

THE SCHOMBURG CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN BLACK CULTURE AFRICANA HERITAGE

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The home page from *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*, an international Web site in multiple languages created by the Schomburg Center in conjunction with the UNESCO Slave Route Project.

The Schomburg Center and UNESCO Launch *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed the year 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has chosen to feature *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*, a landmark exhibition by the Schomburg Center, as the traveling exhibition of its yearlong commemoration. The Schomburg Center/UNESCO partnership includes the development of the exhibition in multiple

languages and the creation of an international Web site. Both projects were adapted from a popular exhibition that marked the Center's 75th anniversary year and was on display from June 2000 through March 2001. The exhibition examined the oppression and brutality of slavery and explored the centrality of the transatlantic slave trade in the making of the new world. Featuring some 450 artifacts and documents drawn from the collections of the Schomburg Center and other repositories and private collections, the exhibition illustrated the capacity of human beings not only to survive unspeakable hardships but to grow and develop spiritually, politically, intellectually, and artistically in the face of oppression.

Produced in association with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Slave Route Project, the exhibition was extended for

PULL-OUT PROGRAM CALENDAR INSIDE

Because of enduring budget cuts, the monthly program calendar will be printed quarterly and incorporated into the newsletter (see pull-out calendar between pages six and seven).

Schomburg Center Junior Scholars Help Launch Hip-Hop Reader Web site

On Saturday, March 6, 2004, Schomburg Center Junior Scholars and more than 300 young people unveiled The Hip-Hop Reader Web site at a rally in the Center's Langston Hughes Auditorium. The Hip Hop Reader, a youth-based literacy and leadership project was launched with funding from Verizon Foundation through a partnership between the National Urban League and the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network. The New York City pilot was coordinated in collaboration with the New York Urban League and the New York City Department of Education. A number of the project's Leadership Council members, including Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., Russell Simmons, Howard Dodson, Reverend Run, Andrew Cuomo, Marc Morial, Loon, and Rabbi Marc Schneier attended the launch, treating young people to music and dance performances, panel discussions, gift bags, a reception, and site instruction.

The Hip-Hop Reader project offers

Continued on page 3



Reverend Run (left) and Russell Simmons (right), members of the Hip-Hop Reader Leadership Council, helped unveil the Hip-Hop Reader Web site at a rally at the Schomburg Center in March.

Continued on page 6

Over the last few years, numerous national and international organizations have turned to the Schomburg Center for assistance in planning, organizing, and implementing major projects and programs on Africana and African diasporan themes. Last year, as you know, the United States General Services Administration contracted with the Schomburg Center to organize and present the commemorative and reburial ceremonies for the 419 eighteenth-century African ancestors that had been removed from New York City's African Burial Ground over a decade ago. Earlier in the year, the Senegalese government and the newly formed African Union asked the Schomburg Center to co-sponsor and host a day-long symposium on the role of African diasporan scholars in the future development of Africa. In 2002, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution proclaiming 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, which was assigned responsibility for organizing the commemorative activities, has asked the Schomburg Center to assist it in organizing and managing three aspects of the

All of the young people that you know should tune in to the Hip-Hop Reader Web site and get involved in the Hip-Hop Reader program.

— Howard Dodson, Schomburg Chief

international commemoration: a series of traveling exhibits based on the Schomburg exhibition *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*; a Web site exhibit based on the same theme; and a series of special events to be held at selected exhibition venues in the Caribbean, South America, Africa, and Europe. The lead article in this issue of *Africana Heritage* provides background on this major international initiative.

The Schomburg Center was also asked to host and co-sponsor official launches of two new major Internet Web sites that will be of interest to people concerned about African history, culture, and development. The first event took place on March 6, 2004, and was sponsored by the National Urban League and the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network. The launch event for the new Hip-Hop Reader Web site brought together leading hip-hop artists and New York City high school students in a program that included such luminaries as Urban League President Marc Morial and Hip-Hop Summit Leader Russell Simmons. The Hip-Hop Reader Web site highlights a collection of books and other reading materials selected by major figures in the African-American community that they believe young people should be reading. The goal of the site is to encourage young people to read about African-American history and culture and to reward them for doing so. The site awards prizes to youth that demonstrate that they have read some of the selected titles. All of the young people

that you know should tune in to the Hip-Hop Reader Web site and get involved in the Hip-Hop Reader program.

The second major Web site launch will take place on May 14. It targets an older audience. Sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons, the Civil Rights Movement Web site seeks to capture, share, and preserve for posterity the voices and experiences of ordinary people—specifically those not recorded in the history books—who contributed to or were impacted by the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. Those of you who do the on-line thing will be able to log on to the site and record your most memorable Civil Rights Movement story. Those of you who have not yet ventured into cyberspace can stop by the Schomburg Center, and a staff member will help you post your story. Or you can simply send your handwritten or typed story to the Center (not more than 500 words), and we'll have it posted for you.

As you know, the Civil Rights Movement era was one of the most important periods in African-American and American history. Capturing and preserving your most memorable experiences will make a significant contribution to knowledge

about this most important era of transformation and change. The information collected on the Web site will be preserved at the Schomburg Center. Let us hear from you.

Ten years ago, when the Schomburg Center sponsored its first conference on "Africana Libraries and



the Information Age," the interest was still aborning and African-American and African content on the Internet was negligible. In the decade or so that has passed, the Internet itself has grown from a few million Web sites to over 36 million. Fortunately, a significant number of them carry information on the African and African-American experiences. A recent publication by Dr. Abdul Alkalimat with a forward by yours truly, entitled *The African American Experience in Cyberspace: A Resource Guide to the Best Web Sites on Black Culture and History* (Pluto Press, 2004), identifies the best of those Web sites and provides critical assessments of them. Copies can be ordered from the Schomburg Center gift shop by calling (212) 491-2206. This book is your key to African, African-American, and African diasporan content on the Internet. Those of you who are more traditionally book minded should plan to be in Harlem at and around the Schomburg Center on Saturday, July 24. That's when the Sixth Annual Harlem Book Fair will take place. Publishers, writers, and enthusiastic readers of works by and about people of African descent will gather to celebrate the black literary experience. (A full schedule of Harlem Book Fair events is available at www.qbr.com.) If you can't make it to Harlem, tune in to C-Span, which will carry the full day's proceedings. But it will be better if you are here! We look forward to seeing you at this year's book fair as well as at many Schomburg related book fair events.

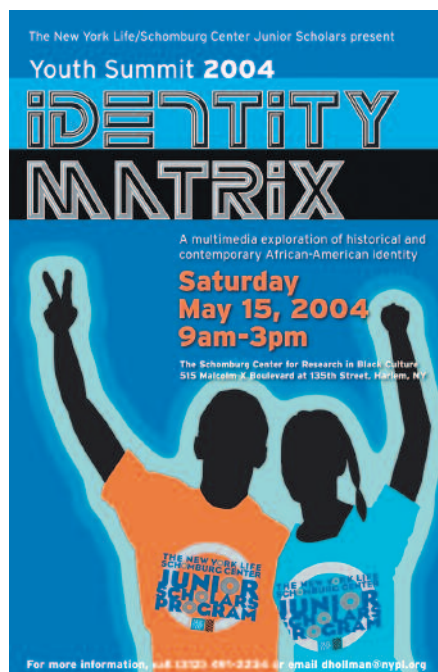
Schomburg Center Junior Scholars Prepare for Third Youth Summit

The New York Life/Schomburg Center Junior Scholars have amassed a treasure trove of information during the current program year. It will be used to inform their special projects, which will debut at the May 15, 2004, Youth Summit. This year's Youth Summit, a multimedia conference entitled *Identity Matrix*, will explore historical and contemporary notions of African-American identity.

To prepare for the summit, Junior Scholars have been involved in intense academic inquiry, considering questions such as "Who Am I?" and "Who Was I?" To encourage introspection and dialogue on these topics, the program has developed curricula and enlisted scholars and staff members to engage scholars on these questions.

Schomburg Center Chief Howard Dodson provided rich insight into the emancipation of African Americans as described in *Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture*, a publication that considers how enslaved Africans triumphed over slavery and succeeded in developing into a new people under the most oppressive circumstances. The discussion enabled students to gain a deeper understanding of the experiences and coping mechanisms of their ancestors.

Schomburg Center staff member Redell Armstrong engaged students in scholarship on the African-American migration and introduced students to *In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience*, a new Web site in development at the Schomburg Cen-



ter that examines the African Diaspora and charts the migration experience over hundreds of years and multiple generations.

The Junior Scholars also screened several provocative films and videos that facilitated discussion on historical and contemporary events, including the New York Life sponsored video series, "The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow," which aired on the Public Broadcasting System. Junior Scholars also worked with the program's complementary Web site, www.jimcrowhistory.com. The film *Tulsa, Texas: Scenes from the Drug War*, a docu-

mentary examining the highly questionable arrests of a significant percentage of the African-American community, and a subsequent discussion with WBAI-FM Program Manager Bernard White, provided a contemporary look at some of the challenges facing African Americans. Students were also helped along their journey of self-discovery and scholarship by a screening of *All Our Sons: Fallen Heroes of 9/11*. The discussion with the film's producer, Lt. Craig Kelly, and with mothers and wives of deceased firefighters, was a moving experience for the scholars.

The program also engaged students with a field trip to the Studio Museum of Harlem exhibition *Harlem World: Metropolis Metaphor*, and with a cultural exchange with students from the Republic of Angola.

Work is on-going by the Junior Scholars on their portfolios. They continue to use this tool as a device to develop their personal voices and as a place to analyze current and past events. At the conclusion of the program year, each Junior Scholar will have a collection of work that documents his or her participation in the Junior Scholars Program.

The Junior Scholars look forward to sharing their visual arts, theater, music, dance, Web site, video, and magazine with the public at the Youth Summit on May 15. Please support our Junior Scholars and attend a multimedia perspective of history and of the present as viewed by our young people. See you at the Youth Summit!

Hip Hop, continued from page 1

students enrolled in New York City public high schools an opportunity to earn prize-redeemable points for passing on-line multiple choice quizzes that verify that they have read from a suggested reading list compiled by the Leadership Council, and for participating in local Hip-Hop Reader events, including reading ciphers and issue forums. A Hip Hop Reader Leadership Council, comprised of hip-hop artists, educators, writers/authors, actors, youth representatives, and other community leaders, selects the reading list, which includes books, song lyrics, poetry, and other reading mate-



Hiphopreader.com cake and other goodies were handed out to more than 300 young people at the Hip-Hop Reader launch party.



More than 300 young people enjoyed the performances at the Hip-Hop Reader launch rally in the Center's Langston Hughes auditorium.

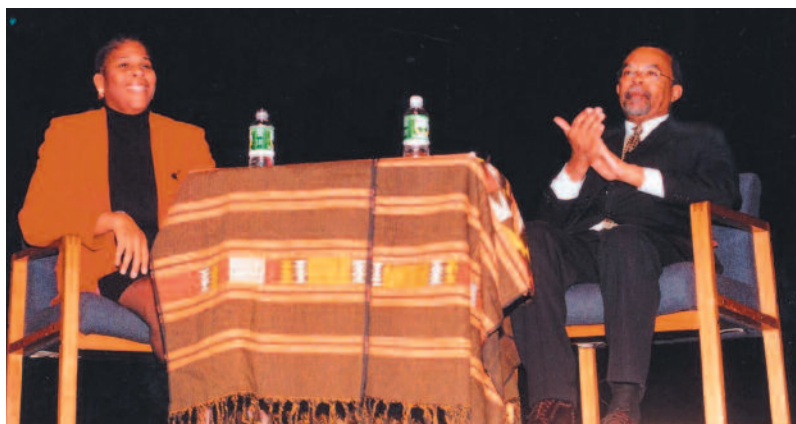
rials. Students can use their redeemed points to order prizes donated by merchandise sponsors. Phat Farm, Baby Phat, and Microsoft are some of the merchandise sponsors. Prizes will be shipped to students via their schools on a monthly basis by the project's shipping partner.

tential members from other organizations; attend regular Leadership Council meetings as organized by Hip Hop Reader; and read books and recommend titles to the Hip-Hop Reader reading list. For more information about the Hip-Hop Reader project, visit www.hiphopreader.org.

AROUND THE SCHOMBURG CENTER



Ileana Santamaría joined dancers (below) and other musicians for "Peace Song 4 Mongo," a tribute to her father, legendary Cuban jazz musician Ramon "Mongo" Santamaría, at a Schomburg Center Holiday Open House performance in December 2003.



Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and Lenora Fulani participated in a panel discussion for Gates's book, *America Behind the Color Line*; Gates signed copies of the book, a companion volume to "America Beyond the Color Line," a series on PBS that aired in February.



In January, The 2004 Historically Black Colleges & Universities All-Star Big Band performed a specially commissioned musical arrangement in tribute to jazz icon Benny Carter at the Schomburg Center.



The Schomburg Center celebrated the 25th anniversary edition of *Kindred* with a reading and book signing by author Octavia Butler in February.



Jean Fagan Yellin, a former Schomburg Center scholar-in-residence and author of *Harriet Jacobs: A Life*, signed copies of her biography after at a book celebration at the Center in February.



Clockwise from above left: Camille O. Cosby and Renee Poussaint signed copies of their book, *A Wealth of Wisdom: Legendary African American Elders Speak*, after a panel discussion featuring contributors; panelists and contributors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee signed copies of the book; David N. Dinkins, Jimmy Heath, a young panelist from the National Visionary Leadership Project, and Lee Archer discussed the roles of African-American elders in young people's lives.

The Schomburg Center and UNESCO Launch *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*

UNESCO Launch, continued from page 1

three months to accommodate popular demand and became the basis for the Schomburg Center publication *Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture*, published by National Geographic in 2002.

This year, to mark the United Nations General Assembly's resolution proclaiming 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, a thirty-two-panel traveling version of *Lest We Forget* has been created by the Schomburg Center in conjunction with the UNESCO Slave Route Project. The show, on view at the Center from March 18 to July 11, 2004, will feature four-color panels documenting the slave trade, slavery, and the contributions of enslaved Africans throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The UNESCO Slave Route Project

The Slave Route project was mandated in 1993 by a resolution of the General Conference of UNESCO, and officially launched at the First Session of the International Scientific Committee of the Slave Route in September 1994. Since that time, the project has sought to end the silence surrounding the history of the slave trade and slavery. The project seeks to illuminate the enormous human costs of slavery and recognize the moral imperative to educate the public about the political, social, and cultural consequences of the slave trade. For ten years the Slave Route Project has used its resources to promote research and documentation on the slave trade and slavery and to educate the international community, particularly younger generations, about the history and the consequences of slavery in the modern world.



A Historic Commemorative Year

Historically, 2004 marks the bicentenary of the Haitian Revolution, the most successful slave rebellion in the Americas, and the revolt that established Haiti as an independent republic. The Haitian Revolution inspired blacks in other slave societies to take up arms and fight for their freedom. The Haitian Revolution can be remembered as a symbol of the victory of the principles of liberty, equality, dignity, and the rights of the individual and as a celebration of the history of the liberation of the peoples of the Americas and the Caribbean. It is in this spirit that the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, highlighting the

achievements of the UNESCO Slave Route Project. With the recognition of slavery as a crime against humanity (World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Durban, South Africa) in 2001, the proclamation of 2004 as the commemorative year, as outlined in UNESCO's Programme to Commemorate the Year 2004, has the following aims. (For UNESCO's complete commemorative program, visit www.unesco.org and click on "2004 – Int. Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition.")



Lest We Forget is part of an effort to ensure a deepened knowledge of the slavery.

Objectives of the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition

- Celebrate the bicentenary of the Haitian Revolution, which resulted in the creation of the first black republic, and consequently encouraged the progressive emancipation of the peoples of the Caribbean and South America.
- Mobilize the international community, the academic world, and civil society to clarify the aftermath of this tragedy and exert a renewed vigilance against new forms of slavery.
- Ensure a deepened knowledge of the slave trade and of slavery for the emergence of a new historic consciousness in and beyond the countries that were affect-

ed by this history.

- Restore broken links and broaden solidarity between the African continent and its diasporas, in particular through the networking of its intellectual community.
- Study and promote the modalities of this dialogue between cultures, and foster peaceful coexistence between peoples by highlighting the interactions generated by the slave trade and slavery in artistic expressions, spiritual traditions, and the transfer of know-how.
- Collect and disseminate scientific information on the abolition of slavery; study and visit the places and sites of this history; celebrate the event that marked the abolition process and the memory of the personalities who, in whatever capacity, pio-

neered such abolition.

The Schomburg Center and UNESCO hope that *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery* will be a valuable educational tool in this commemorative year. The thirty-two-panel exhibition is part of an important international effort to institutionalize the memory of slavery, to promote the truth of its history and effects, and to acknowledge and combat contemporary racism, discrimination, and intolerance. Versions of *Lest We Forget* have been produced in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. The panels featured above represent a snapshot of this historic exhibition, which will travel to the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, and other locations in this commemorative year.

Notes from a Scholar-In-Residence

BY STEPHEN G. HALL

African-American intellectual history and historiography have been viewed for some time as the stepchildren of African-American Studies. Despite the centrality of bibliophiles, collectors, and trained professional historians in crafting the African-American historical narrative, no comprehensive history of the evolution of the field from its inception through its professionalization has been written. This omission seems egregious since so many programs and departments in the nation's colleges and universities exist as an outgrowth of sustained lay and scholarly interest in the

Illuminating the contours of history and historical writing among African Americans.

history of persons of African descent. One might ask why this is the case.

From the 1950s through the early 1970s, the civil rights and black power movements brought increased awareness of the history and culture of African Americans. One important outgrowth of this intensely contentious period was the institutionalization of African-American history in the academy. Subsequent focus on the founding and development of programs and departments, however, obscured the rich traditions of historical thinking and writing that reached back to the early 1800s. My book, "A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth Century America," recaptures and reconstructs a lost milieu of historical writing by illuminating the contours of history and historical writing among African Americans and investigating their evolution and maturation up to 1915. This study begins with the publication of one of

the earliest tracts on African-American history, Jacob Oson's *A Search for Truth, or, An Inquiry for the Origins of the African Nation* (1817), and the subsequent growth of black institutions, especially the black press, during the first thirty years of the nation's history. *Freedom's Journal*, the first African-American newspaper, was founded in 1827 and serves as the first viable organ of public opinion in the black community. It also occupies a central place in the creation of a historical discourse. My book ends with the establishment of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) in 1915, the formation of which signaled the formal move toward professionalization within the ranks of African-American historians.

In addition to charting the genealogy of African-American history prior to 1915, this book also examines four underlying themes that inform the evolution and maturation of African-American history in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: the engagement of African-American intellectuals with emergent "technologies of power" (reading, writing, newspapers, and book publication); the engagement of African-American intellectuals with, and selective appropriation of, ideological and intellectual constructs from mainstream intellectual movements, including the European and American Enlightenment, Classicism, Romanticism,

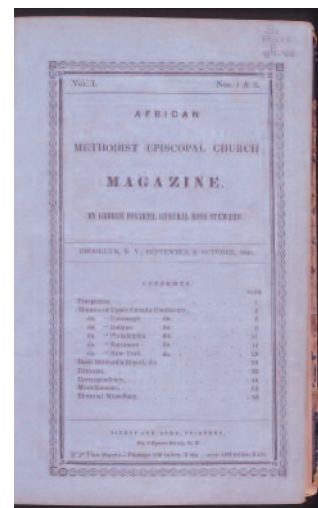
Realism, and Scientism and Objectivity; the influence of the African Diaspora on the development of historical study; and the creation of discursive spaces that simultaneously reinforced and offered counter-narratives to more mainstream historical discourse.

While this study builds on the existing literature in African-American historiography, it also represents a significant departure from earlier work. Unlike most African-American historiographical studies, I argue that serious African-American historical writing began in the antebellum period through the scholarly production of ministers and abolitionists rather than the late nineteenth century with the publication in 1883 of George Washington Williams's *History of the Negro Race in America, 1619-1880*. Also, unlike studies that focus mainly on racial vindication and contributionism as the primary determinants of African-American historical discourse, this project examines the discourse from the perspective of its internal logic (methodology, argumentation, and sources), and the construction and dissemination of history in the African-American community. By doing so, this book provides a holistic portrait of African-American history informed by developments within and outside the African-American community.

My approach to the evolution and maturation of African-American histo-

The Schomburg Center Scholars-in-Residence Program assists post-doctoral scholars and professionals whose research in the black experience can benefit from extended access to the Center's resources. Fellowships funded by the Center allow recipients to spend six months or a year in residence with access to resources at the Schomburg Center and other centers of The New York Public Library. It encompasses projects in African, Afro-American, and Afro-Caribbean history and culture. The next application period is for 2006-2007 fellowships. See the Center's Web site (www.schomburgcenter.org) for information.

Africana Heritage is pleased to feature a series of articles based on current scholars' research in the upcoming volumes of the newsletter. Stephen G. Hall contributes the second article in this series spotlighting work by Schomburg Center Scholars-in-Residence.



Left to right: Early contributions to African-American intellectual history include (left to right) more than a dozen books and pamphlets by William Wells Brown; *Freedom's Journal*, the nation's first black newspaper, founded in 1827 by Samuel Cornish and John Russwurm; and the *African Methodist Episcopal Church Magazine*, published as a "circulating medium of intelligence" in the nineteenth century.

ry prior to 1915 differs significantly from the existing literature. Traditionally, historians characterize historical writers in the period prior to 1915 as amateurish and unprofessional, and their historical production as pre-professional and non-scholarly. This approach has led numerous historians to dismiss the scholarly production of lay and amateur historical writers in the nineteenth century without adequate discussions of the relationships between earlier historical paradigms and the subsequent development of history and historical consciousness in African-American communities. Moreover, it has led some authors to label these writers Afrocentric or nationalist when these authors engage Africa or the African Diaspora. I argue this labeling is not only misleading but presentist and anachronistic. In addition to traditional methodological approaches, this study also relies heavily on textual analysis, an approach to reading texts that is widely used in literary criticism, especially the work of Henry Lewis Gates, most notably in *Figures in Black: Words, Signs and The "Racial" Self* (1987). Moreover, this study engages a burgeoning interdisciplinary literature in intellectual history, which focuses on the construction of African-American counter narratives to majoritarian intellectual discourse. This is evident in Rafia Zafar's *We Wear the Mask: African Americans Write American Literature, 1760-1870* (1997), Mia Bay's *The White Image in the Black Mind: African American Ideas About White People, 1830-1925* (2000), and Elizabeth McHenry's *Forgot-*

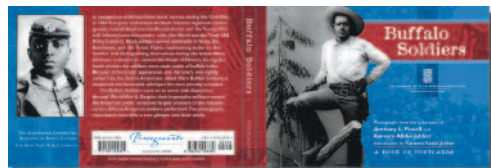
ten Readers: Recovering the Lost History of African American Literary Societies (2002). Lastly, I attempt to selectively use emergent models on the meanings of Africa and the African Diaspora to discuss the international and diasporic implications of African-American history. For African-American intellectuals, their concerns were not only limited to the African Diaspora but also extended to other people of color in Asia, the Pacific Islands, and Latin America.

In broadening the understanding of how African-American history emerged as a discipline, this project will make important contributions to African Diaspora studies, American and African-American intellectual history, and most important, The History of Education. Given current scholarly discussions concerning the need to internationalize United States history, my project provides important insights on this issue. As the works of Alexander Crummell, William Wells Brown, T. G. Steward, Pauline Hopkins, and George Washington Williams demonstrate, African-American writers were always deeply engaged with and influenced by events in Africa and the African Diaspora. These concerns internationalized African-American history and fostered an awareness and engagement among its writers on a wide variety of issues in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, namely nationhood and sovereignty, colonization, emigration, Social Darwinism, imperialism, colonialism, civilizationism, and manhood.

Given current discussions of

African-American history, one would not suspect that the discipline's origins and meanings are as multifaceted and complex as this study will reveal. The Schomburg Center's comprehensive holdings in African-American intellectual history and historiography are ideal for a project of this type. While here I plan to examine the textual production of black historians Robert Benjamin Lewis, Maria Stewart, Ann Plato, James W. C. Pennington, Hosea Easton, William Wells Brown, William Alexander, Joseph Wilson, N. F. Mossell, Lelia Amos Pendleton, John Cromwell, and the paper collections of Daniel Murray and John Bruce. This study will not only shed light on the historical work of nineteenth century intellectuals but provides critical insights into the maturation of African-American history and studies in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries by providing a holistic portrait of the field's origins.

Stephen G. Hall is an Assistant Professor of History at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where he teaches courses in American and African-American intellectual history and historiography. He has published several articles, review essays, and numerous bibliographical entries on African-American historians and black intellectual history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Hall is currently completing work on a book manuscript titled "A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth Century America."



COMING IN MAY!

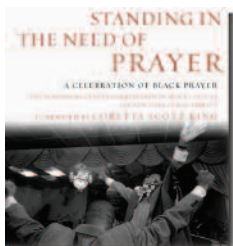
Buffalo Soldiers, a postcard book by the Schomburg Center and Pomegranate Communications

In recognition of African-Americans' service during the Civil War, in 1866 Congress authorized six black infantry regiments (subsequently consolidated into the Twenty-fourth and the Twenty-fifth U.S. Infantry) and two cavalry units (the Ninth and the Tenth U.S. Army Cavalry). Black soldiers served admirably in Texas, the Southwest, and the Great Plains, maintaining order on the frontier and distinguishing themselves during the Indian Wars (thirteen enlisted men earned the Medal of Honor). During the harsh winters the soldiers wore coats made of buffalo hides. Because of the coats' appearance and the men's own tightly curled hair, the Native Americans called them Buffalo Soldiers, a respected and honorable sobriquet the men proudly accepted. The Buffalo Soldiers went on to serve with distinction, through World War II. Despite their impressive military record, the American public remained largely unaware of the valuable service African-American soldiers performed. The photographs reproduced here offer a rare glimpse into their world.

Standing in the Need of Prayer A Celebration of Black Prayer

Foreword by Coretta Scott King
The Free Press, \$27.50, 224 pp.

From the darkest days on slave ships to the most defiant moments of the Civil Rights Movement, prayer, more than any aspect of religion, has embodied the most intense expression of traditional African and African-American spirituality. In this one-of-a-kind volume, striking photographs and inspiring

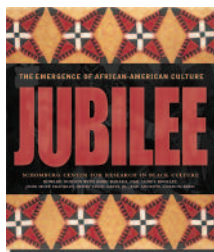


prayers drawn primarily from the unparalleled collections of the Schomburg Center span the broad spectrum of religious traditions during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Reflecting themes relevant to the black experience—including struggle, triumph, worship, family, and community—*Standing in the Need of Prayer* features examples from diverse religious traditions, including Islam, Christianity, Yoruba, and Vodou. The book also includes prayers from some of history's most powerful voices, among them W. E. B. Du Bois, James Baldwin, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture
Howard Dodson, Amiri Baraka, John Hope Franklin, Gail Buckley, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Annette Gordon-Reed, and Gayraud S. Wilmore
National Geographic, \$35, 224 pp.

Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture

This illustrated history documents the courageous and innovative ways that enslaved Africans developed their own unique culture in the midst of slavery and examines how that culture developed and flourished through the years after emancipation to the turn of the century.



Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery
The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 2004 as the *International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition*, and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) has elected *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery* to be its official travelling exhibit highlighting the triumph of the principles of liberty, equality, and the dignity of human rights. *Lest We Forget* documents and interprets the obstacle-ridden but life-affirming experiences of enslaved African peoples in the Americas, and examines the extraordinary capacity of human beings to confront and transcend oppression, and to triumph over state-sanctioned evil and injustice.

EXHIBITIONS



March 18 – July 11, 2004

Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery

Schomburg Center Call for Docent Volunteers
Help the Schomburg Center fulfill its mission to educate the public about the history of the African Diaspora. Become a Schomburg Center docent volunteer. Every year, the Schomburg Center features important exhibitions on the African diasporan experience. From *Ralph Johnson Bunche: Nobel Laureate*, a centennial retrospective of an extraordinary educator, diplomat, and intellectual, to *The Buffalo Soldiers: The African-American Soldier in the U.S. Army*, an examination of the contributions of

black soldiers on the Western Frontier, to *Invoking the Spirit: Worship Traditions in the African World*, a series of astonishing photographs documenting the worship practices of people of African descent, our exhibitions and educational tours help spread the word of the important history, culture, and contributions of people of African descent. Bring our history to life! Become a tour docent for the Schomburg Center. For more information about how you can become a docent, contact Tessa Hamilton, tour coordinator, at (212) 491-2207.

March 18 – July 11, 2004

Blacks and the United States Constitution

Blacks and the United States Constitution examines the pivotal role of race in American Constitutional history, the black presence in American society, the dynamics of race relations in the United States, and the history of black freedom struggles. Highlights include proceedings of nineteenth-century black conventions, David Walker's fiery Appeal using natural rights philosophy to justify slave violence in pursuit of freedom, Secretary of State William H. Seward's signed certificate attesting to the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, and the Supreme Court's formal judgment in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Blacks and the United States Constitution is supported by Eastman Kodak Company.

April 2 – 15, 2004

Senegalese Contemporary Art Exhibition

Featuring works by Mbaye Ousseynou dit Seyni, El Hadji Mboup, and Mbaye dit Tita. Sponsored in cooperation with the General Consulate of Senegal at New York

SAVE THESE DATES!

July 20 – July 25, 2004

Book Fair

QBR's Harlem Book Fair Celebrates Its Sixth Anniversary!

This year's Harlem Book Fair begins on

Tuesday, July 20, with the Harlem Book Fair Launch Party, a very special event hosted by *QBR: The Black Book Review* and *Harlem World Magazine*. The Annual Book Fair will take place Saturday, July 24, 2004. This, the largest book fair of its kind, is expected to



draw more than 40,000 New Yorkers and visitors to West 135th Street (between Fifth Avenue and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard in Harlem) from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. More than 250 booths will be set up along 135th Street, of-

fering books, storytelling, readings, and opportunities to meet and greet authors, and four stages will feature spoken word poets, celebrities, and music throughout the day.

Schomburg Center programs and exhibitions are supported in part by the City of New York, the State of New York, the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan, the New York State Black, Puerto Rican and Hispanic Legislative Caucus, the Rockefeller Foundation Endowment for the Performing Arts, The Coca-Cola Foundation, New York Life Foundation, Annie E. and Sarah L. Delaney Charitable Trusts, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., and the Edler Hawkins Foundation.

The Schomburg Center is a member of the Harlem Strategic Cultural Collaborative (HSCC).

Yes, it's true...

Unless you leave your IRA or pension plan to a spouse, it can be taxed heavily in your estate. If your estate is over \$1 million, these funds can be subject to both estate *and* income tax, which may total over 80 percent. This leaves your family or other heirs a mere 20 percent of a lifetime of savings.

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name the Schomburg Center as beneficiary of your plan. You can avoid completely income and estate taxes on these funds, thus enabling you to leave more of your other assets to your heirs. And you can make a meaningful gift to the Schomburg Center as part of your legacy. For more information, please contact Randy V. Beranek, Manager of Planned Giving, (212) 930-0568. E-mail: plannedgifts@nypl.org.

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AFRICANA HERITAGE

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A Message from the National Membership Chair

Knowing our legacy—undistorted by others and documented by those who lived it—correctly aligns you and me and our children



Dr. Maya Angelou

in the continuing struggle to fully claim our dignity in all areas of life.

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