QUOTE OF THE DAY:
"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."
- Shirley Chisholm, first black woman elected to Congress
Welcome to AARC's Newsletter!

This is the renewal of an older "Grapevine" in paper form. The Grapevine is back in business and better than ever! In each edition, you'll find upcoming events, opportunities for networking engagements on Penn’s campus that are co-sponsored by AARC, and other affiliated resources. If you ever have anything of interest you would like to share, please feel free to contact us @aarc@upenn.edu

To connect further with AARC and stay informed about our upcoming events, please:

Follow us on our INSTAGRAM and TWITTER pages

Like our FACEBOOK page

Request to be added to the Newsletter Mailing List: @aarc.pobox.upenn.edu

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Dear friends,

We made it out of 2020 and into 2021! I saw a meme that said 2021 told 2020, “Hold my beer!” This year started out with a bang - disputes over the election, an insurrection, increases in Corona Virus numbers, increases in gun violence, and SNOW! We are all holding onto hope that 2021 will see an end to the pandemic, a boost to our economic condition, and an ability for us to gather in person. It is important to recognize that while the government can initiate some changes, some of the control is ours. Wear masks, social distance, spend responsibly, and find ways to communicate effectively as well as to teach our young people to handle conflict without violence.

Earlier this year, we welcomed our new Vice Provost for University Life, Dr. Mamta Motwani Accapadi. When she spoke she talked about being our ancestors dreams come true. She challenged us, and I challenge you, to be good ancestors for those who will come after us. Make the decisions and perform the actions today that will make life better for our progeny! Let’s commit to being examples and to giving our young people the skills and tools they need for success. So, they will look back and say we were good ancestors.

Our Dr. Martin Luther King Symposium on Social Change was virtual this year, but our programs were meaningful, well attended, and many focused on the values of social reform and justice of the radical King! Our Women of Color Programs focusing on financial health will help us to acquire some economic power. Our community lunches, held in collaboration with Penn Women’s Center, provide an opportunity for us to be physically distanced and yet, socially together! You will learn more about these activities in this newsletter.

Continued on following page
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE CONT.

As we continue into 2021 may we be a people of hope, a people of peace, a people of love and as we go into the wonder of the world may we be granted opportunities to share hope, peace, and love as we continue to work to be good ancestors for the generations to come.

The Marathon Continues,
Dr. Valerie Allen

**AARC Calendar: February**

**List of this month’s AARC Events:**

- 5:00 PM Thursday, February 4th - Food Justice in Philadelphia
- 6:00 PM Friday, February 5th - Jazz for King
- 12:00 PM Wednesday, February 10th - Black History Month Program
- 12:00 PM Wednesday, February 17th - Women of Color at Penn Noontime Lunch Series: When Love is Not Enough: Abusive Relationships
- 1:00 PM Thursday, February 18th - Men of Color (Monthly Huddle Meeting)
- 3:00 PM Wednesday, February 24th - Improving the Safety of Virtual Meeting and Conferences
- 12:00 PM Friday, February 26th - Community Lunch Program - Open Forum with AARC and PWC

Link to calendar: [click here](#)
Announcements

Community Lunches

The last Friday of every month, at noon, Penn Women’s Center and AARC hold a virtual community lunch. When we were in person, we would often gather in the kitchen and prepare lunch while we talked about current events, favorite recipes, or any concerns. It was a time to gather around the kitchen table and share! While we can’t be together, we still gather and share, virtually! Bring your lunch and join us for these spirited discussions. No agenda, it is just an opportunity to check-in with friends. The Zoom ID will become available closer to the day of the event. See you there!

New Event

Congratulations, Honorees of the 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Recognition Awards! What a pleasure it is to acknowledge and share your great works with the community! We proudly share your biographies:

Continued on next page
Undergraduate Student Honoree: Hakiem Ellison

Hakiem Ellison (C’22) is a Political Science major, minoring in Urban Education in the College of Arts and Sciences. Hakiem is a first-generation, low-income student born and raised in the West Philadelphia. He dedicates his time and energy to making positive changes in this area that he calls home.

His service with the West Philadelphia community began when he enrolled in an academically based community service (ABCS) course entitled Music in Urban Spaces and its affiliate, Music for Social Change. As part of ABCS, Ellison worked for a year at Lea Elementary School, facilitating activities with school-day drama and band classes, as well as with after-school music programs. He has also worked with Penn’s Summer Mentorship Program, preparing and organizing events for the high school participants and co-producing a 100-page “College Knowledge” handbook of tips and resources for navigating the college application process; Music for Social Change, mentoring Lea students in Musicipia, an after school orchestral program. Ellison has continued to work in various peer mentor programs that provides support programs and services to first-generation and/or low-income students.

Ellison identified Dr. King’s quote “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?” as the inspiration for his work and continues to prove his commitment to the betterment of the West Philadelphia community.

Graduate Student Honoree: Ashley Betts

Ashley Betts, a Meckler Family Endowed Fellow and first-year MBA Candidate at the Wharton School is Vice President of Social Impact on Wharton Graduate Association’s Cluster Council. Leading a fundraising effort to tackle homelessness, Betts had fellow first-year MBA students work with nonprofits to raise money and hand out care packages to those in need. She had them partner with the Philadelphia Independent School District to lead a virtual career symposium for High School students.

Betts serves on the board of Rebuilding Together, which transforms low-income homeowners’ lives revitalizing their Belmont community. She serves on the Dean's MBA Advisory Board and helped create Wharton’s first Academically Based Community Service MBA course with the Penn Netter Center where students and faculty work with the West Philadelphia community to help solve critical community problems. As Director of Wharton’s African American MBA Association, her initiative supports black-owned businesses and also has an “Adopt a Family for Christmas” program. Betts co-founded Wharton Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Consultants.

Ashley Betts demonstrates a sustained commitment to community involvement throughout her personal and professional life. Making a significant impact in Philadelphia and at Penn, she is a good neighbor to our beloved community.
Staff Honoree: Dr. Batsiari Bvunzawabaya

Dr. Batsirai Bvunzawabaya, or “Dr. Batsi,” as she is affectionately known to colleagues, is a trusted partner and advocate across the campus of the University of Pennsylvania. She is a psychologist and the Director of Outreach and Prevention Services at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). She has consistently demonstrated her commitment to centering values of equity, inclusivity, and social justice.

Originally from Zimbabwe, Africa, Dr. Batsi clinical interests include exploring issues related to minority mental health, body image concerns, sexual trauma, racial and ethnic identity development, and social justice counseling. At CAPS, Dr. Batsi is a valuable member of the Eating Concerns Team and the Sexual Trauma Treatment Outreach and Prevention Team. She is a facilitator of the staff Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee, and was part of the Intercultural Leadership Program, which received the Models of Excellence Award. She also co-facilitates restorative circles at Penn.

Dr. Batsi has supported collaborations that center holistic wellness and access to culturally responsive resources. Student groups such as Black Graduate Women’s Association, Sister Sister, Abuse and Sexual Assault Prevention (ASAP) are just a few of the many that have benefited from her generous counsel and active participation in their programming and outreach efforts.

Rodin Honoree: Gina Pambianchi

Penn Graduate School of Education alum, Gina Pambianchi, serves as the Community Engagement Librarian for the Van Pelt-Dietrich Library at the University of Pennsylvania. In her role, she is responsible for developing partnerships with public school libraries and community organizations. In less than a year, Pambianchi expanded the scope of Penn Libraries’ community outreach program by introducing new initiatives such as the “Mirrors Collection” where her team of students select books for local elementary schools. Other new outreach programs include: “Connection Collection,” “Advocacy for Librarians”; “Adult Literacy”; “Health Literacy”; and, the “Unearthing Literacy Project”.

Before coming to Penn, Pambianchi taught and managed a school library in Belize City, Belize. She worked in collaboration with a team to develop an extended day program for twenty youth in under-resourced communities. She facilitated student research and story-time, instructed small group and one-on-one reading classes for students with learning disabilities, and established a weekly Girls’ Empowerment Group focused on self-esteem and gender-related issues.

Pambianchi also collaborated to establish an adult education curriculum at North Philadelphia non-profit, Hope Partnership for Education. There, she became more cognizant of the relationship between literacy and healthcare. This led her to pursue a nursing degree and ultimately, a position as a registered nurse on an Oncology/Transplant unit at Einstein Medical Center.
Community Honoree: Sara Lomax-Reese

Sara Lomax-Reese is the President and CEO of WURD Radio, LLC, which is the only Black-owned media company in Pennsylvania. WURD 900am has been under the leadership of Sara for more than nine years.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Lomax-Reese made a significant impact working on the glaucoma awareness campaign with the city of Philadelphia. The campaign sought to provide free glaucoma screenings to African Americans, as well as to enroll eligible patients in a genetics study. She was passionate and creative in designing the campaign, and hosted live coverage of a screening event, along with interviewing African American glaucoma physicians at Penn. The campaign was enormously successful; a large majority cited their trust and familiarity with WURD Radio (and with Lomax-Reese) as their main reason for participating in the campaign.

Lomax-Reese has received numerous awards including: The Woman of Substance Award from the National Medical Association; the “Tree of Life“ award from the Wellness of You, and HealthQuest Magazine received the Beacon of Light Award from the Congressional Black Caucus for outstanding health coverage. In addition, Sara was recognized as one of the "100 People to Watch" by Business Philadelphia Magazine, and in 2010, she was selected for the “Women of Distinction” award given by the Philadelphia Business Journal. Most recently, Sara received the 2012 PECO “Power to the Community” award given by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women of Pennsylvania

Community Honoree: Dr. Cassandra Graves

This Lancaster, PA, NBC Television former news journalist is an educator, grant- writer, administrator, performing arts consultant, professional photographer, and a certified Home-based travel agent promoting and building cultural diversity partnerships…and that’s just her side hustle! Dr. Cassandra Graves is Associate Director, of Evelyn Graves Drama Productions, Artistic Consultant, Director of Evelyn Graves School of Performing Arts and Administrator of Evelyn Graves Ministries Church Inc. A Doctor of Divinity and Theology, she has effectively utilized her powerful communication skills to mentor thousands of families and re-instituted community outreach by empowering resources with free food and fresh vegetables feeding 43,200 underserved families.

A West Philly native, she includes culture, education, spirituality, science, technology, engineering, math, and the performing arts on her list of life sustaining services targeting youth with opportunities and experiences of a lifetime.

In 2011, Dr. Graves was installed as Executive Assistant Pastor at Evelyn Graves Ministries Church and has received several awards including citations from Mayor Michael Nutter, Travel Agent of the Year from Philadelphia Black Travel Expo, and the NAACP, all acknowledging her leadership quality and positive impact within the community.
Men of Color

Recap of "Black Lives Matter and Political Movement in 2021"

On January 21, 2021, as part of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Symposium, the Men of Color hosted a virtual program titled, "Black Lives Matter and Political Power in 2021." Leading the discussion was, local activist, Asa Khalif. Over the years, Khalif’s has become one of the most vocal demonstrators on issues of racial and social justice in the Philadelphia activist community. He is no stranger to controversy, particularly around the politically charged term, "Black Lives Matter".

As the moderator of the Zoom discussion, I opened the conversation by asking Khalif, "What does 'Black Lives Matter' mean to you?" Khalif explained how the term operates within two different spheres: one being the actual physical organization(s) and the other being a social movement used to address racism and social disparities in America. He stated that, "It’s a collection of many groups, organization, and citizens working collectively to address white supremacy and building political power to affect change, especially in Philadelphia." Khalif discussed his social advocacy and how long he has been fighting for those who have been historically marginalized. "I was doing Black Lives Matter before it had a name. Through the years, I worked on race related issues with a litany of young and inspiring activists. I’m not new to this!"

Khalif explained how the political structure in Philadelphia has "been a deterrent to the progress of the city— especially for Black voters." As we discussed the concerns of Black community members around prison, police reform, education, and gentrification, Khalif emphasized the importance that the movement “confront them (politicians) about unfair policies, laws and practices that continue to hurt Black people." The dialogue was intense, yet very engaging and informative. As I pushed Khalif to speak to the concept of political power and the accountability of politicians, he offered ways of changing the current conditions, suggesting that we directly address the judges and the politicians who, in his opinion, have betrayed the public’s trust.

A virtual participant in the meeting described the high level of violence that is plaguing his West Philadelphia neighborhood. In response to those concerns, Khalif’s discussed the death of his nephew Brandon Tate-Brown, who “was shot down, murdered at the hands of the Philadelphia Police.” He used that event as a call to expose the use of lethal force and racism in law enforcement. In addition, Khalif believes there are several reasons to explain the rise in shootings including: COVID-19, lack of jobs, poor education, and lack of trust between citizens and law enforcement.

In terms of political representation, Khalif urged Black community members to be actively engaged in politics and to demand an agenda that is focused on implementing policies that will improve the conditions of our neighborhoods. “We need to push OUR agenda in schools, in politics, and for police and judges to recognize Black Lives Matter isn’t just a phase; it’s a political and social movement.”

In ending, Khalif challenged everyone listening to keep pushing the fight against oppression and be more proactive in the political process.
The importance and complexities of women of color in leadership

The roles of women of color in leadership have been marked with successes as well as disappointments. The history of male dominance and white supremacy has marginalized and stigmatized the contributions and upward mobility of women of color in leadership roles across disciplines. Historically, inequalities are so ingrained in the fabric of institutions that how they are carried out are hidden in subtleties and masked behind labels of diversity initiatives. Based on findings from the Race to Lead: An Initiative of Building Movement Project (BMP) the following was highlighted:

- Despite advanced degrees, women of color are least likely to hold leadership positions and most likely to hold line staff positions.
- Women of color were more likely to respond that color had a negative impact on their career advancement.
- Women of color were more likely to respond that gender had a negative impact on their career advancement.
- Women of color were more likely to report frustration with inadequate salaries.
- Women of color were least likely to report receiving mentorship at jobs, and more likely to seek mentors outside of work.
- Women of color were least likely to receive recognition for their work and contributions. (Biu, 2019)

Facing these types of odds and discrepancies in well-established systems within well-established organizations, how can women of color challenge the gap in racial leadership while positioning themselves for upward movement and success? Support must be created and informed through those possessing similar lenses and similar experiences (Roberts, et al, 2018). This speaks to the efficacy and reason(s) there still remains a need for Women of Color at Penn and why the newly created, "Women of Color Leadership Academy" is strategic and critical to creating a stronghold for positioning and propelling women of color into areas where they become and remain visible, viable, and promotionable to the institutions they serve.

For more information about Women of Color at Penn (WOCAP) visit: https://aarc.upenn.edu/women-color

Citations
Medical Mistrust During COVID-19
By: Ahlam Goran

This past week, TEDxPenn, a non-profit student association at the University of Pennsylvania that conducts an annual conference focused on education and innovation, held an event titled “Dissecting Disparity in the Era of COVID-19” centered on healthcare. One important aspect of healthcare access and equality that guest speaker Dr. Stephanie Chia highlighted was the impact of medical mistrust on communities of color. What is medical mistrust? It is when, in this case, BIPOC are wary of or suspicious of medical treatment offered due to historical – and recent – abuses of oppressed communities. One develops biases against healthcare after being exposed to countless examples of racially motivated maltreatment. For example, Black patients being cruelly used as test subjects throughout the notorious Tuskegee Syphilis Study of 1932 or current statistics citing that 40% of medical students who participated in a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academies of Science perceive Black patients as feeling less pain than their white counterparts.

This mistrust has tangible and dangerous effects on communities of color. While frightening statistics like the fact that Latinx and African American residents are 3x as likely to be affected by COVID-19 compared to their white counterparts indicate communities of color are disproportionately affected by the pandemic, 1 in 3 Black Americans have reported they will not receive the vaccine and 48% of Black Americans report a general mistrust of vaccines according to a Kaiser Family Foundation study. Black Americans have been vaccinated at much lower rates than white Americans – at one point, 12% of white Pennsylvanians had been vaccinated as compared to 3% of Black Pennsylvanians. This reflects a deep access problem, but also displays the effects of medical mistrust on the future and present health and wellness of communities of color. One way the healthcare system has sought to tackle this problem is through visual campaigns. For example, Sandra Lindsay, a Black nurse, was the first person in the United States to be vaccinated, creating a hopefully encouraging scene for BIPOC that fosters more trust in the healthcare system. The image circulated in the campaign is shown below with Sandra Lindsay on the left and a Black doctor administering the vaccine on the right. Although it’s a long road to gaining permanent trust from communities of color, do you feel as though this image is effective?

![Image of Sandra Lindsay and a Black doctor administering the vaccine](image-url)
In honor of Black History Month, we wanted to end our newsletter with some of Penn’s Black History. All of this information came from Penn Archives.

**Notable African Americans at Penn**

- Abele, Julian Francis (1881-1950), B.A. in Arch. 1902
  - First African American to graduate from Penn’s Graduate School of Fine Arts
- Alexander, Raymond Pace (1897-1974), B.S. in Econ. 1920
  - Civil rights lawyer and Philadelphia city councilman
- Alexander, Virginia Margaret (1900 -1949), B.S. in Ed. 1920
  - Medical doctor in Philadelphia
- Asbury, Ida Elizabeth (Bowser) (1869-1955), Cert. of Proficiency in Music, 1890
  - First African American women to earn a Penn degree
  - First African American to become captain of a Penn varsity team (track)
  - Assistant in Sociology in the Wharton School, author and founder of the NAACP
- Fontaine, William Thomas Valeria (1909-1968), Ph. D. 1936
  - Penn’s first fully-affiliated and first tenured African American faculty member
- Lewis, Joseph Hunter (1870-1914), B.S. 1892, M.E. 1893
  - First African American to earn a Mechanical Engineering degree from Penn
- Mossell, Aaron Albert (1863-1951), L.L.B. 1888
  - First African American to graduate from Penn’s Law School
- Taylor, John Baxter (1882-1908), V.M.D. 1908
  - Second African American athlete at Penn, first African American to win an Olympic gold medal (track)
- Adger, William (1856-1885), B.A. 1883
  - First African American to graduate from the College
- Alexander, Sadie Tanner Mossell (1898-1989), B.S. 1918, A.M. 1919, Ph.D. 1921, LL.B. 1927
  - First African American to receive a Ph.D. in Economics in the United States, first African American woman to earn a Penn law degree and to become a member of the Pennsylvania bar
- Anderson, Elizabeth Mossell (1894 – 1975), B.S. in Ed. 1939
  - Dean of Women at Wilberforce University
- Brister, James (1858-1916), D.D.S. 1881
  - First African American to receive a Penn degree of any kind
- Dickens, Helen Octavia (1909-2001), Sc.D. (hon.) 1982
  - First African American woman on the medical staff of Penn’s Medical School
- Engs, Robert (1943-2013)
  - Member of Penn’s history faculty since 1972
- Johnson, Francis (1792-1844)
  - First African American bandleader and composer to play at Penn events, including commencements
- Moore, Lewis Baxter (1866-1928), Ph.D. 1896
  - First African American to earn a Penn Ph.D., Dean of Howard University
- Mossell, Nathan Francis (1856-1946), M.D. 1882
  - First African American to graduate from Penn’s Medical School
- Tucker, Miles (1856-1904), Ph.B. 1887
  - First African American graduate of the Wharton School
Notable African Americans at Penn continued

- White, Samuel (c. 1845-1904)
  - Athletic trainer for Penn’s early sports teams
- Woodard, Dudley Weldon (1881-1965), Ph.D. 1928
  - First African American at Penn (and second in the nation) to earn a Ph.D. in mathematics, professor and Dean of Students at Howard University

Wilson, Albert Monroe (1841-1904)
- Janitor, messenger, lab assistant, friend to Penn students and faculty for a half century, and community medic

Link to Penn Archives page

Timeline of Penn Black History

- 1879: The first African American students enrolled at Penn. Their names were William Adger, James Brister, and Nathan Mossell
- 1881: James Brister graduated from the Dental School. He is the first African American to earn a degree from Penn
- 1882: Nathan Francis Mossell graduated from Penn with a Doctor of Medicine. He is the first African American admitted to the medical school and the first to graduate
- 1883: William Adger earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and is the first African American to graduate from the College
- 1887: Miles Tucker became the first African American to graduate from the Wharton School when he earned a Ph.B
- 1890: Ida Elizabeth (Bowser) Asbury was the first African American woman to graduate from Penn. Asbury earned a Certificate of Proficiency in Music as a violinist
- 1896: The Wharton School appointed Dr. W.E.B. DuBois as the “Assistant in Sociology” while he conducted research and wrote on “the social condition of the colored People of the Seventh Ward of Philadelphia.” Lewis Baxter Moore earned the first Ph.D. awarded to an African American at the University of Pennsylvania
- 1902: Julian Francis Abele graduated with a degree in Architecture, granting him as the first African American graduate of the Graduate School of Fine Arts
- 1908: John Baxter Taylor, Jr. graduated from the Vet School. At the summer Olympics in London, he was the first African American to win a gold medal as part of the world record setting 1,600 meter relay team
- 1918: Willis Nelson Cummings was captain of the varsity cross country team, making him the first African American captain of an Ivy League sports team. The Gamma Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was charted at Penn. This was the first African American sorority at Penn. Dr. Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelors of Science in Education. Mrs. Alexander continued her education at Penn earning a Ph.D. in Economics (1918). Mrs. Alexander was one of the first two African American women in the nation to receive a Ph.D. and the first to do so in economics.
Timeline of Penn Black History cont.

- 1919: Willis Nelson Cummings graduated from the dental school. He was ranked sixth in his class that consisted of 259 students
- 1920: The Psi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated was charted. This was the first African American fraternity at Penn. Raymond Pace Alexander graduated from the Wharton School. He was a renowned Philadelphia lawyer, arguing a number of cases concerning racial discrimination
- 1924: Howard Hamilton Mackey graduated from Penn. As a professor of architecture at Howard University for 50 years, he trained 65% of all African American architects in North America
- 1927: Dr. Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander graduated with a J.D. from the Law School. She was the first African American woman to graduate from Penn Law and the first admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar
- 1949: Penn conferred an honorary LL.D. to Ralph Bunche at the annual Commencement ceremony. He was the first African American to receive an honorary degree from Penn
- 1949-1951: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. audited classes in philosophy at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- 1961: During the summer, Penn held a six week orientation for 100 African students attending college on the east coast
- 1963: Tenure was granted to an African American faculty member for the first time. Appointed as an Assistant Professor in Philosophy in 1949, Dr. William Thomas Valeria Fontaine was the first fully-affiliated African American faculty member before receiving tenure from the University
- 1968: Judge A. Leon Higginbotham was elected the first African American trustee at Penn. Theodore Hershberg was selected to teach “The Negro in America.” This was the History Department’s first course in African American History. Hershberg had previously taught “Controversial Topics in Negro History” as an experimental seminar program. Penn recognized the Society of African and Afro-American Students (S.A.A.S) as an accredited student organization
- 1969: The History Departments offered a new course; “Black History” during the spring semester. In a ‘Report of The Committee on the Goals of Higher Education on Programs for Black Students and Afro-American Studies,’ The College recommended that a major program in Afro-American Studies be offered as soon as possible. They recommended the addition of such program specifically in time for students in the Class of 1972 to use it
- 1970: John Wideman, who was a Penn graduate and Associate Professor of English, was appointed chairman of the Black Studies Committee and Director of the Afro-American Studies Program
- 1972: DuBois College House opened as an experimental living-learning program for African American students at the same time that the Afro-American Studies Program began
- 1975: The Onyx Senior Honor Society was created in order to honor African American members of the Senior Class. The Society is co-ed, with nine women represented out of the first twenty-four members
- 1977: Beatrice Smith completes the Reserve Officers Training Corps Program (ROTC) at Penn, making her the first African American to complete the program at Penn and the second out of the Ivy League schools to receive a commission through Army ROTC
- 1978: Judge A. Leon Higginbotham is elected a trustee for life
Timeline of Penn Black History cont.

- 1980: The African American Studies program held their 6th annual spring symposium. This symposium addressed “New Black Middle Class Prospects” and was at the International House. Speakers included Toni Morrison, Frank Yerby and Harvard Professor Martin Kilson
- 1983: Wharton hosted a conference on how to increase private enterprise in Africa. “The University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School will host the first known conference of U.S. and African academic, business and government figures designed to promote the private sector, and especially small business development, in Africa.”
- 1985: President F. Sheldon Hackney called for donations to the Council for Black Education and Research. This was an organization started by former Penn professor and 1969 Nobel-prize nominee, Ezekiel Mphalele
- 1987: Protest to demand a resource center dedicated to the black community, which brought about the African American Resource Center
- 1989: The Black Wharton Undergraduate Association held its first forum on March 22. It was centered around the ‘Political Ramifications of Black Economic Development’ was designed to facilitate a discussion on issues facing the African American community and African American business professionals. The opening of the African American Resource Center
- 1992: Report on Minority Permanence at the University of Pennsylvania discussed the wide range of student organizations on campus promoting diversity at the undergraduate and graduate levels. For the undergraduate level, BSL (Black Student League) and CASA (Caribbean America Student Association). For the graduate level, Society of Black Engineers, Black MBA Association, Black Law Students Union, and National Association of Black Social Workers-University of Pennsylvania Chapter. There were also scholarships/fellowships targeting minorities, programs aimed at minority students, and pre-college programs for minorities

Links to Penn Archives page

Links to a few MLK Symposium Programs

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Kick Off" Event! January 18, 2021
The "Kick-Off" begins the Day of Service with speaker Dr. Marc Lamont Hill. Entertainment includes Nia-Next, Danse4Nia’s Youth Company and Inspiration A Capella
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2ZkxbYxfsw&t=109s

Hallmark Program: When the marches End, Part II:
Dr. Herman Beavers (professor, English and Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania) in interview with Dr. Henry Louis Taylor, Jr., (Director, Center for Urban Studies, University of Buffalo)and Dr. Keeanga-Yamahtia Taylor (assistant professor, African American studies, Princeton University).Sponsors: African-American Resource Center, Netter Center for Community Partnership, PHENND. Co-sponsors: Civic House, LGBT Center, Paideia Program, and NSO and Academic Initiatives
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vtr3_kLs8YY
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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vtr3_kLs8YY

Jazz for King– Celebrating Black (Super) Heroism:
This year's theme is “Black Panthers(s), Black Power: Celebrating Black (Super) Heroism.” Come jam with us as we groove to the music styling of Glenn Bryan & Friends.Get a "sneak-peek" of actor Khalil Munir’s show and more. You may be able to share your favorite black hero. Register for this event through Eventbrite.Sponsors: African-American Resource Center and the MLK Executive Planning Committee
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fbuwcojx4H4&t=45s

For more videos and information, go to our Youtube Channel and our Facebook Page:
The African American Resource Center at Penn Youtube:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0cNcSAHJo6EzKAYgez92Vw