

# 2017 CASE CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Rice University

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# PLANNING

**50** years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice

# CREATIVE WORK PLAN

## **PROJECT OVERVIEW:**

For the gala weekend, the signature experience will be the gala, but all events and programs happening that weekend will also be marketed to promote attendance and participation throughout the weekend. There will be a robust communications roll out that will include a call for nominations/save the date, printed invitations approximately 8 weeks in advance, email invitations, paid and promoted social media posts, and event collateral design such as slides, videos, banners, and the awards themselves for the honorees. In addition to ARUBA specific emails and marketing, the weekend will be promoted in Houston and all-alumni newsletters leading up to the event to build awareness and encourage participation among the greater Rice alumni and friends community.

## **PROJECT GOALS:**

- Reengage alumni, plug into Rice
- Endowment legacy
- Inclusive of faculty, including new faculty
- Connect with students, opportunity for them to connect with alumni
- Celebrate from where we came and where we are going
- Create an archive for milestones

## **KEY COMMUNICATIONS DATES:**

<b>JUNE 16</b>	WEBSITE PHASE I
<b>JUNE 24</b>	RFP FOR GALA VIDEO(S) COMPLETE
<b>JUNE 22</b>	EMAIL 1 OF 5
<b>JULY 11</b>	COMMISSION UPDATE EMAIL
<b>JULY 15</b>	ALL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
<b>JULY 18</b>	CAMPUS EMAIL
<b>AUG 5</b>	WEBSITE PHASE II
<b>AUG 8</b>	PRINT INVITATION DROPS IN MAIL
<b>AUG 8</b>	VOLUNTEER OUTREACH TOOLKIT READY
<b>AUG 10-11</b>	EMAIL 2 OF 5
<b>AUG 12</b>	DC & NYC REGIONAL EMAILS
<b>AUG 19</b>	BAY AREA REGIONAL EMAIL
<b>AUG 26</b>	HOUSTON EVENTS DIGEST
<b>AUG 29-SEPT 2</b>	WEBSITE PHASE III
<b>SEPT 2</b>	AUSTIN & DALLAS REGIONAL EMAILS
<b>SEPT 5</b>	EMAIL 3 OF 5
<b>SEPT 5-12</b>	RICE NEWS
<b>SEPT 23</b>	EMAIL 4 OF 5
<b>SEPT 28</b>	EVENT PROGRAM DELIVERED
<b>SEPT 28</b>	FINAL VIDEO(S) DELIVERED
<b>SEPT 30</b>	HOUSTON EVENTS DIGEST
<b>SEPT 30-OCT 2</b>	ARUBA REUNION WEEKEND 2016
<b>OCT 7</b>	EMAIL 5 OF 5

DELIVERABLE	PURPOSE/TASK	SEGMENT	DEADLINE	NOTES
Email 1 of 5	Save the date for gala; nominations open; recap of year-to-date	ARUBA; Commission	June 22	
All Alumni Newsletter	Save the date; nominate	All	July 8-15	Reminder to nominate
Campus email	Nominate	All-Depts	July 18	
Email 2 of 5	Email invitation w/ link to registration page	ARUBA, Commission	August 10-11	Send shortly after print invitation drops
DC & NYC regional emails	Blurb announcing registration is open	DC & NYC alums	August 12	
Commission update	Announce winners prior to broader announcement	Volunteers	TBD	
Bay Area regional email	Blurb announcing registration is open	Bay Area alums	Aug. 19	
Commission update email	Reminder to nominate; save the date	Commission	July 11 Mid-late August	Per Dan 6/27: The commission update can go in mid-late August as a “kickoff to the fall” type of message
Houston event digest	Highlight gala as a signature event	Houston alumni	Aug. 26	
Austin and Dallas regional emails	Blurb announcing registration is open	Austin and Dallas alums	Sept. 2	
Email 3 of 5	Announce award-winners and link to registration	ARUBA, Commission, Others TBD	September 5	Highlight award winners with brief bios; 2 <sup>nd</sup> reminder to register
Rice News	Announcement of award winners	Subscribers	September 5-12	
Email 4 of 5	Last chance to register	ARUBA, Commission, Others TBD, minus registrants	September 23	Last chance: approx. one week out of event
Houston event digest	Reminder for weekend; walkups accepted (TBD)	Houston alumni	September 30	
Email 5 of 5	Thank you and survey	Attendants of gala	Oct. 7	Include any notes about remaining events for 50 year celebration; link to photos



# STUDENT AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

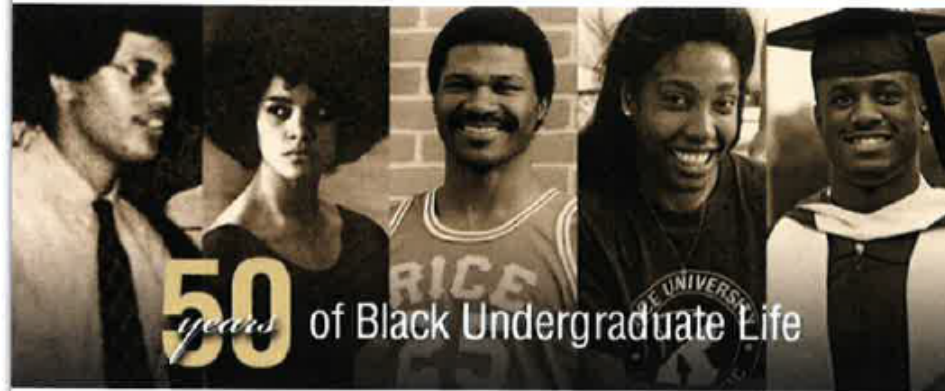
**50** years of Black  
Undergraduate  
Life at Rice



# Houston Style Magazine

## Forum Will Celebrate 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice University

[Jo-Carolyn Goode](#) | 2/15/2016, 2:02 p.m.



HOUSTON – (Feb. 15, 2016) – Rice University will celebrate 50 years of black undergraduate life with a public forum Feb. 18 featuring an alumni panel discussion of Rice in the 1960s and 1970s when the campus and Houston desegregated.

Titled “Reflections of the Past, Promises for the Future,” the forum will provide a historical account of Rice’s desegregation and firsthand perspectives on the early years of this transition.

Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) welcome the general public to attend the program from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in McNair Hall’s Shell Auditorium, 6100 Main St.

President David Leebron will present opening remarks. Centennial historian Melissa Kean and history professor emeritus Allen Matusow will discuss the administrative and legal process of desegregating Rice within its historical context. The original charter of the Rice Institute allowed only white students to attend. In 1963 a unanimous Rice Board of Governors filed a lawsuit to allow the school to modify its charter to admit students of all races. Two alumni sued to keep the original charter intact, but in 1966 a state appellate court upheld the modification of Rice’s charter.

A panel of four alumni who graduated in the ’70s will reminisce about Rice during that transitional period: Ronald Arceneaux (1974), Charles Szalkowski (1970), Regina Tippens 1974) and Jan West (1973). Harris County Commissioner Gene Locke will moderate the panel discussion.

The forum is part of a yearlong series of events commemorating 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice. For more information, visit <http://alumni.rice.edu/events/50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life>.



## AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

# Houston celebrates Black history with events

### Saturday, Feb. 13

The Houston Public Library and Texas Southern University present a discussion with author **Wil Haygood**, whose story became the basis for the movie "The Butler." It will be held at 2 p.m. in Sawyer Auditorium, and Haygood will discuss his novel, "Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America." The event is free but reservations are required. Contact: [houstonlibrary.org](http://houstonlibrary.org).

The Shrine of the Black Madonna and People's Law Study Group continue their "Elevation of Black Consciousness Series" with a biography of slain **Black Panther leader Fred Hampton** at 6 p.m. at 5309 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Special guest is Lady of Rage, who appears in an upcoming film about Hampton. Contact: 713-397-1904.

### Sunday, Feb. 14

The Harris County Historical Commission will dedicate an official Texas historical marker for **Greater Ward A.M.E. Church** at 3 p.m. at 6822 Arabella. The congregation is the first African



*Rice University will be the site of a Feb. 18 panel discussion celebrating 50 years of Black undergraduate life.*

Methodist Episcopal denomination established in Acres Homes. Contact: 713-697-5657.

### Monday, Feb. 15

Prairie View A&M University presents "Hallowed Grounds: **Black History Sites in Texas**" with Prof. Anna Mod and community development students at 5:30 p.m. in Room 107, Northwest Houston Center, 9449 Grant Road. Contact: 713-790-7282

### Tuesday, Feb. 16

A Golden Buddha Jazz Band and TSU Jazz Band workshop/performance will feature a cultural exchange of Eastern folk instruments and African-American jazz at 11 a.m. at TSU's Rhinehart Auditorium. Contact: [www.tsu.edu](http://www.tsu.edu).

### Thursday, Feb. 18

PVAMU hosts the National Association of Student Affairs Professionals (NASAP) Conference from Feb. 18-21 at the Westin Houston Memoria. Contact: [www.nasap.net](http://www.nasap.net) or 936-261-3564.

The Houston Public Library presents a performance by Da Camera Chamber Music & Jazz at 3:30 p.m. at Vinson Neighborhood Library, 3810 West Fuqua. Contact: [houstonlibrary.org](http://houstonlibrary.org).

Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) will celebrate **50 years of Black undergraduate life** with a panel of speakers. They will provide a historical account of Rice's desegregation and first-hand perspectives on the early years. A 5:30 p.m. reception will be held at the Executive Commons in McNair Hall, followed by a 6:30 p.m. program at Shell Auditorium in McNair Hall. Panelists will be Ronald Arceneaux ('74), Charles Szalkowski ('70), Regina Tippens ('74) and Jan West ('73). It will be moderated by Harris County Commissioner Gene Locke. The event is free and open to the public. RSVP to [Jan.F.West@rice.edu](mailto:Jan.F.West@rice.edu) or call 713-348-6759.



# Happening in Houston

For event coverage email: [events@defendermediagroup.com](mailto:events@defendermediagroup.com)

## topevents

**RICE BLACK ALUMNI CELEBRATION**.....Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni hosted a panel of speakers who provided a historical account of Rice's desegregation and first-hand perspectives on the early years. The event, along with the Annual MLK Candlelight Vigil and Celebration hosted by the Black Student Association, kicks off a yearlong series of events celebrating 50 years of Black undergraduate life at Rice. The event was moderated by Commissioner Gene Locke. Those in attendance included Ronald Arreola, Charles Szalkowski, Regina Tipples, Jan West, Dr. Betty Sanders, Danielle Parker, Bettie Arreola, Terrence Gee, David Ruiz, Judson Robinson III, Chavante Wright, Courtney Brown, Theodore Williams, Dr. Thomas and Clarice Estell Freeman, Algenita Davis and more.....**DELTA SIGMA THETA FOUNDERS DAY**.....The Houston Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. celebrated Founders Day. Metro Police Chief Vera Bumpers served as the keynote speaker for the event. She addressed a variety of issues, including the Sandra Bland case, Black Lives Matter, and the importance of community policing. Members of the organization performed a musical selection. Guests included Vickia Gibbs, Linda Callaway, Dr. Betty Taylor Thompson,

Christine Criner Smith, Tina Marie Jones-Green, Jona Sargent, Deborah Hawkins, Virginia Hubbard, Debra Johnson, Bobbie Henderson, Mary Hamilton, Evelyn Banks and a host of members.....**KIPP DREAM HONORS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**.....In honor of Black History Month, the "Dreamers" of KIPP Dream Prep School celebrated performances from the kids and special guests, **THE PHAROAHES**. Texas Southern University professor Dr. Kimberly Brown taught the importance of Black History Month and spoken word artist Tina B. shared an empowering poem. As part of Buddies, Books and Brunch, guests read to students in classrooms. Guests were also judges for the Black History Month door decoration contest. Those in attendance included Rebecca Gullery, Ian Morris, Andrea McCormick, Brandon Chatham, Courtney Taylor, Ebony Thomas, Michael Lacton, Trisha Frederick, Jasmine Turner, Frank North, Oralia Velazquez, Shellie Washington, Lori Jackson,

Sharon Stewart, Keita Hopton, Ramez Smedley, Ashley Hoskins, Sharlyn Gentry, Elsie Gullery, Garsten Gullery, Derek Bokes, Christin McQueen Armstrong, LaShawn Chambers, LaRonnda Berry, Tassandra Allen, Damen Hayle and Pastor Terrance Johnson.

### Defender TOP EVENTS

More photos on [defendernetwork.com](http://defendernetwork.com)

See Details on KIPP DREAM's "Crossroads" with tickets (adults) starting at \$10 and \$20 each.



Algenita Davis, Dr. Thomas and Clarice Estell Freeman



Jan West, Dr. Betty Sanders



Judson Robinson III, David Ruiz, Terrence Gee



Debra Johnson, Virginia Hubbard



Jackie Pose, Tina Marie Jones-Green



Vickia Gibbs, Christine Criner Smith, Chief Vera Bumpers



Sharlyn Gentry, Elsie Gullery, Garsten Gullery



Rebecca Gullery, Ian Morris, Andrea McCormick



Damen Hayle, Pastor Terrance Johnson

# Happening in Houston

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## topevents

**TOP LADIES HBCU GALA**.....Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. held its first annual HBCU Gala at the Power Center. Guests and supporters of HBCUs were treated to a live concert by Regenia Bell. The gala honored 10 "laureates" - Joyce Jacquet, Tanya Adkins, Dr. Tobias Anderson III, John Peavy Jr., Ernest Collins, Argelia James, Janis Jefferson Benton, Dr. Justin Washington, Linda Brown and Calvin Wells. The laureates are distinguished Houstonians who have made significant contributions to the community and are graduates of HBCUs. In attendance were Thelma Johnson, Ron Johnson, Shelia Maddox, Fred Hoyer, Drema Woodman, Ross Thompson, Brooke Thompson, Floretta Collins, Florene Moore, Gail McNeal, Tselene Shephard, Windsor Bell, Arlene Shelby, Marsha Penn, Barbara Platt and Patricia Ingram.....**MORNING SHOW MEET AND GREET**.....The Yolanda Adams Morning Show Meet and Greet was held at Amazing 102.5 FM. The YAMS team conducted a panel discussion and Q&A about the new elements of the show. Fans received a chance to meet the

and take pictures. In attendance were Yolanda Adams, Marcus D. Wiley, Latyee McKenna, Kim Altch, Pastor Rudy Rasmus, Marcus Ecby, Shawn Christopher, Michele and Rochelle Thompson, Nettie Jones and many more.....**RICE BLACK ALUMNI GALA**.....The Association of Rice University Black Alumni hosted its Blueprint for Excellence Gala at The Bell Tower. The event celebrated 50 years of Black undergraduate life at Rice. Proceeds from the event are used to establish a legacy endowment to promote diversity initiatives. Guests were treated to a musical performance by Aruba Quartet. Honorees included Dr. Alex Byrd, Andrea Ehlers, Joseph Branch, Janis Scott, Rodrigo Barnes, Roland Smith and Jan West.

In attendance were David Leeborn, Donald Bowers, Akilah Mance, Angela Berry Roberson, Monique Shackle, Teddy Adams Jr., Tevela Rose Barnes, Jeff Rose, Kevin Kirby, Marie Lynn Miranda, Linda Therane, Darrow Zeldenstein, Anthony Willis, Dana Hogan, Stephen Meves, Blessing Falade, Kathryn Hoo, Emerson Zora Hamza, Janis Hamza, Dr. Anna Daniels and a host of university alumni and friends.

### Defender TOP EVENTS

More photos on [defendernetwork.com](http://defendernetwork.com)



Ladyl Shelia Maddox, Ladyl Thelma Johnson



Joyce Jacquet, Fred Hoyer, Drema Woodman



Arlene Shelby, Marsha Penn, Barbara Platt, Patricia Ingram



Latyee McKenna, Kim Altch



Rudy Rasmus, Yolanda Adams



Marcus Ecby, Shawn Christopher



Kathryn Hoo, Blessing Falade



Stephen Meves, Angela B. Robinson, Jeff Rose



Anthony Willis, Dana Hogan, Donald Bowers

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Rice celebrates 50 years of black undergraduate life with awards gala - CultureMap Houston

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HOUSTON

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ARUBA PARTYING

## Rice celebrates 50 years of black undergraduate life with awards gala

By Shelby Hodge 10.4.16 |  
Hodge(author/ShelbyHodge/articles/)

f 33 t 1 e



Rodrigo Barnes, Joseph Branch, Janis Scott, Alex Byrd, Andrea Ehlers and Roland Smith. Photo by Janan Willis Photography

**What:** Association of Rice University Black Alumni (http://riceuniversityblackalumniassociation.org) (ARUBA) "Blueprint for Excellence" gala.

**Where:** The Bell Tower. (http://thebelltoweron34th.com/#wedding/venues/houston)

**The scoop:** The gala is part of Rice's year-long celebration of a half century of black student life at the private university. More than 300 attended the black-tie evening presided over by Rice president **David Leebron** and ARUBA president **Akilah Mance**.

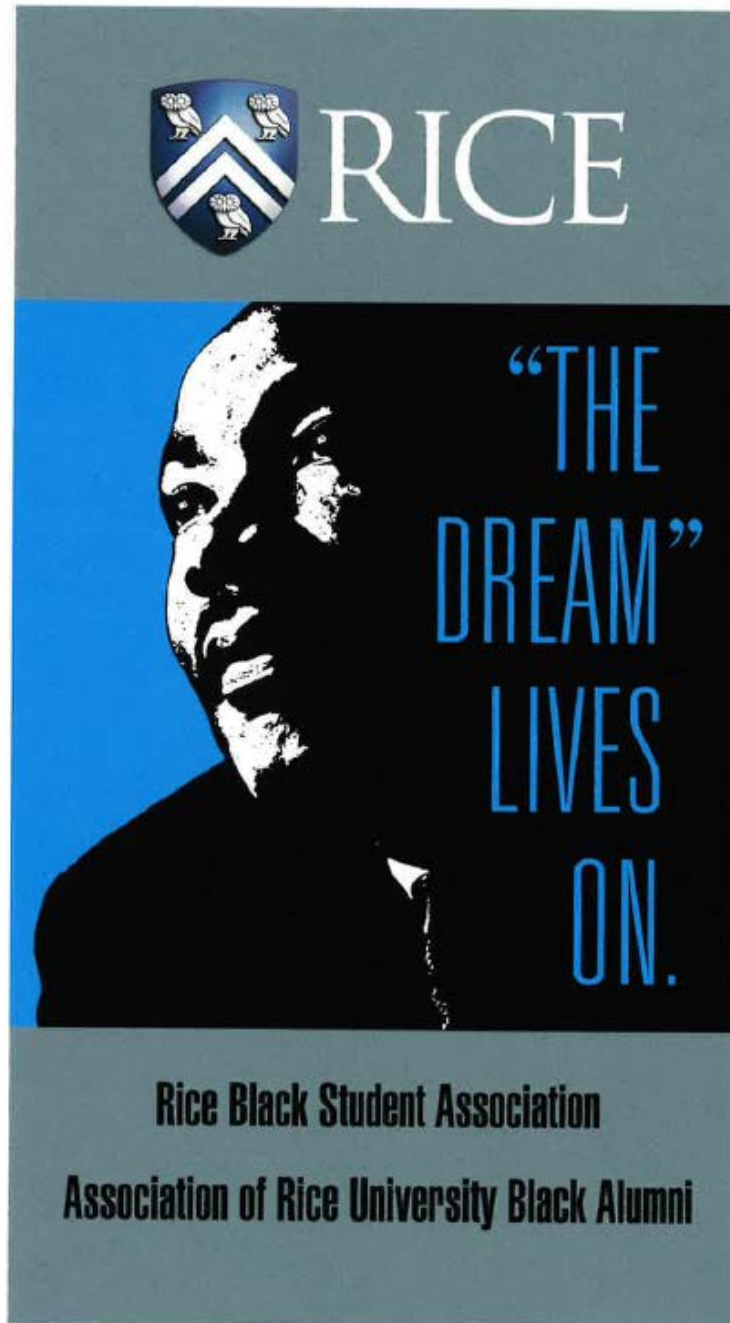
"This is truly a celebration of both diversity and excellence, and a recognition that diversity is indeed part of the blueprint for excellence," Leebron said. "And that we at Rice are committed to that blueprint."

**Who:** Alex Byrd and Andrea Ehlers, recipients of the Outstanding Achievement in Service and Contributions to the University Award; **Joseph Branch**, recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in Career Award; **Janis Scott**, Outstanding Achievement in Civic and Community Service Award; and **Rodrigo Barnes** and **Roland Smith**, recipients of the Legacy Award.

The Bell Tower on 34th







Rice MLK T-shirt 2016 front and back



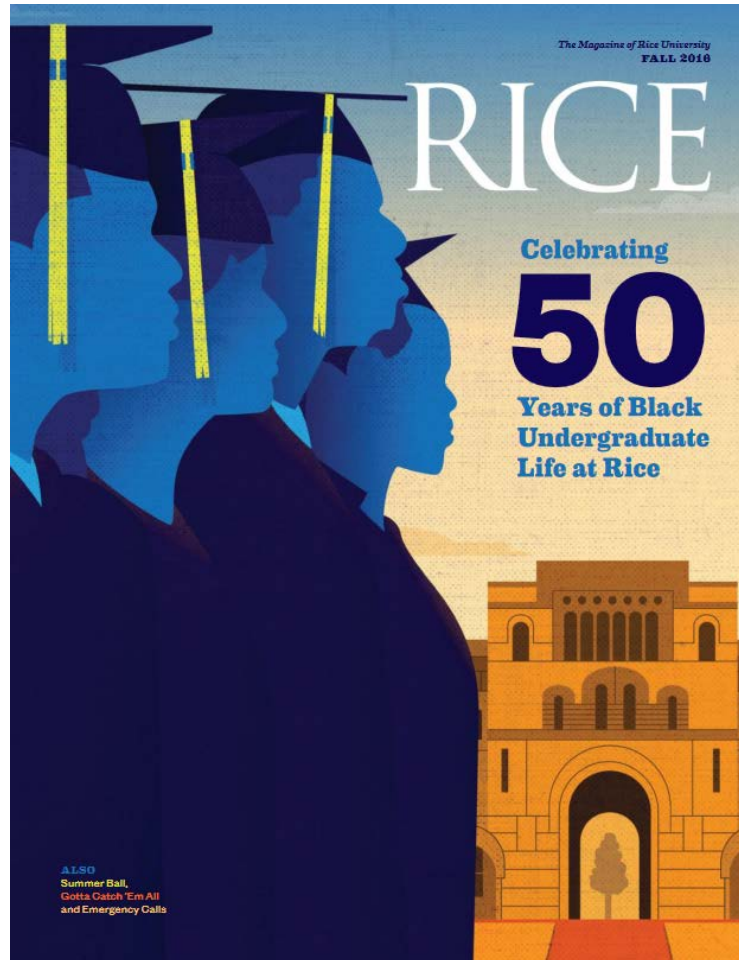






# RICE MAGAZINE, FALL 2016

## [HTTPS://ISSUU.COM/RICEUNIVERSITY/DOCS/FALL2016RICEMAG\\_ISSUU](https://issuu.com/riceuniversity/docs/fall2016ricemag_issuu)



DAVID W. LEEBRON

### Toward Justice

ON THE FIRST WEEKEND OF OCTOBER, WE celebrated 60 years of black undergraduate life at Rice. It was a joyous and passionate celebration, but a celebration that had its origin in historical wrong.

One hundred and four years ago, our university began a journey. It began with a grand and ambitious vision — a vision of a great university in Houston. But it also began with a deep flaw, an odious flaw, a flaw which excluded deserving people from the benefits of that institution. Only after more than half a century, as the university faced various pressures, did it move to integrate by seeking a change in its founding charter. We now celebrate the extraordinary contribution that our black students and graduates have made over that time, but we cannot do so without acknowledging first the terrible wrongfulness of what preceded that change.

Just a few years before the integration of Rice, President John F. Kennedy came to speak on the space program at Rice Stadium. In my favorite passage from the speech, he asked: "But why, some say, the moon? Why choose this as our goal? And they may well ask why climb the highest mountain? Why, 35 years ago, fly the Atlantic? Why does Rice play Texas?" And he answered that question with these famous words: "We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win..."

Vice President Joe Biden recently quoted those words in a speech at Rice on the Cancer Moonshot initiative. That endeavor and those cited by President Kennedy are challenges of technology and physical prowess. But the aspirations

### PRESIDENT'S NOTE

expressed are no less applicable to broader societal challenges we face. As Martin Luther King Jr. wrote, "Every step towards the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering and struggle." Realizing the justice referred to by King is hard, and it was hard for him and others to march in pursuit of that cause through the streets of Selma. Reducing inequality is hard, as it was for Rosa Parks to take a seat at the front of the bus. Achieving educational equity is hard, as we know from the experiences of the Little Rock Nine or James Meredith at the University of Mississippi. But we must choose also to pursue these goals, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, and they are just, and we are unwilling to postpone them.

A half-century ago, the first African-American students chose to come to Rice. They did not choose to come to Rice because it was easy. In Houston and at Rice, people did advocate for racial equality and equal opportunity. They did not do so because it was easy, but because it was right. And for those first students who came to Rice — Raymond Johnson as a graduate student and Jacqueline McCauley, Charles Edward Freeman III, Linda Faye Williams and Theodore Marshall Henderson as undergraduates — it was hard, even if many in the Rice community welcomed and supported them.

This year, we celebrate 60 years of black student life. We remember those who chose 60 years ago to do what was hard, but so clearly right. And we celebrate our commitment to continue to do the hard work of building a diverse and just society in which all have a chance to experience and benefit from the extraordinary opportunity that Rice provides.

**And we celebrate our commitment to continue to do the hard work of building a diverse and just society in which all have a chance to experience and benefit from the extraordinary opportunity that Rice provides.**

The weekend culminated in a gala dinner titled "Blueprint for Excellence." As I looked out across the audience, populated not only by African-American students and alumni, but also by many others there to support this milestone, it was clear that we would be so much poorer a community without these students, faculty and administrators. We would have contributed so much less to our world without these graduates of Rice. Diversity is indeed a part of the blueprint for excellence, and we at Rice are committed to that blueprint.

In his 1965 speech on the steps of the capitol in Montgomery, Ala., Martin Luther King drew on the words of Theodore Parker, a Unitarian minister from a century earlier: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." I like to think it bends as well toward a shared joy in the diversity of humanity.

It often seems, in light of the news that assaults us each day, that this must be a naïve belief. I wish every member of the Rice community could have attended this half-century milestone to see for themselves the joyfulness of that celebration. We are a vastly different university than we were when our first black students arrived, and indeed are often recognized as among the most diverse universities in the country. There is of course a great deal of work that remains to be done. We can all be inspired by what has been gained as we resolve to accept the challenges of achieving justice and equality, and to continue to do those things that are hard.

LETTERS (Samples of alumni responses to the "Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice" article featured in the Rice Magazine)

Reader Response: Fall 2016 (Some responses received related to the article)  
To the Editor

**I found all of the [Gifted and Black] stories very interesting reading.** They were well written and seemed to tell the full stories of the lives of real people, complete with the challenges and victories. It was a little sad to read of Charlie Freeman's lifelong struggles to settle in and mostly sad to hear of his untimely passing.

— Earl Rodd '70

**Thanks for the issue on black students at Rice.** As I graduated in 1969, I remember this era quite well. Like Dr. Pitzer, I would not have gone to Rice had it not integrated. I was from Port Arthur, like Charlie Freeman, but did not meet him until we attended Rice, as Port Arthur was segregated.

I remember well the TSU riots. The Houston Chronicle depicted the student dorms trashed by the police, reported that dorm mothers had watches ripped off their wrists and stomped. It was basically a police riot on a black campus; Charlie and I agreed on that. At that time, the police were paid poorly, and many were poor farm boys from East Texas with KKK leanings.

When Charlie returned to Rice, he told me of a chilling denouement to the riots. The police tried to find a reason to arrest Lee Otis Johnson, the leader of the TSU 7, but he kept clean. Two years later, they finally arrested him. A cop pulled a joint out of his pocket and said, "Lee Otis, you're going down." I cannot corroborate this story, but Lee Otis went to prison. Sadly, Charlie is no longer around to comment. He was a very interesting guy, and I'm glad to have known him.

— Richard Hencke '69

**After reading President Leebron's "President's Note,"** I felt honored to be connected to a university that demonstrates a willingness to recognize its complicity in past injustices while simultaneously embracing the challenges necessary to move closer to justice and equality for everyone. I share President Leebron's hope that "the arc of the moral universe" that Martin Luther King Jr. and Theodore Parker

made famous bends not only toward justice but also toward "a shared joy in the diversity of humanity."

This desire reminds me of one of my most formative experiences at Rice. After the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that affirmative action in higher education was unconstitutional in 1996 (Hopwood v. Texas), a decision that subsequent U.S. Supreme Court decisions invalidated, I joined with classmates and faculty to discuss how the university would respond to this ruling. All of us in attendance cherished diversity and recognized the importance of thoughtful affirmative action programs.

I am delighted to see that Rice continues to take a leading role in welcoming diversity in its students, faculty, educational opportunities, and public pronouncements. The decision to publish "Gifted and Black: A Half-Century of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice," as the cover story of the Fall 2016 magazine accords perfectly with that effort.

— David Grossman '97

**Most interesting issue yet!** I entered Rice in Sept, 1948 and things were very different then. Women weren't really part of Rice at that time since we couldn't live on campus and "A" House across the street was the only gathering place. I remember that the student body at that time thought segregation was not fair, and we petitioned to admit black students. We were told that [W.M.] Rice's will prohibited it. End of story, until the board used racial inequality to break the will so that tuition could be charged.

I had won an academic scholarship after my sophomore year but got married that summer and had my academic scholarship canceled because ... "We don't want to encourage Rice students to marry."

I had some great and not so great teachers at Rice. Among the greats were Dr. Davies in biology and Dr. Chandler in parasitology and Collis Lyle in German who recommended after the German II final that I take Italian for my third year language. We won't go into the Math 100 professor who was responsible for me believing that I couldn't do math until a great teacher at the UT Graduate School of Business showed me otherwise. After that I taught remedial math for over 20 years at Austin Community College. Rice was a long time ago and most of my classmates are gone but I hope Rice will "every day in every way get better and better."

— Doris Jane Beasley Martin '52

ASSOCIATION OF  
RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI

*Blueprint for Excellence Gala*

OCTOBER 1, 2016

**50** *years* of Black  
Undergraduate  
Life at Rice

EMAIL

**50** *years* of Black  
Undergraduate  
Life at Rice





### Reflections of the Past, Promises for the Future

A Discussion Commemorating 50 Years of Black Undergraduates at Rice

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016

5:30–9 p.m.

Ley Student Center

Rice University

The Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) kicks off its year-long celebration commemorating 50 years of black undergraduates at Rice with this panel of outstanding speakers. The discussion will include accounts of Rice's desegregation and remarks from individuals who lived through this transition. Speakers and panelists will be announced soon!

ARUBA will also unveil a university archives display highlighting black history at Rice, which will be located in the Rice Memorial Center through May 14, 2016.

REGISTER NOW >>

### Be a part of the legacy!

Rice needs your photographs and memorabilia (event programs, videos, newspapers, T-shirts, etc.) to be a part of the Rice black history archives. Please submit them today! If practical, you are encouraged to send original items. Please include the names of the individuals pictured, an item description and the year.

Email photos to [kean@rice.edu](mailto:kean@rice.edu). Mail items or drop them off between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to:

Woodson Research Center  
Fondren Library MS 44  
Rice University  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, TX 77251-1892

ARUBA 50 Years Celebration  
Email 1 of 3

## Reflections of the Past, Promises for the Future

A Discussion Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016

5:30–6:30 p.m. Reception

Executive Commons, McNair Hall  
Rice University

6:30–8:30 p.m. Program and Panel

Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall  
Rice University

Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) invite you to a panel of outstanding speakers who will provide a historical account of Rice's desegregation and first-hand perspectives on the early years of this transition. The panel discussion, along with the Annual MLK Candlelight Vigil and Celebration hosted by the Black Student Association (held on Jan. 17), kicks off a yearlong series of events celebrating 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice.

We are honored that the following speakers will participate in the evening's program:

**President David W. Leebron**

*Opening remarks*

**Centennial Historian Melissa Kean '96 and Professor Emeritus Allen Matusow**  
*The administrative and legal process of desegregating Rice within its historical context*

Alumni panel discussion featuring

**Ronald Arceneaux '74, Charles Szalkowski '70 '71, Regina Tippens '74 and Jan West '73**

*Moderated by Commissioner Gene Locke, Harris County Precinct 1*

*Life at Rice in the 1960s and 70s as the campus and Houston desegregated*

In addition, you are invited to stop by the Rice Memorial Center to view a special exhibit chronicling black history at Rice. The exhibit features material from the Woodson Research Center archives and will be on display through May 14, 2016.

*Paid parking is available in the Founder's Court Lot, Central Campus Garage or Greenbriar Lot. Parking lot locations, rates and shuttle information is available online at [parking.rice.edu](http://parking.rice.edu).*

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Fondren Library MS 44  
Rice University  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, TX 77251-1892

ARUBA 50 Years Celebration  
Email 2 of 3

### Reflections of the Past, Promises for the Future

A Discussion Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016

5:30–6:30 p.m. Reception

Executive Commons, McNair Hall

Rice University

6:30–8:30 p.m. Program and Panel

Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

Rice University

Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) invite you to a panel of outstanding speakers who will provide a historical account of Rice's desegregation and first-hand perspectives on the early years of this transition. The panel discussion, along with the Annual MLK Candlelight Vigil and Celebration hosted by the Black Student Association (held on Jan. 17), kicks off a yearlong series of events celebrating 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice.

We are honored that the following speakers will participate in the evening's program:

**President David W. Leebron**

Opening remarks

**Centennial Historian Melissa Kean '96 and Professor Emeritus Allen Matusow**

*The administrative and legal process of desegregating Rice within its historical context*

Alumni panel discussion featuring

**Ronald Arceneaux '74, Charles Szalkowski '70 '71, Regina Tippens '74 and Jan West '73**

Moderated by Commissioner Gene Locke, Harris County Precinct 1

*Life at Rice in the 1960s and 70s as the campus and Houston desegregated*

In addition, you are invited to stop by the Rice Memorial Center to view a special exhibit chronicling black history at Rice. The exhibit features material from the Woodson Research Center archives and will be on display through May 14, 2016.

*Validations will be provided to all attendees for complimentary parking. Upon arrival to McNair Hall, please visit the registration table to pick up a validation to be used at any visitors parking lot across campus.*

[REGISTER NOW >>](#)

#### Be a part of the legacy!

Rice needs your photographs and memorabilia (event programs, videos, newspapers, T-shirts, etc.) to be a part of the Rice black history archives. Please submit them today! If practical, you are encouraged to send original items. Please include the names of the individuals pictured, an item description and the year.

Email photos to [kean@rice.edu](mailto:kean@rice.edu). Mail items or drop them off between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to:

Woodson Research Center  
Fondren Library MS 44  
Rice University  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, TX 77251-1892

ARUBA 50 Years Celebration  
Email 3 of 3



Rice Athletics, the 'R' Association and  
the Association of Rice University of Black Alumni (ARUBA)  
cordially invite you to a

#### Reunion Weekend Celebrating Trailblazers in Rice Athletics

Join Rice alumni and friends in celebrating 50 years of black undergraduate life as we reflect on this milestone in Rice athletics. Three exciting events will take place over NCAA Final Four weekend as we recognize the significance of integrating Rice's sports teams and the contributions of Rice's black student-athletes to the university.

Dinner Celebration  
Friday, April 1  
The R-Room at Rice Stadium  
[More details](#)

This celebratory event will recognize the impact of Rice's first black student-athletes as Rice letter winners reflect on a 50-year legacy of excellence and perseverance.

Reception  
6:00-7:00 p.m.  
Dinner and Program  
7:00-9:00 p.m.

\$35 per person (if purchased separately)  
Included with admission are two tickets for your choice of beer or wine, hors d'oeuvres, buffet dinner, dessert and parking. A cash bar also will be available. Business casual attire suggested.

Final Four Watch Party  
Saturday, April 2  
4:30 p.m.  
Champs Galleria/Uptown Park  
1121 Uptown Park Blvd., Houston TX 77068  
[More details](#)

Not going to NRG Stadium to watch the Final Four in person? Join ARUBA and Rice Athletics as we catch up with former Rice classmates and teammates while watching the best four teams battle it out. There is no cost to attend, but there will be food and drinks available for purchase at the restaurant.

Reunion BBQ  
Sunday, April 3  
1:00-4:00 p.m.  
Gellin's BBQ  
3610 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018  
[More details](#)

Greg Gellin (Rice Football '02) opens his new restaurant location — exclusively for the Rice community — to reunite with alumni, family and friends as we conclude a weekend celebrating five decades of black student-athletes.

\$25 per person (if purchased separately)  
Included with admission is a full BBQ buffet and non-alcoholic beverages. Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

[REGISTER NOW >>](#)

Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life: Athletics Reunion Bundles  
Receive a discount when you register for more than one event through the registration link above!

A limited number of rooms are available for reservations at:  
Comfort Suites  
2808 Miller Ranch Rd, Pearland, TX 77664  
(713) 340-1705  
Group Name: Rice Black Alumni

Open to everyone in the Rice community, these events are part of the yearlong celebration of 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice. Visit [rice.edu/60years](http://rice.edu/60years) to learn more.



Rice Athletics, the 'R' Association and  
the Association of Rice University of Black Alumni (ARUBA)  
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Dinner Celebration  
Friday, April 1  
8-9 p.m.  
The R Room at Rice Stadium

Trailblazers from each sport will be honored including:  
Rodrigo Barnes '73, Stanlie Vincent '72 and Mike Tyler '72 (football),  
Leroy Marion '72 (men's basketball), Doc Darryl King '79 (men's track),  
Joseph Caillier '77 (men's track), Goya Qualls '82 (women's basketball),  
Lella Freeman '79 (women's track), Cheryl Bostick '80 (volleyball),  
Wanna Hadnot '84 (women's tennis), Don Freeman '89 (men's tennis),  
Merritt Robinson '90 (baseball), Raffi Belizaire '05 (soccer), Lauren Lewis '13 (swimming),  
and Coach Willis Wilson '82 (men's basketball)

Final Four Watch Party  
Saturday, April 2  
4:30 p.m.  
Champs Galleria/Uptown Park  
1121 Uptown Park Blvd., Houston TX 77068

Reunion BBQ  
Sunday, April 3  
1-4 p.m.  
Gellin's BBQ  
3610 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018

[REGISTER NOW >>](#)

Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life: Athletics Reunion Bundles  
Receive a discount when you register for more than one event through the registration link above!

A limited number of rooms are available for reservations.  
Offers expire this Sunday, March 20:  
Comfort Suites  
2808 Miller Ranch Rd, Pearland, TX 77664  
(713) 340-1705  
Group Name: Rice Black Alumni

Open to everyone in the Rice community, these events are part of the yearlong celebration of 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice. Visit [rice.edu/60years](http://rice.edu/60years) to learn more.



We hope you enjoyed the panel discussion 'Reflections of the Past, Promises for the Future' at Rice University last month. As a guest at the event, you helped Rice kick off our year-long celebration of 50 years of black undergraduate life. Our next great event in the series — a celebration of trailblazers in Rice Athletics — is this weekend, April 1-3, and it'd be great to see you there!

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Gellin's BBQ  
3610 Ella Blvd., Houston TX 77018

[REGISTER NOW >>](#)

Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life: Athletics Reunion Bundles  
Receive a discount when you register for more than one event through the registration link above! Online registration closes at 11:55 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, but walk-ups will be accepted at each individual event.

Open to everyone in the Rice community, these events are part of the yearlong celebration of 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice. Visit [rice.edu/60years](http://rice.edu/60years) to learn more.

## ARUBA 50 Years Athletics Emails 1 to 3





#### SAVE THE DATE

Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA)  
ask you to save the date for

**The Blueprint for Excellence Gala:**  
**Celebrating 50 years of Black Undergraduate Life**

**Saturday, October 1, 2016**  
The Bell Tower on 34th  
901 W. 34th Street, Houston, Texas 77018

Join us as we celebrate this important milestone year and honor the contributions of outstanding alumni. More details will be available soon. The gala is the featured event in a weekend filled with 50th anniversary celebration activities.

**Please make arrangements to attend events throughout the weekend of September 30-October 2.**

#### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: BLUEPRINT FOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS

We invite the Rice community to nominate ARUBA members who have made remarkable contributions to the university, to their communities and to their professions. Nominations are now being accepted through August 1. Award recipients will be recognized during the gala on October 1. [Learn more and submit your nominations.](#)



ARUBA Gala  
Email 1 of 5



Rice University, the Office of the President and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) invite you to the

**Blueprint for Excellence Gala:  
Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice**

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Reception at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner and program at 7 p.m.

**The Bell Tower on 34th**

901 W. 34th Street

Houston, Texas 77018

Your response is requested by September 19.

Black tie optional. Complimentary valet parking will be available.

During 1965 and 1966, the first black undergraduate students were admitted to Rice University, marking one of the most significant milestones in the school's history. We hope you will join us in celebration of this anniversary as we present awards for outstanding contributions in career achievement, community service and university service.

**PURCHASE TICKETS**

*If you are unable to attend the gala but would still like to support the celebration, please call 713-348-4111 or email [dpevents@rice.edu](mailto:dpevents@rice.edu) to learn how you can make a financial gift to support the gala and establishment of the ARUBA Legacy Endowment.*

**Weekend Activities**

The gala is the featured event in a weekend filled with 50th anniversary celebration activities, including an alumni party on Friday, Sept. 30, a luncheon and panel discussion on Saturday, Oct. 1, and a farewell brunch on Sunday, Oct. 2. We welcome you to reconnect and attend these activities as the Rice University community joins together in honor of this significant occasion.

[Learn more and register for this weekend of celebration.](#)

ARUBA Gala  
Email 2 of 5



Rice University, the Office of the President and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) invite you to the

**Blueprint for Excellence Gala:  
Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice**

**Saturday, October 1, 2016**  
Reception at 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner and program at 7 p.m.

This year's honorees are:

*Outstanding Achievement in Service and  
Contributions to the University Award*

Alex Byrd, Ph.D., '90  
Andrea Ehlers '88

*Outstanding Achievement in Civic and  
Community Service Award*

Joseph Branch '04

*Outstanding Achievement in Career Award*

Janis Scott '74

*Legacy Award*

Rodrigo Barnes '73  
Roland Smith, Ed.D.

**The Bell Tower on 34th**

901 W. 34th Street  
Houston, Texas 77048

Your response is requested by September 19.  
Black tie optional. Complimentary valet parking will be available.

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[Learn more and register for this weekend of celebration.](#)

ARUBA Gala  
Email 3 of 5



Rice University, the Office of the President and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) invite you to the

**Blueprint for Excellence Gala:  
Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice**

**Saturday, October 1, 2016**

Reception at 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner and program at 7 p.m.

**The Bell Tower on 34th**

901 W. 34th Street  
Houston, Texas 77048

The registration deadline for the gala is **Monday, Sept. 19**.  
Black tie optional. Complimentary valet parking will be available.

**PURCHASE TICKETS**

During 1965 and 1966, the first black undergraduate students were admitted to Rice University, marking one of the most significant milestones in the school's history. We hope you will join us in celebration of this anniversary as we present the following awards:

*Outstanding Achievement in Service and  
Contributions to the University Award*

Alex Byrd, Ph.D., '90  
Andrea Ehlers '88

*Outstanding Achievement in Civic and  
Community Service Award*

Janis Scott '74

*Outstanding Achievement in Career Award*

Joseph Branch '04

*Legacy Award*

Rodrigo Barnes '73  
Roland B. Smith, Ed.D.

If you are unable to attend the gala but would still like to support the celebration, please call 713-348-4111 or email [dpevents@rice.edu](mailto:dpevents@rice.edu) to learn how you can make a financial gift to support the gala and establishment of the ARUBA Legacy Endowment.

**Weekend Activities**

The gala is the featured event in a weekend filled with 50th anniversary celebration activities:

**Friday, Sept. 30 | 8 p.m. – midnight**

**50th Celebration Reunion Party**

Alumni, friends and students are invited to kick off the weekend at our exciting party featuring DJ Kool and Rice alumnus DJ No Request. Food and two drink tickets are included in the price of admission.

**Saturday, Oct. 1 | 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**State of Black Life at Rice University: Panel & Luncheon**

Provost Marie Lynn Miranda, Dean of Undergraduates John Hutchinson, and a panel featuring Professor Jenifer Bratter, Catherine Clack, Tamara Siler '86, students and more will discuss the state of black life at Rice today and the vision for engaging and supporting diversity. Following the panel, enjoy lunch featuring entertainment from student performers who participated in the annual BSA Soul Night event.

**Sunday, Oct. 2 | TBD**

**Blueprint for Excellence Farewell Brunch**

Join alumni and friends at a casual brunch before wrapping up the celebratory weekend.

**Register here for the weekend's events.**

Discounts are available if multiple events are purchased.

*Please note: In our previous email, we incorrectly listed award winners Janis Scott and Joseph Branch under the wrong corresponding award titles. We have corrected the error in this email.*

ARUBA Gala  
4 of 5





We are thrilled that you will be joining us on Oct. 1 at the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) Blueprint for Excellence Gala! The gala is just one of the events taking place during a weekend of celebration marking this important anniversary. We apologize for any confusion regarding the full schedule of events. If you have not yet registered for the full weekend, there is still time to do so.

#### **50th Celebration Reunion Party**

**Friday, Sept. 30, 2016 | 8 p.m. – midnight | Anderson-Clarke Center**

Rice alumni, friends, and current students are invited to kick off the Blueprint for Excellence Gala weekend at our exciting and lively 50th Celebration Reunion Party featuring DJ Kool! This event will be a fun way to reconnect and party with members of the Rice community.

#### **State of Black Life at Rice University: Panel & Luncheon**

**Saturday, Oct. 1 | 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. | BioScience Research Collaborative**

Provost Marie Lynn Miranda and Dean of Undergraduates John Hutchinson will talk about the state of black life at Rice University today and the role and vision the university has for engaging and supporting diversity. Following their remarks, hear from a panel of Rice alumni, staff and faculty as they discuss how the Rice community can continue making progress in these areas.

#### **Blueprint for Excellence Farewell Brunch**

**Sunday, Oct. 2 | 12-2:30 p.m. | Scrappy Brown's**

Enjoy good food, signature drinks, and a local atmosphere before saying farewell to your fellow Owls.

We hope that you will take a few extra minutes to register for the weekend's remaining events [here](#), and we look forward to seeing you on September 30 and October 1.

ARUBA Gala  
Registrant Email



Wow ... what an amazing weekend! Rice University and ARUBA were thrilled to celebrate the past, present and future of black alumni at Rice during the "50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice" Celebration Weekend Sept. 30–Oct. 3. We encourage you to view the stories and images from the events — which included the Blueprint of Excellence Gala, a 50th Celebration Reunion party, a "State of Black Life at Rice" panel discussion, and the President's Lecture Series with Ford Foundation President Darren Walker — on [rice.edu/50 years](https://rice.edu/50years).

You'll also want to see the [special tribute video](#) reflecting on and celebrating the milestone of the 50th anniversary of the first black undergraduate students at Rice, which debuted at the gala and was featured prominently on Rice.edu.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the announcement of the newly established ARUBA Legacy Endowment to promote diversity initiatives that will have a substantial impact on the black community at Rice. The fund will be administered by the Office of Multicultural Affairs under the dean of undergraduates and will support initiatives that further ARUBA's mission, such as:

- Enhanced support for student organizations, study abroad programs and other student-oriented opportunities.
- Expenses related to student internships, externships and job searches.
- Enhanced programming to assist in retaining black students at Rice.
- Funding for guest faculty lecturers and speakers who will enhance learning opportunities for black students or present culturally relevant topics.

We, the chairs, want to make sure that this 50th Celebration and commemoration does not end with the culmination of events from the past year. We and the university are committed to creating a lasting legacy to enhance the black community at Rice for the next 50 years and beyond. To support the ARUBA Legacy Endowment, please contact Ginny Jones at [gbjones@rice.edu](mailto:gbjones@rice.edu) or 713-348-2096, or [make a gift online](#) at [giving.rice.edu](https://giving.rice.edu) and designate your gift to the "ARUBA Legacy Fund."

Thank you, in advance, for your support of the Rice community!

Sincerely,

Your 50th Anniversary Co-Chairs

Donald Bowers '90  
[dnbowers2@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:dnbowers2@alumni.rice.edu)

Akilah Mance '05  
[akilah.mance@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:akilah.mance@alumni.rice.edu)

Angela Berry Roberson '90  
[angieberry@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:angieberry@alumni.rice.edu)

Monique Shankle '86  
[mshankle@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:mshankle@alumni.rice.edu)

ARUBA Gala  
5 of 5



WEB

**50** years of Black  
Undergraduate  
Life at Rice

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BLACK UNDERGRADUATE LIFE

[HTTP://ALUMNI.RICE.EDU/EVENTS/50-YEARS-OF-BLACK-UNDERGRADUATE-LIFE](http://alumni.rice.edu/events/50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [alumni.rice.edu/events/50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life](http://alumni.rice.edu/events/50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life). The page features the Rice Alumni logo and a navigation menu with links: HOME, ABOUT, VOLUNTEER, GROUPS & NETWORKS, EVENTS, STORIES, and TRAVEL & LEARNING. On the left, a sidebar titled "CELEBRATING 50 YEARS" lists various resources. The main content area has a large banner with five portraits of Black students and the text "50 years of Black Undergraduate Life". Below the banner, a paragraph describes the historical significance of the first Black undergraduate students in 1965 and 1966, and the yearlong celebration events.

**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**

- LEGACY ENDOWMENT
- VIDEO: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
- 2016 BLUEPRINT FOR EXCELLENCE GALA
- 2016 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES
- YEAR IN REVIEW
- 50TH CELEBRATION LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS
- BLACK HISTORY AT RICE TIMELINE
- STAY CONNECTED

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BLACK UNDERGRADUATE LIFE

50 years of Black Undergraduate Life

During 1965 and 1966, the first black undergraduate students were admitted to Rice University, marking one of the most significant milestones in the school's history. In celebration of 50 years of black undergraduate life, Rice University, in conjunction with the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) and partners across campus, is featuring a yearlong series of events designed to reflect upon Rice's history, to celebrate cultural heritage and inclusiveness, and to foster the exchange of ideas across generations. Rice alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents and friends are all welcome on this journey to chart an ever-brighter future for Rice.



# ARUBA

## HTTP://ALUMNI.RICE.EDU/ARUBA

Association of Rice Univers... x

alumni.rice.edu/aruba

Volunteer Alumni Directory Center for Career Development Contact Us

Rice University

RICE ALUMNI

Enter Search

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HOME ABOUT VOLUNTEER GROUPS & NETWORKS EVENTS STORIES TRAVEL & LEARNING

GROUPS & NETWORKS

REGIONAL GROUPS

AFFINITY GROUPS

► Association of Rice University Black Alumni

Future Alumni

Naming Contest for Alumni & Student Mentoring Hub

Graduate Alumni Network

Master of Liberal Studies Alumni Society

Parents & Families

Rice Alumni Pride

Rice Engineering Alumni

Rice University Community of Asian Alumni

Rice University Lawyer Alumni

ALUMNI NETWORKS

TOOLS & RESOURCES

YOUNG ALUMNI

RICE ALUMNI | ARUBA

ASSOCIATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI

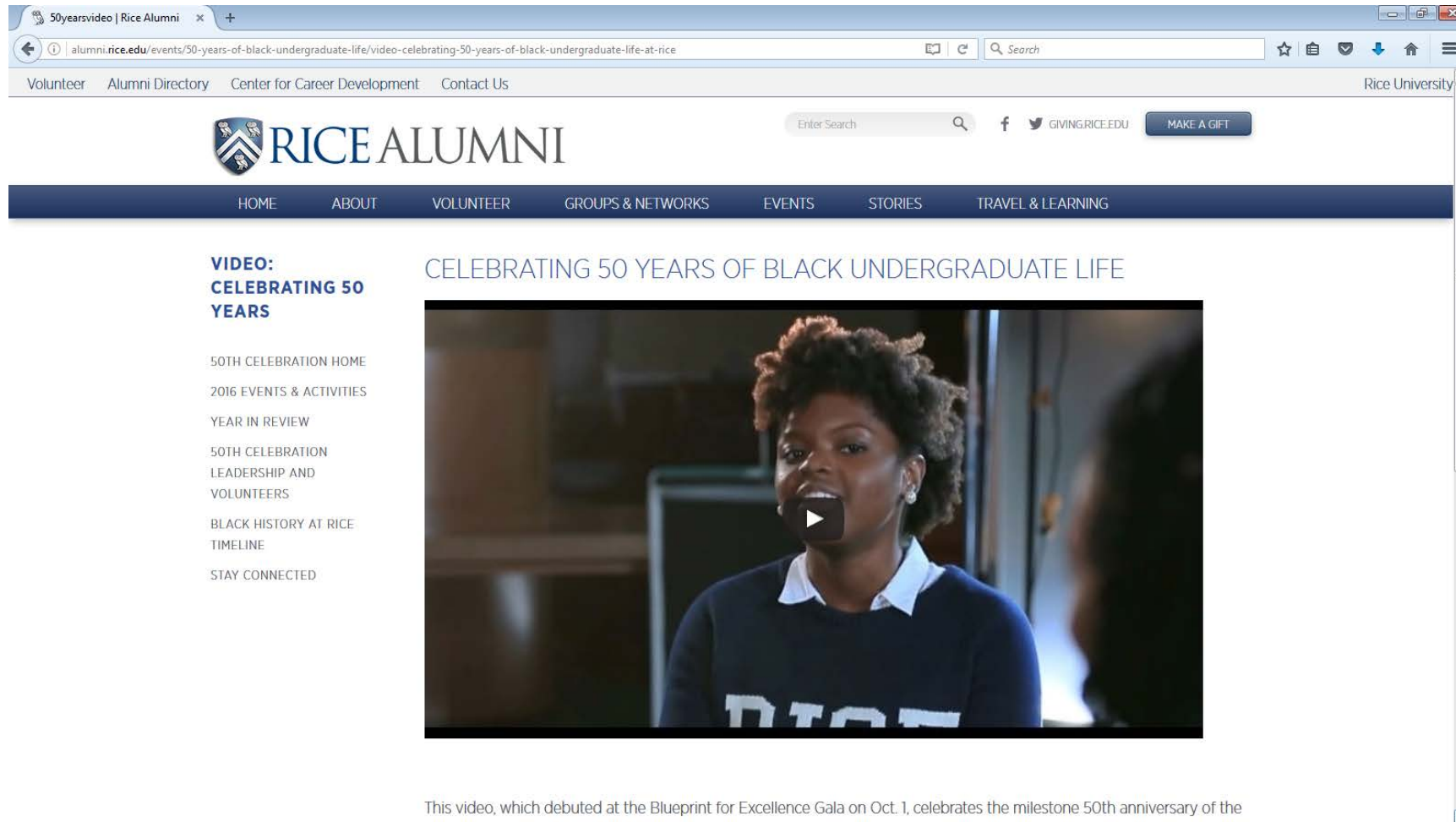


ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF

# VIDEO: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

HTTP://ALUMNI.RICE.EDU/EVENTS/50-YEARS-OF-BLACK-UNDERGRADUATE-LIFE/VIDEO-CELEBRATING-50-YEARS-OF-BLACK-UNDERGRADUATE-LIFE-AT-RICE



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Rice Alumni website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://alumni.rice.edu/events/50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life/video-celebrating-50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life-at-rice>. The website header includes the Rice Alumni logo, a search bar, and social media links for Facebook and Twitter. A navigation menu at the top lists: HOME, ABOUT, VOLUNTEER, GROUPS & NETWORKS, EVENTS, STORIES, and TRAVEL & LEARNING. The main content area features the title "VIDEO: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS" in blue, followed by the subtitle "CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BLACK UNDERGRADUATE LIFE". Below the title is a list of links: 50TH CELEBRATION HOME, 2016 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES, YEAR IN REVIEW, 50TH CELEBRATION LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS, BLACK HISTORY AT RICE TIMELINE, and STAY CONNECTED. The central focus is a large video player showing a woman with curly hair, wearing a blue Rice University sweatshirt, smiling. A play button is overlaid on the video. At the bottom of the page, a caption reads: "This video, which debuted at the Blueprint for Excellence Gala on Oct. 1, celebrates the milestone 50th anniversary of the".

**VIDEO: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BLACK UNDERGRADUATE LIFE

50TH CELEBRATION HOME  
2016 EVENTS & ACTIVITIES  
YEAR IN REVIEW  
50TH CELEBRATION LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS  
BLACK HISTORY AT RICE TIMELINE  
STAY CONNECTED

This video, which debuted at the Blueprint for Excellence Gala on Oct. 1, celebrates the milestone 50th anniversary of the

# ARUBA LEGACY ENDOWMENT

HTTP://ALUMNI.RICE.EDU/EVENTS/50-YEARS-OF-BLACK-UNDERGRADUATE-LIFE/LEGACY-ENDOWMENT

Legacy Endowment | Rice ...

alumni.rice.edu/events/50-years-of-black-undergraduate-life/legacy-endowment

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LEGACY  
ENDOWMENT

50TH CELEBRATION HOME

VIDEO: CELEBRATING 50  
YEARS


YEAR IN REVIEW

50TH CELEBRATION  
LEADERSHIP AND  
VOLUNTEERS

BLACK HISTORY AT RICE  
TIMELINE

STAY CONNECTED

ARUBA LEGACY ENDOWMENT



Rice University and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) are pleased to announce the establishment of the Legacy Endowment to promote diversity initiatives and substantially impact the black community at Rice. The fund will be administered by the Office of Multicultural Affairs under the Dean of Undergraduates and will support initiatives that further ARUBA's mission, such as:

- Enhanced support for student organizations, study abroad programs and other student-oriented opportunities.
- Expenses related to student internships, externships and job searches.
- Enhanced programming to assist in retaining black students at Rice.
- Funding for guest faculty lecturers and speakers who will enhance learning opportunities for black students or present culturally relevant topics.


[Make a gift online](#) at giving.rice.edu and designate your gift to the ARUBA Legacy Fund. For more information about the ARUBA Legacy Endowment, please contact Ginny Jones at [gbyones@rice.edu](mailto:gbyones@rice.edu) or 713-348-2096.

SUPPORT THE LEGACY  
ENDOWMENT

Make a gift online at [giving.rice.edu](http://giving.rice.edu) and designate your gift to the ARUBA Legacy Fund.

MAKE A GIFT

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

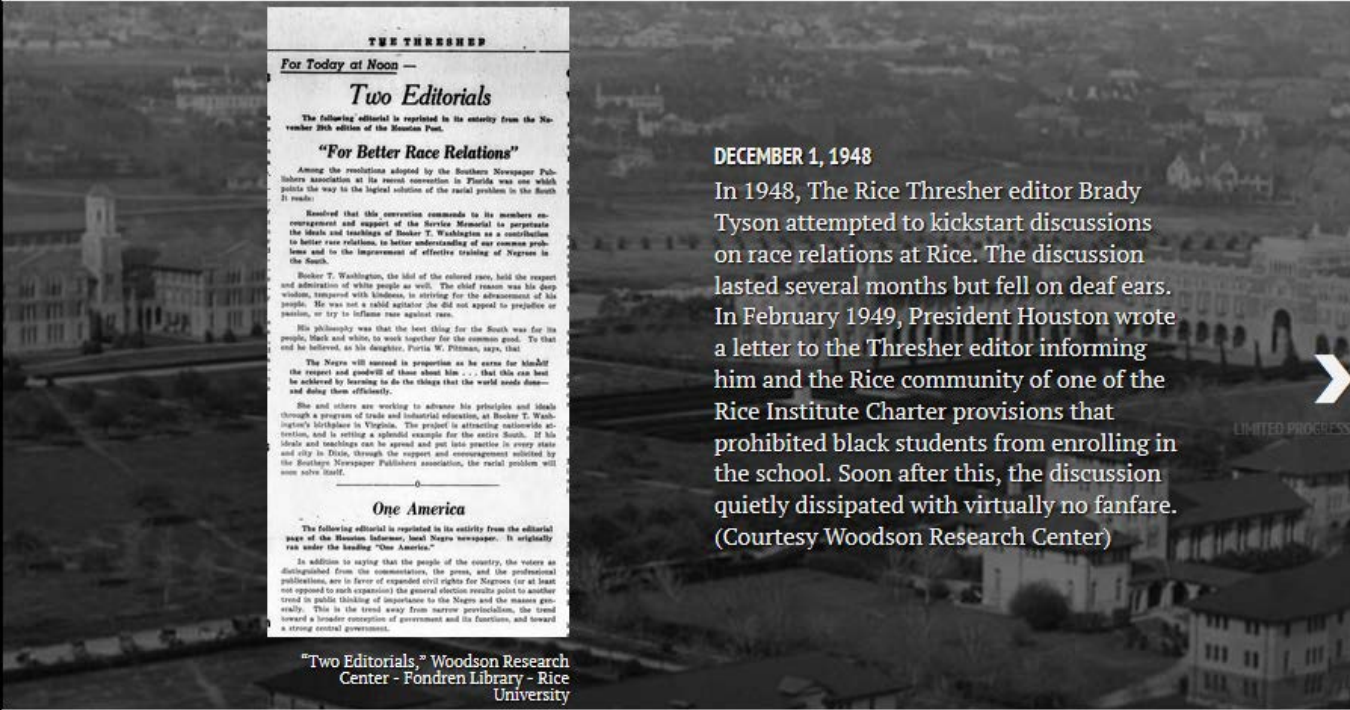


Watch the video



# BLACK HISTORY AT RICE TIMELINE

[HTTP://ALUMNI.RICE.EDU/BLACK-HISTORY-AT-RICE-TIMELINE](http://alumni.rice.edu/black-history-at-rice-timeline)



**THE THRESHER**  
For Today at Noon —  
*Two Editorials*  
The following editorial is reprinted in its entirety from the November 28th edition of the Houston Post.

**"For Better Race Relations"**  
Among the resolutions adopted by the Southern Newspaper Publishers association at its recent convention in Florida was one which points the way to the logical solution of the racial problem in the South. It reads:  
Resolved that this convention commends to its members encouragement and support of the Service Memorial to perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington as a contribution to better race relations, to better understanding of our common problems and to the improvement of effective training of Negroes in the South.  
Booker T. Washington, the idol of the colored race, held the respect and admiration of white people as well. The chief reason was his deep wisdom, tempered with kindness, in striving for the advancement of his people. He was not a rabid agitator; he did not appeal to prejudice or passion, or try to inflame race against race.  
His philosophy was that the best thing for the South was for its people, black and white, to work together for the common good. To that end he believed, as his daughter, Fortia W. Pittman, says, that  
The Negro will succeed in proportion as he serves for himself the respect and goodwill of those about him . . . that this can best be achieved by learning to do the things that the world needs done—and doing them efficiently.  
She and others are working to advance his principles and ideals through a program of trade and industrial education, at Booker T. Washington's birthplace in Virginia. The project is attracting nationwide attention, and is setting a splendid example for the entire South. If his ideals and teachings can be spread and put into practice in every state and city in this, through the support and encouragement solicited by the Southern Newspaper Publishers association, the racial problem will soon solve itself.

**One America**  
The following editorial is reprinted in its entirety from the editorial page of the Houston Informer, a local Negro newspaper. It originally ran under the heading "One America."  
In addition to saying that the people of the country, the voters as distinguished from the commentators, the press, and the professional publications, are in favor of expanded civil rights for Negroes (or at least not opposed to such expansion) the general election results point to another trend in public thinking of importance to the Negro and the nation generally. This is the trend away from narrow provincialism, the trend toward a broader conception of government and its functions, and toward a strong central government.

**DECEMBER 1, 1948**  
In 1948, The Rice Thresher editor Brady Tyson attempted to kickstart discussions on race relations at Rice. The discussion lasted several months but fell on deaf ears. In February 1949, President Houston wrote a letter to the Thresher editor informing him and the Rice community of one of the Rice Institute Charter provisions that prohibited black students from enrolling in the school. Soon after this, the discussion quietly dissipated with virtually no fanfare. (Courtesy Woodson Research Center)

**"Two Editorials," Woodson Research Center - Fondren Library - Rice University**

Timeline JS

In 1948, Th...

Limited progre...

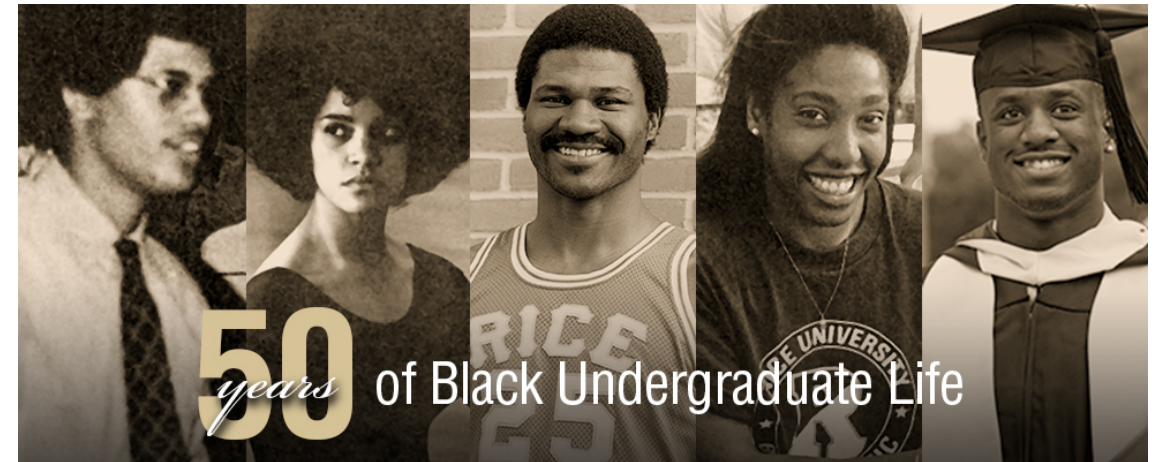
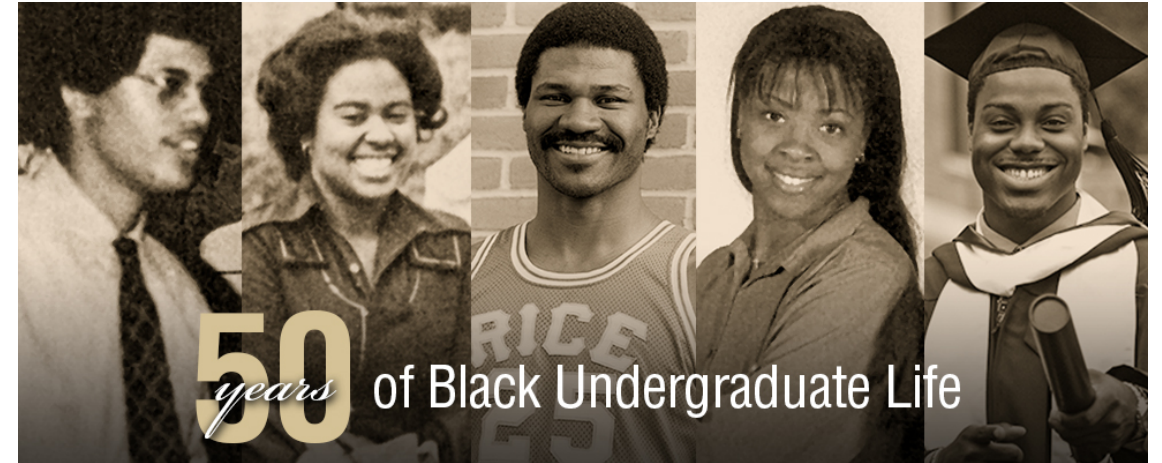
Board res...

President Pitze...

Trust...

Rice's...

# WEB BANNERS







# EVENTS

**50** years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice



# TRAILBLAZERS IN RICE ATHLETICS PROGRAM

Save the date for a signature gala event on October 1, 2016.  
For the latest details about this and other activities celebrating  
50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice, visit [rice.edu/50years](http://rice.edu/50years).

## *50th Anniversary Chairs*

Akilah Mance '05, president, Association of Rice University Black Alumni  
Donald Bowers '91  
Angela Berry Roberson '90  
Monique Shankle '86

## *Special Thanks*

Association of Rice University Black Alumni  
Development and Alumni Relations  
Office of the President  
Office of the Provost  
Public Affairs  
The "R" Association  
Rice Athletics



**50** years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice



## *Celebrating Trailblazers in Rice Athletics*



Friday, April 1  
The "R" Room at Rice Stadium

## *Celebrating Trailblazers in Rice Athletics*

We are proud to recognize the following individuals who are among the first  
black student-athletes and coaches to compete in their respective sports.

### **FOOTBALL**

Stahlé Vincent '72, Mike Tyler '72\*, Rodrigo Barnes '73

### **MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Leroy Marion '72\*, Head Coach Willis Wilson '82 (1992–2008)

### **MEN'S TRACK**

Joseph Callier '77, Darryl "Doc" King '79

### **WOMEN'S TRACK**

Leila Freeman '79

### **VOLLEYBALL**

Denise Bostick '80

### **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

Goya Qualls '82

### **WOMEN'S TENNIS**

Wanna Hadnott '84

### **MEN'S TENNIS**

Don Freeman '89

### **BASEBALL**

Merritt Robinson '90

### **SOCCER**

Raffi Belizaire '05

### **SWIMMING**

Lauren Lewis '13

\*Deceased

## *Reception*

6:00 p.m.

## *Welcome*

Jamila Nelson Mensah '00, Women's Track  
Bobby Tudor '82, chairman, Rice Board of Trustees  
David W. Leebron, president, Rice University  
Joe Karlgaard, director, Athletics, Recreation and Lifetime Fitness

## *Invocation*

Devon Fantair '08, Men's Track

## *Buffet Dinner*

## *Remarks*

7:00 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF RICE TRAILBLAZERS  
Donald Bowers '90, Football

"BLAZING A TRAIL"  
Stahlé Vincent '72, Football

"BRIDGING THE GAP"  
Willis Wilson '82, Men's Basketball

"CARRYING THE TORCH"  
Nakachi "Nikki" Maduka '15, Women's Basketball

## *Closing*

Akilah Mance '05, president, Association of Rice University Black Alumni

# GALA PRINT INVITATION

## *50th Anniversary Chairs*

AKILAH MANCE '05  
PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI

ANGELA BERRY-ROBERSON '90

DONALD BOWERS '91

MONIQUE SHANKLE '86

## *Honorary Chairs*

TEDDY ADAMS '91

TEVEIA ROSE BARNES '75

TERRENCE GEE '86

RAYMOND JOHNSON, PH.D. '69

JEFF ROSE '77



ASSOCIATION OF  
RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI

## *Blueprint for Excellence Gala*

**50**  
*years*  
of Black  
Undergraduate  
Life at Rice

## *Celebrating 50 Years*

Rice University, the Office of the President and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) invite you to the Blueprint for Excellence Gala: Celebrating 50 Years of Black Undergraduate Life at Rice. During 1965 and 1966, the first black undergraduate students were admitted to Rice University, marking one of the most significant milestones in the school's history. Join us in celebrating this important anniversary by recognizing the ARUBA members who have made remarkable contributions to the university, their communities and their professions.

## *Weekend Activities*

The gala is the featured event during a weekend of activities honoring the 50th celebration. Please make arrangements to attend events throughout the weekend of September 30–October 2.

ALL-ALUMNI PARTY  
Friday, September 30

LUNCHEON & PANEL DISCUSSION  
Saturday, October 1

SUNDAY BRUNCH  
Sunday, October 2

Visit [rice.edu/50years](http://rice.edu/50years) for more details and to register

RICE UNIVERSITY, THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND  
THE ASSOCIATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI  
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE

## *Blueprint for Excellence Gala*

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE  
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN SERVICE AND  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY AWARD  
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CIVIC  
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD  
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CAREER AWARD  
LEGACY AWARD



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016

RECEPTION AT 6:30 P.M.  
DINNER AND PROGRAM AT 7:00 P.M.

THE BELL TOWER ON 34TH  
901 W. 34TH ST.  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77018

BLACK TIE OPTIONAL  
COMPLIMENTARY VALET PARKING AVAILABLE  
KINDLY REPLY BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

REPLY CARD ENCLOSED OR REGISTER ONLINE AT [RICE.EDU/50YEARS](http://RICE.EDU/50YEARS)



## Reservation Card

Saturday, October 1, 2016 • Kindly reply by Monday, September 19

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

*(as you wish to be recognized in printed materials)*

THE PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENING WILL BE USED TO ESTABLISH A LEGACY ENDOWMENT TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY INITIATIVES AT RICE UNIVERSITY AND SUBSTANTIALLY IMPACT THE BLACK COMMUNITY ON CAMPUS.

### Underwriting

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25,000 – BENEFACTOR

*Priority gala seating for 10, VIP reception with gala honorees, and 4 invitations to breakfast with key university and community leaders*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10,000 – ADVOCATE

*Priority gala seating for 10, VIP reception with gala honorees, and 2 invitations to breakfast with key university and community leaders*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5,000 – SUPPORTER

*Priority gala seating for 10 and VIP reception with gala honorees*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$2,500 – FRIEND

*Gala seating for 10 and VIP reception with gala honorees*

### Individual Tickets

\_\_\_\_\_ \$125 PER PERSON

*The fair market value is \$125 per ticket, \$1,250 per table*

### Additional Contribution

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TO SUPPORT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY ARUBA ENDOWMENT.

*Payment may be made on the reverse, or online at [rice.edu/50years](http://rice.edu/50years)*

## Guests / Dietary Restrictions

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## Payment Information

☐ CHECK (PLEASE ENCLOSE A CHECK PAYABLE TO RICE UNIVERSITY)

☐ MASTERCARD    ☐ VISA    ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXP (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

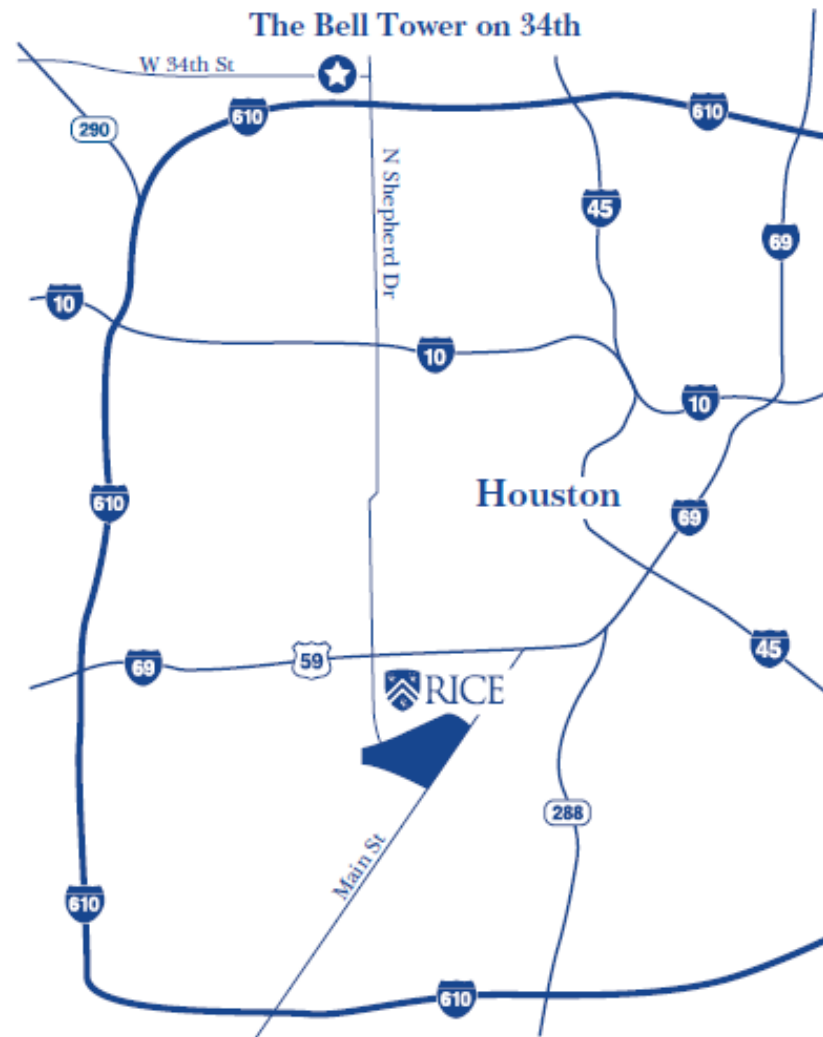
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

OR REGISTER ONLINE AT [RICE.EDU/50YEARS](http://RICE.EDU/50YEARS)

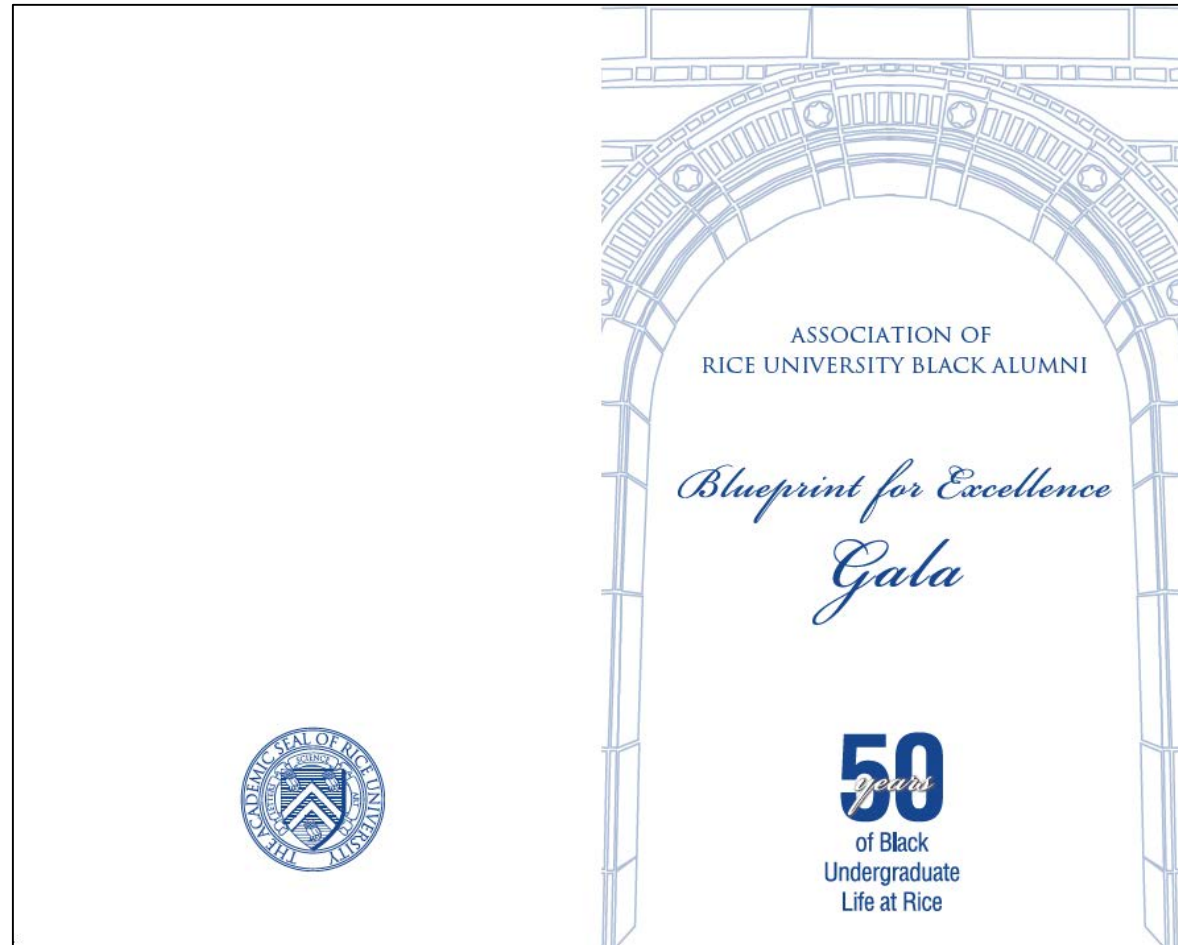
*For additional inquiries, please call 713-348-4111  
or email [dpevents@rice.edu](mailto:dpevents@rice.edu)*

# *Gala Location*

The Bell Tower on 34th



# BLUEPRINT FOR EXCELLENCE GALA PROGRAM





ASSOCIATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI

# *Blueprint for Excellence Gala*

OCTOBER 1, 2016

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## *Reception*

### *Welcome*

AKILAH MANCE '05

50TH ANNIVERSARY CO-CHAIR & ARUBA PRESIDENT

### *Invocation*

### *Dinner*

## *Musical Performance*

ARUBA QUARTET

GABE BAKER '14, MICHAEL FULLER '15, ANDREW GRIFFIN '11 AND CHELSEA SHARPE '15

## *Presentation of Awards by 50th Co-Chairs*

DONALD N. BOWERS '90, AKILAH MANCE '05,

ANGELA BERRY ROBERSON '90, MONIQUE SHANKLE '86

### *Video*

### *Remarks*

DAVID W. LEEBRON

PRESIDENT, RICE UNIVERSITY

## *Dessert Reception*

*Dear Rice Alumni and Friends,*

Thank you for joining us for this special evening honoring 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice University. We are at a moment in our history in which we can celebrate the remarkable diversity of our campus, yet also challenge ourselves to envision an ever-brighter and a more inclusive future. What continues to drive us forward is a true partnership between the university and its alumni and students. Throughout this year, we have celebrated many of the contributions that have advanced this partnership, beginning with the efforts of Rice's first black student, Raymond Johnson '69, and Rice's first black undergraduate students: Jacqueline McCauley, Charles Edward Freeman III, Ted Henderson '70 and Linda Faye Williams '70. We owe it to these pioneers to continue building on their legacy.

We are especially pleased to recognize some of the exemplary individuals who have continued to build upon this legacy by dedicating so much of their time, talents and resources to the continued evolution of our university. Tonight's honorees represent a range of important contributions to Rice, to Houston and to our nation, from those who advocate for social justice and greater representation, to those whose professional accomplishments bring distinction to Rice, to dedicated educators who are mentoring new generations of students who will go on to shape the world. We are all indebted to and inspired by these award winners who contribute so enthusiastically to Rice's progress. On behalf of Rice, congratulations and thank you to each of them.

This weekend's events, and indeed the yearlong celebration, would not be possible without our extended community of volunteers and financial supporters, including the 50th celebration co-chairs and volunteer commission, and numerous other alumni, students, faculty, staff and community members. ARUBA is a vibrant force in the Rice community, and we are especially grateful for the vision and hard work of its members. As we look forward, we recognize the importance of continuing these efforts, not just this year but in the many years to come.

Thank you again for being part of this significant occasion.

Warmly and with gratitude,

David W. Leebron  
President

## *Celebrating 50 Years*

During 1965 and 1966, the first black undergraduate students were admitted to Rice University, marking one of the most significant milestones in the school's history. In celebration of 50 years of black undergraduate life, Rice University, the Office of the President and the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) embarked on a yearlong series of events designed to reflect upon Rice's history, to celebrate culture and inclusiveness, and to foster the exchange of ideas across generations. Visit [rice.edu/50years](http://rice.edu/50years) for more details.

## *Association of Rice University Black Alumni*

The Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) provides opportunities for Rice's black alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff to reinforce relationships with each other and with the Rice community as a whole. We strive to stimulate intellectual and social participation, encourage contributions to the university's ongoing efforts to enhance diversity, and strengthen the bond of understanding between the university and its black alumni community. To find out how to get involved, visit [alumni.rice.edu/aruba](http://alumni.rice.edu/aruba).

## *50th Anniversary Legacy Endowment*

The proceeds from this evening will be used to establish a legacy endowment to promote diversity initiatives at Rice University and substantially impact the black community on campus.

# *Blueprint for Excellence Awards*

## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY

Recognizes ARUBA alumni who rendered significant, sustained and voluntary contributions of energy, time and creativity towards the advancement of the university, particularly efforts to increase diversity at the university.

## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CIVIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Recognizes ARUBA alumni who rendered significant, sustained and voluntary contributions of time, energy and talent towards the advancement of their community, including through their profession or through elected or appointed office.

## OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CAREER

Recognizes ARUBA alumni who have advanced the reputation and standards of excellence at Rice University through distinctive professional careers, such as through significant innovations or research findings, demonstrated expertise and leadership, or excellence recognized by colleagues in one's profession.

## LEGACY AWARD

The Legacy Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Association of Rice University Black Alumni. The award recognizes alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Rice who have advanced the interests and needs of the black community at Rice through their exceptional efforts, commitment and dedication.

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## HONORED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In this milestone anniversary year, ARUBA trailblazer Jan West '73 was honored by the Board of Trustees for her exemplary service to the university.

# *Outstanding Achievement in Service and Contributions to the University*

ALEX BYRD, PH.D., '90

For many years, Alex Byrd has helped shape Rice culture through his teaching, research, mentorship and advocacy. His exceptional service can be traced back to his student days at Rice, when he led a summer school program for junior high students from an underserved community, created and led the inaugural "State of Black Rice" symposium, and lent his energy and ideas to the creation of a Multicultural Affairs office at Rice.

Upon receiving his Ph.D. in history from Duke, Alex joined Rice's Department of History as a tenure-track faculty member and extended his commitment to enhancing Rice, conducting vital historical research and improving the experiences of students of color on campus. A leading expert on Afro America, especially black life in the Atlantic World and Jim Crow South, he has authored several award-winning essays and books, including "Captives and Voyagers," winner of the Wesley Logan Prize. He has received numerous undergraduate teaching awards for challenging and inspiring students in courses such as the Atlantic Slave Trade, the Making of Afro America, Violence Towards African Americans, Comparative Black History and more. He has been equally influential outside the classroom as the former master of Wiess College, a role in which he consistently offered his home in support of African-American students.



## *Outstanding Achievement in Service and Contributions to the University*

ANDREA EHLERS '88

Andrea Ehlers' sense of gratitude to Rice has fueled a lifelong passion for advancing the university and its mission to achieve academic excellence through diversity. Her journey of service began during her student days, when she was active in her college and worked to enhance the Career Services Center. After graduating, she served on the Association of Rice Alumni board, founded the Rice Business and Professional Women Group, helped organize the Young Alumni Homecoming tent event for many years and contributed financially to the documentary "Young, Gifted and Black: Reflections from Black Alumni" for Rice's Centennial Celebration in 2012.

Her proudest accomplishment is conceiving the RICE-TMS scholarship program (Recruitment Into Collegiate Education Through Minority Scholarships) as a direct response to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' Hopwood decision, which limited consideration of race in college admissions decision making. With the assistance of others from Rice who shared her good intentions, Andrea sought to create a merit-based award for underrepresented students that did not violate the ruling. Thanks in large part to her efforts, the program helped sustain Rice's minority admissions during a difficult period of transition by raising nearly \$1 million in scholarship funding for over 70 undergraduate and graduate students of color.

## *Outstanding Achievement in Career*

JOSEPH BRANCH '04

Over the course of his career, Rice MBA alumnus Joseph "Joe" Branch has built a remarkable reputation as an entrepreneur, mentor, savvy businessman and values-driven leader who embraces the Rice spirit of unconventional wisdom. He has exemplified these qualities while working at some of the most well-known sports companies in the world, including Nike, the National Basketball Association, Landmark Sports and Roc Nation.

After earning his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University, Joe enrolled as an MBA student at Rice's Jones Graduate School of Business, during which time he worked as an intern in basketball operations and launched a nonprofit called *uwantgame*, which provides student-athletes in New York with a network of mentors, advisors and innovative curriculum designed to teach young leaders the skills to be successful in the "game of life."

Joe began his postgraduate career at Nike, where he leveraged his academic and athletic success to become a leader in sports marketing and execute multimillion dollar brand campaigns. During his career with the NBA, he assisted in building out the Developmental League and expanded the league's international network. Recently, Joe transformed his passion for sports into a career at Roc Nation, a sports agency founded by musician Jay-Z. Charged with building its basketball operations, he has led Roc Nation to become one of the most respected agencies in the business. In two seasons, the company has signed four first-round draft picks, along with several other new and current NBA players.

Joe currently teaches graduate level sports marketing classes at Long Island University Brooklyn, and beginning this semester, will teach at Rice University.

## *Outstanding Achievement in Civic and Community Service*

JANIS SCOTT '74

Janis Scott has been described as “one of the most notable citizens in the city of Houston” for her critical input, advocacy and support on issues important to Houstonians, especially in areas related to public transportation and its impact on underserved communities. Known affectionately as the “Bus Lady” by students and community members alike, she not only dedicates her personal time to champion reliable transit, but she also uses the bus system to enrich the lives of those around her, whether she is providing directions to strangers, helping Rice students explore Houston’s diverse communities and cultural venues, or encouraging bus riders to register to vote.

Recently, Janis’ depth of knowledge and advocacy played an important role in a voters’ rights case regarding the “Texas photo ID law.” When Rice Professor Chandler Davidson was called to serve as an expert witness by the Justice Department in Corpus Christi, he sought Janis’ assistance in personally accompanying him on the bus to the locations where a state ID could be obtained. This aided in determining whether elderly citizens and people in underserved communities faced burdens of accessibility to get to these locations.

Janis also has participated in helping various agencies resettle refugees from other nations by teaching them how to use public transit. Her expertise has been highlighted in the local news media, on transit websites and, last year, in the nationally syndicated PBS NewsHour program, which highlighted the revamped Houston metro system. Most recently, she was featured in a full page transit advertisement. She was asked to pick a favorite transit location for the photo shoot, and naturally she chose the bus stop and METRORail station by Rice University.

## *Legacy Award*

RODRIGO BARNES '73

A pioneer in Rice Athletics, Rodrigo Barnes was one of the university’s first African-American student-athletes, a distinction he shares with fellow football players Stahlé Vincent and Mike Tyler. He played linebacker for the Rice Owls football team and was the first African-American to be named to an All-Southwest Conference defensive team. As a student, he helped organize the Black Student Union and advocated for greater representation among teachers and coaches.

After graduating from Rice with a bachelor’s degree in sociology, behavioral science, and health and physical education, he entered the National Football League (NFL) draft in 1973 and was selected by the Dallas Cowboys. In mid-season of 1974, he was traded to the New England Patriots and completed the 1975 season with the Miami Dolphins. He played for the Oakland Raiders in 1976 and helped them win Super Bowl XI. Injuries forced him to retire from professional football in 1977. Rodrigo was inducted into the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011.

After his NFL career, Rodrigo was a general manager and coach in the United States Football League from 1979 to 1981. He earned a master’s degree in education from Prairie View A&M University, with certifications in guidance, counseling and mid-management. His love for educating youth led him to establish a career in education in 1983. After working with various districts, he joined the Garland Independent School District in the Dallas–Fort Worth area in 2007 and has been with the Garland Alternative Education Center since 2011.

## *Legacy Award*

ROLAND B. SMITH, ED.D.

A highly regarded scholar, teacher and mentor of students, Roland Smith has demonstrated extraordinary commitment to advancing black student life at Rice University and beyond. The associate provost and adjunct professor of sociology at Rice, he designed and now oversees the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and chairs the Rice Council on Diversity and Inclusion. He mentors students while serving on the Graduate Council and Institutional Review Board and is the principal investigator/coordinator for the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program, which supports minority undergraduate students who will pursue a Ph.D. in core fields in the arts and sciences. He has served as an advisor to the Black Student Association, the Melodious Voices of Praise and the Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice and has sponsored students to attend major diversity related conferences. Roland has been an active associate of Will Rice College and was honored by Will Rice in 2016 as the Outstanding Faculty Associate.

Roland came to Rice from the University of Notre Dame, where he served as executive assistant to the president, concurrent associate professor of sociology and founding director of the Center for Educational Opportunity.

Among his many distinctions, Roland served as board chair of the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education. He was appointed to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission established by the 98th U.S. Congress and chaired by Coretta Scott King. More recently, he served as the charter president of the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education. In 2015, he was inducted into the 100 Black Men of Metropolitan Houston, an organization dedicated to improving quality of life for African-Americans and other minorities.

Born in Washington, D.C., Roland holds a B.A. in anthropology and sociology from Bowie State University, a M.P.A. from Indiana University and an Ed.D. from Harvard University.

## *Honored by the Board of Trustees in Milestone Year*

JAN WEST '73

On September 15, 2016, Jan West '73 was recognized by the Rice Board of Trustees for her years of exemplary service to the university.

Jan began her career as assistant director of admissions shortly after graduating from Rice with a B.A. in psychology. She transferred to Personnel (now Human Resources) in 1977 and served as employment manager until she left Rice in 1993. She returned to Rice in 2007 to work in the Office of Public Affairs as the assistant director of Minority Community Affairs — a division now known as Multicultural Community Relations.

Both as an alumna and a dedicated member of Rice's staff, Jan has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to making the Rice community stronger, more connected and more diverse. She helped organize the university's quarterly Community Dialogue Luncheons, which are designed to bring together community leaders and people from all backgrounds, and has contributed to several of her department's scholarship and outreach programs. She regularly reaches out to Houston K-12 students and encourages them to finish high school and go to college, in addition to spending time with student groups at Rice, including the Black Student Association and the Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice. Jan also is an associate at Duncan College and was selected as its Distinguished University Associate for the 2015–2016 academic year.

Jan is a strong supporter of black alumni activities. She was a key member of the team that created the award-winning documentary "Young, Gifted and Black: Reflections of Rice University Black Alumni" for Rice's centennial celebration. In 2012, she was recognized with the Chair's Award at the "Blueprint for Excellence Awards: Centennial Celebration" and was among 100 staff members at Rice to be recognized as a Centennial Star for their contributions to excellence.



# *A Brief History*

## 50 YEARS OF BLACK UNDERGRADUATE LIFE AT RICE

In 1965, Jacqueline McCauley and Charles Edward Freeman III became the first black undergraduate students to enroll at Rice. The following year, Ted Henderson '70 and Linda Faye Williams '70 enrolled at Rice and would become the first black undergraduate students to earn a Rice degree. We celebrate the contributions of these individuals and the many pioneers who came before and since who have made remarkable contributions to Rice. Visit [rice.edu/50years](http://rice.edu/50years) to view the full timeline.

**1963** Rice trustees file a lawsuit to modify the university's 1891 charter prohibiting black students from attending Rice.

**1964** Graduate student Raymond Johnson Ph.D. '69 enrolls at Rice after the charter is officially amended to admit capable students regardless of color.

**1965** Jacqueline McCauley and Charles Edward Freeman III become the first black undergraduate students to enroll at Rice. Freeman would ultimately earn a degree from Lamar University in Beaumont, and McCauley became a Houston radio personality.

**1966** Theodore "Ted" Marshall Henderson '70 and Linda Faye Williams '70 enroll at Rice as the first undergraduate students who would subsequently obtain their degrees from Rice.

**1969** Raymond Johnson '69 earns his Ph.D. in mathematics, becoming the first black student to earn a Rice degree. He would go on to become a longtime professor at the University of Maryland before returning to Rice as the W.L. Moody Jr. Visiting Professor of Mathematics in 2009.

**1970** Henderson '70 and Williams '70 are the first black undergraduate students to earn Rice degrees. Henderson earns a B.A. in anthropology and goes on to work in the hospitality industry in Hawaii, and Williams earns a B.A. in English and political science, later becoming a respected professor in political science and a tireless advocate for racial and gender equality.

**1970s** The Black Students' Union (BSU) was founded in the early 70s to create a safe, welcoming environment for black students at Rice. By 1989, the BSU is renamed the Black Student Association, continuing the tradition of advocacy and support for black students at the university.

**1988** The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) is founded. Led by the Associate Dean of Undergraduates and Director of Multicultural Affairs Catherine Clack, the OMA is dedicated to coordinating and implementing comprehensive educational, cultural and social programs designed to emphasize inclusiveness, while promoting intercultural dialogue, awareness and respect for diversity.

**1996** The Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) is established in 1996. The volunteer-led alumni group strives to stimulate intellectual and social participation, encourage contributions to the university's ongoing efforts to enhance diversity, and strengthen the bond of understanding between the university and its black alumni community.

**1997** Teveia Rose Barnes '75 is appointed as Rice's first African-American member of the Board of Trustees. Barnes is an accomplished attorney who currently serves as the executive director of California's Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

**1998** The Black Student Association hosts its first annual Soul Night, a popular event held on campus where Rice students of all backgrounds celebrate black history and culture through art, music, dance and theatre.

**2006** Jeff Rose '77, a legend in the banking industry and former Rice football team captain, is the first African-American elected as president of the Association of Rice Alumni.

**2007** Rice commemorates 40 years of African-American students through a series of panels, discussions and lectures, capped off by an awards dinner titled "Blacks in Blue: Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence." The event, originally scheduled for 2006, is postponed due to the untimely passing of Linda Faye Williams '70, whose enrollment at Rice in 1966 marked the 40th anniversary.

**2012** The Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) celebrates Rice's centennial with the Blueprint for Excellence Awards Gala on October 12, 2012, and the premiere of the documentary, "Young, Gifted and Black: Reflections from Black Alumni at Rice."

**2016** Rice kicks off a yearlong series of events commemorating 50 years of black undergraduate life that includes an MLK Vigil, a panel discussion titled "Remembering the Past, Promises for the Future," and a reunion celebrating trailblazers in Rice Athletics.

September 8, 2016

President David Leebron  
Rice University  
6100 Main Street  
Houston, Texas 77005

Dear President Leebron,

Congratulations to the Association of Rice University Black Alumni (ARUBA) and all members of the Rice community as you celebrate 50 years of black undergraduate life at Rice. I also applaud Jacqueline McCauley, Charles E. Freeman III, Linda Faye Williams and Theodore Henderson for being the first black undergraduates to enter Rice in 1965 and 1966. They are part of a group of courageous college students who helped to change the landscape of opportunity for blacks in Houston during the civil rights era.

As a leader in Houston's civil rights movement in the 60's and beyond, I know how important it is for African Americans to advocate for themselves and for other underserved members of the community. I have witnessed the challenge, the courage and commitment to change, which the first African-American students at Rice had to face.

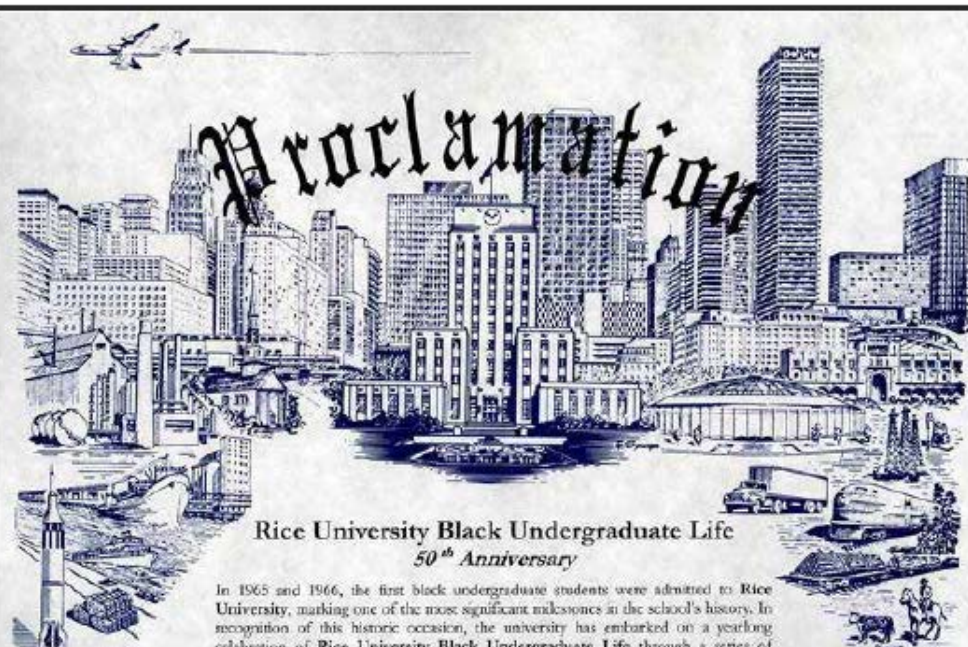
Over the years, I have worked with Rice's administration and faculty and interacted with its students and alumni. I see the university expanding its outreach to the community and making the campus more diverse. Rice should be commended for this effort, and I encourage Rice to continue on this path as it strives for excellence.

Although I will be unable to join you this evening, I wish you the best in all of your endeavors.

Sincerely,

*William A. Lawson*

William A. Lawson  
Pastor Emeritus, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church



# Proclamation

## Rice University Black Undergraduate Life 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In 1965 and 1966, the first black undergraduate students were admitted to Rice University, marking one of the most significant milestones in the school's history. In recognition of this historic occasion, the university has embarked on a yearlong celebration of **Rice University Black Undergraduate Life** through a series of lectures, discussions and community events designed to reflect upon its history, celebrate diversity and inclusiveness and foster the exchange of ideas across generations.

Rice University gives homage to Rice alumni Charles E. Freeman III and Jacqueline McCauley who were the first black undergraduates to enter the university in 1965. Rice also gives homage to Linda Faye Williams and Theodore Henderson who were admitted in 1966 and were the first black undergraduates to earn undergraduate degrees from Rice. The university acknowledges the courage and persistence of these trailblazers.


On October 1, 2016, Rice University will celebrate 50 years of **black undergraduate life** at the Blueprint for Excellence Gala. The university encourages the Rice community to join in celebrating all black students and alumni who are helping to build a brighter future for its many students, alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends.

The City of Houston commends and congratulates Rice University for its commitment to diversity and applauds the accomplishments of all of its black alumni who have partnered in this 50-year journey with the university.

Therefore, I, Sylvester Turner, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim October 1, 2016, as:

### Rice University Black Undergraduate Life Day 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

in Houston, Texas.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.

*Sylvester Turner*  
Sylvester Turner  
Mayor of the City of Houston



# *50th Anniversary Leadership and Volunteers*

## *50th Anniversary Chairs*

DONALD BOWERS '90

AKILAH MANCE '05

PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY BLACK ALUMNI

ANGELA BERRY ROBERSON '90

MONIQUE SHANKLE '86

## *Honorary Chairs*

TEDDY ADAMS JR. '91

TEVEIA ROSE BARNES '75

TERRENCE GEE '86

RAYMOND JOHNSON, PH.D. '69

JEFF ROSE '77

## *Executive Committee*

ALEX BYRD, PH.D., '90

KEVIN KIRBY, ED.D.

MARIE LYNN MIRANDA, PH.D.

ROLAND B. SMITH, ED.D.

LINDA THRANE

DARROW ZEIDENSTEIN, PH.D.



# GALA AWARD







# EVENT PHOTOS

**For more event photos, please visit:**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ricepublicaffairs/26170425361/in/album-72157666659626791>

and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ricepublicaffairs/albums/72157674732413625>





THANK YOU



RICE