

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

50th Class Reunion

Department of Alumni Relations

Dear Classmates:

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As we plan to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Howard University graduation and look forward to your contribution to our Class of 1971 50th Reunion Legacy Fund, let us take a stroll down memory lane together.

We were the "New Direction Era" Class of 1971, clad in bell bottoms, mini-skirts and dashikis. Though our dress was provocative, we were sober and serious about our activism toward remedying societal ills, from civil and human rights to free speech and impediments to human progress everywhere. We organized and supported causes including the Alabama 86 Project, African Heritage Conference, Stokely Carmichael's return to his roots and the Howard University Mississippi Project (HUMP).

HU . . . YOU KNOW! Our legacy was planted in the Jazz Rock Concert, First Howard University Blues Festival, Homecoming's New Direction Theme with Ike and Tina Turner, the Chambers Brothers, Miles Davis and Herbie Hancock. Our times were marked by the lowering of the voting age to 18, the Apollo 15 voyage and globally the military coup in Uganda, ousting Idi Amin. To the music of Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On," we witnessed the Ali-Liston "Fight of the Century," and celebrated our commencement honorees, Julian Bond, Sterling Brown, Jesse Jackson and Edward "Duke" Ellington.

Much has changed in 50 years, but alma mater's commitment to her mission remains steady and strong. The Mecca continues to live up to its motto, Veritas et Utilitas, "Excellence in Truth and Service." Howard University in 2020/2021:

- ranks 34th on *U.S. News and World Report's* roster of Best Undergraduate Teaching programs.
- remains the top producer of African American students entering medical schools, according to the National Science Foundation.
- graduates the most African Americans with degrees in communications and journalism and ranks second in Law degrees, according to *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.
- ranks first in the *Princeton Review* for offering the greatest Business School opportunities for minority students.

Howard students have continued to excel in the highest academic achievements, including 3 Marshall Scholars, 4 Rhodes Scholars, 11 Truman Scholars, 20 Rangel Scholars, 25 Pickering Scholars and more than 165 Fulbright Awardees.

It's wonderful to reach out to you in these unparalleled times. The New Direction Era Class may recall that our success and survival depended on mutual support. On this landmark occasion, we encourage you to honor our tradition by considering a contribution to the 1971 class reunion fund. If possible, a donation of \$1,971.00 or more to the Class of 1971 Howard University Legacy Fund would be greatly appreciated. This will go far to help us to reach our fundraising goal. Meanwhile we look forward to your participation in planning for a grand 50th Class Reunion. Please visit <https://alum.howard.edu/activities/reunions> for additional update.

Chairperson

Helen Kinard, Scott

Dr. Helen Kinard Scott

Co-Chairperson

Willie-Lloyd Reeves, Esq.

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