



The Fundraising Campaign for
The Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



OUR HISTORY



Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone

"I believe that education is life and not just preparation for life. Without 'real life' experience, classroom learning alone can be artificial and irrelevant."

n the early 60's the birth of Black cultural centers was prominent on predominately White colleges and universities. The Black Cultural Center of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was established July 1, 1988 as a new entity within the Division of Student Affairs with the approval of the University Administration (the Center is now under the auspices of the Office of the Provost of Academic Affairs). It resulted in part from recommendations of various organizations and committees, including the Black Student Movement, the Black Faculty/Staff Caucus, and the Black Cultural Center Planning Committee.

The SHSBCC has been housed in temporary quarters in the Student

Union since 1988, but thanks to the determination and enthusiasm of UNC-Chapel Hill students over the past decade, and the generosity of alumni and friends, those days are almost over.

In April 2001 the University held a groundbreaking ceremony for a new 44,500 square-foot, \$9 million building funded entirely by private donations. Construction is expected to be completed in 2003.

To make a gift please see

www.dev.unc.edu/development/contents/
makegift.htm

or contact Margie Crowell, associate
vice chancellor for University

Development at 919.962.2337

or margie_crowell@unc.edu



The Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

"The Center is being built at a very opportune moment where culture is seen and understood to be a central construct of community, identity and self."



he University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill consistently ranks among the top universities in the country both for its academics and for its campus climate. African-American students at UNC-Chapel Hill express an exceptional level of satisfaction with the University's efforts to establish a collegial and stimulating academic, social and cultural atmosphere on campus. Even outside of North Carolina the University's reputation is growing. In an investigative series in October 2001, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution noted that most Blacks feel welcome at Chapel Hill, citing a healthy atmosphere as a primary reason.

Much of that satisfaction can be attributed to the University's efforts to increase African-American student, faculty and staff numbers as well as those for other communities of color. Also cited was the growing prominence of the African and Afro-American Studies Department. Perhaps

the strongest indicator of campus commitment to the ideal of inclusiveness, diversity and excellence has been the growth of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. The Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center is becoming one of North Carolina's most important cultural and intellectual resources and brings unique perspectives to campus conversations on scholarship, leadership and service.

The center is named for Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone, who was a pioneer in the creation of African American Studies as an academic discipline in this country and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was an early supporter of community service as a legitimate element of students' academic experience and her visionary leadership continues to inform the work of the center even today.





OUR LEGACY

he story of African-Americans is a unique American story that represents over four centuries of struggle, triumph and challenge. A key element of our mission entails sharing this story and providing an entryway to African-American culture and history for others in our communities. Although African-Americans lay claim to a specific experience, they live in a country where many groups of immigrants have successively built upon the foundation established by earlier generations. Stories of these new, as well as older, communities add an important element to the chronicle of African-American history and underscores the importance of dialogue. Our work at the SHSBCC supports our contention that we learn the most about ourselves in conversation with the world.

Today, more than ever before, America has embraced the African-American story as an important part of the nation's story. For example, over the past few years new plans for an Underground Railroad Museum under

the auspices of the National Park
Service were developed and approved
while, simultaneously, a new National
African-American Museum was
approved by Congress and sent to the
president for his signature. These
developments signal a significant turn in
American sensibility towards a broader
national identity, and to a greater need
for institutions of higher learning that
are able to provide content and critique
for a new generation of students and
scholars on and off campus.

Since its inception, the Center has focused its efforts on the evolving interdisciplinary examination of African-American life, culture and history. The SHSBCC currently presents a varied slate of activities and projects focused on the Africana experience. Building upon this foundation, we are forging ahead with the intent of developing the center as a primary source for developing intellectual capital about the Africana experience.

While we engage in efforts to document the historical experiences of African-Americans, we at the SHSBCC also have a responsibility to help interested individuals expand their knowledge and create new knowledge. It is not enough to simply celebrate culture and history. We must first understand and appreciate the most important aspects of our culture and then develop perspectives based on those understandings.

We can use those perspectives to help us talk about, for example, similarities and differences in African-American and Native American historical experiences; Black Images in the media; or the diversity of ethnic identities that make up the African diaspora. We thereby fulfill our commitment to the vision of Dr. Stone, and to the educational goals articulated by the University.

In a sense, those two elements define our perspective on the future of the Center and underscore our appeal for support. Dr. Stone's work responded to the demands of the University's push for academic excellence, cross-cultural learning, community participation and service. We too have our eyes firmly fixed on initiatives that diversify and internationalize the culture of the campus and that prepare our students for responsible citizenship. Our purpose is to promote educational ideas and practices that serve as foundations for productive lives.

As a center within the University's Academic Affairs Division, we have a central role in supporting the University's academic mission. We have a commitment to encourage and support the critical examination of all dimensions of African–American and African diaspora cultures through sustained and open discussion, dialogue and debate, and to enhance the intellectual and socio–cultural climate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

THE FREESTANDING

Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

ne of the most significant and symbolic accomplishments of the University community has been its commitment, at the urging of a coalition of Black and other students, to build the tri-level, 44,500 square foot, freestanding Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. The Center, scheduled for completion in Winter 2003, will house seminar rooms, classrooms, a 10,000 volume non-lending library, publication suite, art gallery, 400-seat auditorium, a dance studio and several office suites.

In 1993, the University's Board of Trustees approved a site for the Center, selecting a location near the Bell Tower in Coker Woods on the south side of South Road. Designed by the award-winning architectural firm, the Freelon Group, the Center fits into the ongoing master construction plan for the University and will serve as a resource for the entire campus. The \$9 million cost of the Center is being met entirely through private gifts. Additional funds are needed to furnish the Center and

to support its many programs and projects. Key naming opportunities remain for some of the spaces in the building. Gifts so far include \$500,000 from noted e-business entrepreneur Tim Cobb '88; \$100,000 given to honor W.E.B. DuBois from emeritus professor and former faculty chair Dan Okun and his wife Beth; and \$150,000 from former UNC-Chapel Hill athlete and current professional football player Jimmy Hitchcock. Numerous small contributions have also been made that help to move us closer to our goals.

The Center is mandated to have utility for the entire campus and takes this charge seriously. Classroom space in the new building will be available to all departments. The library will be managed and staffed through University libraries and fully integrated with their system.

How to Give

To make a gift please see www.dev.unc.edu/development/contents/makegift.htm or contact Margie Crowell, associate vice chancellor for University Development at 919.962.2337 or margie_crowell@unc.edu

A GRAND VISION, A GREATER OPPORTUNITY

n important objective of our work is to build the capacity for sustained and significant intellectual engagements whether in social action, creative work or academic endeavor. Our intent is to help realize a scholarly community that represents a variety of perspectives and that offers principled, constructive critiques of society and of the creation of knowledge in a complex world. By taking this approach, we can best understand the lives and histories of peoples of the African diaspora and how those lives relate to other peoples in the global community.



Angela Davis

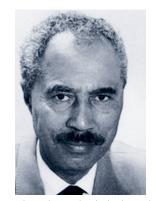
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Randal Robinson



An African-American woman whose commitment to service, professional excellence and activism mirrors that of Dr. Stone, is a Sonja Haynes Stone Memorial Lecturer.



Discussions & book signings with authors such as Hans Massaquoi, author of *Destined To Witness: Growing up Black in Nazi Germany*, are an important offering of the SHSBCC.



THE FREESTANDING

Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

Level One

Administrative Suite

990 square feet

The Center's administrative suite will include the director's and staff offices, a workroom and a conference room.

Dance Studio

861 square feet

The Dance Studio will accommodate the Black Dance Ensemble and provide practice and performance space for other campus dance groups.

Multipurpose Room

1958 square feet

The multipurpose room will seat 165 people and will be used for artistic performances, lectures and meetings. It will be the primary programming space for the SHSBCC and will be used for similar functions as the theater.

Gallery

1520 square feet

The exhibition gallery will provide space for art and other major exhibits.

Theater

4000 square feet

The Center will house a 400-seat theater. The theater will host large lectures and performances. It will have 400 fixed seats and a proscenium stage, an orchestra area, prop storage and ticket room.

Theater Lobby

1069 square feet

The glass-encased theater lobby will be in a prominent location, serving as the only entranceway into the center's 400-seat theater. Patrons will be able to enjoy refreshments from the designated concession area and gain access to the parking lot, which is adjacent to the theater lobby.

Donor Highlight Tim Cobb

Tim Cobb honored his late father, a retired Baptist minister, with a \$500,000 gift to the Stone Center in April 2001. The gift supports the

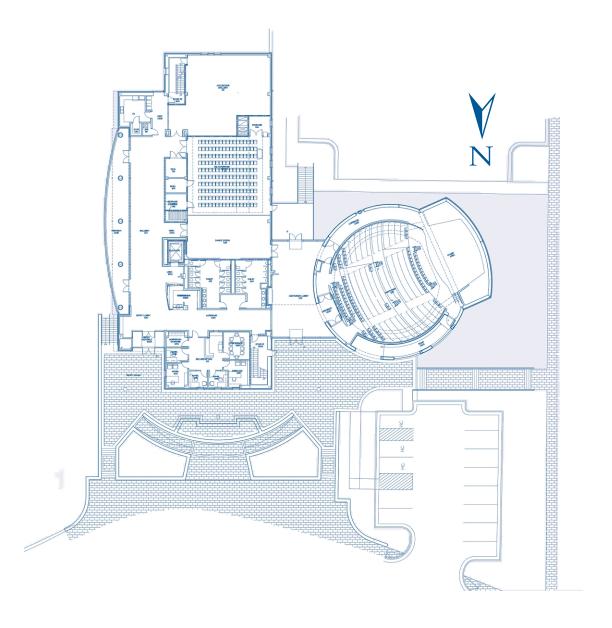
center's programs and names the center's 400-seat theater for Rev. Harold J. Cobb Sr. The theater will host performances, large lectures and public events sponsored by the center and by other campus groups. Tim Cobb said naming his gift is a tribute

to the values his father brought to his community and his children. Cobb Sr. was a leader in Burlington's civil rights movement who spent most of his professional career ministering and educating in his community. Tim Cobb graduated from UNC's KenanFlagler Business School in 1986 and earned a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1989. He heads edaflow Corporation, an ecommerce venture serving the apparel industry. Cobb's gift was announced at the center's groundbreaking ceremony.



Tim Cobb, an Atlanta Internet entrepreneur, donated the money to support the center's programs and named the 400-seat theater after his father, the late Rev. Harold J. Cobb Sr.





THE FREESTANDING

Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center



Communiversity Youth Programs reflect the SHSBCC's dedication to public service by sponsoring four program initiatives to students in Chapel Hill and Carrboro public schools.

Level Two

Classrooms

977 square feet (Classroom #1)
1112 square feet (Classroom #2)
The Center will include a variety of general-purpose classrooms that will be used by academic departments across campus. In addition, the facilities will be large enough to accommodate summer institutes such as teacher workshops. Each classroom will have state-of-the-art telecommunications capability.

Upward Bound Office Suite

1450 square feet

An Administrative Office Suite for faculty and staff, two conference rooms and a reception area. The program will have access to the Center's classrooms and seminar rooms.

Seminar Rooms

500 square feet (each)

The seminar rooms will be used by the SHSBCC as well as academic departments and institutes across campus for group seminars and presentations. Each room has state of the art communications capability.

Computer Lab

424 square feet

The computer lab contains 11 workstations and can accommodate 22 people at computer stations. The lobby/gallery doors open onto the veranda.

DONOR HIGHLIGHT

Dan and Beth Okun

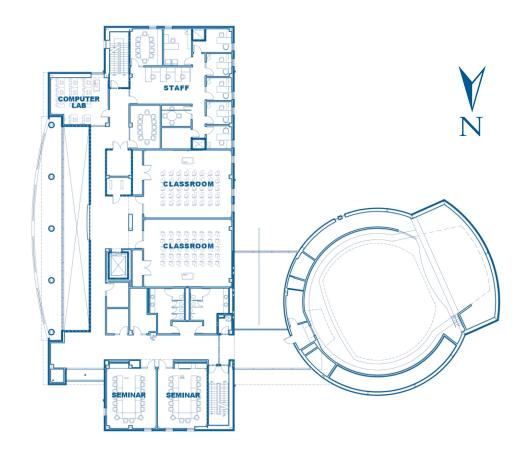
Dr. Dan Okun, Kenan professor emeritus in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, and his wife Beth gave \$100,000 to the Stone Center in 1999. Dan Okun said the new building represents an opportunity to expand the center's programs and bring African-Americans, their culture and history into all phases of University

life. He also hopes the building will serve as a resource for developing a graduate program in African-American graduate studies at Carolina. "North Carolina is rich in population, history and cultural contributions from African-Americans," he said. "Yet we

have to depend on Northern universities for graduate work in this field." The Okuns named the center's administrative suite in honor of W.E. B. Dubois and his wife, Shirley Graham.

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The Freestanding Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

Level Three

Office Suite

807 square feet

The third floor Office Suite includes administrative offices and a conference room. There is also access to the Center's classrooms, seminar rooms and library.

Student Cultural Activities Suite

768 Square feet

This suite provides offices for the BSM's student cultural groups: Opeyo! Dancers, Ebony Readers and the *Black Ink*.

Library

3124 square feet

The library and reading room will house a collection of special reading materials pertinent to the lives of Blacks in Africa and the Americas. This non-lending library will have a reference area, book stacks to hold up to 10,000 volumes, 14 reading stations, a periodical section with a casual reading area, two group study rooms, librarian work/office space and three computer reference stations.



Grace Comontofski, a Mexican American union official, speaks at a Cross-Cultural Communications Institutes forum (CCCI) on race relations in the 21st century.

Donor Highlight Jimmy Hitchcock

Carolina Panthers star Jimmy Hitchcock, a Concord native who played football at Carolina in the early 1990s, pledged \$150,000 to the Stone Center in November 2001. "I want to show other athletes I'm putting my money where my mouth was,"
Hitchcock said. "I want to show that the BCC is a cause not only worth fighting for, but also donating to. I want to give back." As a student,
Hitchcock played a high-profile role in student efforts to persuade

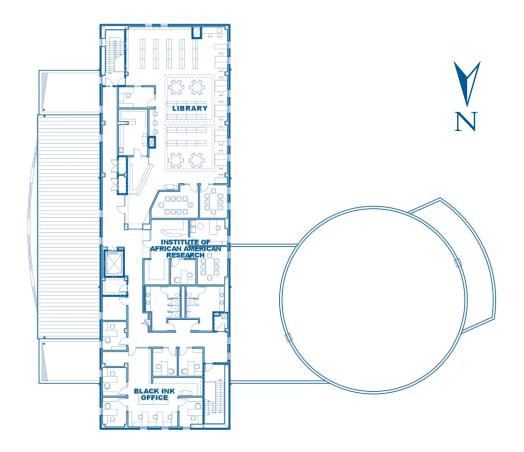
administrators and trustees to approve a freestanding center. A multipurpose meeting room in the new building will be named for him. Hitchcock said that at first he did not want to have the room named for him because he thought "it was too much." But he said he reconsidered after the death in

training camp this year of his former Minnesota Vikings teammate, Kory Stringer. "It leaves a legacy for my kids," Hitchcock said. "If anything happened to me they could see what was important to me and what I did."



"I want to show that the BCC is a cause not only worth fighting for, but also donating to. I want to give back."





The Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

It's a place where students can be intellectually challenged and culturally enriched while, at the same time, engaging in the process of inquiry that moves the dialogue to a higher level.

We invite you to join us as we strive to keep the vision of Dr. Stone alive.





The SHSBCC is committed to public service projects. Our first service project was Hurricane Floyd Recovery with the Carolina Association of Black Journalists and the Carolina Center for Public Service.



Lois Deloatch



The Cross-Cultural Communications
Institute serves as a medium for creating
interracial understanding in the UNCChapel Hill community and the surrounding areas by providing workshops, courses
and practical experiences for participants.



Transatlantic Dialogue Preview reception

