

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

50th Class Reunion

Department of Alumni Relations

Greetings Fellow Classmate:

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In May 2023, we will celebrate a momentous occasion – our 50th ANNIVERSARY of graduating from Howard University (HU). As this time approaches, we reflect on the many ‘first’ and groundbreaking events that occurred during our time at Howard.

- Black pride exhibited through displaying our natural hair which reflected our new standard in Black beauty
- Opening the first campus radio station – WHUR 96.3
- Protesting through a ‘sit-in’ at the Administrative Building for academic freedom and political unrest
- Celebration of HU’s Centennial Year
- Witnessing the shock and the nation’s reaction to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King
- The start of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) in 1971
- Witnessing the early years of Thurgood Marshall’s role as the first African American Supreme Court Justice
- HU’s Mississippi project to assist African Americans in the Mississippi Delta in registering to vote and provision of transportation to the polls
- Cultural shift from panty raids in girls’ dorms to Co-ed visitation in the dorms
- Rich entertainment by such artists as the Commodores, the Emotions, Miles Davis, Minnie Ripperton, Ike and Tina Turner, the Chambers Brothers
- Soccer Team became NCAA Champions - unjustly stripped of the Title in 1972, only to come back and reclaim the title in 1974
- Opening of HU’s School of Communication
- Birthplace of the political career of the honorable Congressman Elijah Cummings

The 50th Class Reunion celebration is a proud tradition at Howard University! Mark Your Calendar now to attend the Class of 1973’s Reunion Weekend, May 11 through May 14, 2023. Please review the attached information of a tentative schedule of events, information on registration, accommodations and transportation.

Much has changed since 1973, but Howard’s commitment to its mission, student advocacy and activism is unwavering. The University lives by its motto – Veritas et Utilitas – demonstrating Excellence in Truth and Science. Today’s Howard University is stronger, bolder and more successful than ever! Consider the following as a testament to the power and ability of Howard’s collective voice to effect change evoked during the seventies era when we blossomed as agents of change.

- Howard climbed 100 Top spots in the U.S. News & World Report ranking of the nation’s best universities
- The National Science Foundation named Howard the top producer of undergraduates who later earn PhDs in natural sciences

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- College of Medicine ranks among the top 3 schools meeting the nation's medical needs as reported in Annals of Medicine
- The School of Business ranked among the top 10 MBA programs; earns #1 spot by Princeton Reviews as 'greatest "opportunity for minority students"'
- The School of Law is the number 2 Law Degree producer for African Americans as presented in Diverse Issues in Higher Education

Students continue to excel and disrupt the status quo: HU's third Truman Scholar, in the last years, was also selected as one of the 2018 White House HBCU Competitiveness Scholar – the White House Initiative on highest student recognition. A senior political science student was awarded the 2019 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship and four high achieving HU students comprised the largest group of Rhodes finalists in HU history for 2019. A female student was selected as the 2018 Rhoden Fellow, funded by ESPN, to develop new voices and serve as an incubator for future sports journalists of color.

Alma mater is important because of her legacy of inspiring students who will carry on the unique spirit of Howard and continue to impact the world. Many HU students have similar potential as the aforementioned scholars but are at risk and need our financial support. This stark comparison may cause your head to spin: Tuition payments of less than \$1,000 in the 1969-73 school year have exploded to a current \$31,050 in 2022-23.

We can help current and future Howard students by contributing to our Class gift, The Howard University Class of 1973 50th Anniversary Fund. This Fund will support and sustain the innovative spirit of the Class of 1973, leaving a lasting legacy to schools and future activism. While we still have a distance to travel in reaching our ambitious goal of \$1,000,000 with your contributions, we can meet this attainable goal! We will present our gift at the All-Classes Reunion Luncheon on May 12, 2023. Please join this endeavor by making a gift that will enable current and future students to follow in our footsteps as dedicated learners and proud supporters of HU's mission.

Those who donate \$1,973 or more by the close of our campaign on April 1, 2023, will be recognized at the Honor Roll Reception. Please designate your tax-deductible contribution to Howard University, specifically for the HU Class of 1973 50th Anniversary Fund. You may contribute by mailing to the HU lockbox (**Returned Envelope Enclosed**) or directly to the Fund at the following link <https://giving.howard.edu/1973>.

Please plan now to join us for the Commencement event on May 13, 2023, when our class will once again march onto the graduation stage, a signature feature of HU's proud tradition. We are excited about our 50th reunion celebration activities where we can reconnect and celebrate with one another, while reflecting on the impact Howard University has had on our lives. Our gratitude will be demonstrated in our gift for future students!

We are grateful for your ongoing support! We look forward to hearing from you soon and seeing you in May 2023. Should you have questions regarding the reunion activities or wish to update your records with the University, please contact: El Hadji D Diagne at: e_d_diagne@howard.edu, (202) 806-5857.

Sincerely,


Mr. Andrew B. Kelly
Chairperson


Margaret A. Scott-Graves, Ed.D.
Co-Chairperson

