HAMPTON UNIVERSITY TO RECOGNIZE
150th Birthday and 40 Years of Service from President Harvey
at Anniversary Gala April 28th

Dear Hampton University Alumni, Students, Faculty, Family and Friends,

We invite you to join us in this once in a lifetime opportunity to celebrate our Home by the Sea’s 150th Anniversary and the 40 years of leadership of our university president, Dr. William R. Harvey at the Anniversary Gala on Saturday, April 28 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center from 6-11p.m.

Don’t miss an evening of entertainment, history, and lasting memories, celebrating the legacy of this world-class institution and a legend of excellence in business and higher education. Purchase your tickets today and help celebrate this monumental milestone. Individual tickets are $250, couple tickets are $450.

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities and more information contact The Office of Development at 757-728-4012 or email AnniversaryGala@hamptonu.edu

WASHINGTON— Students from the Hampton University Department of Computer Science won first place in the Google DC Hack Competition Feb. 10 and 11.

“Congratulations to the young men and women that finished in first place,” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “Their efforts continue to demonstrate why Hampton University students are being sought out by industry leaders worldwide.”

The Google DC Hack Competition is a 24-hour event, which pitted Hampton University students against rival Howard University and Morgan State University students. At the event, computer programmers and others involved in software development collaborate intensively on software projects.

“We are proud of our students,” said Dr. Jean Muhammad, Department Chair. “We had 25 students participate. Each team had to create their own application with zero information prior to their arrival and then present it to Google engineers. Our winning team featured four current Google interns from our department.”

Sophomores Marcus Sellars, Tauren Bass, Taya Simmons, Coleman Scott IV and Xavier Horton won first place for their app “OpenSeats,” a social platform designed to fill all the open seats at a dinner table. It gives its users the ability to signal when they plan on going to dinner as an open invitation to people in the area.

“OpenSeats is a social platform designed to bring people together through a universal common interest: food,” said Sellars. “Through a clean and simple interface, users can schedule (or join ongoing) meals, at any restaurant, at any time, and watch as friendly and unique people join them. OpenSeats is designed for those who wish to network, explore, and meet incredible new people. Whether you simply want a new face to join you for a drink, or you’re in a new city and want to find the perfect group of friends, OpenSeats can help you accomplish both. And what better way to do that than over a great meal.”
Hampton University Engineering Design Team Wins 1st Place in AMIE Design Challenge

WASHINGTON—The Hampton University Engineering Design Team earned first place during the Advancing Minorities' Interest in Engineering (AMIE) Design Challenge as part of the Black Engineer of the Year Awards annual conference Feb. 9. “Congratulations to these eight stellar engineers!” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “They represent just a small piece of the cutting-edge creativity that’s a hallmark of innovation happening every day at Hampton University.”

In addition to winning the top award Hampton University’s School of Engineering and Technology students had the opportunity to attend IBM training in design, test and development applications or “apps” over a three week period. The School of Engineering and Technology also received a monetary prize that will assist in retention programs as well as a monetary award to each student team member.

“The corporate judges were absolutely blown away by the Hampton University design team,” said Dr. Joyce T. Shirazi, Dean of the Hampton University School of Engineering and Technology. “Our engineering students won this competition because they were able to demonstrate, at a very high level, the ability to take a complex problem, create an optimized solution, and present a prototype that was better than their competitors. They exuded confidence and professionalism in their presentations. Moreover, they showed what it means to be The Standard of Excellence.”

The Hampton University Design Team is comprised of freshman Larry Luster; sophomores Jai Huntley and Kennedi Scott; juniors Raymond Berry, Jr., Shomari Crockett, Christopher Johnson; and seniors Terry Atwater and Keshia Capers.

The Hampton University Engineering Design Team developed an app program —using IBM Watson software -- called ColorSphere that promoted and assisted students in a search for employment. ColorSphere provided an optimal match for student applicants and potential employers. Dr. Nellone Reid (’08) was the team’s faculty advisor and Brandon Diggs (’13) from Corning Incorporated was the team’s corporate mentor. Teams were judged based on design, prototype and presentation.

Engineering teams from eight other universities with Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) accredited engineering programs competed and presented their final project presentations during the challenge. Those teams were Alabama A&M University, Morgan State University, NC A&T State University, Prairie View A&M University, Tennessee State University, Tuskegee University, University of the District of Columbia and Virginia State University.

The AMIE Design Challenge was sponsored and judged by IBM, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Boston Scientific, The Boeing Company, Corning Incorporated, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Raytheon Company and the National Security Agency.

Hampton University Radio Station Manager Appointed to NANOE’s 2018 Board of Governors

WASHINGTON—Jay Lang, Station Manager of Hampton University’s 88.1 WHOV-FM, has been appointed to the National Association of Nonprofit Organizations and Executives (NANOE) Board of Governors. Lang has been called upon to refine, improve, and strengthen New Guidelines for Tomorrow’s Nonprofit (Second Edition), a new set of governing guidelines that supercharge nonprofit capacity-building.

“Jay’s devotion to WHOV, combined with his leadership and his giving heart make him a fantastic addition to the NANOE Board of Governors,” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “I applaud his nomination and am looking forward to hearing great reports from his work with NANOE.”

NANOE National Director Tracy Ebarb said, “Jay has joined a working group that will peer-review a new set of capacity-building guidelines rooted in principles of moral agency, stewardship, freedom of speech, freedom of peaceful assembly, ethical practice and transparency that supercharge charity. Jay is one of society’s guardians who use their expertise to ensure everyone experiences a life worth living.”

Lang came to Hampton University in August of 2009 and since then has taken WHOV-FM to a new level. In 2010 Lang oversaw a major renovation to the WHOV-FM on-air studio and production studio. In 2012 WHOV-FM partnered with Clear Channel Communications (now iHeartMedia) to stream the station via the iHeartRadio app, allowing listeners world wide, on-demand access to WHOV online, via mobile devices, and on select video game consoles. Under Lang’s leadership WHOV-FM has been committed to Public Affairs programing. Last year Lang launched the HJ Lang Foundation, which donates musical instruments to Hampton Roads Middle and High School students.

“I am humbled and honored to be chosen,” said Lang. “As said by wise men and women who came before us: ‘Do your very best at all times and strive for excellence every day like it’s your last because you never know who is watching you.’”

NANOE’s Nominations Committee was co-chaired by Bishop Redfern II, Charlotte Berry, Kathleen Robinson and Tracy Ebarb. Nominees were suggested by members of AFP, CFRE, AHP, ASAE, CASE, United Way, National Development Institute, Nonprofit Associations, Industry Associations, and other local and national leaders.

Lang will be honored alongside fellow Governors March 26-27, 2019 in Charleston, S.C., at NANOE’s Annual Board of Governors Convention and Expo.

NANOE oversees the codification of guidelines that govern sound charitable practice through a Board of Governors from all 50 states.

To learn more about NANOE, visit https://NANOE.org

About WHOV:

In 1964, WHOV became the first federally licensed educational FM radio station among Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The station, which first went on-air in 1941, has been serving HU and the surrounding Hampton Roads area ever since. Once primarily a jazz station, WHOV now offers a variety of genres, including jazz, gospel, R&B and Latin music. Its morning drive program, The Gospel Express, is one of the area’s highest-rated programs in its format, beating all of the area’s commercial and non-commercial stations. “Lessons in Jazz” is a critically acclaimed program that has earned the respect of jazz aficionados and enthusiasts across the country. WHOV’s weekend “Hispanic Sounds” program ranks as the No. 1 radio broadcast for fans of Latin American music in Hampton Roads. WHOV is also home to live Hampton University football and basketball broadcasts.
Hampton University Alumna’s Latest Costume Design Project ‘Black Panther’ Breaks World-Wide Box Office Records

Hampton University alumna and two-time Academy Award and Emmy nominated costume designer Ruth Carter’s latest blockbuster film “Black Panther” shattered box-office projections with a $404 million world-wide opening weekend on its way to breaking the $1 billion mark during March.

“What a great moment for Hampton University, to see a Hampton University alumna in such a key role within a landmark movie,” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “Words cannot capture my pride at seeing a talented alumna positively displayed for the world to see!”

Carter, a 1982 graduate of Hampton University’s Department of Fine and Performing Arts, majored in Theatre Arts and has worked in the entertainment industry for over three decades. Carter holds the distinction of being the first African-American costume designer to be nominated for an Academy Award. “Black Panther” was one of the most highly anticipated films of 2018—not just because of its tie-in for fans of Marvel Comics, but also for its take on African fashion. Since the release of the first trailer, fans have been amazed by the costumes in the movie’s world of Wakanda. Some movie goers went so far as to even wear African inspired attire to the cinema.

“Wakanda is this vast unknown world and, ultimately, the challenge of the unknown is what appealed to me on so many levels,” said Carter. “Beyond what has been established in the comic realm, I knew very little about it, but as I began my research, I realized we could create, from a place of fantasy, a place of African culture and a place of imagination. Everybody had their own take on what Black Panther’s world was but it had never really been translated to film, which was very exciting.” Carter’s unparalleled ability to develop an authentic story through costume and character has made her one of the most sought after and renowned costume designers today. Known for her research and diligence to the craft, specifically for her outstanding work in period ensemble films like “The Butler,” “Selma,” and “Roots.”

Carter has garnered two Academy Award nominations for Best Costume Design for Spike Lee’s “Malcolm X” in 1993 and Steven Spielberg’s “Amistad” in 1998. Over Carter’s three decades in entertainment she has worked with some of the top directors in Hollywood including Spike Lee, Lee Daniels, Reggie Hudlin, Steven Spielberg and now Ryan Coogler. Together with Lee, they have worked on over a dozen film projects beginning with “School Daze” and including “Do The Right Thing,” “Malcolm X,” “Old Boy,” “Da’Sweet Blood of Jesus,” and “Chi-Raq.” Carter is a collaborator with other filmmakers on many notable films including “What’s Love Got To Do With It,” “Black Dynamite,” and “Sparkle.”

Carter anchored the look for Gabrielle Union in “Being Mary Jane,” and forged comedic style in “Keeping Up With the Joneses.” Some of Carter’s recent projects include “Kidnap,” starring Halle Berry, “Motherland,” and “Marshall,” a story about a landmark NAACP case fought by Thurgood Marshall starring Chadwick Boseman, who also plays the titular character in ‘Black Panther.’

Hampton University Alumna Ruth Carter to Deliver 148th HU Commencement Address

HAMPTON, Va.—Hampton University is pleased to announce that alumna Ruth Carter, one of Hollywood most sought after costume designers and the first African-American costume designer to be nominated for an Academy Award will serve as the University’s 148th Commencement speaker on May 13. Commencement will be held at Armstrong Stadium at 10 a.m.

“It brought me immense joy to hear Ruth Carter say ‘yes’ to our invitation to deliver this year’s commencement address at our Home by the Sea,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey. “Ruth Carter’s star is among the brightest in Hollywood. She will inspire and enlighten every soul within the sound of her voice. We can’t wait.”

Carter, a 1982 graduate of Hampton University’s Department of Fine and Performing Arts, majored in Theatre Arts and has worked in the entertainment industry for over three decades. Carter’s unparalleled ability to develop an authentic story through costume and character has made her one of the most sought after and renowned costume designers today. She is known for her research and diligence to the craft, specifically for her outstanding work in period ensemble films like “The Butler,” “Selma,” and “Roots.” Carter’s most recent success, Marvel’s “Black Panther,” has grossed $1 billion total.

For more information on Commencement visit commencement.hamptonu.edu.

Dr. Harvey Honored by City of Hampton with a Medal, Street, Coin and Resolution

HAMPTON, Va.—Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey’s very name will mark a street in Hampton, after a resolution was made in his honor, and in Hampton University's honor, at a special meeting of the Hampton City Council Feb. 28.

Capturing the festive feeling as Hampton University celebrates 150 years of excellence and Dr. Harvey’s 40 years of legendary leadership, Hampton Mayor Donnie Tuck feted the president with a Resolution. Hampton’s Distinguished Citizen Medal, a special commemorative coin, and, perhaps most importantly, an order to rename portions of East Tyler and East Queen Streets as “William R. Harvey Way.”

“Hampton has been our home for 40 years, and it is a wonderful community,” Dr. Harvey said after accepting the recognition. “The intellectual and economic impact is tremendous. This honor that this wonderful community has bestowed upon me is much appreciated. I want to thank Mayor Donnie Tuck and the entire Council for this award.”

The resolution read at the Council meeting noted that Dr. Harvey “has served as the 12th president of Hampton University for 40 years, creating a monumental legacy as one of the longest sitting presidents of a college or university in the country.” The resolution also noted just a few of his many achievements, including his commitment to expansion and innovation in the university’s academic programs; the establishment of the Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute, the world’s largest freestanding proton therapy cancer treatment center; his work as chairman of the Board for the Revitalization of Downtown Hampton; and his many national awards and honors.

“Dr. Harvey is well respected in the Hampton community for his commitment to the students of Hampton University and his outstanding leadership in the field of education,” Tuck said. “He has transformed Hampton University from a small black college to a world-class leader in the field of higher education.”

The commemorative coin features Hampton University’s Chapel Bell Tower and the Emancipation Oak on one side, and Hampton University’s seal on the other. The Distinguished Citizen Medal is the highest honor that City Council bestows on an individual, the equivalent of a key to the city, according to the City’s web site. The award recognizes people who have brought honor and distinction to the City of Hampton.

Dr. Harvey joins previous recipients of the Distinguished Citizen Medal, such as former NASA mathematician (human computer) Katherine G. Johnson, whose inspiring story was told in the movie “Hidden Figures.”
HAMPTON, Va.—At the Hampton University Child Development Center (HUCDC), story time is more than just reading to kids; it’s an animated production of enthusiasm and excitement. The best part is that the main performers are Hampton University students, campus officers and the university’s librarian. “Hampton University students, police officers and staff as reading partners help facilitate communication and literacy by the quality and amount of time they spend reading to the children,” HUCDC Director Joy Phelps said. “Interacting and supporting children’s literacy can help enhance their language skills and early literacy, which will prepare them for school.” Phelps said that even Librarian Phyllis Banks of the William R. and Norma B. Harvey Library takes the time to read a story to the kids that correlates with a specific event or holiday each month. “It is a lot of fun to watch and the kids love them,” HUCDC Director Joy Phelps said. “The kids are being entertained and educated at the same time. Communication, language and early literacy are interrelated and develop concurrently rather than sequentially. Preparing children for school is the cornerstone of the Hampton University Child Development Center. When Phelps assumed her role in 2015, she made it a priority to get faculty, staff and students more involved with the children. After talking with campus departments, students began working closely with the children in exchange for course credits. From internships to creating practices, the children began learning from Hampton University students and they learned much more from the little ones. “It’s the perfect solution,” Phelps said. “The students test their exercises on the kids who, in turn, give them an honest, unfiltered response. If the kids like the exercises, then the students know their methods will work with older people. However, if the kids lose interest quickly then the students know they need to make some adjustments to their curriculums.” Virginia’s U.S. Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner sent letters to Phelps last year congratulating her and the staff for their hard work after gaining the national title of Child Care Provider of the Month last June. And that’s not all the honors. The HUCDC also won the Best of Hampton Award (2017) in the Child Care category and the Charles A. Wormom Helping Hands Award (2016) from the Hampton Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities for their dedication to helping children with unique learning abilities.

Hampton University Debate Team Fourth at HBCU National Debate Championship; Whitley Pannell is Top Debater

MARSHALL, Texas—Hampton University senior Whitley Pannell won the First HBCU National Debate Championship Jan. 25 - 27 at Wiley College. Hampton University’s six-person team placed fourth overall among 22 HBCUs. “This debate championship just proves that Hampton University excels above the rest in every way,” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “So often, we hear about athletic achievements at Hampton University, and there’s nothing wrong with that. Our academics are equally outstanding, and this performance just reinforces that.”

Pannell, a Political Science (Pre-Law track) student, also won a sweepstakes award. Charnae Coles and Berry Jones brought home fourth place in the NPDA debate, and Caleb Woods won fourth place in the IPDA debate competition.

“I am thrilled that we did so well at this championship,” Pannell said. “Competing against some of the best minds in the country was challenging and exciting.”

The team consisted of seniors Whitley Pannell, Caleb Woods and Charnae Coles, as well as freshmen Chet Buckner Terris Johnson, and Barry Jones. They competed in single person (IPDA) and partner debates (NPDA) as well as competitions in prose, poetry, persuasive speaking and impromptu speaking.

Hampton University’s Debate Team’s faculty advisor, Kamora Avent, a Fine and Performing Arts Assistant Professor, said that the group that traveled to Wiley College this year is special.

“Once this team came together, I never had a doubt that they would represent Hampton University well,” Avent said. “I couldn’t be happier for them!”

The students competed Friday and Saturday in a variety of individual and team competitions, followed by an awards ceremony and a Hall of Fame Banquet Saturday night.

Two debate education legends, Melvin B. Tolson and Dr. Thomas F. Freeman, were inducted into the HBCU Forensics Hall of Fame.

Denzel Washington accepted the award for Tolson, whom Washington played in the 2007 movie “The Great Debaters,” which chronicled Tolson’s work on Wiley College’s first debate teams in the early 1900s.

Dr. Freeman is the longest-serving HBCU speech and debate coach. He coached Rep. Barbara Jordan, and he trained Washington for his role in “The Great Debaters.”

The HBCUs at the First HBCU National Debate Championship were Hampton University, Bethune-Cookman University, Fisk University, Howard University, Huston-Tillotson, Jackson State University, Jarvis Christian College, Lawson State Community College, North Carolina A&T, North Carolina Central University, Paul Quinn College, Philander Smith College, Prairie View A & M University, Rust College, Southwestern Christian College, Tennessee State, Texas College, Texas Southern University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Xavier University of Louisiana and host Wiley College.

Business School Hosts Price Waterhouse Cooper For 2018 Freshman Leadership Summit

HAMPTON, Va.—Hampton University’s School of Business is giving its freshmen a leg up in the business world by hosting representatives from Price Waterhouse Cooper for its two-day 2018 PWC Freshman Leadership Summit. The event brings Business School freshmen opportunities to improve their interpersonal, teamwork and leadership skills. In addition, students will have opportunities to learn how to network and how to compete for monetary awards.

“This is a great opportunity for our freshmen to learn how important networking is within a profession, and how important it is to have interpersonal skills,” said event coordinator, Leslie West, from the Department of Accounting, Banking and Finance at the School of Business.

Students will also learn about forming a personal “brand,” write effective resumes (and the 30-second verbal resume known as an elevator speech) and share their brand during interviews. But, more importantly, participants will see Price Waterhouse Cooper sharing its commitment to Hampton University’s students.

“This is so beneficial to get this information as freshmen, because they’ll have something solid to build upon,” West said. “Over the course of two days, they’re going to learn how to build a team, make solutions, and decide how to present something so that the client knows what we want them to know.”

Hampton University Students, Staff Go The Extra Mile Reading To Children

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