

HBCU Library Alliance 9th Membership Meeting

So You Know Who We Are:
HBCU Libraries In Full View
June 1-2, 2021



BOARD CHAIR LETTER



HBCU Library Alliance members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, welcome to the 9th Membership Meeting of the HBCU Library Alliance! Our community has experienced a season of challenge and a season of opportunity. Your continued membership is appreciated.

Gye Nyame is the African adinkra symbol that means “only God knows.” I often referred to that symbol as I went through the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic globally impacted the lives of people and changed the trajectory of the educational system and libraries on all levels.

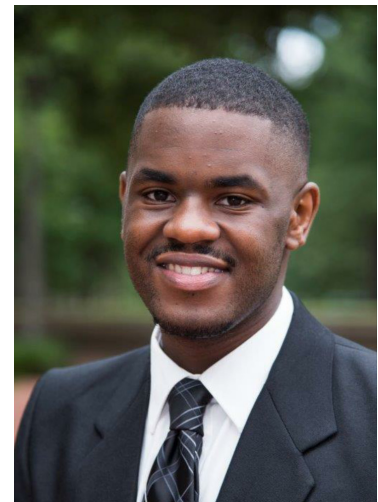
During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alliance heard from many of our members about how they had to abruptly transform from providing services physically to providing virtual and remote services. For most libraries, that journey was challenging; however, we persevered. Perseverance is rooted in the institutions of HBCU Library Alliance member libraries.

The HBCU Library Alliance has persevered and continued in moving the organization ahead despite the pandemic. Serving as the Board chair in collaboration with the Executive Director and Board members, our charge is to promote sustainability while raising the visibility and viability of the HBCU Library Alliance. The result of this charge is evident in the following accomplishments: the NEH-funded “Building Capacity” challenge grant, the University of Delaware Summer Conservation/ Preservation Internship program and the national partnership with the Council on Library and Information Resources. This national partnership provided the opportunity to collaborate on receiving funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to launch the project “Creating Access to HBCU Library Alliance Archives: Needs, Capacity, and Technical Planning.” The historical gift by Pivotal Ventures supported the Alliance’s fundraising efforts. The work with the Nonprofit Finance Fund as a part of the Building Financial Resilience in the Digital Humanities cohort, funded by the Mellon Foundation, aims to strengthen our focus on reimagining a new infrastructure and sustainable future for the HBCU Library Alliance.

The HBCU Library Alliance continues to be the voice for America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities with the mission of developing library leaders, preserving archival collections, while promoting the value of America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Sincerely,

Monika Rhue
HBCU Library Alliance Board Chair
Johnson C. Smith University (NC)



Stephon Boykin, Claflin University (SC) 2019 Summer Conservation/ Preservation intern, host site Library of Congress. Photo courtesy of the HBCU Library Alliance.

Citation for cover page

Photo: Mrs. Inez Moore Parker in the old archives established on the campus of Johnson C. Smith University in 1977. Photo courtesy of the James B. Duke Memorial Library, Inez Moore Parker Archives at Johnson C. Smith University.

PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR LETTER



Greetings Colleagues and Supporters,

Welcome to the 9th HBCU Library Alliance Membership Meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and out of an abundance of caution, this year's meeting is being held virtually. Our theme "So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries in Full View" aims to shed light on the hidden gems which exist in our library print and digital resource collections, and physical and digitized archives. While most of us have shifted to working and delivering library services totally remote since March of 2020, this did not hinder moving the HBCU Library Alliance projects and agenda forward.

It has been a great honor to serve on the HBCU Library Alliance Board and to serve as this year's meeting Planning Committee Chair. I would like to thank all of the committee members who worked tirelessly soliciting presentations and sponsors to make this virtual meeting a reality. I would also like to say a big THANK YOU to the HBCU Library Alliance's Executive Director Sandra Phoenix for her continued hard work, dedication, and commitment to ensuring all HBCU Library Alliance activities are a success.

Let us continue the great work we are all doing to advance the HBCU Library Alliance's visibility, agenda and progress!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nina Ivey Ishokir".

Nina Ivey Ishokir, MLIS
Planning Committee Chair, HBCU Library Alliance 2021 Membership Meeting
Director of Library Services
Clinton College
1029 Crawford Road
Rock Hill, SC 27930



Carline Valmond, Summer 2020
Conservation/Preservation intern,
Grambling State University (LA),
host site University of Kansas. Photo
courtesy of the HBCU Library Alliance.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LETTER



Greetings Colleagues,

I am honored to welcome you to the historic 9th Membership meeting of the HBCU Library Alliance! It is so important that we gather together to reflect, to celebrate and to share experiences. Let our theme, So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries in Full View, be a bold call to action to recognize the impact and value of our work.

Let me begin with thanks for the many opportunities to provide leadership and service to the HBCU Library Alliance community. Let me also thank you for your commitment to HBCUs and the communities they serve. It is because of your efforts, because of your libraries, that this work is possible. Our strategic actions continue to build a progressive HBCU Library Alliance to serve students, faculty, administration and the broader academic community.

Thanks are also due the Board of Directors, Membership Meeting Planning Committee Chair Nina Ishokir, Clinton Community College (SC) and her fabulous team for our first virtual Membership meeting. Thanks to my assistant Vinzanna Leysath for her expertise and contributions to this very important work. Two hundred eleven individuals are registered for the meeting including project partners and sponsors. Please be sure to connect with them on the Sched.com meeting platform.

I'm sure you agree that this has been a challenging season for our community, navigating the COVID-19 pandemic and racial tensions while providing services to constituents. This was a season of soul-searching, of thoughtful reflection to uncover the additional strength needed to stay on course whether working remotely or in the libraries. Our resilience, resolve and determination are constant reminders of our strength as a community to impact needed change. I'm so proud of the HBCU community!

The Membership meeting includes presentations by community members, project partners and sponsors. I am hopeful that these sessions will inform strategic direction and continue to advance the HBCU Library Alliance.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra M. Phoenix".

Sandra M. Phoenix
Executive Director



Elisha Jewell, Summer 2019
Conservation/Preservation Intern,
LeMoyne-Owen College (TN), host
site Harvard University (MA). Photo
courtesy of the HBCU Library Alliance.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

April 8, 2021



Greetings:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students at Claflin University, First Lady LaKisha Warmack and I offer our strongest hope for a successful 9th Annual HBCU Library Alliance meeting. I applaud your mission to transform and strengthen membership by developing leaders, preserving collections and planning for the future. Though innovation, the internet and the expanse of technology have combined to make enhance scholarship, the library remains a core element of the learning process at our HBCU institutions, which makes the event's theme, "So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries in Full View," timely and appropriate.

At Claflin University, the H. V. Manning Library staff has been hard at work in providing enormous support for students during the challenges initiated from the coronavirus pandemic that forced the University to pivot to virtual learning. For instance, the Manning staff has developed a video to help promote library services and has created clips, playlists and watch lists for course purposes. The staff has also worked in partnership with the faculty to offer information literacy sessions. Let me take this opportunity to recognize Ms. Sandra Phoenix for her dynamic leadership and commitment to achieving the goals and vision of the HBCU Library Alliance and its future directions in supporting HBCU libraries.

I extend my best wishes for an uplifting, richly rewarding and productive meeting.
Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwaun Warmack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack
President



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

April 20, 2021



Congratulations to the HBCU Library Alliance on its 9th Biennial Membership meeting. The work of the Alliance, creating library partnerships, providing professional development to librarians and preserving the history of our organizations is outstanding. The John B. Coleman Library is honored to participate in several Alliance projects, most recently, Creating Access to HBCU Library Alliance Archives: Needs, Capacity and Technical Planning. This project will support the unique special and archival collections of our communities and provide narratives on the value of preserving historical documents.

The membership meeting is an opportunity for libraries to acknowledge each other's contributions to student success, research, intellectual freedom, social justice and community development. As we find ourselves working during a pandemic it is important that we come together to celebrate the historical partnership developed among HBCU librarians. We may not be able to meet in person but the support we show, be it virtually, confirms our commitment to the meeting theme: So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries in Full View. Prairie View A&M University is honored to be a part of this celebration, in full view, to share our accomplishments and future prospects.

On behalf of the John B. Coleman library staff, students and faculty, we wish you a successful membership meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth J. Simmons". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ruth J. Simmons
President
Office



THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS LETTER

May 26, 2021



Dear HBCU Library Alliance Colleagues:

Greetings from the Library of Congress! I am delighted for this opportunity to connect with you as you gather for the 9th HBCU Library Alliance Membership Meeting. It's been an unprecedented and transformative year for the nation. Our experiences from the pandemic and the racial unrest have collectively positioned us to reexamine the roles of libraries in our communities.

The Library of Congress is launching a new initiative this year called "Of the People: Widening the Path." We are working to enrich America's story and uncover important perspectives from Black, Indigenous, Hispanic and other minority communities that might otherwise be overlooked in the national collections.

With major support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, we are going to be working to document the shared stories of the American people and widen the path for the national library's engagement with all Americans – and to ensure the national collections provide access to the voices and stories of all Americans.

We will be supporting community-based documentarians to archive contemporary histories from diverse communities that might otherwise be overlooked.

As part of this, we will create new opportunities for fellowships and internships to train diverse new generations of librarians and archivists. We've already started a pilot project for students at Howard University – and we want to expand that to all historically Black universities and institutions serving Hispanic and Indigenous communities.

We will also partner with groups who are leading in digital cultural heritage to use technology and creative approaches to uncover untold stories from Black, Indigenous and other marginalized communities.

As you prepare for your meeting, I hope you are as excited as I am for the future of the work we do. The best way for us to honor the history of our institutions and our professional associations is to make sure they are vibrant centers of learning and creativity. The students you work with in your libraries and the interns we welcome to the Library of Congress are essential to that, and you, their librarians and their mentors, are essential to them. I hope this year's HBCU Library Alliance Membership Meeting will be engaging, inspiring, and informative, and I wish you every success as you revisit your goals, refocus your work, and reframe what it means to be a great librarian.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carla Hayden". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carla Hayden
Librarian of Congress



Photo: Courtesy of Shawn Miller

PARTNER'S PERSPECTIVE

May 6, 2021



Dear Sandra:

On behalf of the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and all of our staff, please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the upcoming 9th Annual Membership Meeting of the HBCU Library Alliance. Entitled "So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries in Full View," the program is a testament to the goals and principles of the Alliance: strengthening communities, mentoring future leaders, making accessible important digital collections, and providing transformational strategic vision to your vibrant constituency.

The occasion of the membership meeting affords us the opportunity to reflect upon our current HBCU Library Alliance and CLIR project, "Creating Access to HBCU Library Alliance Archives: Needs,

Capacity, and Technical Planning." This program, generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, is exemplary of the role of effective collaboration to help make hidden collections at HBCU libraries more visible, accessible, and integral to teaching and research. The HBCU collections that will be the focus of this work represent historical documents and testimonies to events and circumstances that are presently difficult if not impossible to access: community archives, private papers, diaries, and other forms of human expression that are vital to a more accurate, nuanced, and compassionate narrative of America's history and our place in it.

The HBCU Library Alliance and CLIR will continue to aspire to bring to life the voices of the HBCU community that have, often through oppression and with great sacrifice, been silenced. Our work together will assure that these voices will not only be given articulation, but will be curated and sustained for future generations, engaging the curiosity of our children and their children after them. By so doing, many voices across time will interweave and gain a resolute strength of purpose and identity, a choir whose truth cannot be suppressed or blunted.

We are ever grateful to the HBCU Library Alliance to have invited us into your community from which we have already gained so much insight and transformative wisdom. With all best wishes for the 2021 membership meeting and our future work together,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Henry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Charles Henry
President



**Council on
Library and
Information
Resources**

PARTNER'S PERSPECTIVE

April 23, 2021



On behalf of the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) I am very excited to welcome attendees to the Membership Meeting of the Historically Black Colleges & Universities Library Alliance!

When we last met, the HBCU Library Alliance had just been awarded a five-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to help address preservation and conservation needs among the Alliance's members. The COVID-19 pandemic upended all our lives, but work on the goals outlined in the grant has progressed. It has not always been easy, but I am inspired by how we have persevered, adapted, and continued to learn and work together during these times. We have worked on projects such as Zoom consultations to discuss preservation issues, collaborative grant applications, and even built custom storage boxes together during a webinar.

During these difficult times, the work that the Alliance members do to preserve HBCU collections is more important than ever. Thank you for being stewards of these materials that contain information that is critical to our nation. Thank you for allowing CCAHA to be a small part in preserving these stories.

I am excited for what will surely be a stimulating and informative meeting, and look forward to CCAHA's continued work with the Library Alliance going forward.

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Hartz Stanton".

Laura Hartz Stanton
Executive Director



PARTNER'S PERSPECTIVE

April 2, 2021



Dear HBCU Library Alliance colleagues,

I am honored and delighted to write this letter in celebration of the 9th membership meeting of the HBCU Library Alliance and the 4th year of partnership between the Alliance and the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. This year's meeting theme, *So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries in Full View* offers an opportunity to reflect on this mutually beneficial partnership and its potential long-term impact in encouraging students to pursue careers in librarianship or allied cultural heritage professions.

Since 2018, the Library Preservation Summer Internship Program has funded summer internships for 6 to 8 undergraduate students each year. These students intern at nationally-recognized conservation and preservation facilities -- including Harvard University, the Library of Congress, and many others — to learn about the varied aspects of library preservation work while taking leadership on their own keystone preservation project. These dynamic and talented students have increased the visibility of HBCU libraries and their collections of distinction at their host institutions and within the library conservation field, while also representing their schools with poise, determination, and pride. At WUDPAC, we have learned a great deal through our involvement with the HBCU Library Alliance, and I consistently hear from my preservation counterparts at the participating host sites that they, too, are grateful to learn and to share in supporting this community.

The Library Preservation Summer Internship Program is only one of many exemplary initiatives led by the HBCU Library Alliance, but it is one very near and dear to my heart. The Alliance is nurturing the next generation of librarians and scholars in powerful and meaningful ways, and we are grateful for the opportunity to be a small part of this great work.

Warm wishes,

Melissa A. Tedone, PhD, MSIS
Lab Head for Books & Library Materials
Affil. Associate Professor, WUDPAC
Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
5105 Kennett Pike
Winterthur, DE 19735
(302) 888-3381
mtedon@winterthur.org



PARTNER'S PERSPECTIVE

May 25, 2021

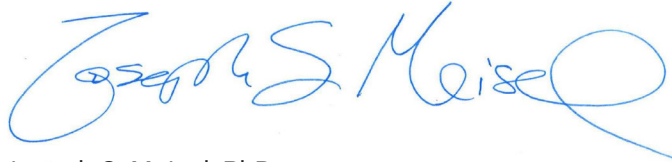


I write proudly, representing a newly affiliated member organization, to extend warmest congratulations to the HBCU Library Alliance on the occasion of its 9th Biennial Membership meeting. It is with the greatest pleasure that the Brown University Library has served as a partner site for the Alliance's Conservation/Preservation Internship Program. My colleagues and I look forward to hosting more outstanding interns in the future, and to building many more opportunities to partner further in the years ahead.

The work of the Alliance in supporting HBCU Libraries and in building meaningful, mutually beneficial partnerships across organizations is unparalleled. We feel privileged to have joined this constellation of distinguished libraries that have had a transformative impact on their students and faculty, and on national life as a whole.

Congratulations to the HBCU Library Alliance for its numerous remarkable accomplishments to date, with eager anticipation of many more to come.

Sincerely,



Joseph S. Meisel, PhD
Joukowsky Family University Librarian
Adjunct Associate Professor of History



BROWN
University Library

2021 9th Membership Meeting

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 1-2, 2021

Agenda

So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries In Full View

Tuesday, June 1

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 9:00 to 9:10 am | Call to Order, Welcome and Session Netiquette
Nina Ishokir, Clinton College (SC), Chair, Membership Meeting Planning |
| 9:10 to 9:20 am | Introductions: Founding Board, Current Board, Sponsors
Monika Rhue, Johnson C. Smith University (NC) |
| 9:20 to 9:30 am | Introduction of Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress
Monika Rhue, Johnson C. Smith University (NC) |
| 9:30 to 9:40 am | Official Welcome
Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress (DC) |
| 9:40 to 9:50 am | Board Chair's Report
Monika Rhue, Johnson C. Smith University (NC) |
| 9:50 to 10:00 am | Executive Director's Report
Sandra Phoenix, HBCU Library Alliance (GA) |
| 10:00 to 10:10 am | Interlude and Break - A Blast from the Past
Vinzanna Leysath, HBCU Library Alliance (GA) |
| 10:10 to 10:15 am | Introduction of Keynote
Blanche Sanders, Alcorn State University (MS) |
| 10:15 to 10:35 am | Keynote Address
Adrienne Lance Lucas, President, Lance Lucas and Associates |
| 10:35 to 10:55 am | Vendor Presentation: American Psychological Association
Valerie Arnett, Senior Relationship Manager, North America, Eastern U.S. |
| 10:55 to 11:15 am | Vendor Presentation: Association of College and Research Libraries
Jamia Williams, Health Sciences Librarian,
SUNY Brockport's Drake Memorial Library (NY) |

2021 9th Membership Meeting

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 1-2, 2021

Agenda

So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries In Full View

(continued) Tuesday, June 1

11:15 to 11:20 am	Break
11:20 to 11:40 am	Vendor Presentation: OCLC Rachel Frick, Executive Director, Research Library Partnership
11:40 to 12:00 pm	Vendor Presentation: ProQuest Lanell White, Lead, Product Marketing Manager, Books (MI) Bob Nardini, Vice President, Library Services (MI)
12:00 to 12:40 pm	Lunch
12:40 to 12:45 pm	Transition to Afternoon Sessions Tina Rollins, Hampton University (VA)
12:45 to 1:00 pm	HBCU OER Affordable Learning Solutions Grant Funding for HBCUs Robbie Melton, Tennessee State University Jacqueline McGehee, Arkansas Baptist College
1:00 to 2:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Grand Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">• American Psychological Association• Association of College and Research Libraries• LYRASIS• OCLC• ProQuest
2:00 to 2:15 pm	New Archival Practices in an Indigenous Community - The Kalinago Territory Carline Valmond, Summer 2020 Conservation/Preservation Intern Grambling State University (LA)
2:15 to 2:30 pm	The Evolving Collections at Xavier University Nancy Hampton, Xavier University (LA)
2:30 to 2:45 pm	Gleaning the Positive from the Negative Space of Pandemic-Era Library Assessment Patrick Morgan, Savannah State University (GA)
2:45 to 3:00 pm	Interlude and Break - Images of Summer Internships

2021 9th Membership Meeting

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 1-2, 2021

Agenda

So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries In Full View

(continued) Tuesday, June 1

- 3:00 to 3:20 pm** **Creating Access to HBCU Library Alliance Archives Project Update**
Sharon Freeman, Mississippi Valley State University
Portia Hopkins, Rice University (TX)
Synatra Smith, Philadelphia Museum of Art Library and Archives
Charles Henry, Council on Library and Information Resources (VA)
- 3:20 to 3:40 pm** **Expanding the Reach: Update on the HBCU LA Digital Initiatives**
Christine Wiseman, Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library (GA)
- 3:40 to 3:55 pm** **Summer Conservation/Preservation Internship**
Melissa Tedone, Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library (DE)
- 3:55 to 4:00 pm** **Transition to Training Session**
Morgan Montgomery, Claflin University (SC)
- 4:00 to 5:00 pm** **Positioning for Success: The Art of Internal Advocacy**
Dyani Feige, Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (PA)
- 5:00 to 5:05 pm** **Closing Comments**
Monika Rhue, Johnson C. Smith University (NC)

Wednesday, June 2

- 8:45 to 9:00 am** **Transition to Day 2 and Introduction of Speaker**
Morgan Montgomery, Claflin University (SC)
- 9:00 to 9:20 am** **Storytelling**
Dr. Crystal deGregory, HBCUstory
- 9:20 to 9:35 am** **Virtual College 101**
Rosaline Odom and Monya Tomlinson, Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library (GA)
- 9:35 to 9:45 am** **Interlude & Break**
- 9:45 to 10:00 am** **Addressing the Unaddressed: Tuskegee Archives and Digitizing Collections**
Dana Chandler, Tuskegee University (AL)
- 10:00 to 10:15 am** **Morehouse School of Medicine Library 2020 Pandemic Response**
Joe Swanson, Jr. and Roland B. Welmaker, Morehouse School of Medicine (GA)
- 10:15 to 10:30 am** **Virtual Sign Language at Prairie View A&M University**
Elizabeth Brumfield, Prairie View A&M University (TX)
Marton Kajtar, SignAll Technologies, (Budapest, Hungary)

2021 9th Membership Meeting

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 1-2, 2021

Agenda

So You Know Who We Are: HBCU Libraries In Full View

(continued) Wednesday, June 2

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 10:30 to 10:45 am | Capturing Our Legacy
DeLisa Minor Harris, Fisk University (TN) |
| 10:45 to 11:00 am | Interlude & Break |
| 11:00 to 11:15 am | Stronger Together, Building Community
Joseph Meisel, Brown University (RI)
Amanda Strauss, Brown University (RI) |
| 11:15 to 11:30 am | Material Memory Season 3: The HBCU Library Alliance Tour
Sharon Burney, Council on Library and Information Resources |
| 11:30 to 11:40 am | Association of Research Libraries Leadership Academy
John Ulmschneider, Director, ARL Leadership Fellows Program
Deborah Grayson, Senior Director, ARL Leadership and Organizational Development |
| 11:40 to 11:50 am | Closing Comments
Monika Rhue, Johnson C. Smith University (NC) |
| 11:50 to 12:30 pm | Lunch |
| 12:00 to 3:00 pm | Exhibit Hall Opens |
| 12:30 pm | Business Meeting
Members Only |

HBCU Library Alliance 2017-2021

Board of Directors

Monika Rhue (Chair)
Johnson C. Smith University (NC)

Mantra Henderson (Past Chair)
Mississippi Valley State University

Tina Rollins (Treasurer)
Hampton University (VA)

Morgan Montgomery (Secretary)
Claflin University (SC)

Nina Ishokir
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Consuella Askew
Rutgers University - Newark (NJ)

Debra Hess Norris
University of Delaware

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Sandra M. Phoenix
HBCU Library Alliance Executive Director

Vinzanna Leysath
Executive Assistant

Founding Directors

Loretta Parham
Founding Board Chair
Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library (GA)

Janice Franklin
Alabama State University

Tommy Holton (deceased)
Dillard University (LA)

Emma Bradford Perry (retired)
Southern University and A&M College (LA)

Elsie Weatherington (retired)
Virginia State University

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