

7th Annual Howard Thurman Convocation

# THE LIFE OF THE MIND





2041 LARKIN STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109 (415) 776-4910

### PROGRAM

ORDER OF SERVICE Dr. Dorsey O. Blake, Presiding; Dr. Carl Blake, Pianist; Mr. Lawrence Sumpter, Organist; Mr. Johnny Land, Song Leader

Prelude: My Lord, What a Mornin'	Arr. by Calvin Taylor
Call to Assembly	Dr. Dorsey O. Blake
Opening Song: "This is the Day that the Lord Has Made"	Noah Griffin - Soloist, Congregation
Invocation	Ms. Kathryn Joelli
Welcome	Mr. Gerald Harris
Greetings	Wiley College Alumni Association — Mr. Benny Brown
Song: "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" Arr. by Harry T. Burleigh	Susheel Bibbs
Introduction of Speaker	Dr. Daniel Collins
Music Meditation Ballade Op. 47 by F. Chopin	Dr. Carl Blake
Keynote Address: "The Life of The Mind"	Dr. Julius S. Scott, Jr.
Song: "Guide My Feet"	Congregation
Panel Discussion Moderated by Mr. Glenn Nance	Dr. Angana Chatterji Dr. James McCray Dr. Joseph Subbiondo
Song: "A City Called Heaven" Arr. by Hall Johnson	Susheel Bibbs
Presentation of Howard Thurman Award	Dr. Dorsey Blake, Gerald Harris, Ms. Merti Walker
Offering	Rev. Perry Lang, Lynda Martyn, Congregation
Remarks	Ms. Gwen Mazer
Closing Prayer	Dr. Dorsey Blake

**Closing Prayer** 

**Closing Song** "This Little Light of Mine" Congregation

#### GREETINGS

I am honored by your presence at this special occasion, the seventh annual Howard Thurman Convocation. The convocation is a deliberate assembly to reflect upon the legacy of Dr. Thurman, co-founding minister, and imagine anew our common ground of existence. It also serves as a creative forum for observing the church's anniversary. This marks the fifty-eighth anniversary of The Church for The Fellowship of All Peoples, the nation's first avowedly interracial, interfaith congregation.

This year's theme, "The Life of The Mind", will explore the critical role of the intellect in spiritual growth. We are grateful to Dr. Julius Scott Jr., eminent educator and religious leader, and our prominent panelists, Dr. Angana Chatterji, Dr. James McCray, Dr. Joseph Subbiondo, and Mr. Glenn Nance for their critical insights into "The Life of The Mind". We are also blessed to have the remarkably gifted musicians Dr. Carl Blake, Susheel Bibbs, Johnny Land, and Lawrence Sumpter with us.

I pray today's gathering will expand the growing edge of your own spiritual quest and give you confidence to walk in the light that the God of Life shines on your path.

With Thanksgiving,

Dorsey O. Blake, Minister



The convocation is held in honor of Dr. Howard Thurman co-founding pastor of The Church for the Fellowship of all Peoples. At the time of his death in 1981, Howard Thurman was Dean Emeritus of Marsh Chapel, Boston University, and Chairman of the Board of the Howard Thurman Educational Trust in San Francisco. He also served as Dean of Rankin Chapel, Howard University, Washington, D.C.; professor at Howard University, Washington D.C. professor at Howard University School of Religion, and as Director of Religious Life at Morehose and Spelman College, Atlanta. Many of Dr. Thurman's books are available at the Church for The Fellowship of All People.

## DR. JULIUS SCOTT, JR.

# RECIPIENT OF THE HOWARD THURMAN AWARD



**Dr.** Julius Scott Jr. is intellectually challenging and models what it means to stretch the boundaries of one's thinking. He has an abiding enthusiasm for life, a magnetic personality, youthful energy merged with wisdom. Professionally, he as been an innovate administrator and person of vision, an educator par excellence, and a dynamic and engaging religious leader. He is a pioneer in erasing racial barricades, embodies the unity of humankind, and is a harbinger of global cooperation.

Dr. Scott has served as president of Paine College twice, president and CEO of Wiley College and interim president of Albany State University and the Medical College of Georgia. He currently serves as special assistant to the president at the Medical College of Georgia. He also has headed the Division of Higher Education for the United Methodist Church. He has served as chaplain at Brown University, a foundation executive, and Executive Director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change.

Dr. Julius S. Scott, Jr. has earned degrees from Wiley College (with distinction), Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Brown of Texas and followed in the footsteps of his father, who was a minister and college president. Scott's professional career embraces teaching at Wiley College, Boston University, and Brown University and administration, at Spelman College, Paine College, Albany State University, Albany, GA, Wiley College and the Medical College of Georgia. He was also a foundation administration and a denominational executive.

Scott has traveled extensively, most recently to Africa, Israel and Russia, and frequently speaks on college campuses. He participated in a peace project in Bremen, Germany and served as a teacher and village worker in Hyderabad, India. He retired for the third time July 1, 1998. On Hilton Head Island he is a mentor in the Hilton Head High School, the co-chair of the advisory board of Penn Center, and a volunteer in several civic activities and social organizations. He is active in St. Andrew By-the-Sea United Methodist Church.

Dr. Scott is married to Ianthia (Ann) Lucille Harrell, and they have three sons: Julius III, David, and Lamar. The Scotts reside in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

November 17, 2002 11:00 AM An adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's "The Adventures of the Black Girl in Her Search for God," directed by Felix Justice

December 22, 2002 11:00 AM

January 12, 2003 11:00 AM

February 9, 2003 11:00 AM A Tribute to Vernon Alley: Jazz Immortal (A Special Christmas Service), coordinated by Noah

"A Conversation with Contemporary Mystic Howard Thurman," an interview written by Stanley Scott.

Music And Poetry of the Harlem Renaissance, Directed by Noah Griffin

Rev. Barbara A. Holmes, J.D., Ph.D. current Associate Professor of Ethics and African American Religious Studies is delighted to announce a new research initiative that focuses on a retrieval of the contemplative practices of the African American Church. The project, which is funded by the Louisville Institute, is entitled *Joy Unspeakable*. It will focus on protestant African American contemplative practices, i.e. brush arbors, church shut-ins, moaner's benches, contemplative prayers and meditation.

A particular emphasis will be placed on the contemporary moral example of Dr. Howard Thurman and Sue Bailey Thurman, and the continuing importance of their legacy of spiritual renewal and reconciliation.

Rev. Barbara A. Holmes, J.D., Ph.D. Associate Professor of Ethics and African American Religious Studies Memphis Theological Seminary 168 E. Pkwy S., Memphis, TN 38104

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In appreciation and memory of our parents, Mrs. Lucinda Caston and Mr. Van Caston Sr., who taught us how to keep fresh the moments of our high resolve that in good times and in tempest, we know that to which our lives are committed.

> Bryan Caston Parker Caston. Sr. Evelyn L. Caston Powe Maxine Caston Maxine Caston Sthe Late Donald Caston, Sr. Dorothy M. Caston Thomas Van Caston, Jr. Catherine Caston Joan Caston Lewis Lorraine Caston Davis



#### PARTICIPANTS

Patricia Andrews is a member of the Facilities Committee. She is also a poet.

*Susheel Bibbs* is a seasoned recitalist and opera/oratorio performer, an award winning actress, a former EMMY award-winning TV executive producer, a writer/lecturer and foremost scholar on Mary Ellen Pleasant, Mother of Civil Rights in California. She holds advance credentials in philosophy and music. She is also an acclaimed singer and actress. She lectures nationwide on Pleasant and is a Lecturer at the University of California at Berkeley. Her work on Pleasant, certified by the California Humanities Council, has received the San Francisco Board of Supervisors highest commendation!

**Dr. Carl Blake** holds three degrees in piano performance: the Bachelor of Music (magna cum laude) from Boston University, the Master of Arts from San Jose State University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts from Cornell University. As a concert artist, Blake has performed throughout the United States and in France, England, and Jamaica. He has appeared in a solo recital and joint recital at Carnegie Hall. In 1999 Dr. Blake received a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award to lecture, teach, and perform in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. He is the former Associate Professor of Music at The Pennsylvania State University. He is currently Director of Music at Beth Eden Baptist Church in Oakland.

**Dr. Dorsey Blake** was officially installed as minister of The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in October 1994. Rev. Blake has extensive field ministry experience and has worked with various interfaith groups on justice and peace issues. He is also founding director of the Doctor of Ministry Program at the University of Creation Spirituality and has served as the Director of the Center for Urban Black Studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley.

Mr. Benny Brown is President of Wiley College Alumni San Francisco/ Bay Area.

**Professor Angana Chatterji** works on issues of globalization and violence, human rights, and religious fundamentalism. Since 1984, she has been working with peoples movements for social justice in India. She has published extensively, convened the Dialogues For Peace and is on the board of directors of the International Rivers Network and Earth Island Institute. She teaches in the Social and Cultural Anthropology Program, California Institute of Integral Studies.

**Daniel A. Collins** is the former Chair of the Board of Trustees and founder of the San Francisco Bay Area Urban League. He has served as a consultant for the Ford Foundation sponsored National Negro Scholarship Fund, the U. S. Office of Education, and the National Institute of Education.

*Noah Griffin* is a member of the Fund/Development Committee and the Program Committee. He is also a well known poet, writer, singer, composer, and co-host of Black Renaissance - Cable 12.

*Gerald Harris* became Board Chair in May. He is a graduate of Morehouse College and the University of Chicago. By profession he is a consultant and futurist with Global Business Network, and an expert in the electric power industry. *Ms. Kathryn B. Joelli* is a graduate of San Francisco State University and holds a Master's degree in Creation Spirituality from Naropa University in Oakland. The mother of two teenage sons, Kathryn currently works for the Even Start Family Literacy Program in Alameda. She also serves as secretary, youth minister, and worship leader at the Church for The Fellowship of All Peoples.

*Johnny Land* is an award winning choral director and composer. He has performed, taught and produced musical productions, including "In Search of a Legend", a musical tribute to Josephine Baker.

Anne Livingston chairs the Membership Committee and is a retired school teacher.

*Lynda Martyn* chairs the Facilities Committee. She is an attorney who deals with mediation and is also involved in body work.

*Gwen Mazur* chairs the Program Committee and is the owner of Total Image. She also teaches at the Academy of Arts in San Francisco.

*James McCray, Jr.* is currently the pastor of Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco. He is also presently serving as Chaplain for the San Francisco Fire Department and the San Francisco Police Department; and working with the Fire Department's Stress Unit and the Officers for Justice.

*Glenn R. Nance* is the Chair of the African American Studies Department at the City College of San Francisco. He has taught at S.F. State University, College of Marin, San Quentin Prison (College of Marin Program), and Stanford University. Mr. Nance is the first African American to serve as president of the Academic Senate at CCSF. He currently serves as Board member for the African American Historical and Cultural Society, Infusion One, Bay View/Hunters Point youth organization and Fellowship Church.

**Dr. Joseph Subbiondo** is president of California Institute of Integral Studies and former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Santa Clara University and Academic Vice President at the University of the Pacific. He is a linguist who has published extensively on the history of linguistic theory.

*Lawrence Sumpter* is an alumnus of the Boys Chorus of Harlem in New York City. Mr. Sumpter was organist at the Shrine Sacred Heart Church in Washington, D.C. While at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, he was master Organist for the Emmanuel Baptist Church.

*Myrti Walker* is Vice President of the Board of Trustees at Fellowship Church and Chair of the Communications Committee. She is also a sculptor whose works have been prominently exhibited in San Francisco and the Bay Area.

The wonderful reception and delicious food has been prepared by culinary genius Christy Witherspoon. Christy works privately in elder care and conservatorships.

In honor of our marvelous parents, Mrs. Hazel Teen Roberson Blake and Dr. William Louis Blake Sr., who taught us how to be compassionate and loving to God's creation.

> Dr. Carl L. Blake Dr. Dorsey O. Blake

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	<b>Best wishes to</b>		
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SPECIAL THANKS to the members of Fellowship Church for making this church my home

Kathryn Joelli



# A PRAYER FOR PEACE

UR FATHER, fresh from the world with the smell of life upon us, we make an act of prayer in the silence of this place. Our minds are troubled because the anxieties of our hearts are deep and searching. We are stifled by the odor of death which envelopes the earth because in so many places brother fights against brother. The panic of fear, the torture of insecurity, the ache of hunger, all have fed and rekindled ancient hatreds and long forgotten memories of old struggles when the world was young and Thy children were but dimly aware of Thy Presence in the midst. For all this we seek forgiveness. There is no one of us without guilt and before Thee we confess our sins: we are proud and arrogant; we are selfish and greedy; we have harboured in our hearts and minds much that makes for bitterness, hatred and revenge.

hile we wait in Thy Presence, search our spirits and grant to our minds the guidance and the wisdom that will teach us the way to take, without which there can be no peace and no confidence anywhere. Teach us how to put at the disposal of Thy Purposes of Peace the fruits of our industry, the products of our minds, the vast wealth of our land and the resources of our spirit. Grant unto us the courage to follow the illumination of this hour to the end that we shall not lead death to any man's door but rather may we strengthen the hands of all in high places and in common tasks who seek to build a friendly world, of friendly men, beneath a friendly sky. This is the simple desire of our hearts which we share with Thee in quiet confidence.

AMEN

Howard Thurman