

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

50th Class Reunion

Department of Alumni Relations

Committee:

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Renee Higginbotham-Brooks, Esq

Co-Chairs:

Mr. Chauncey Manson III
Mr. Bruce Williams

Mrs. Linda Jackson Jones
Duane A. Brown, Esq
Suzanne R. Cunningham, Ph.D.
Valerie D. Williams, Ph.D.
Patricia E. Baranco, D.D.S.
Mrs. Davene McCarthy White
Ms. Alta Cannaday

Dear Class Member

"There is magic at work at Howard."

Our newly installed President, Ben Vinson III, Ph.D. spoke those words during his inaugural address in November and I imagine you will agree. For generations, students have experienced the magic that happens on the campus of Howard University. At the Mecca, Black culture, excellence and innovation shine bright and help shape transformational leaders for our world.

I'm writing today to congratulate you on your 50th reunion year. It's hard to believe that almost five years have passed since I worked with you for your 45th class reunion. I hope you plan to join us at the Mecca from Thursday, May 9 to Sunday, May 12, 2024. Your reunion committee is hard at work planning many marvelous activities to celebrate you.

The Class of 1974 is also planning to make a big impact and set new reunion fundraising records than five years ago. They have set an ambitious goal of \$1 million raised and have more participation rate from your class.

As you know, Howard's stature as a global education leader continues to grow, in part because alumni like you pay it forward with your generosity. Howard University is ranked #30 on the 2022 rankings of Most Innovative Schools and our School of Business is ranked 28th nationally. We're #1 in sending Black students to medical schools, the #1 producer of Black communications and journalism professionals and the #2 producer of Black law professionals.

Plus, we are seeing soaring application and enrollment numbers, historic research investment, powerhouse athletics results, and so much more. Howard's future is extremely bright. But we rely on our on our dedicated alumni – like you – who continuously answer the call to lift Howard to greater heights.

Please take a moment now to consider the impact Howard University has had on your life and your career – and then decide to make your most generous contribution to your Golden Reunion campaign. We can't presume to know the level of gift that is right for you, but we urge you to consider an amount that matches the significance of this moment.

Many of your class members have already stepped forward with generous gifts. If you are able to contribute \$2,000 or more, you will be recognized as part of our Class of 1974 Honor Roll and will receive other special recognition during the reunion weekend.

Please make your most generous gift today. Simply return the enclosed form to us in the envelope provided. Or you can donate by visiting our 50th Reunion page at <https://giving.howard.edu/class-1974-reunion-class-giving>.

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Your Golden Reunion is also a wonderful time to consider creating your legacy by leaving a gift to Howard in your will, trust or by beneficiary designation. To learn more about legacy giving, please check the box on the enclosed form.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Vinson recognized the “13,000 bright minds and still counting who’ve chosen Howard to launch their lives and are making the world a better place.” You already know the power of a Howard education. As Dr. Vinson said, “When you leave these grounds, you are ready for the world in ways that you’ve never been before.”

I hope you will make a gift or pledge now to support the Class of 1974's 50th Reunion campaign. Consider the amount you would like to give, and you will have up to 5 years to complete your pledge payments (\$5000 minimum threshold).

I look forward to hearing from you soon and hope to see you at your 50th Reunion in May.

Sincerely,

El Hadji Djibril Diagne

El Hadji Djibril Diagne, '06, BA Political Science
Associate Director of Annual Giving,
Reunions and Constituents Groups

P.S. We're asking every member of the Class of 1974 to step forward and show your Bison pride by helping us break previous records for 50th Reunion fundraising at Howard. Please return the enclosed form with your most generous reunion gift today. Thank you.