BAA Celebrates 40th with Style and Substance!

On March 10th, loyal Trojans and guests gathered at the Ritz Carlton Hotel Ballroom in Marina del Rey, Ca. to celebrate the USC BAA’s 40th year, and to raise funds for scholarships. To say that the evening was wonderful is an understatement! Not only was the décor stunning and the food delicious, but to underscore it all, hosts Holly Robinson Peete and Rodney Peete were delightful! The honorees of the evening exemplified the excellence of USC black alumni and the theme, “Legacy 360°”: Dr. Deara Okonkwo (Outstanding Young Alumna Award); Neftalie Williams (Outstanding Young Alumnus Award); Julia Wilson (Outstanding Alumna Award); Reggie Jones-Sawyer, Sr. (Outstanding Alumnus Award); Dr. Maulana Karenga (Emé Visionary Award); John Singleton (Legacy Award). USC President C.L. Max Nikias honored Dr. Verna Dauterive with heartfelt remarks about the legacy she and her husband Peter created at USC, to include co-founding the “Ebonics Support Group” with Rev. Dr. Kilgore, which later became the USC Black Alumni Association.

A standing ovation was deservedly given to alumna Sandra Evers-Manly, who shared memories of being an Ebonics Support Group scholarship recipient. She challenged the audience to remember the “L Word”: Legacy—and she announced a milestone gift of $400 thousand dollars to be endowed for BAA scholarships!

The BAA’s 40th Anniversary and Scholarship Benefit was certainly a night to remember! The dinner raised over $262,000 dollars, to include gifts from

Please see Celebrates on page 2

Major Donor List Grows in 2015-16:

Substantive scholarship pledges were received by the USC BAA this year to support scholarship annual funds and endowments, and program endowments from USC alumni. In total, these gifts represent nearly $2 Million in new gifts. We would like to thank the following individuals for their generosity that will serve the needs of so many deserving students:

- Ms. Sandra Evers-Manly (endowed gift)
- Mr. Carl Beverly (endowed gift and annual fund gift)
- Mr. Len Fuller (endowed gift)
- Mr. Alan Fox (annual fund gift)
- Ms. Kathy Shirley (endowed estate gift)
- Mr. Lloyd McKinney (estate gift)
In January 2016, Dr. Constance Iloh was named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 list for her research that explores the educational stratification and experiences of underserved students across postsecondary education. This honor is bestowed on the nation’s top entrepreneurs, creative leaders, and brightest stars changing the world. Only 30 were selected in each of the 20 categories, out of a pool of over 15,000 talented semi-finalists. “I never saw anyone like me on that list,” said Iloh. While many on the Forbes 30 Under 30 list have been recognized for business prowess with the attendant financial success from inventions and/or businesses, Iloh is one of the only individuals selected because of outstanding research contributions in the field of education as an academic.

Iloh’s selection as one of Forbes Under 30 list is a singular distinction, and just one of the latest of her long list of accolades. In March 2016, Constance was an invited keynote panelist at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. In this same month Constance was named one of the 100 most influential and inspiring Nigerian women, alongside the likes of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. In July 2016, Dr. Iloh will become the first Black tenure track professor in the history of the University of California, Irvine -School of Education. The UC Irvine School of Education is ranked as one of the top 25 graduate schools of education in the nation by the U.S News World Report. At the 2015 USC Commencement, Iloh became the first from the USC Rossier School of Education to receive the USC PhD Achievement Award, the highest honor given to any USC PhD holder. She was also awarded the USC Rossier Dissertation Award of Merit for her yearlong exploration of Black students going to the for-profit higher education sector. In February 2015 she served as a panelist for the Aligning for Black Excellence in Higher Education Summit, which was sponsored by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans, USC Black Alumni Association and Ebony magazine.

It is clear that before and after her Forbes 30 under 30 distinction, Iloh has proven she is a remarkable scholar destined to stand out in every space she inhabits. Even she is still reeling from the news of her selection. “So many people have told me that they knew this was in me, but they aren’t in my skin,” Iloh humbly remarked. “I never thought something like this would happen.” Despite indicating in one breath that she had some level of doubt that she would be recognized and acknowledged, Iloh attributes all of her success to God. “What’s most important is that I am a purpose driven child of God,” said Iloh. “The overarching goal and passion above these achievements and milestones is that I serve Him and He gets glory.” Iloh’s faith in God coupled with a tremendous support system has led her to this point. Iloh remembers her mom regularly taking her to the library to satisfy her love of reading books. “She would wait in the car while I wrote my Gates Millennium Scholarship essays at my high school computer lab because we didn’t have a computer,” Iloh said. “I would be in there until the janitors finished cleaning up and said it was time to go.” Iloh says she never knew that she was poor growing up because the love that was shown to her by her family filled whatever material voids in her life. “My mom has devoted her life to her kids,” said Iloh. “Many that I love had to do what they had to do, just for me to have the chance to do what I love.” Iloh recalls attending a conference out of town once, “I felt so sad and guilty that she couldn’t be there and when I called her she simply said ‘I am there through you.’”

Her parents are from Nigeria. She is one of four children born in Odessa, Texas where she lived for a short time before her family relocated to Prince George County, MD, a primarily black, suburban community. “That has been a significant part of my life,” Iloh said of growing up in Prince George County. She attended the University of Maryland at College Park where she earned a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Communication as a Gates Millennium Scholar. Iloh went on to earn an MA in Business Management from Wake Forest. In the spring of 2015, she earned her PhD from USC in Urban Education Policy. As for the 29 year old’s legacy, Iloh says she is skeptical about setting an end goal. “I am paraphrasing but a quote comes to mind that goes something like, ‘Man plans and God laughs at them,’ Iloh said. “You never know what’s going to happen or where you’re going to be taken. So much has changed for me that makes me want to live in a state of submission to God’s plan, as He knows best.” There are some things that are certain in Dr. Constance Iloh’s future. She will continue to research equity, access and the experiences of underserved students in post-secondary education. Her hallowed path and milestones continue because after completing her tenure as a fellow of the UC Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship program, she is scheduled to commence her position as a tenure-track professor at UC Irvine. She is the principal investigator of a grant exploring online learning in vocational higher education. She continues to publish her studies in top journals, including her ethnography of a for-profit college in the American Educational Research Journal. Iloh’s forthcoming book is on contemporary college-going narratives and the for-profit college sector that will be published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

Dr. Constance Iloh’s website: http://www.constancelilih.com
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdPFVF3vTXg

LOOK FOR BAA YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (BAAYP) EVENTS IN OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!

Come and meet young alumni professionals like Constance!
The BAA Agenda

BAA Advisory Council:

Chair ● Lloyd McKinney, Global Supply Chain Lead, Northrop Grumman

USC BOG Representative ● Kathryn M. Shirley, CPA World Management Solutions

● Daniel Atwater, Managing Director Atwater Strategies

● Danny Bakewell, Jr., President/COO Los Angeles Sentinel

● Bruce Carter, Executive Counsel The Walt Disney Company

● Julia Cooksey, Director Frontier

● Michael Corrin, Partner SCA Strategic Partnerships International

● Stephanie Farmer, Consultant Anthem

● David Ford, Region Manager USC

● Reggie Lathan, President ChemTrans

● Rev. Cecil Murray, Tansey Chair USC School of Religion

● Kiesha Nix, Executive Director Los Angeles Lakers Foundation

● Debbie Pattillo, Principal DP Consulting Group

● Nolan Rollins, President & CEO Los Angeles Urban League

● Donna Gholar, Executive Assistant USC President Emeritus

● Justin Lacey, CFP, AWMA

● Tammy Anderson, Deb Langford, Diversity Officer USC Marshall School of Business

● Kathryn M. Shirley, CPA

● Simeon Stewart, II, CEO

● Simeon Stewart, II, CEO

● Tensie Taylor, Assistant Director Chair—Legacy through Leadership

Most of us remember our struggles to afford USC when we were students. Our primary goal is to provide student financial assistance: BAA scholarships! Gifts to the USC BAA are directed for black students, and can be matched 2:1 when awarded as scholarships to undergraduate students.

Black alumni support is truly needed. We invite you to consider an annual tax deductible gift as a “1000 for $1000” donor! Each $1000 gift provides a $3000 named student scholarship!

Your gift can be the difference in a student’s financial aid package. BAA awards are used for tuition, or for books or even studying abroad! BAA scholarships offset charges on a student’s fee bill, and reduce loans. We provide unmatched scholarships to graduate and professional students as well, and your gift can be specifically directed to the annual graduate and professional fund.

You can easily be a game changer for our students.

— Are You In? 1Kfor$1K Donor

USC BAA CAMPAIGN PROGRESS:

Nearly $6 Million Awarded in scholarship funds

2000+ scholarships awarded

100+ scholarships per year

$1.6 Million BAA Endowment

...The BAA Advisory Council and new donors have done a remarkable job to increase financial support for BAA Scholarships and programs since 2008. We have increased our endowment from $256K to $1.6 Million during this time—an increase of over 600%—but we need your help to build a substantial endowment to provide awards into perpetuity.

Please consider the BAA endowment in your philanthropy: annual gifts, endowed scholarships, gifts from donor advised funds, estate gifts, annuities, charitable trusts, etc.

Don’t Forget Your Gift May Be Eligible for Corporate Matching!

(Please call: 213-740-8342 for assistance with your gift if required)

Or:

DONATE NOW

Celebrates from page 1...

2015-16 “Thousand for a Thousand” Donors: Neil Cheatham, Cheryl Dorsey, Frank Caldwell, Diane Manuel, National Sales Network, Justin Lacey, Anna Maria Hall, Timotheus Hampton, Dr. Bonnie James, Patricia Patterson, Danny Bakewell, Jr., and Telecom Pioneers. Trojan table sponsors included alumni Tammy Anderson, Deb Langford, Terri and Eric Holoman, Collette Moore, Terrence Hill, Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Sr., Stephanie Farmer and Dr. Fred Parrott. Additional alumni sponsors included Gold sponsors Cynthia Heard, Alan Todd Turner, MD, and Ronnie Lott, and Cardinal sponsors Nedra Austin, the Six Friends, and Simeon Stewart.


A Great Investment: BAA Scholarships

Michèle G. Turner, MBA, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Nearly $6 Million Awarded in scholarship funds

2000+ scholarships awarded

100+ scholarships per year

Don’t Forget Your Gift May Be Eligible for Corporate Matching!

(Or:

DONATE NOW

Celebrates from page 1...

2015-16 “Thousand for a Thousand” Donors: Neil Cheatham, Cheryl Dorsey, Frank Caldwell, Diane Manuel, National Sales Network, Justin Lacey, Anna Maria Hall, Timotheus Hampton, Dr. Bonnie James, Patricia Patterson, Danny Bakewell, Jr., and Telecom Pioneers. Trojan table sponsors included alumni Tammy Anderson, Deb Langford, Terri and Eric Holoman, Collette Moore, Terrence Hill, Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Sr., Stephanie Farmer and Dr. Fred Parrott. Additional alumni sponsors included Gold sponsors Cynthia Heard, Alan Todd Turner, MD, and Ronnie Lott, and Cardinal sponsors Nedra Austin, the Six Friends, and Simeon Stewart.

A Tremendous LTL Year!

The USC Black Alumni Association’s Legacy through Leadership (LTL) Mentoring Program for the 2015-2016 academic year was a tremendous success! We had 80 alumni mentors and 120 students who participated in the program. Students were mentored in 15 different disciplines: Communication, Entertainment, Business, Education, Accounting, Engineering, Social Work, Military, Law, Health, Medicine, Music, Technology, Government, and Dance.

The program expanded internationally this year with mentorship occurring in South Korea and the Middle East. With technology services such as Skype, Google Hangout, and WhatsApp, students and mentors were effectively able to communicate with one another. The LTL Mentoring Program had great events this year, such as the Mentor & Mentee Kickoff Celebration in September, Coffee Talks in October, Homecoming Weekend in November, and the Holiday Mingle in December at the home of Dr. Turner. In January 2016, the students returned from Winter recess and became re-acclimated with the new semester. In February, our monthly events continued with a Health & Wellness Seminar, BAA’s 40th Anniversary Gala in March, Mock Interviews in April, and a Thank You Luncheon in May. Throughout our monthly programs and events, students learned about various professions, the importance of networking, how to take care of themselves mentally and physically, how to conduct themselves in an interview, and how to properly and effectively say thank you.

New initiatives were implemented, as well. Assistant Director Tensie J. Taylor created recognition programs such as Mentor and Mentee of the Month and a Newsletter of Accomplishments. Tensie’s goal for creating the Mentor and Mentee of the Month was to recognize the hard work of our alumni and students and to highlight the profound effects of mentorship at the college level. It also allowed mentors to recognize students who went above and beyond in the mentoring program. Furthermore, with the Newsletter of Accomplishment, Tensie’s goal was to highlight the academic, social, and professional accomplishments of our alumni and students in the LTL Mentoring Program. Her philosophy is, “When one of us succeeds, we all succeed.” To see the accomplishments of other Black students and alumni is inspiring, and this was made evident by messages she received from students about how they enjoyed reading the accomplishments of their classmates and alumni.

As the LTL Mentoring Program embarks upon the 2016-2017 academic year, Tensie is looking forward to adding additional alumni and students to the program. If you are interested in being a mentor by providing encouragement and pre-career support to our students, please click here to fill out the online application. You have the opportunity to make a profound difference in a student’s life!

As this program continues to expand, remember this: The BAA has a 100% graduation rate of scholarships students since 2008--primarily due to mentoring! We have the opportunity to create the largest network of mentors for black students in the nation. We encourage your involvement in this highly effective black student retention and sponsorship program!

The application for the upcoming 2016-17 academic year is below:

If you are interested in also becoming a mentor, to provide encouragement and pre-career support to our students (job-shadowing, networking, advice, monthly team topic discussions), please fill out the online application:

BAA Mentor Application
USC BAA Congratulates
Renee Elise Goldsberry
2016 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical: “Hamilton”

News:
http://www.ew.com/article/2016/06/12/tony-awards-2016-renee-elise-goldsberry

USC BAA Celebrates the Life of BAA Co-Founder
Dr. Verna B. Dauterive, 93
Educator, Philanthropist, USC Trustee

News:
https://news.usc.edu/101410/in-memoriam-verna-b-dauterive-93/

USC BAA Welcomes
John D. Carpent, Ph. D.
Institute of Translational Genomics at the Keck School of Medicine

News:
http://www.keck.usc.edu/keck-school-of-medicine-establishes-new-academic-department-and-research-institute/

USC BAA Congratulates
Neftalie Williams
2016 Tony Salin Award

News:
http://www.baseballreliquary.org/2016/05/2016-tony-salin-memorial-award-recipient-neftalie-williams/

USC BAA Welcomes
Institute of Translational Genomics at the Keck School of Medicine

News:
http://www.keck.usc.edu/keck-school-of-medicine-establishes-new-academic-department-and-research-institute/

USC BAA Congratulates
Stayce Harris
President Nominate First Female African American Three Star in Air Force

News:

USC BAA Welcomes
Lynn Swann
New USC Athletic Director

News:
http://www.usctrojans.com/sports/m-footbl/spec-rel/041316aaa.html

USC BAA Congratulates
Robin Coste Lewis
2015 National Book Award Winner

News:

USC BAA Welcomes
LeVar Burton
Exec Producer “Roots” remake

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-

USC BAA Congratulates
POTUS Fresh Tracks Initiative

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-

USC BAA Welcomes
POTUS Fresh Tracks Initiative

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-

USC BAA Congratulates
Renee Elise Goldsberry
2016 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical: “Hamilton”

News:
http://www.ew.com/article/2016/06/12/tony-awards-2016-renee-elise-goldsberry

USC BAA Celebrates the Life of BAA Co-Founder
Dr. Verna B. Dauterive, 93
Educator, Philanthropist, USC Trustee

News:
https://news.usc.edu/101410/in-memoriam-verna-b-dauterive-93/

USC BAA Welcomes
John D. Carpent, Ph. D.
Institute of Translational Genomics at the Keck School of Medicine

News:
http://www.keck.usc.edu/keck-school-of-medicine-establishes-new-academic-department-and-research-institute/

USC BAA Congratulates
Neftalie Williams
2016 Tony Salin Award

News:
http://www.baseballreliquary.org/2016/05/2016-tony-salin-memorial-award-recipient-neftalie-williams/

USC BAA Welcomes
Institute of Translational Genomics at the Keck School of Medicine

News:
http://www.keck.usc.edu/keck-school-of-medicine-establishes-new-academic-department-and-research-institute/

USC BAA Congratulates
Stayce Harris
President Nominate First Female African American Three Star in Air Force

News:

USC BAA Welcomes
Lynn Swann
New USC Athletic Director

News:
http://www.usctrojans.com/sports/m-footbl/spec-rel/041316aaa.html

USC BAA Congratulates
POTUS Fresh Tracks Initiative

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-

USC BAA Welcomes
POTUS Fresh Tracks Initiative

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-

USC BAA Congratulates
Renee Elise Goldsberry
2016 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical: “Hamilton”

News:
http://www.ew.com/article/2016/06/12/tony-awards-2016-renee-elise-goldsberry

USC BAA Celebrates the Life of BAA Co-Founder
Dr. Verna B. Dauterive, 93
Educator, Philanthropist, USC Trustee

News:
https://news.usc.edu/101410/in-memoriam-verna-b-dauterive-93/

USC BAA Welcomes
John D. Carpent, Ph. D.
Institute of Translational Genomics at the Keck School of Medicine

News:
http://www.keck.usc.edu/keck-school-of-medicine-establishes-new-academic-department-and-research-institute/

USC BAA Congratulates
Neftalie Williams
2016 Tony Salin Award

News:
http://www.baseballreliquary.org/2016/05/2016-tony-salin-memorial-award-recipient-neftalie-williams/

USC BAA Welcomes
Institute of Translational Genomics at the Keck School of Medicine

News:
http://www.keck.usc.edu/keck-school-of-medicine-establishes-new-academic-department-and-research-institute/

USC BAA Congratulates
Stayce Harris
President Nominate First Female African American Three Star in Air Force

News:

USC BAA Welcomes
Lynn Swann
New USC Athletic Director

News:
http://www.usctrojans.com/sports/m-footbl/spec-rel/041316aaa.html

USC BAA Congratulates
POTUS Fresh Tracks Initiative

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-

USC BAA Welcomes
POTUS Fresh Tracks Initiative

News:
http://www.motherjones.com/media/2016/04/history-roots-2016-remake-levar-burton-
Save the Dates!

(Please check social media and the website for updates, additional events and to purchase tickets if required.

- **Thursday, July 21, 2016**
  Black Business Leaders Hall of Fame
  (www.hartleadership.com)

- **Thursday-Saturday, August 11-13, 2016**
  African Global Economic Development Summit
  (www.AGEDSummit.com)

- **Saturday, August 20, 2016**
  USC BAA Welcome Pinning and Affirmation Ceremony
  (RSVP/Invitation Only)

- **Friday-Saturday, September 2-3, 2016**
  USC vs. Alabama Weekender
  (http://weekenders.usc.edu/alabama/)

- **Friday-Saturday, September 16-17, 2016**
  USC vs. Stanford Weekender
  (http://weekenders.usc.edu/stanford/)

- **Thursday, September 29, 2016**
  USC Alumni Association Volunteer Recognition Dinner

- **Friday-Saturday, November 4-5, 2016**
  Reunion Weekend ('66,'76,'86,'91,'96,'06)
  (http://alumni.usc.edu/reunions)

- **Friday, November 4, 2016**
  BAA Trojan Legends Homecoming Mixer
  (http://usc.edu/baa)

- **Saturday, November 5, 2016**
  BAA Trojan Legends Homecoming Celebration,
  VKC Pavilion,
  USC vs. Oregon
  (http://usc.edu/baa)

- **Sunday, November 6, 2016**
  BAA Bikes! Or Walks! TBD
  (http://usc.edu/baa)

- **Friday-Saturday, November 11-12, 2016**
  USC vs. Washington Weekender
  (http://weekenders.usc.edu/washington/)

- **Thursday, December 8, 2016**
  BAA Holiday Mingle
  (RSVP/Invitation only)

- **February: Black History Month--TBD**

- **March—TBD:** Aligning for Black Excellence in Higher Education Thinktank II: The Compass
  (http://usc.edu/baa)

- **Saturday April 22, 2017**
  84th Annual USC Alumni Awards

- **Thursday, May 11, 2017**
  African American Cultural Celebration (Black Grad)

- **Friday, May 12, 2017**
  USC Commencement

- **May 23-31, 2017**
  USC BAA and Trojan Travel: CUBA—With an Emphasis on the African Slave Trade
  (www.usc.edu/baa)

---

We are going to the Alabama game! Join us for fun and networking along with an appreciation of the legacy of the historic game in 1970 that integrated southern football teams! **On Friday night, September 2, 2016,** the BAA will host a jazz night, along with the Alabama black alumni, at 560—the Wolfgang Puck venue in the penthouse at the Hyatt Regency. **On Saturday morning, September 3, 2016,** the BAA will host a fabulous brunch in the Hyatt Regency Reunion Ballroom, featuring players from both the USC (Sam “the BAM” Cunningham, Jimmy Jones and Bill Holland) and Alabama teams (TBD). Please join us—details for ticket purchases to these events will be posted on Monday, August 1, 2016 at: www.usc.edu/baa

All proceeds support BAA scholarships.

See You There!

---

Please remember to sign up for our mailing list to receive email updates automatically—you will not get BAA information if you are not on our mailing list! (www.usc.edu/baa)

...And, send us your news for inclusion in our next Newsletters or social media.

**FIGHT ON!**