

September 2010 Volume 2, No. 3

### New Theme for the Alumni Association's Gold Gala: It's a Class Reunion



Hello fellow alumni,

I hope you have received your invitation to the upcoming Gold Gala. If not, please contact the Alumni Office. We look forward to seeing you on October 2, to help make this a memorable event. Alumni represent the largest constituency group of Harris-Stowe. Please assist us in our overall effort to engage alumni to support the future of Harris-Stowe. The Gold Gala is the single, largest fundraising event of the Harris-Stowe Alumni Association. Your support is critical because alumni contributions enable the University to provide scholarships to students. Your contribution serves as an investment in the future of these students and helps to ensure their success.

With 96 percent of HSSU students receiving financial aid and many being first-generation students, scholarship support is of utmost importance to the Alumni Association. Rebecca Marie Barnes, a member of the Gold Gala Committee and Class of '65, recently stated in her letter to friends and supporters that many students would not be able to attend college without HSSU and said this was also true in her day at Harris Teachers College.

We need your help and support of the Gold Gala in one or more of the following ways:

- purchase a ticket to the Gold Gala;
- send a contribution to support the Scholarship Fund;
- bid on Silent Auction items at the Gold Gala.

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A committee of alumni has been working diligently over the past several months to plan the Gold Gala. This year's event is a salute to alumni who graduated in the years ending in a zero or five. Class representatives are contacting their classmates to attend and to give a scholarship contribution that each class will present at the Gold Gala. If you are a member of the Class of '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, 2000, 2005 or 2010, your contribution will be credited to the amount your class representatives present during the Gold Gala. In addition, special recognition will be given to members of the Class of 1960 who will be celebrating their Golden Anniversary and 50th class reunion.

If you attended Harris-Stowe "back in the day" when there was one building, I'm sure you can really appreciate the work that Harris-Stowe President Henry Givens, Jr. and his staff have done to expand the University. There are now seven buildings. Plus, Harris-Stowe has become a residential campus with the opening of its first residence hall in 2006 and the groundbreaking held this year for a second residence facility. Last year on the campus, many witnessed the opening of the William L. Clay, Sr. Early Childhood Development/Parenting Education Center.

We are counting on your support. Thank you.

With warm and personal regards,

Shirley A. Brown Gold Gala Chairperson



# HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

cordially invites you to attend the

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Gold Gala Scholarship Dinner Dance

Complete Your HSSU Homecoming Celebration at this Culminating Event on

Saturday, October 2, 2010

6 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction (Cash and check only, please.)
7 p.m. Program and Dinner
8 p.m. Presentation of the Classes and Dancing

Crowne Plaza Hotel 200 N. Fourth Street St. Louis, MO 63102

All proceeds benefit scholarships for deserving HSSU students. For reservations, call (314) 340-3390 or go to www.hssu.edu/alumni.

# Message from the HSSU Alumni Association President



Candace M. Dickson
HSSU Alumni Association President

Dear alumni and friends,

I am extremely delighted about my new role as president of the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association (HSSUAA)! It was a pleasure to see many in attendance at the September Board of Directors meeting. As I presided over my first meeting as president, my thoughts were filled with excitement about upcoming alumni endeavors. I would personally like to thank the newly elected and veteran Board Members and HSSUAA exofficios for their dedication to the legacy of Harris-Stowe State University.

Each year, September brings campus buzz as students adjust to their class schedules and we prepare for our annual Homecoming Celebration. This year, HSSUAA added a Sunday Stroll Car Show and Student Field Day to the Homecoming itinerary. The event was held Sunday, September 26, in the Emerson Performance Center parking lot from 1-5 p.m. The event included a display of motorcycles, trucks and cars from local car enthusiasts; barbecue and refreshments; field games; a family arena and music. We are grateful to all the alumni and friends who joined us for this fun-filled event.

I encourage all alumni to reflect on the 2010 Homecoming theme, "Love, Liberty and Legacy — Always Remembered, Never Forgotten." Let's never forget our alma mater and always remember to reconnect with the institution where we grew into adulthood and developed the skills needed to achieve the goals we set for ourselves.

I hope you will join us for Harris-Stowe's 2010 Homecoming and that your participation enhances your connection with Harris-Stowe State University.

Best Wishes,

Candace M. Dickson

Candace M. Dickson

## Congratulations to the Newly Elected 2010-2012 Alumni Board Members

After the installation of new officers in June, which included the swearing in of Candace Dickson as HSSU Alumni Association president and Jeanine Riley as vice president, two vacancies were left in the HSSU Alumni Association Board. As such, Jessica M.

Thomas was elected to a Board position and Kalifa Gray was elected Treasurer. To learn more about the newest members of the 2010-2012 HSSU Alumni Association Board, read below.



Name: Jessica M. Thomas

Alumni Association Role: Board Member

**HSSU Alumni Association Membership:** Regular

Occupation/Title: Personal Banker

Business: Bank of America

Graduated From: Harris-Stowe State University

**Graduation Year: 2009** 

**Degree Received:** Bachelor of Science **Major:** Business Administration

Honors Received at HSSU: Summa Cum Laude

**Goals in New Alumni Role:** "My goal as an alumni Board Member is to offer fresh new ideas to the association as well as recruit more members. I plan on giving my time and dedication to the association in order to give

back to my school."



Name: Kalifa K. Gray

Alumni Association Role: Treasurer

**HSSU Alumni Association Membership:** Regular **Occupation/Title:** Accounting/Compliance Officer

Business: License Collector's Office

**Graduated From:** Harris-Stowe State University

**Graduation Year: 2009** 

Degree Received: Bachelor of Science

Major: Accounting

**Honors Received at HSSU:** Vice President's Academic Honors (six semesters) **Other Organizations:** Collegiate 100 of the 100 Black Men of Metropolitan St. Louis

Alpha Chi National College Honor Society

Kappa Mu Epsilon (National Mathematics Honor Society) National Association of Black Accountants (NABA)

Goals in New Alumni Role: "I plan to continue the tradition of excellence and professionalism that the Alumni Association Board requires. I am proud to be a member of the Alumni Association, and I am honored to have the opportunity to serve this great University. I hope my skill and experience will be of use to the association as they continuously strive to improve and find greater ways to serve the needs of the students."

# Special Eye on Alumni: VaNetta Clark



Alumna VaNetta Clark proudly displays the resolution she received from the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis for "her dedication and commitment to the citizens and at-risk youth of Missouri and the world" on July 9, 2010.

Harris-Stowe State University alumna VaNetta Clark overcame a childhood rife with gangs and drugs and being raped by her high school teacher to become an author, recording artist. entrepreneur inspiration to those facing adversity.

Known for passion in teaching and mentoring atrisk youth, VaNetta "T.R.U.T.H." Clark, CEOofImagineLife, author, motivational speaker. activist. President of Callie Giants House Record Label and film producer has truly beat the odds.

Born in St. Louis, MO, Clark spent parts of her early childhood in Atlanta, GA, and several teen summers in New Orleans, LA. At an early age she was introduced to the drug and gang lifestyle from watching an older brother. "I quickly adapted to what I saw around me," said Clark. Later, all of her teachers knew her to be the leader of a gang.

In 1993, Clark was selected to go to the White House through a program funded for Fight Free schools. The teacher who was to attend the trip had been talking to Clark about Martin L. King, Jr.'s belief in nonviolence. While in Washington, D.C., the teacher introduced Clark to other neighborhoods and the possibility of attending college. "This changed my life," said Clark. "She told me to be the best in everything I do. I live by that principle to this day."

On January 17, 2000, Clark became a victim of rape by a high school teacher who had been passed from school to school due to other allegations. "My life changed dramatically," said Clark. "News reporters ate the story up. School became very difficult. I felt like I was dying within. And the church I attended closed down. My criminal justice instructor said, 'Fight or die.' I decided to fight."

Clark fought, and in 2001, she graduated on-time and enrolled

at Harris-Stowe State College on basketball and academic scholarships. In 2005, she published her first book, *Triumph Over Tragedy*. "This book was designed to comfort those who have experienced great tragedy through telling of my own," said Clark. She was a guest on *Sunday Morning Live* with Kevin Pulley and held her first book signing at Harris-Stowe State University.

In 2006, Clark began researching and studying the at-risk youth population. "There was this urge in me that something has to be done now or we will not have a future generation," said Clark. After two and a half years of study and research, she launched the D.R.E.AM.S. Motivational Program in 2008. "This program is designed to recondition the mind-set of poverty, crime and mediocrity to excellence," said Clark. Her dream is to build her own center and teach the D.R.E.A.M.S. curriculum.

In 2009, she launched the Callie House Giants Record Label "Let's be honest," said Clark. "Our youth learn with rhythm and self-expression. Why wouldn't we venture into the music field? Hip-hop has saved the lives of many youth from impoverished areas." Her hit single "Chasin' Dreams," which is also the title to her debut album, is powerful and transcends all boundaries.

In this same year, she published her second book, T*ruth: A Moment of Change*. "This book was created to help people understand that life is what you think about," said Clark. "If you think that this is the end, then for you, maybe it is. But for me this is only the beginning."

To help bring awareness to the D.R.E.AM.S. program, she produced a documentary about her life called, *Triumph Over Tragedy: The VaNetta T.R.U.T.H. Clark story*. It premiered at the historic Tivoli Theatre in St. Louis, MO, on July 25, 2010. "An elderly woman was so moved she asked if we would allow her to include our foundation in her will to help save our youth," said Clark. Clark's goal with the documentary is to have a motion picture produced about her life.

"My earnest desire is to inspire humanity with a spirit of triumph," said Clark. "I was born with no silver spoon in my mouth. I did not have a crowd of fans. Most times I was in solitude. But I believed in me and never relinquished that power to anyone. I always believed that I was born to be great."

When asked about the name T.R.U.T.H., Clark said, "I Am — The Reality U Too Have. The possibility to live without limitations. The opposite of success is not failure — it is conformity and mediocrity. Dr. Howard Thurman said, 'One will overcome tribulation in pursuit of a dream.' This is the mind-set I wish to inspire in the at-risk youth population."

## Eye on Alumni



Alumnus Bruce Green

#### Alumnus Bruce Green

*The St. Louis American* newspaper recognized Harris-Stowe alumnus Bruce Green as a 2010 Excellence in Education Awardee.

While Green attended Harris-Stowe State College, he substitute taught with St. Louis Public Schools, which is where Green learned that teaching was his calling.

"The students were enlightened, and I was enlightened," Green told *The St. Louis American*. "It was almost as if teaching came naturally. I had one student who said that 'I come to school because I know you are here.""

Even with 15 children, Green's parents made sure all their children stayed focus on their education. "My mother and father were really focused on us getting good grades," said Green. "They really wanted us to go to college. They realized that a high school diploma would not be enough."

Green's middle school principal, Alice Roach, also encouraged Green. "...I was able to see his giftedness and I could see that he was talented." Roach currently serves as chief of staff for St. Louis Public Schools

and continues to mentor Green.

Green attended Central Visual and Performing Arts High School before graduating from Harris-Stowe. After that, Green received his master's in education administration from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and is currently a doctoral candidate at Maryville University.

Green first served as a tutor and substitute teacher at St. Louis Public Schools before becoming a full-time math teacher at Charles Sumner High School, where he remained for five years.

After just one semester of teaching at Carnahan High School, he became assistant principal of the middle school. Following, Green became principal of Gateway Middle School, but he taught a math lesson once in a while because that is where his passion lies.

In the 2009-2010 academic year, Green returned to Carnahan High School, this time as principal. "I put my all into what I do as principal," said Green. "I want to make sure that they [students] are equipped so they are successful."



Carole

Alumna Johnson

#### Alumna Carole Johnson

*The St. Louis American* newspaper recognized Harris-Stowe alumna Carole Johnson as a 2010 Excellence in Education Awardee.

Johnson attended the University of Missouri-Columbia, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Lincoln University and St. Louis Community College at Forest Park before finding her fit at Harris-Stowe State College.

The range of schools she has taught at is just as eclectic. Johnson has taught at Ford Elementary; St. Louis Public Schools; Sherman Branch; Garfield,; Hamilton Branches 1, 2 and 3; Euclid-Montessori and Farragut Schools.

After teaching grades one, two, three and five for more than 20 years, Johnson returned to school for her master's in special education. She attended Webster University, National-Louis University and Saint Louis University.

Johnson then became principal of Bryan Hill Elementary School where she developed community partnerships with Metropolis St. Louis, AmeriCorps, Millstone-Bangert, Citi and others in the areas of tutoring, a junior achievement program, service projects and in several other facets.

"The school is part of the community, and I believe the children need to see not only the neighbor and shop owner, they need to feel valued by other adults that they can look at and say, 'They care about me,'" Johnson told *The St. Louis American*.

In collaboration with Citi, AmeriCorps and several other community organizations, Johnson organized Make A Difference Day in 2005. That day, murals were painted and the neighborhood was cleaned.

Since then, Johnson has retired but continues to mentor.



Alumna Eleanore Berra Marfisi

#### Alumna Eleanore Berra Marfisi

As a tribute to one of the best principals of St. Mary's High School, the band would go to Harris-Stowe alumna Eleanore Berra Marfisi's house to play "Hail to the Chief" after a parade as she watched from her porch.

The youngest of 10 children of Italian immigrants, Marfisi graduated from Southwest High School and Harris Teachers College.

Following graduation, she served as a nun with the Apostles of the Sacred Heart for 20 years and taught literature and art at an all-girls academy in Connecticut. She left the order and returned to St. Louis and started teaching in 1969 at St. Mary's, an all-boys high school, as the first female teacher.

She married Dominic Marfisi, an accountant who also loved literature and art.

In 1984, Marfisi became the first female principal of St. Mary's. She retired in 1991.

She helped found and edit *Hill 2000*, a newspaper dedicated to preserving Italian heritage and devoted herself to chronicling the Hill events.

In 2003, Marfisi's book *The Hill: Its History, Its Recipes*, in which the mayor signed the foreword, was published. She also wrote *St. Louis Italians* — *The Hill and Beyond, Sicily: Crossroads of Culture*, and the soon-to-be-published *We Had Fun*.

Marfisi was named to the Hill's "Walk of Fame." She said her love for Italian culture "literally consumes me," and encouraged Hill residents to document their recollections of their parents and grandparents.

Marfisi died in August at age 84; she had been battling heart disease.



Alumna Gloria Shelton

#### Alumna Gloria Shelton

Harris-Stowe alumna Gloria Shelton was named regional manager of American Quality Schools (AQS) for the greater St. Louis region.

Shelton oversees operations, helps with hiring faculty and staff, sees that AQS remains in compliance with state and federal regulations, assists in developing and establishing curricula and evaluates student performance.

"As a veteran public school educator, it would be fair to say that I was somewhat skeptical of the charter school model," Shelton told *The Saint Louis Argus*. "But AQS' strong track record of rising test scores, high achieving students and satisfied parents convinced me of the importance of offering robust character school options for St. Louis students. I'm excited to be on board as we begin a new chapter in St. Louis education."

This fall, AQS, a nonprofit educational management firm, opened Carondelet Leadership Academy and the Grand Center Arts Academy.

Prior to her appointment, Shelton worked in St. Louis Public Schools in a range of educational and administrative roles for more than 35 years.

As principal of Kennard Classical Junior Academy, she earned a Gold Star School rating. Shelton also worked as assistant superintendent of magnet schools, deputy chief academic officer and as a mentor to several St. Louis Public Schools principals.

Shelton earned her bachelor's in education at Harris Teachers College and her master's in educational administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Harris-Stowe has recognized Shelton as a Distinguished Alumna.

# The HSSU Alumni Association Celebrates Homecoming with the Sunday Stroll Car Show and Family Fun Day



Above: The HSSU H o n e y c o m b Majorettes Dance Team, directed by Franschell "Franky" Little, came to show off the special cars.





Above: HSSU Auditor Kevin Burnett, center, helps his two daughters display the free balloons they received at the Sunday Stroll Car Show and Family Fun Day.

Left: Children played in a bounce house inside the Emerson Performance Center and also enjoyed free face painting.

# HSSU Alumni Association Membership Chair Stacy Shaw Introduces the Young Alumni Division



HSSU Alumni Association Membership Chair and Board Member Stacy Shaw

Hello, fellow Harris-Stowe alumni!

My name is Stacy Shaw, and I serve as Chairperson of the Membership Committee. As a 2006 graduate of the Anheuser-Busch School of Business and a practicing attorney, I realize that young professional alumni have a vital and unique place in the Alumni Association. In response to the overwhelming demand from recent alumni, the Membership Committee is launching an exciting new initiative created to meet the unique needs of young professionals ages 22-40. The Young Alumni Division will focus on providing its members with the tools and relationships they need to continue to be successful in their careers and personal lives.

Membership in the Young Alumni Division is a benefit that you receive automatically when you join the Alumni Association. The Young Alumni Division is not a separate organization. Harris-Stowe Young Alumni will continue to enjoy all of the benefits of membership in the general body of the Alumni Association.

The Young Alumni Division will begin hosting networking events in venues throughout St. Louis once a quarter. These networking events and mixers will give Young Alumni the opportunity to meet fellow alumni that are in both similar and diverse career fields. These events will be an excellent platform to build new client and business relationships as well as fortify the relationships that began in the classrooms at Harris-Stowe.

The Young Alumni Division will also be hosting seminars that address the needs of recent graduates. Crash courses in budgeting, how to create a healthy work-life balance, and a guide to home ownership are just a few of the seminars that will be available to members.

In addition to networking events and mixers, the Young Alumni Division will be creating mentorship circles that will provide Young Alumni mentors to Harris-Stowe students. An additional component to these mentorship circles will include connecting Young Alumni with more seasoned Harris-Stowe alumni who have established themselves in their respective fields.

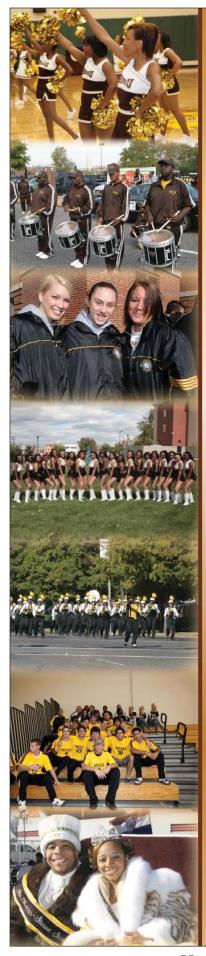
The Alumni Association is very excited about this new initiative, and we want YOU to be a member! Meetings are held on the second Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. in the HSSU AT&T Library and Technology Resource Center. For more information about how to get involved, please e-mail me at StacyLShaw@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on October 13!

Sincerely,

Stacy Shaw, Esq. Chairperson

HSSU Alumni Association Membership Committee



# Harris-stow E

# HOMECOMING 2010

# HSSW:

Love, Liberty, and Legacy -Always Remembered, Never Forgotten

# Friday, September 24

Kickoff Noon - EPC Gymnasium

The Chili Bowl Powder Puff Game Flag Football Game I p.m. - Soccer Field

Women's Volleyball Game 6 p.m. - EPC Gymnasium

HSSU Players Present Till Karma Do Us Part 8 p.m. - EPC Theatre

## Saturday, September 25

Prayer Breakfast 10 a.m. - EPC Gymnasium

HSSU Players Present
Till Karma Do Us Part
3 p.m. & 8 p.m. - EPC Theatre
HSSU Saturday Night Live
7 p.m. - HGA Main Auditorium

# Sunday, September 26

Worship Service Noon - HGA Main Auditorium Sunday Stroll Car Show and Family Fun Day I-5 p.m. - EPC Parking Lot

# Monday, September 27

Spirit/Organization Day Wear Your Colors!

Organization Showcase II a.m.-2 p.m. - GRH Quad

All-Greek Picnic Noon-1:30 p.m. - GRH Quad

Hornets Soccer vs. Culver-Stockton Soccer Field 2:30 p.m. - Women's 4:30 p.m. - Men's

Non-Greek Stroll Off 7 p.m. - GRH Quad

# Tuesday, September 28

Alumni Conversations 2 p.m. - GRH Lobby

HSSU Follies/Talent Showcase 7 p.m. - HGA Main Auditorium

# Wednesday, September 29

Karaoke Night 7 p.m. - GRH Lobby

# Thursday, September 30

Ice Cream Social

1 p.m. - HSSU Quad

# Friday, October 1

Parade

10 a.m. - Market Street to Kiener Plaza

President's Tailgate Party Noon - EPC Parking Lot

Homecoming Games
Brown and Gold Women's Basketball
I p.m. - EPC Gymnasium

Alumni vs. Men's Basketball 1:30 p.m. - EPC Gymnasium

Coronation/Dinner/Student Dance Crowne Plaza Hotel 6 p.m. - Reception 7 p.m. - Coronation 8 p.m. - Dinner 9 p.m. - SGA Masquerade Ball

# Saturday, October 2

Alumni Association's Gold Gala Crowne Plaza Hotel 6 p.m. - Reception and Silent Auction 7 p.m. - Program and Dinner

# Message from the HSSU Interim Director of Alumni Affairs



Nisa Schmitz Interim Director of Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs

Dear Harris-Stowe State University alumni and friends,

I hope everyone has had the opportunity to partake in Harris-Stowe State University's 2010 Homecoming: Love, Liberty, and Legacy — Always Remembered, Never Forgotten. As you can see on the opposite page, there have been some exciting Homecoming events to enjoy.

2010 marks the first year that the HSSU Alumni Association held the Sunday Stroll Car Show and Family Fun Day. As you can see from the photos on page eight, fun was had by all. The event included barbecue, balloon animals, face painting, a bounce house and of course a fabulous car show. If you missed out this year, don't fret because the Alumni Association looks forward to hosting the event again next year.

On Tuesday, Harris-Stowe alumni shared their college experiences at the Alumni Conversations Homecoming event. Harris-Stowe students were so moved by the speakers that many requested to attend the Alumni Association's 12th Annual Gold Gala Scholarship Dinner Dance this Saturday. HSSU Alumni Association Vice President Jeanine Riley took it upon herself to personally purchase tickets for the inquiring students. I share this anecdote because this is what the Alumni Association is all about: staying connected to and assisting your alma mater and current students. The knowledge, resources and networking opportunities that alumni can offer to students are priceless.

There are many more upcoming opportunities for alumni to mingle with current Harris-Stowe students. In addition to some of the students from the Alumni Conversations event

that will be attending the Gold Gala this Saturday, the Student Government Association members and Majestic Assembly Homecoming court will also be in attendance. The Gold Gala is the Alumni Association's premier event. With an array of fabulous silent auction items on which to bid, a delectable three-course dinner and the smooth music of Hot Chocolate Soul, you are in for an enthralling evening! Limited tickets are still available. Call the Office of Alumni Affairs at (314) 340-3390 for more information.

Harris-Stowe's Homecoming will begin to wind down tomorrow with the Homecoming Parade at 10 a.m. The parade will begin on Market Street, just outside the Dr. Henry Givens, Jr. Administration Building, and will travel east on Market Street, north on Ewing Avenue, east on Olive Street, south on Tucker Boulevard, and then east on Market Street to Kiener Plaza.

Local dignitaries and VIPs participating in the parade include HSSU President and Mrs. Henry Givens, Jr.; Mayor Francis Slay; Police Chief Daniel Isom; the Honorable Tishaura Jones; License Collector Michael McMillan; Comptroller Darlene Green; Fire Chief Dennis Jenkerson; Collector of Revenue Gregory F.X. Daly; HSSU Alumni Association President Candace Dickson and the St. Louis Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Special parade performances and appearances will be made by the St. Louis Rams Cheerleaders, Fred Bird, the HSSU Honeycombs, the HSSU Marching Hornets, the HSSU Flag Corp., and nine local high school bands. Following the parade, please join us for the President's Tailgate Party at noon outside the Emerson Performance Center. This is a wonderful opportunity to return to the Harris-Stowe campus, rekindle friendships with your former classmates and to meet the delightful students currently attending.

Also, please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 30, at 4 p.m., which is the Men's Basketball Team's home opener against Midland Lutheran College. The HSSU Alumni Association will be hosting a tailgate party prior to the game to get alumni, faculty, staff and students excited for the game. More information about the event is forthcoming.

If you haven't already done so, I hope you will participate in a Homecoming event before the celebration comes to a close on Saturday. It is a great time to be a member of the Harris-Stowe family. Go Hornets!

Sincerely,

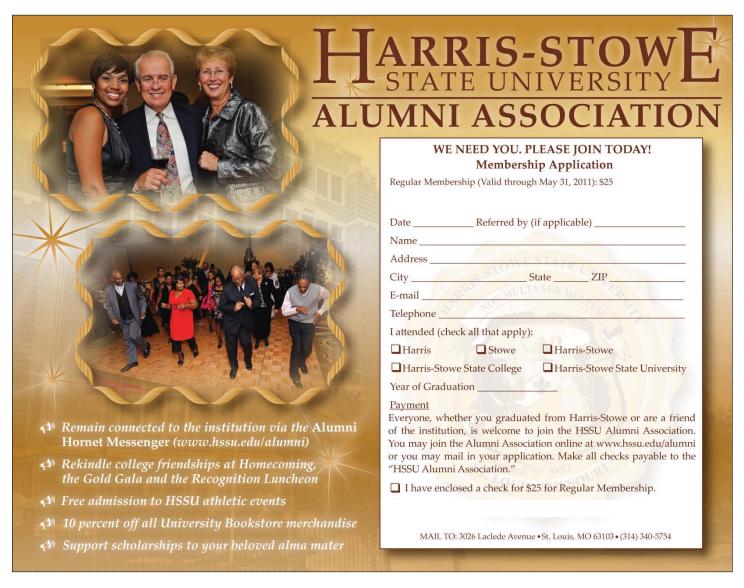
Nisa Schmitz Interim Director

Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs

## Join the HSSU Alumni Association Today!

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association offers graduates an ongoing opportunity to share memories, enjoy camaraderie and continue their life experiences together. As a community-serving institution, HSSU is fortunate that many of its graduates remain in the St. Louis area; as such, our alumni are able to maintain long-term connections. The Alumni Association also enables graduates to share the gift of education

with deserving, yet financially challenged students. Fees paid to the Alumni Association, a registered nonprofit entity, are 100 percent tax deductible. Everyone, whether you graduated from Harris-Stowe or are a friend of the institution, can join the HSSU Alumni Association. Want to get the most bang for your buck? Join now and your membership will be valid through May 31, 2011! Regular Membership costs just \$25.



#### Membership Benefits

Your HSSU Alumni Association membership also grants you access to many exciting benefits and discounts, such as:

- Free admission to HSSU athletic events
- 10 percent off all University Bookstore merchandise
- Free alumni news updates
- Free use of the University weight room

- Discount to the Hornet Dining Hall
- Full access to the AT&T Library and Technology Resource Center
- 10 percent off University facility rentals
- 5-10 percent off Enterprise locations
- Membership to Working Advantage, an online discount provider

# The HSSU Alumni Association's Sixth Annual Recognition Luncheon Held this Summer

Themed after the film *The Wiz*, the HSSU Alumni Association's Sixth Annual Recognition Luncheon was held at the Randall Gallery on June 26, 2010. The association recognized former HSSU Executive Vice President for Administration Dr. George Hyram with the Wizard Award and former Director of Pathways to Teaching Careers program and retired Assistant Professor of Education Armetta Whitmore with the Ruby Slipper Award. The following alumni were also honored in categories related to the theme:

#### **Heart**

#### Sarah Archibald

Retired Teacher Active Civic Leader

#### David J. Carroll

Manager of Community Outreach UrbanFUTURE

#### Roberzine Price

Retired Teacher Volunteer

#### Courage

#### Flossie Henderson

Former Leader of GEAR UP St. Louis Community College Mentor

#### **Lonnie Hughes**

Chief Training Officer St. Louis Fire Department

#### **Judy Ferguson Shaw**

Founder, Minority Scholars Organization McCluer North High School Founder, Kids Unlimited Councilwoman, City of Berkley

#### **Brain**

#### Dr. Arlene C. Ackerman

Superintendent School District of Philadelphia

#### Andrea Alexander

Retired Elementary School Administrator

#### **Camille Morgan**

Mentor, Normandy High School

#### Nola Stair

Principal Lecturer in International Collaborations and Learning Technology University of Greenwich Business School



The beautiful Randall Gallery with original artwork on display provided the whimsical setting for the recognition luncheon.



The Wiz skit was interwoven throughout the award ceremony. From left, Stacy Shaw, Cameron Kelly, Marlo White and Dwayne Ingram.



Recognition Luncheon attendees stroll down the "yellow brick road" as they take their seats for the presentation of the awards.



HSSU Alumni Association President and "Glenda the Good Witch" Candace Dickson presents alumna Armetta Whitmore with the special Ruby Slipper Award for her devotion to Harris-Stowe.

#### **Recent Harris-Stowe Events**

Second Residence Hall Four years from the date on which Harris-Stowe State University opened its first residence hall the Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center - it held a groundbreaking ceremony for its second on-campus housing facility on July 20, 2010. Dr. John Silvanus Wilson, Jr., executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), served as the keynote speaker. The \$15 million environmentally friendly project is being managed KWAME Building Group and constructed by Legacy Building Group in its first phase. Architectural services were provided by Grice Group Architects and Trivers Associates Architects.

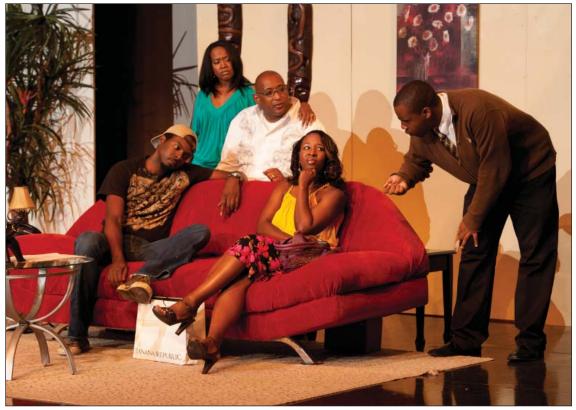




First Anniversary of the Early Childhood Center Harris-Stowe State University celebrated the one-year anniversary of its state-of-theart William L. Clay, Sr. Early Childhood Development/Parenting Education Center (ECC) on August 4, 2010. The celebration featured remarks from HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., right, and Director of the Early Childhood Center Dr. Patricia Johnson. Clay Advisory Council members Keithen Stallings, whose child attends the center, and Jan Ashbrook, project director of the St. Louis Mental Health Board, spoke in addition to others. ECC Family Life Specialist LaTasha Milton and ECC Teacher Angelique Bey presented the center's graduates, Makayla A. Pitts, Meshach E. Pitts and Mikayla V. Sanders, and wished them farewell as they advance to kindergarten.



HSSU Homecoming **Kickoff** Harris-Stowe State University's 2010 Homecoming Celebration, themed "Love, Liberty, and Legacy - Always Remembered, Forgotten," officially kicked off on September 24, in the Emerson Performance Center Board of Regents Gymnasium. Here, the Flag Corp. performs with the cheerleaders, Honeycomb Majorettes and Marching Hornets.



Till Karma Do Us Part Written, directed and featuring former HSSU student Ryan Cunningham, left, Till Karma Do Us Part is a romantic comedy that ran as part of HSSU's Homecoming celebration.

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**Credits** 

The *Hornet Alumni Messenger* is proudly brought to you by the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association and the HSSU Office of Alumni Affairs and Interim Director of Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs Nisa Schmitz.

## The 2010-2011

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