

April 2019

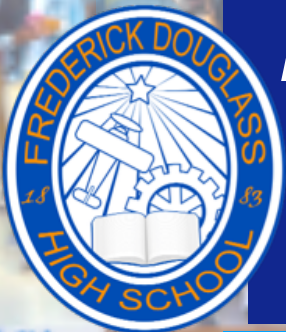
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THE

INFORMANT

THE VOICE OF THE HISTORIC FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.



MARY RADCLIFFE, PUBLICATION CHAIR '65

DESIGNED BY, JAMES PATTERSON '06

Cover art by



Welcome from the President



Brenda G. Thomas, '75

As we move through my last year as your President, I see more and more that we can do to assist the students of Frederick Douglass High School! I've repeatedly asked that you renew your membership, encourage other alumni to join and or renew their membership, attend monthly General Membership Meetings (3rd Thursday of each month), advocate for the students at Douglass, and mainly assist as you feel able to do so, which many of you stepped up to do.

Looking back over my two terms of office, I've tried to improve things in the organization by making things better than they were when I came on board. I also tried to have Alumni presence in the building such that we impact academic success for every student there. This meant professional development on School, Family, and Community Partnerships so that the school can gain a better understanding of how to utilize Alumni support and the Alumni gain a better understanding of their role in supporting a school. Most importantly, both staff and Alumni understand how families and the broader community can be involved in schools.

I guess you ask, why are you talking about your tenure and we still have more months in the year? I chose this edition of the Informant to share my tenure because we need to search for our next President of the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. We are approaching our next Alumni Day Celebration on May 3, 2019 and we want to get the word out as to positions that will be up for election at the end of this year. New officers will be elected in December of 2019 and will take office January 2020.

During my tenure, I had the pleasure of working with two Principals at Douglass and their staff. Both respected the Alumni Association and afforded us an opportunity to work in partnership with the staff and students. The Executive Board of the Association in partnership with the Board of Directors certainly upheld our motto: "with pride, dignity and excellence!" as we worked as a team to accomplish the following (but probably not limited to):

- Black History Month Speaker Series – Alumni presented "Their Life, Their Journey, Their Struggle" to classrooms of students during Black History Month
- The Membership Committee and all members worked to increase the membership in the organization
- Your President provided professional development for staff and the Alumni on School, Family, and Community Partnerships
- Highlighted two partnership programs at Douglass in a national publication, Promising Partnership Practices 2017: **Alumni Dollars for Scholars** and **Youth Business Institute**. To read both entries, visit the website for the National Network of Partnership Schools at Johns Hopkins University: <http://nnps.jhucos.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/PPP-2017-Book-with-Cover.pdf> or www.partnershipschools.org. The Scholarship Committee and Education Committee worked with these projects at the school.
- The Publication Committee improved the Informant's quality of the publication, content, and distribution
- Alumni assisted with the Opening Day of School September 2018
- Provided History and Math books to the school from Johns Hopkins University
- Bicentennial Celebration of Frederick Douglass, which included:
 - Renaming of Warwick Avenue to "Frederick Douglass Way"
 - Laying of a ceremonial wreath for Frederick Douglass by Councilman Leon Pinkett, Senator Barbara Robinson, and Dr. Andrey Bundley from the Mayor's Office
 - Buffalo Soldiers participating in Alumni Day Activities
- Improved the look of the Alumni Room with the addition of pictures of notable Alumni
- Provided funding for drums and for cleaning of the band uniforms for the Marching Band.
- Provided funds for families in need.
- Provided funding for students to go on a field trip.

I look forward to seeing everyone May 3, 2019 for Alumni Day 2019 and at the church service on that Sunday! Let's fill the auditorium with a sea of orange and blue. Don't come alone, bring your entire class! We look forward to seeing you real soon!

"Brenda!"

THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

2019 **THE HISTORIC**
FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI DAY WEEKEND
CELEBRATION

"LEST WE FORGET: THIS IS A NEW DAY!"



JAZZ BRUNCH

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019
DONATION \$30 2-5PM

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT:

MILTON DEVAUGHN, '75 - 443-691-1984,

ELEANOR EVERETT, '56 - 410-233-5103

OR CALL THE ALUMNI OFFICE BETWEEN 11:30 A.M. AND
2:00 P.M. - 443-642-6077

E-MAIL YOUR REQUEST TO FDHSAINC@GMAIL.COM

MARY WEST MILLER AUDITORIUM
FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL
2301 GWYNNS FALL PKWY. BALTIMORE MD, 21217

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

ALUMNI DAY

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019

PROGRAM 10AM
LUNCHEON 12 NOON

SPEAKER

REV. DR. RICHARD T. ADAMS, 'F50

MARY WEST MILLER AUDITORIUM
FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL
2301 GWYNNS FALL PKWY. BALTIMORE MD, 21217

BRENDA G. THOMAS '75, PRESIDENT

ALUMNI WORSHIPING TOGETHER

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019

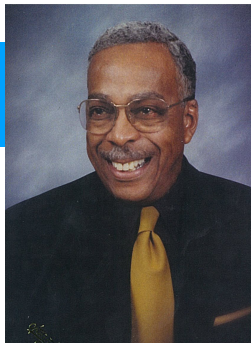
10AM

REV. WAYNE LEE, PASTOR

CHRISTIAN LIBERTY CHURCH

MARY WEST MILLER AUDITORIUM
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2301 GWYNNS FALL PKWY. BALTIMORE MD, 21217

WALTER G. BROOKS, SR. '64, BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIRMAN



A HISTORIC FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL ICON

REV. DR. RICHARD T. ADAMS

Each year during the first weekend in May, the Association sponsors Alumni Weekend. During this weekend we assemble to commemorate and celebrate the contributions made by this institution of learning to our city, state, nation and world. Additionally, we acknowledge the thousands of Alumni who were the beneficiaries of the priceless and indispensable gifts of knowledge, skill and values that they acquired while attending the Historic Frederick Douglass

High School.

Our celebration begins with Alumni Day on Friday (May 3, 2019) that is inclusive of a Program and a delicious Luncheon for the Alumni and friends. We culminate the weekend on Sunday (May 5, 2019) with the Alumni worshipping together at a local house of faith.

Each year we select a Keynote Speaker for Alumni Day whose life exemplifies the motto of our school, "Pride, Dignity and Excellence" and one who will deliver a motivating informative expository message. The Theme this year is **"Lest We Forget: It Is A New Day"**.

Our keynote speaker for Alumni Day 2019 is Richard T. Adams a native of Baltimore and a graduate of the Historic Frederick Douglass High School in the Class of February 1950. After graduation he entered the United States Coast Guard serving his active tour of duty during the Korean Conflict. He served with valor and received distinguished commendations. After the Coast Guard, Adams returned to Baltimore focused on completing his education. He attended Morgan State University earning a Bachelor of Science Degree, professional certification in Speech Audiology and Pathology from the University of Iowa and a Master's of Science Degree from the University of Maryland. Entering a field of Speech and Audiology, he was often the only African American in the workplace at a time when racial inequality was the norm in our nation, yet this did not prevent him from forging ahead and excelling. He served in a variety of leadership positions in the field of Speech and Hearing as well as administration in both state and federal agencies. He taught at Howard University School of Communication and Coppin State College in Baltimore.

In 1970, Richard T. Adams accepted the call to the ministry attending Howard University School of Religion. Ordained in 1977, Reverend Adams has served as an associate minister or assistant pastor at six churches and as Interim Director of the Morgan State University Christian Center. He is currently the Assistant Pastor of Provident Baptist Church in Baltimore.

Rev. Adams is a life member of the National Education Association, the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Beta Sigma Tau and the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association. He has served in leadership in many organizations and has been the recipient of many prestigious awards and honors. He has been a member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History for over 30 years and served as Vice President of Membership. In 2009 Rev. Adams received the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from the Eastern Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Rev. Dr Adams and his wife Judith Jackson Adams have two sons and two grandsons. We are honored to have this innovative, dedicated, change-agent and torch bearer as our Keynote Speaker for Alumni Day 2019.

ALUMNI CLASS NEWS

The Class Of 1967 – 70th Birthday Party

Turning three score and ten has never been so much fun until you join the Class of 1967 in a celebration of 70 years of life. Yes! A 70th Birthday Party for all who were born in or around 1949. The Party will be on Saturday, July 17, 2019 at the American Legion, Post 122, located at 4424 Painters Mill Road, Painters Mills, Maryland. The time is 7 PM to 11 PM and the cost is \$20 per person. There will be a Cash Bar (\$5-\$7) and an on-site photographer. For more information e-mail: Carolyn Thorne Kelly fdhsclassof1967@gmail.com. Mark your calendars. Plan to come and bring a friend! The Class of 1967 is on the move!!!

MORE CLASS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

THE CLASS OF 1948 GRANTS ITS' ASSETS TO "ALUMNI DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS"



After celebrating their 65th Year Reunion on May 5, 2018 at the Pikesville Double Tree Hilton, the members of the class of 1948 decided to award its remaining finances to the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. to be used as scholarships for qualified Frederick Douglass High School graduating seniors. The funds will be dispersed by "Alumni Dollars for Scholars" over the next four years. Each year 2 deserving students will receive a \$500 scholarship for tuition and/or books. The bequeathed funds total over Four Thousand Dollars.

What a munificent charitable altruistic deed. We salute the Class of 1948. They exemplify the true meaning of our motto of "Pride Dignity and Excellence."

50TH REUNION OF THE CLASS OF 1969

This April the Class of 1969 will celebrate its 50th Reunion Year. They will celebrate this momentous occasion on April 26, 2019 from 8 p.m.- 12 a.m. at the Milbrook Park Community Center, 6808 Milbrook Park Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21215. The festivity will be "A Jean and Bling – Oldies But Goodies Dance." The cost of admission is \$25.00 per guest. The focus this year is to raise funds to provide scholarships for deserving current Frederick Douglass High School graduating seniors and to afford the members of the class of 1969 an opportunity to renew friendships with old friends and rekindle old relationships. The planning committee has worked hard to provide a memorable experience for the class. They will Raffle off a Smart T.V., give door prizes, have exhibits and sales by local vendors, dance to good music and have lots of fun. The affair will be Cabaret Style with Set-Ups provided by the committee. Bring your own food and drinks and be prepared to have a great time. Tickets are available. Come and bring a friend. Vendors are welcome! Table Rental is \$50.00. See You There!!!! For tickets contact Janie Williams (443) 632-7164 or Sylvia Coker (443) 604-1529. Tickets can also be purchased by contacting: The Frederick Douglass High School Class of 1969, PO Box 11225, Baltimore, Maryland 21239.

ALUMNI DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

The Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. Scholarship Committee provided the 2019-2020 scholarship applications to the Guidance Department during the month of January 2019 for distribution to all graduating seniors of Frederick Douglass High School. Scholarship applications were required to be completed and returned to the Alumni Office on Monday, March 18, 2019. In-person interviews of scholarship applicants will take place on Thursday and Friday, April 4 -5, 2019. Graduating seniors selected to receive the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. Scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic year will be announced on Alumni Day, Friday, May 3, 2019. All alumni, graduating classes and supporters of the Historic Frederick Douglass High School are encouraged to contribute to the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. Scholarship Fund. This will enable us to provide assistance to qualified, graduating seniors in pursuit of their post high school education goals, as well as to preserve the history and rich legacy of the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. Contributions may be sent to the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc., P.O. Box 25151, Baltimore, Maryland 21229.

THE YOUTH BUSINESS INSTITUTE

The Youth Business Institute (YBI), is an innovative ten (10) week professional development program taught by Associates from the TJX Companies, Inc. Cooperate Home Office and from area local brands: T.J. Maxx, Marshalls and Home Goods. YBI teaches job and life skills such as: budgeting, resume building, interview preparation, career exploration through job showing and dressing for success. YBI has been in existence since 1999 and has been at Frederick Douglass since 2012. Over the past six years over one hundred fifty Douglass students have participated in the program and successfully completed this ten (10) week course of study.

This year the program began on February 14th. There are sixteen (16) students participating in YBI. If they are successful by completing all of the required tasks, they will participate in the YBI Graduation Ceremony receiving Scholarship Awards, Job Awards and Special Recognition. The Ceremony and Luncheon is held at McCormick & Schmick's Restaurant in Baltimore. The closing activity will include the students, their parents, administrators, guidance counselors, teachers and members of the Alumni Association. Ms. Ida Hines, Chairperson of the Education Committee of the Alumni is a volunteer support person with the students and their teachers for the entire ten (10) weeks.

During this culminating event the students will showcase their projects that provide a detail explanation of what they have learned and how they will use this information to enhance their future. The highlight of the ceremony is the awarding of certificates of completion, monetary awards for outstanding achievement and job placement opportunities with a TJX Company. This program truly exemplifies and reinforces the motto of Frederick Douglass High School of *'Pride, Dignity and Excellence*.

In Memory Of

Carolyn Gibson '66

Norman Parker '58

Charles Russell '55

Ruth Fisher Ross '42

Barbara Jackson Williams F'5

Rev. Ernest Sewell '57

Henry Moore '43



Please contact: The Alumni Office between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. week days to report names to be placed "In Memory Of" at (443) 642-6077 or send by U.S. Mail to the HFDHSAA, Inc., P.O. Box 25151, Baltimore, MD 21229 or simply e-mail the Association: fdhsaainc@gmail.com.

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

Thank You to all alumni that have paid their membership dues. Newsletters are sent out to current members. Please inform us of any changes to your personal information. Encourage your classmates to join the Alumni Association. Your membership dues enable us to continue working toward the restoration of pride, dignity and excellence at our beloved alma mater. If you plan to become a Life / Golden Life Member, please send in your dues by **April 16, 2019** to have your name on the wall in the Alumni Office. The Alumni Room is available for class meetings during the day or in the evening when school is in session.

Please contact: The Alumni Office between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. week days to schedule a meeting date (443) 642-6077 or e-mail your request: fdhsaainc@gmail.com.

Moving? Don't forget to send your new address to the Association so that you can continue to get communications and mailings!



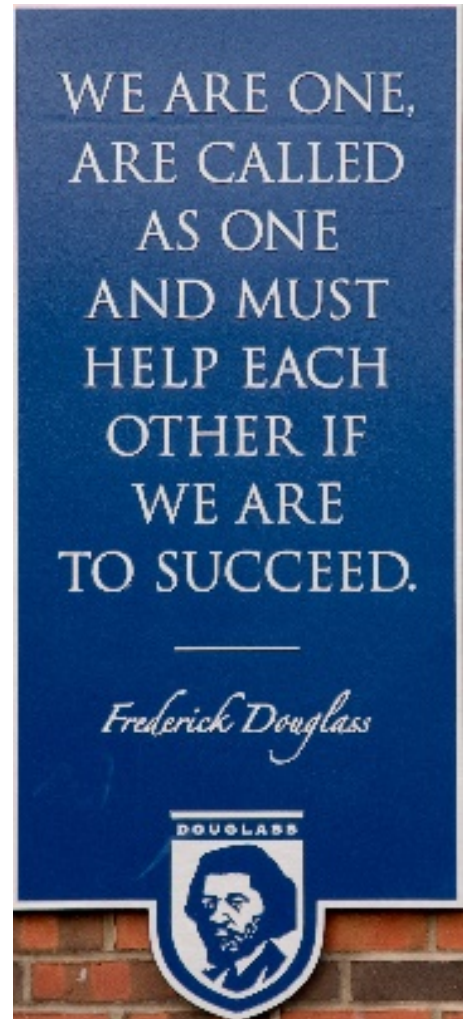
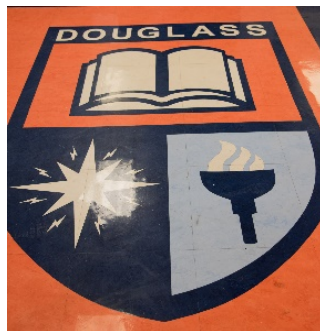
Black History Month Speaker Series: "My Life, My Journey, My Struggle!"

Each Tuesday in February was designated for "**Alumni Classroom Visits: My Life, My Journey, My Struggle**" at Frederick Douglass High School. Hats off to our first group of Alumni who stepped up to the challenge on Tuesday, February 5, 2019: Mr. Albert Wylie, Class of 1964, Mr. Millard Delvison, Class of 1975, Mr. Robert Rhodes, Class of 1970, Mr. James Patterson, Class of 2006, Dr. Ruth Pratt, Class of 1939, and Ms. Hope Mims, Class of 1989. Each alumnus shared with the student information on their experience as a student at Douglass High School and how their time spent at Douglass prepared them for the career fields that they selected to enter. They also shared information about both their struggles and successes along the way. After listening to the journey of the alumnus, the students had a time to converse with the alumni and ask them questions. The exchanges revealed many similarities in the journeys of both the students and the alumni.

We thank Mr. Craig Rivers, Principal and Mr. Christopher Cash, Assistant Principal for affording us the opportunity to share with the students. We thank Mrs. Olivia Smith, Librarian and Media Specialist for working in partnership with Ms. Brenda G. Thomas, President of the Historic Frederick Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc. to coordinate the classes and alumni speakers. We thank the first group of teachers who opened their classrooms to the Alumni to share with the students: Ms. Gervacio, Algebra, Mr. Krempel, African-American Literature, Mr. Davis, English, and Mr. Parsons, English.

The students were very attentive and invited the alumni to come back and talk with them some more! The teachers stayed for the entire presentation after introducing the alumni to the students and welcoming them to their classes.

All Alumni who participated had a wonderful time with the students! We had Alumni from classes as far back as 1939! We are looking forward to keeping this Speaker Series going, so if you are interested in sharing with the students, mentoring, tutoring or simply helping our students in any way possible don't hesitate to let us know: fdhsaainc@gmail.com.



FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 25151
BALTIMORE, MD 21229-0251

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We want to hear from you!

- Follow us on Social Media
- Submit Articles
- Be an advocate for Douglass by joining the Legislative Committee of the Alumni Association. Find out more by attending the General Membership Meeting the 3rd Thursday in each month.
- Just reach out!

