

7-1-1987

Commencement '87

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Recommended Citation

Said, Abdulkadir N. (1987) "Commencement '87," *New Directions*: Vol. 14: Iss. 3, Article 4.
Available at: <https://dh.howard.edu/newdirections/vol14/iss3/4>

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¹⁰ **A**pproximately 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students received degrees at the university's 119th commencement exercises on May 9.

Camille Cosby, wife of entertainer Bill Cosby and vice president of all Cosby enterprises, delivered the main address at the ceremonies which were held on the upper quadrangle of the main campus.

In a warm, anecdotal style, she extolled the traditional values of education, work, friendship and family strength and spoke of the crucial interrelationship between love of self and love of community.

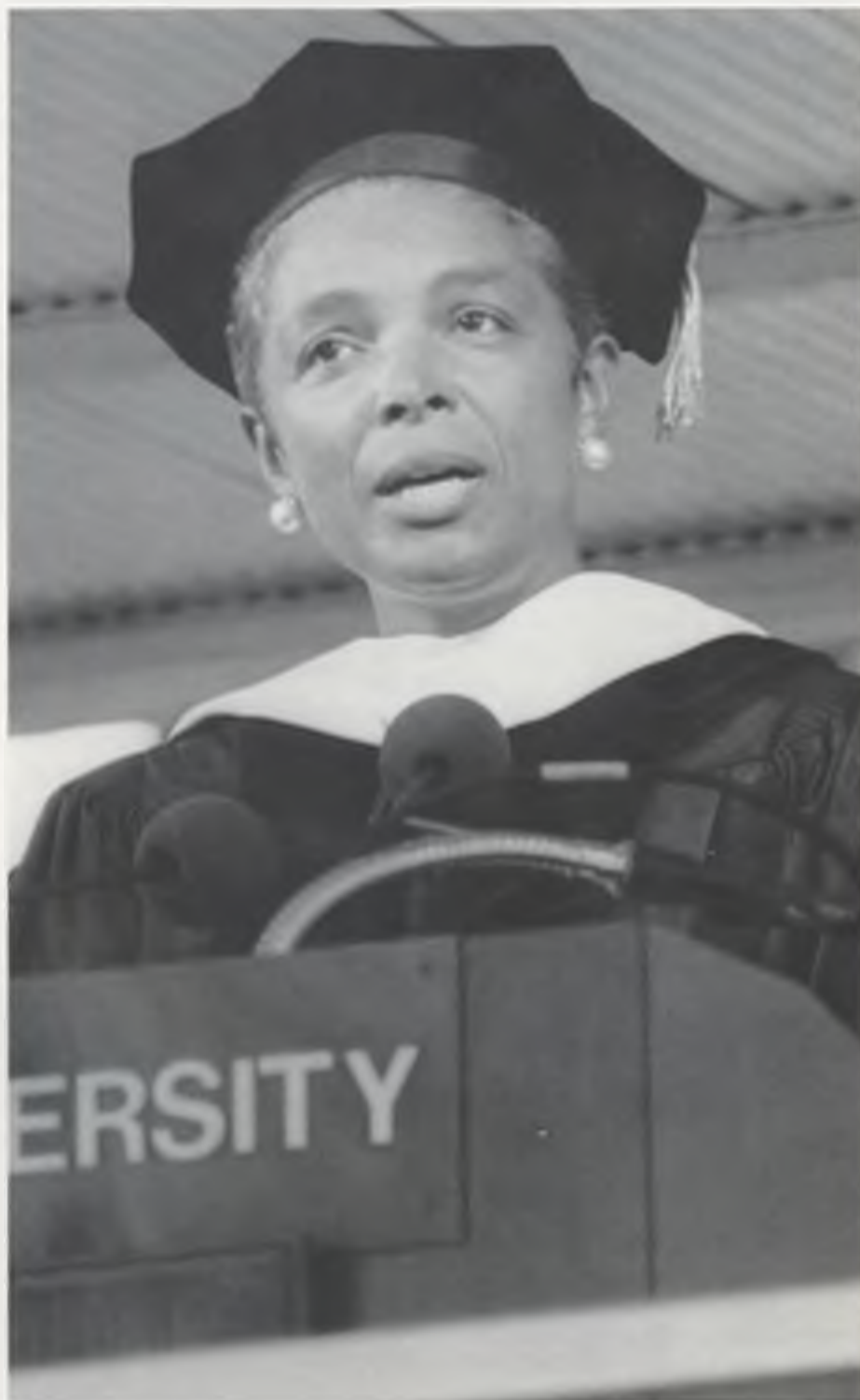
She spoke of "the kind of community love that lifts a people, the kind that has us working together, the kind that avoids the group put downs and the terms others apply to us, the kind that has us spending our money with and for one another, the kind that requires those who have to give to our own, the kind that perpetuates self-love which saves our young men from suicide and our young women from pregnancies before they are self-sufficient. . . .

"When we refuse to hear or accept the negative talk that others enjoy sending our way — for example, 'Jesse [Jackson] shouldn't run because he can't win' or 'Things will not really change in South Africa' or 'Black Americans can have all the suffering but no permanent access to the goodies,' when we refuse to allow that talk to come within ear range, that's community love."

Before delivering her well-received address, Mrs. Cosby had been awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from the university.

Six other notables also received honorary degrees at the ceremonies.

Mrs. Barbara Bush, wife of Vice President George Bush, received the honorary doctor of humanities degree; Earl C. Broady, a retired judge of the Superior Court of California, received the honorary doctor of laws degree; Thomas A. Dorsey,



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARVIN JONES

"the father of gospel music," received the honorary doctor of music degree (which was accepted on his behalf by his daughter, Doris Dorsey); Howard Naylor Fitzhugh, project consultant and former vice president for Pepsi-Cola Company, received the honorary doctor of laws degree; Lois Mailou Jones Pierre-Noel, widely acclaimed artist and professor at Howard University, received the honorary doctor of humanities degree; and Sen. Terry Sanford (D-N.C.), former president of Duke University and a former member of the Howard University Board of Trustees, received the honorary doctor of laws degree.

Camille Cosby, in addition to being vice president and partner in all of the Cosby enterprises, is a producer of record albums and videos for home distribution. She is currently working on a film based on the life of Winnie Mandela, wife of imprisoned Black South African leader Nelson Mandela.

Mrs. Cosby has also been involved in a number of philanthropic activities. She helped raise \$337,000 for the Rev. Jesse Jackson's Operation PUSH, and earlier this year she joined with her husband to contribute \$1.3 million to Fisk University.

She has also helped the United Negro College Fund, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

A member of the board of Essence Communications, the National Council of Negro Women, and the Rainbow Coalition, she has said that her primary interest is "the education of Black children, even as they grow to become parents of other Black children." The Cosbys have five children.

Barbara Bush has lived a life which reflects her husband's varied career in business and public service and which has been filled by her role as the mother of five children and her commitment to a wide variety of community projects.

Mrs. Bush has chosen reading and the eradication of illiteracy as her special areas of concern. She serves on the national board of Reading is Fundamental; is a sponsor of Laubach Literacy International, a worldwide program committed to eradicating illiteracy; and is honorary chairperson of the National Advisory Council of Literacy Volunteers of America Inc., a national volunteer tutorial organization.

Proceeds from her book, "C. Fred's Story," a collection of anecdotes about a cocker spaniel the Bushes once owned, are being donated to Laubach Literacy Action and Literacy Volunteers of America.

Mrs. Bush has received a number of honors and awards for her volunteer work, including honorary degrees from Cardinal Stritch College in Milwaukee, Mount Vernon College in Washington, and Hood College in Frederick, Md. She serves on the board of trustees of the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta.

Earl C. Broady (and his wife Anna) last year announced a \$1 million gift to Howard University to establish an endowed chair at the university's law school. The now 82-year-old retired judge stated then that his mentor, Curtis C. Taylor, was a 1926 graduate of the Howard School of Law and that Taylor was responsible for his becoming a lawyer in 1944 after 16 years on the Los Angeles police force. He received his law degree from the Los Angeles College of Law.

In 1945, Broady left the police force and spent the next 20 years as a lawyer in private practice in Los Angeles. In 1965 he became chief deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County and later that year was appointed to the Superior Court of California, where he served until his retirement in 1978.

Thomas Andrew Dorsey, who is today called "the father of gospel music," was initially influenced by local blues artists in Atlanta, where he grew up, and in Chicago,

where he studied. He got his start in music as a blues composer, pianist and singer. In 1923 he formed his own Wildcats Jazz Band with which Ma Rainey performed and made several recordings with her and slide guitarist Tampa Red. In the late 1920s he formed a duo with Tampa Red and subsequently had several hit blues recordings.

His first gospel song, "Someday, Somewhere," was published in 1921. In the early 1930s he turned exclusively to gospel music. In 1931 he helped organize the world's first gospel chorus at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Chicago; a year later, he opened the Dorsey House of Music, the first publishing house to sell solely gospel music by Black composers. The same year he helped to found the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses, the first such group devoted exclusively to gospel music. He is credited with later establishing the tradition of the gospel music concert.

He traveled widely, selling and promoting his sheet music, and was active as a performer, touring with Mahalia Jackson in the early 1940s as her official pianist.

Howard Naylor Fitzhugh was a professor of marketing at Howard University from 1934 to 1965. He came to Howard from Harvard, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1930 and an M.B.A. in 1933. Leaving his teaching career, he went to Pepsi-Cola Company where he was a vice president until he retired from that position in 1974. He currently continues at Pepsi-Cola as a project consultant.

Fitzhugh served as chairman of the Howard University business school advisory committee from 1965 to 1972 and was also the vice president of the public policies and issues division of the American Marketing Association, 1970-71. He has held top positions with the National Association of Market Developers, serving as executive director from 1953 to 1960, as president from 1966 to 1967, and as chairman of the board for several terms in the

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years since. He has been a member of the operations council of Junior Achievement of Greater New York since 1973.

The recipient of many honors for his work in business and the community, he received the National Business League Tribute at the First Annual Booker T. Washington Dinner in 1975 and was called Dean of Black Business in 1975 by *Black Enterprise* magazine.

Lois Mailou Jones Pierre-Noel is known throughout the world for her outstanding contribution to art — as a practitioner, teacher and mentor to several generations of Afro-American artists. She has had 60 solo exhibitions since 1937 and has exhibited in Paris, Haiti, Pakistan, Moscow, Luxembourg, Tanzania, Southern Rhodesia [now Zimbabwe], Kenya and throughout the United States.

Pierre-Noel's paintings are largely characterized by their vivid colors and their strength in structure and design.

A native of Boston, she was educated there and received a diploma in design from the Boston Museum School of Fine Arts in 1927. She also studied at Harvard University, Columbia University, the Designers Art School in Boston and Howard University, where she received her bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, in 1945. She later studied at the Academie Julian and the Academie de la Grande Chaumiere in Paris.

In 1928, she went to Sedalia, N.C., to establish the art department at Palmer Memorial Institute. In 1930, she joined the art faculty at Howard, where she served as a professor of design and watercolor painting until her retirement in 1977.

Her 1953 marriage to the distinguished Haitian artist Louis Verginaud Pierre-Noel (now deceased) cemented her ties to Haiti. She continues to maintain a home there and has found in that island setting fresh inspiration for her art.

Through the years, Pierre-Noel has received numerous awards and has seen her

works purchased by many of the nation's top museums and galleries, including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Bowdoin College, The Schomburg Library Collection and the Palais National in Haiti.

Terry Sanford was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986, culminating a long career of public service that has included a term as governor of North Carolina from 1961 to 1965 and the presidency of Duke University from 1969 to 1985.

A native of North Carolina, Sanford went back to law school at his alma mater, The University of North Carolina, after serving in the U.S. Army during World War II and earning a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. Entering the practice of law in 1946, he later became a partner in the Raleigh law firm of Sanford, Phillips, McCoy & Weaver. From 1965 to 1986, he was affiliated with Sanford, Adams, McCullough & Beard, which has offices in Raleigh and Washington.

His political career began when he became president of the North Carolina Young Democrats Club in 1949, and he was elected to the North Carolina Senate for one two-year term in 1953. From 1956 to 1968 and in 1984, he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. He was chairman of Citizens for Humphrey-Muskie in 1968, chairman of the Democratic Charter Commission from 1972 to 1974 and chairman of the Democratic National Mid-term Conference in 1974.

He has served on a number of boards, including the Children's Television Workshop, the National Humanities Center, the Appalachian Community Service Network and Howard University (1972 to 1986).

He is the author of "But What About the People?" (1966), "Storm Over the States" (1967) and "A Danger of Democracy" (1981). □