



THE SONJA HAYNES STONE BLACK CULTURAL CENTER

Mission

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 and communities beyond our campus boundaries.

Purpose

To identify, plan and implement programs, projects and activities that interrogate African American and African diaspora cultures and histories.

The Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center:

- Is a center for culture, research, outreach and service.
- Is one of the nation's premier cultural centers and one of the University's primary sites for developing intellectual capital about the African diaspora experience.
- Is named in honor of the late Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone, University professor and Center advocate.
- Produces programs that honor the legacy of Dr. Stone.
- Questions what it means to be of African descent in the Americas and how these issues are related.
- Critically examines the role that culture plays in social change and community building.

Our Programs: Carrying the Legacy of Dr. Sonja H. Stone Forward

Since its inception in 1988, the Center has celebrated the African American experience in America, and it continues to provide programming that encourages an appreciation of African American culture. The Center sponsors programs, activities and projects that interrogate African American and African diaspora cultures and histories. **Several programs comprise the cornerstone of the Stone Center's programming.** Those are:

African Diaspora Lecture Series — is the oldest cornerstone program of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. It symbolizes the Center's commitment to the preservation of African and African American heritage through scholarly investigation and exploration of the contributions of people of African descent. The series is dedicated to the investigation of the struggles and challenges faced by people of African descent and the unique ways they have met those challenges. Each semester, faculty present lectures about their specialized research interests, while other presenters increase cultural understanding by introducing

innovative topics that promote constructive dialogue on diaspora issues. The series encourages the academic pursuits of undergraduate and graduate students who will become the next generation of scholars.

Sonja Haynes Stone Memorial Lecture— Dr. Stone was an advocate for social justice and public service. She was committed to the cultural education of youth and developing student leadership. Each year the Center pays tribute to the legacy of Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone by inviting an African American woman whose commitment to the community mirrors that of the late Dr. Stone. Previous lecturers have included Alfre Woodard, Kathleen Cleaver, Sonia Sanchez and bell hooks.

Communiversality — Communiversality connects the vision of Dr. Stone and the work and resources of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center with the University campus, local and state communities through service learning, community building, outreach, leadership and interpersonal skills development. Communiversality fulfills an important part of the Center's mission of examining the role of culture in social change and community development by helping to improve student performance through education and practical experience. Its youth program is comprised of several after-school enrichment components, and is managed and run by University student volunteers, who teach and mentor participants and help them identify community resources. These components educate, empower and expose participating community youth to various aspects of African and African American culture and history, along with other cultural traditions through alternative teaching methods. Working in cooperation with other University departments, Communiversality also sponsors other community outreach programs that assist in building and/or rebuilding key economic and social resources.

Cross-Cultural Communications Institute (CCCI) — Dedicated to improving race relations and racial understanding on campus and throughout the community, Cross-Cultural Communications Institute invites students of all backgrounds to discuss the histories and lives of all people who are a part of the global community. It serves as a medium for creating interracial understanding and dialogue in the UNC Chapel Hill community and surrounding areas by providing workshops, courses and practical experiences for participants. The Cross Cultural Communications Institute examines race relations as a dynamic process that evolves with the changing demographics of our communities. By exploring socio-cultural, political and historical commonalities and differences, those participating gain a better understanding of race relations. With pluralism and self-knowledge as key components of the CCCI model, participants learn to communicate more effectively with members of other cultural and social groups. **The Center also hosts several ongoing, academic year programs.** They include:

- **Hekima** — Hekima is a Swahili word that translates into the English equivalent of "Knowledge." Adopted from the Black Student Movement's Education Committee in 1997, the group meets monthly to interpret, discuss and analyze African American literature. Hekima is more than a book club, it is an opportunity for students to make connections between their course work and literature rooted in their own culture. The website is dedicated to showcasing books written by African American authors.
- **Around the Circle** — An informal weekly forum for the discussion and debate of issues relevant to the diaspora community, Around the Circle, seeks to inform and enlighten the UNC Chapel Hill community on issues that affect us individually and collectively. Around the Circle was created as a platform to discuss problems and solutions to social issues on the community and national levels.

- **RING SHOUT Literary Conference** — RING SHOUT is a conference that serves as a cultural carrier of ideas, knowledge and art. Each year RING SHOUT displays the work and performances of a diverse group of artists — from painters to musicians — who share their knowledge and talent in a way that encourages creative interaction as well as an increased awareness of art.
- **sauti m'pya** — sauti m'pya is Swahili for new voice. It is the literary journal of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center and the first African American literary journal to be published on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It is published once a year. Advertising opportunities are available.

Please check with Stone Center staff or website (www.unc.edu/depts/bcc) for information on upcoming academic year programs.



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Honoring Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone

The Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center is named to honor Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone. Programs and activities produced by the Center and in collaboration with others are directly related to the legacy of Dr. Stone. The information provided below will help you better understand the spirit of a woman who helped shape the history of African Americans at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone:

- Was a devoted professor and servant leader who demonstrated her commitment to her students and the community through her service on numerous boards and committees.
- Was a mentor and intellectual.
- Didn't simply talk about solving problems; she dedicated her life to strategizing and working toward solutions.
- Was an activist for social justice.
- Pushed for a department of African American studies at UNC.
- Seldom declined an invitation to participate on a panel to teach African American history and culture and relate the realities of the African American experience.
- Believed the black cultural center was essential to every member of the UNC community; therefore, she was a major spokesperson on UNC's campus for the black cultural center.
- Shared Dr. Carter G. Woodson's mission to not miseducate students and to "not hesitate to complain and to complain loudly and insistently."
- Relentlessly chased what she perceived as racism.
- Believed protest is a major element of education and aesthetics.

At UNC Dr. Stone:

- Came to UNC in 1974 as director of the curriculum in African American studies where she remained director until 1979.
- She was founder of the Southeastern Black Press Institute and director from 1977 to 1979.
- Served on numerous advisory panels, including the Black Cultural Center Planning Committee and the Campus Y Advisory Board.
- Adviser for the UNC Collegiate Black Caucus and the African American Studies Club from 1974–1988.
- Wrote extensively about the black community.
- Founder, co-convener and Piedmont regional director of the North Carolina Conference on Black Studies.
- Served as director of the Archival Program of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America Inc. in 1986.

Awards and Recognitions

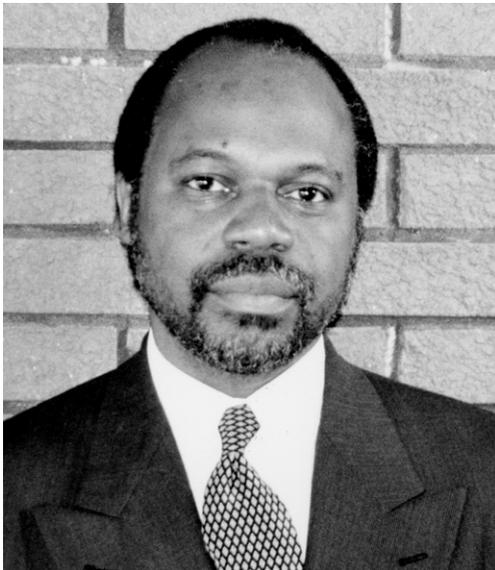
- Chosen for the Favorite Faculty Award by the Class of 1990.
- Received the Woman of the Year Award given by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people in 1981.
- In 1990, Dr. Stone was the first recipient of the Outstanding Black Faculty Award from the UNC General Alumni Association. The award recognizes professional and academic achievement and service to the University and its students, with an emphasis on minority involvement.
- Was the recipient of the National Council for Black Studies Dedicated Service Award (1978), the Black Student Movement Faculty Award for Excellent Academic Achievement (1980), and the N.C. Alumni and Friends Coalition Award for Achievement in Higher Education (1982).

Background Information

- Born December 14, 1938 in Chicago, Illinois.
- Earned a bachelor's degree in social science from Sarah Lawrence College.
- Obtained two master's degrees, one in social work from Atlanta University and one in social and ethical philosophy from the University of Illinois at Chicago.
- Received her PhD in history and the philosophy of education from Northwestern University.
- Studied at Duke University School of Divinity.
- Taught at Northeastern Illinois University, where she was assistant director and acting director of its Center for Inner City Studies in Chicago and was chairman of the Department of Inner City Studies.
- Worked in the Cook County (Illinois) Office of Economic Opportunity and its Department of Public Aid, as well as in the Los Angeles Department of Community Services.



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Dr. Joseph F. Jordan

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Director, Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center
Professor of African and Afro American Studies

Dr. Joseph F. Jordan is a man versed in many areas. Over the span of his career, Jordan has served as a professor of African American studies and international and social sciences at some of America's premiere universities.

For more than 20 years, he has been an educator, researcher and program manager in the arts and cultural heritage, studying topics including black radical theory, black popular culture, African American culture and social change, Southern African liberation struggles, Pan-Africanism, black intellectuals, Amílcar Cabral and the National Liberation Movement in

Cape Verde, the syncretism of African American and Latin music (s), Afro-Cuban, Brazilian and Mexican Americans. This work has taught him to value the central role that education plays in social change.

Jordan researched the complex interrelations between African and Native American histories. Findings from his research have helped him understand the importance of dealing with differences across racial lines. He is an advocate for cross-cultural learning and diversity.

He served as senior research specialist in African Affairs at the Library of Congress and was also a research associate at the national Center for Research in Vocational Education at the Ohio State University. He has extensive experience working with arts and cultural programming in the community and has been project director for over 12 nationally funded projects in the humanities and the arts.

In addition to his work in Africana studies, Jordan holds a master's degree in preventive medicine. He has conducted research on the role of community development and more specifically the role of health and culture in nation and culture building.

Currently, Jordan is the director of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Center is the academic and cultural site for developing intellectual capital about the African diaspora experience. He has developed a strategic vision plan for the Center that seeks to uphold the spirit of late Carolina faculty member Dr. Sonja Haynes Stone. The plan integrates community outreach, social justice and public responsibility with research and academia.

He also serves on the boards of the Grassroots Leadership Institute, the North Carolina Humanities Council, the Carolina Center for Public Service and the Campus Y at UNC at Chapel Hill.

As the administrator for the Auburn Avenue Research Library, Jordan initiated programming partnerships with area and national institutions, collaborated with cultural organizations on public service projects and tripled library programs. Consequently, the Library won one of 14 Governor's Awards in Georgia for its work in bringing humanities to the community.

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Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

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STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Trevaughn Brown Eubanks

Administrative Manager

Trevaughn is from Reidsville, N.C., and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of North Carolina. Since 1996, Mrs. Eubanks has served as administrative manager for the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. Her broad job responsibilities include budget oversight, grants activity management, personnel management, facilities management and conference planning. Ms. Eubanks has served on many committees and boards such as the Carolina Women's Center Advisory Board, Black Faculty/Staff Caucus, Sexual Harassment Advisory Board, and University Managers Association Board of Directors, just to name a few. She has participated in such professional leadership programs as BRIDGES: Academic Leadership for Women and the University Management Development Program through the Kenan-Flagler Business School. In 1999, the Black Student Movement presented Mrs. Eubanks the Harold G. Wallace Administrative Excellence Award for her work at the Center and excellence in working with students. Most recently, she was inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece, which recognizes her significant and lasting contributions to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Anthony O. Walters

Director, Communiversity

Mr. Anthony O. Walters is a graduate of Norfolk State University with a BA in English/Secondary Education; and it was there that Mr. Walters discovered his true passion for education and people. Mr. Walters taught 4 years at C.E. Jordan and Hillside High Schools before joining the staff of the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. While a teacher, Mr. Walters made sure his students benefited from his one-on-one style, and his ability to relate, work with, and understand students of all backgrounds and cultures.

As director of Communiversity, Mr. Walters exhibits a positive attitude, a committed work ethic, love for education, and a genuine care for people. His goal is to continue moving Communiversity in a positive direction, while strengthening the focus on African American heritage, interpersonal skills and our students' prowess in the realm of academia.

In the spring of 2002, the Black Student Movement at UNC honored Mr. Walters with the Harold G. Wallace Administrative Excellence Award for his dedication to both volunteers and participating students of Communiversiity. Mr. Walters is continuously motivated by the following quote from an unknown . . . Excellence is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, skillful execution and the vision to see obstacles as opportunities.

Brandi N. Williams

Public Information Specialist

A graduate of the University of North Carolina's School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Brandi N. Williams has worked in the public relations and marketing industry for more than 5 years. Williams fills the role of information and communication specialist for the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. At the Center, Williams manages and directs public relations and marketing efforts for the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center. This includes, disseminating information to the public through a variety of news media; planning, developing, and producing publications that reflect and represent the integrity of the Center; creating collaborations with community organizations and community publics; marketing and promoting Center activities and programs with the program coordinator; writing and editing the newsletter; developing Center and program-specific marketing materials with the graphic designer; and working with a consultant to design, develop and maintain the Center website (www.unc.edu/depts/bcc). She is also responsible for developing relations with University, local, regional and national media. Williams is an independent public relations consultant and freelance writer.

Jocelyn Womack

Program Coordinator

Jocelyn Womack recently received her M.A. in African American Studies from Columbia University, where she was studying under a Malcolm X Project Research Fellowship. Her fellowship allowed her to complete her thesis on the cultural iconography of Malcolm X. Her program centered on Black Women's History and Feminist Discourse. As a part of the Malcolm X project team she helped develop an online research tool about the life and legacy of Malcolm X and produced a music CD of hip-hop songs about his ideals. She received a B.A. in history from Wake Forest University where she served as co-producer of "The Struggle," a weekly campus television show that focused on issues facing students of color. She has served as a research assistant for writer/activist Kevin Powell's Kpowell Ventures and as a research and editorial assistant for Ms. Magazine. She has also served as a staff writer for the "Old Gold and Black" at Wake Forest and was co-editor of "Can I Poet With You?," an anthology of poetry.