of the BLM movement, Garza is clear: In order
to truly understand how devastating and widespread this type of violence is in Black America, we must view this epidemic through a lens of race, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

- **Opal Tometi, Co-Founder of BLM**, is a New York-based Nigerian-American writer, strategist, and community organizer. Opal is credited with creating the online platforms and initiating the social media strategy during BLM's early days. The campaign has grown into a national network of approximately 40 chapters. Opal is currently at the helm of the country's leading Black organization for immigrant rights, the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI). Founded in 2006, BAJI is a national organization that educates and advocates to further immigrant rights and racial justice together with African-American, Afro-Latino, African, and Caribbean immigrant communities. As the Executive Director at BAJI, Opal collaborates with staff and communities in Los Angeles, Phoenix, New York, Oakland, Washington DC, and communities throughout the Southern states. The organization helped win family reunification visas for Haitians displaced by the 2010 earthquake. BAJI is an award-winning organization with recognition by leading institutions across the country. A transnational feminist, Opal supports and helps shape the strategic work of Pan African Network in Defense of Migrant Rights, and the Black Immigration Network (BIN) international and national formations respectively, dedicated to people of African descent. She has presented at the United Nations and participated with the UN’s Global Forum on Migration and Commission on the Status of Women. Opal is being featured in the Smithsonian’s new National Museum for African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) for her historic contributions. Opal has been active in social movements for over a decade. She is a student of liberation theology and her practice is in the tradition of Ella Baker, informed by Stuart Hall, bell hooks and Black Feminist thinkers. She has been published in the Oxford Dictionary of African Biographies, was #10 on the 2015 Root 100 list and she was named a “New Civil Rights Leader” by the Los Angeles Times in 2015 and ESSENCE magazine in 2014, for her cutting edge movement building work which bridges immigrant and human rights work to the ever-growing Black liberation movement. She was a lead architect of the Black-Brown Coalition of Arizona and was involved in grassroots organizing against SB 1070 with the Alto Arizona campaign. Opal is a former Case Manager for survivors of domestic violence and still provides community education on the issue. Opal holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and a Masters of Arts degree in Communication and Advocacy. The daughter of Nigerian immigrants, she grew up in Phoenix, Arizona. She currently resides in the Republic of Brooklyn, New York where she loves riding her single speed bike and collecting African art.

In 2016, in recognition of their contribution to human rights, Opal Tometi, Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Alicia Garza received an honorary doctorate degree, BET's Black Girls Rock Community Change Agent Award, recognition among the world's fifty greatest leaders.
by Fortune and POLITICO magazines, and the first ever Social Movement of the Year Award from the Webbys.

Celebrated annually in the month of February and in conjunction with Black History Month, Black Futures Month challenges us to envision and construct a world where Black people are liberated. A world where we are free. Throughout the month of February, Black Lives Matter Arts+Culture, through art, performance, and music, presents a future for Black folks centered in Black joy, love, restoration, and healing. The Founders of BLM believe that they will change the way we see the world and we see ourselves — free from white supremacy and oppression.

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**—The Awards Committee recommends this organization in recognition of the 19th Amendment Centennial, the Women’s Suffrage Movement and the 2020 Black History Month Theme. On January 13, 1913, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was founded by twenty-two women at Howard University. Less than two months after the sorority’s founding, the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta began their political activism by participating in the historic 1913 Women’s Suffrage March on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. on March 3, 1913. The twenty-two Founders of Delta Sigma Theta marched with honorary member Mary Church Terrell under the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority banner on the day prior to Woodrow Wilson's inauguration. Besides the women from Chicago's Alpha Suffrage Club with Ida B. Wells-Barnett, the sorority members represented the only black women's organization to walk in the march. They believed that black women needed the right to vote to protect against sexual exploitation, promote quality education, assist in the work force, and empower their race.

Black female marchers were subjected to racism, not only by people who were opposed to the enfranchisement of women, but by march organizers reluctant to advocate suffrage for black women. Since 1890, white Democrats of the southern states of the former Confederacy had ratified new state constitutional amendments and passed legislation that effectively disfranchised most blacks and many poor whites. Black women marching for the right to vote reminded many that black men had also been disenfranchised. Also, in those years, Washington was effectively a segregated city in public areas. Mary Church Terrell recounted that she and the Delta Sigma Theta Founders had to assemble in an area specifically allocated for black women. Several years later, Terrell confided her feelings about the National American Woman Suffrage Association and suffragist leader Alice Paul to NAACP representative Walter White. Terrell questioned Paul's loyalty to black women's rights, saying, "If [Paul] and other white suffragist leaders could get the Anthony Amendment through without enfranchising African American women, they would do so."

Although the young Founders were criticized for their participation in the suffrage march, none regretted her participation. Florence Letcher Toms commented, "We marched that day in order that women might come into their own, because we believed that women not only needed an education, but they needed a broader horizon in which they may use that education. And the right to vote would give them that privilege."

Today, the major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust:
1. Economic Development;
2. Educational Development;
3. International Awareness and Involvement;
4. Physical and Mental Health; and
5. Political Awareness and Involvement.

Each program’s development and implementation operate cooperatively, coordinated by committees, the national executive board, and national headquarters staff. Leaders belonging to the Program Planning and Development Committee, Social Action Commission, Commission on Arts and Letters, Information and Communications Committee, Membership Services Committee and Regional Officers also participate in developing programming to meet the Five-Point Thrust.

More than ten thousand members typically attend Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated’s biennial national conventions, and each of the seven regional conferences (held during years when there is no national convention) typically hosts thousands of members. At its recent 51st National convention held in the District of Columbia, more than 38,000 members registered and attended. Since its founding more than 200,000 women have joined the organization. The sorority currently has 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States, Canada, Japan (Tokyo and Okinawa), Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, and the Republic of Korea.

Kiamsha

Kiamsha, which means “that which awakens me” is a youth empowerment organization that serves the Washington Metropolitan Area and several states across the country. The organization instills self-worth, self-respect, self-confidence and leadership skills in today’s youth through the practice of abstinence from the ills of society; thus positioning them to excel in education, their respective communities, their career of choice and overall life journey. Kiamsha is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides group mentoring through history and character development training that turns mentees into mentors. Kiamsha’s Mission is to use history, peer and intergenerational interaction to empower youth to abstain from pre-martial sex, drugs, violence, and prejudice (#KYEO).

Kiamsha’s Organizational Goals include:
- Promote self-worth, self-respect and self-confidence
- Foster learning and continued education
- Teach and reinforce positive means of oral, written and nonverbal communication
- Improve academic performance
- Foster community involvement and service to others
- Expose youth to other ethnicities and cultural experiences
- Discuss social, racial and economic constraints that impede individual development and growth
- Afford youth alternative ways to handle anger, hurt, frustration and disappoint that are non-violent and positive in nature and beneficial to their development
- Foster individual expression and independent thinking
• Socialize youth with their peers and adults in an effort to gain mutual understanding and respect and establish open lines of communication

For over 25 years, Kiamsha has positively influenced the lives of more than 2,500 local youth and even more across the country and abroad. We owe much of our success to the participation, dedication and contributions of Kiamsha alumni. Kiamsha’s youth in grades 8th – 12th participate in the Steering Committee to plan and facilitate our annual youth led Dropout Prevention Summit. The students meet weekly to sharpen their presentation, workshop development and public speaking skills, while learning about history and issues that affect today’s youth in preparation for the Dropout Prevention Summit. In addition to their weekly meetings, Kiamsha youth participate in quarterly field trips, workshops and community service projects.

**Woke Vote**

Woke Vote is an intergenerational voter education and social policy awareness activist training group in the tradition of the Citizenship Schools of SNCC based in Alabama with a global outreach. It was founded by Ms. DeJuana Thompson. Ms. Thompson “believes there are systemic problems, beyond voter suppression, that are driving low rates of voter turnout and political participation for people of color in the South. Drawing on her strategic leadership and organizing experiences at the Democratic National Committee, in the Obama administration, and on numerous political campaigns, DeJuana is now dedicated to engaging, mobilizing, and turning out African American voters in the South. DeJuana is a firm believer that intentional engagement, coupled with strategic investment is the key to increased voter turnout in communities of color. Thompson is a Dial Fellow with the prestigious Emerson Collective. She’s appeared on MSNBC, CNN, in Essence Magazine and the Washington Post among others as a thought leader on race, politics and social engagement strategy.”

The mission is to invest in the activation, long-term engagement, training and development of new organizers, and mobilization of historically disengaged voters of color. The organization seeks to engage registered voters in a multifaceted approach that includes strategic social media outreach, impactful campus and faith-based outreach, social impact demonstrations, and intense mobilization (gotv) efforts.

Their credo: organizing for turnout is most effective when you execute a series of tactics, in a targeted universe, with a consistent presence. Since its inception they have drastically increased the percentage rate of turnout (in some of our targets by more than 45% and in all of our targeted communities by at least 5%). In fact, the Analyst Institute did a case study on their program model and found that their work is not only highly effective, but also has a higher rate of turnout measure than most traditional programs.

In keeping with the ethos of Dr. Woodson, Woke Vote seeks to educate and empower. They offer “an intensive web-based training Masterclass program for its alumni and seasoned organizers across a 4-week timeline. Each week our program partner [BLUE Institute, LLC](http://www.blueinstitute.com) covers topics participants will be able to use while working on progressive electoral campaigns.
such as: organizing strategies, direct voter contact tools, team building best practices and career mobilization.”  https://wokevote.us/2020-masterclass

Woke Vote also offers a Summer Fellowship with a stipend of $500 to anyone interested in training “fellows will be soldiers in the army to fight mass incarceration, voter suppression and urban gun violence. After successful completion, fellows will be encouraged to continue the Woke Vote movement across their respective cities and states. The goal of this fellowship is to train and empower people to enact change in their communities through effective outreach and partnerships.”

Woke Vote fellows are trained across the following target areas:

1. Social Media/Digital Organizing
2. Faith Outreach
3. Millennial / Campus Outreach
4. Data / Research
5. Campaign Operations
6. Turnout Models / GOTV Strategy
7. Fundraising
8. Partnerships / Allied Strategy

08/04/2020