

THE HOWARD WAY

News for Howard Social Work Alumni and Friends

MSW Pinning Ceremony Wows Graduates, Families and Friends



Discover the magic and jubilation of the recent Pinning Ceremony for September and December 2023 MSW Graduates at the HUSSW School of Social Work. Held in the prestigious Cramton Auditorium on December 1, 2023, this event was a momentous occasion celebrating the remarkable achievements of 67 graduates from both the on-campus "Flagship" MSW program and the online "Starship" MSW program. Experience the heartwarming scenes and inspiring moments firsthand. [Read Full Article](#)

HUSSW Pinning Ceremony Attracts Old and Young Interests

From the beaming faces of graduates to the proud presence of families and friends, the power of a social work education radiated through the halls of Howard University's main campus. Attendees witnessed the heartwarming moments, from the youngest attendee to the eldest alumna from the class of 1949, as they gathered to celebrate this milestone at the mecca of social work education. Discover the inspiring story of Dr. Mary Hall Page, the MSW alumna from 1949. [Read Full Article](#)



Newsletter Contents

[A Message from the Dean](#)

[HUSSW Pinning Ceremony](#)

[Howard Homecoming: Alumni Gather for Breakfast on the Hill](#)

[Remembering Dean Douglas Glasgow](#)

[HUSSW Faculty and Students Present at CSWE](#)

[International Playback Theater Conference](#)

[International Black Writers Festival](#)

[Unity in Action: MLK's Legacy and Spring Welcome](#)

[HRSA Visits Family Medical and Counseling Services on World AIDS Day](#)

[Two Deans in Dialogue: Social Work and the Arts](#)

[Greetings from CapeTown](#)

[The School System and Gun Violence](#)

[Student Spotlights](#)

Howard Homecoming: Alumni Gather For Breakfast On The Hill



The Howard University School of Social Work Alumni Association's (HUSSWAA) Executive Committee - Shanell Kitt - President; Philip Pratt, Vice President; Giovanna Hunt, Corresponding Secretary; Larry Evans, Recording Secretary and Rachel Grant, Treasurer - had the pleasure of hosting the second annual Homecoming Breakfast on the Hill Scholarship Fundraiser on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

[Read More](#)



Remembering Dean Emeritus Douglas Glasgow

Howard University's School of Social Work pays tribute to the legacy of Dean Emeritus Dr. Douglas Graham Glasgow, whose passing this fall of 2023 marked a profound loss for the community. In a heartfelt celebration of his life on October 7, 2023, family, faculty, alumni, and friends gathered to honor his remarkable contributions. Dr. Glasgow, a towering figure in social work, was renowned for his pioneering research on the Black Underclass and his pivotal role as a founding member of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW). His enduring impact on social work education at Howard University is evident in his instrumental efforts to infuse the curriculum with a Black perspective. [Read Full Article](#)

HUSSW Faculty and Students Offer Twenty Presentations at 2023 CSWE- APM

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) convened its annual program meeting (APM) from October 26-29, 2023, at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel, drawing faculty and students from Howard University's School of Social Work (HUSSW). Aligning with the conference's theme, "It's Time to Act: Defining and Reckoning with Anti-Racist Social Work Education," HUSSW faculty and doctoral students delivered a range of presentations addressing systemic racism in social work. Notable presenters included Dr. Sandra Edmonds Crewe, Dr. Cudore Snell, Dr. Tracy Whitaker, and others. Despite the absence of Dr. Robert Cosby and Dr. Soleman Abu Bader, doctoral students Ms. Whitney Holland, Mr. Bezil Taylor, and Mr. Dwayne James admirably represented their research contributions. Each presentation delved into diverse topics, collectively contributing to the imperative dialogue on overcoming racial injustices in social work education and practice.

[Read Full Article](#)

A Message from the Dean



Our School of Social Work is constantly on the move and this year is no exception. This newsletter provides a snapshot of our activities December through February. I hope that these articles will interest you and inform you of some of our very special activities.

As you are aware, March is National Social Work month and we are excited about our upcoming events. We will have a special Howard Way Newsletter focused on the myriad of social work month activities. Also, in the Howard Way special social work month edition, we will provide a preview of upcoming graduation/commencement events.

As usual, we would greatly value your feedback and additional ideas for our Howard Way Newsletter.

Sandra Edmond Crewe, Dean

HUSSW and College of Fine Arts Send Delegation to International Playback Theatre Conference in Johannesburg South Africa

Dr. Janice Edwards, alongside a team of Howard students, embarked on an enlightening journey to Johannesburg, South Africa, for the International Playback Theatre conference. This diverse team comprised a second-year PhD student, Whitney, and Yanique Williams, a second-year MSW student, Miah Pankey, and two undergraduate students, Kennedy Hendrix, and Joshua Leggett, from the Howard University Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts. Under Dr. Edwards' guidance, the group delved into exploring the integration of storytelling into trauma-informed social work training through performances, role play, drama, and panel presentations. Their participation in the conference exemplifies HUSSW's commitment to innovative approaches in social work education and practice. [Read Full Article](#)



International Black Writers Festival Impact Social Work Students

The Second Annual International Black Writers Fest, held from September 27-29, 2023, convened at the HUSSW School of Social Work, facilitated by Dr. Ben Talton, Director of the Moorland Spingarn Research Center at HU and Professor of African and African Diaspora Studies.

Co-hosted by the Howard University African American History Program and Sankofa Books and Café, the event, titled "This is Why We Gather," provided a platform for students and faculty to engage with world-renowned writers in lectures, discussions, and intimate conversations. Held in the HUSSW auditorium, the three-day fest offered a unique opportunity for social work students to interact with intellectual activists, artists, storytellers, and thinkers, fostering rich discussions and inspiring dialogue on the importance of amplifying Black voices in literature. Attendees had the chance to purchase books, engage in book signings, and immerse themselves in the vibrant world of Black storytelling. [Read Full Article](#)



Unity in Action: MLK's Legacy and Spring Welcome

On the evening of Monday, January 15, 2024, Dean Sandra Edmonds Crewe welcomed the students, faculty, and staff to the start of the spring semester. Dean Crewe honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King and reflected on his profound contributions and relevance to the mission of the School of Social Work. The dean also highlighted upcoming events with regard to Social Work Month, Alternative Spring Break, International Service Learning, and May Commencement.

HRSA Visits Family Medical and Counseling Services in Washington, DC, on World AIDS Day

On Friday, December 1, Federal Government Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Chief of Staff Garrett Devenney and HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau Associate Administrator Dr. Laura Cheever joined HIV federal and local leaders, health care providers, community health workers, and people with HIV at a community event at Family Medical and Counseling Services, (FMCS) Inc. in Washington, D.C. FMCS is a federally qualified health center (FQHC) in Ward 8 (Southeast, District of Columbia) Ward 8, one of D.C.'s most impoverished is recognized as a healthcare shortage area. FMCS is led by Dr. Flora (Bettie) Hamilton, a HUSSW alumna and CEO of FMCSA. FMCS was founded in 1976 by four clinical social workers. Minority-controlled and operated since its inception, the mission of FMCS is to employ state-of-the-art community-based approaches to providing comprehensive services that promote the emotional and physical health of families and individuals, regardless of income or social status. [Read Full Article](#)

AN EXCLUSIVE DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEANS

The Intersection of Social Work & the Arts



Two Deans in Dialogue : Sandra Crewe and Phylicia Discuss Social Work and the Arts

On February 2024 for Black History Month the HU School of Social Work hosted a special “Deans Dialogue” with the 2024 theme of “African Americans and the Arts”. The event took place in the Howard University School of Social Work Auditorium on the main campus of Howard University in Washington, DC. This was a special opportunity for two well recognized amazing women, who are leaders in their fields, to have an empowering discussion about Social Work and the intersection of Fine Arts. An insightful dialogue occurred on February 1, 2024, between Dean Sandra Edmonds Crewe, Dean of the HU School of Social Work and Dean Phylicia Rashad, Dean of the Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts. Both Deans are influential figures in their respective fields of social work, and fine arts. Dean Rashad, a trailblazer in the arts, engaged with Dean Crewe in a dynamic conversation delving into the many facets and pathways connecting social work and the arts.

[Read Full Article](#) and **[Watch Video](#)**

The School System and Gun Violence By: Courvaun Hill

As a young Black child living in one of the roughest and crime-stricken cities in the nation, St. Louis, Missouri, my escape from the mean streets of "the Lou" came during a time in my elementary years (City of St. Louis, Missouri Metropolitan Police Department, n.d.). I always looked forward to the earthquake drill at school. Among the kids in the classroom, we would always make it into a heated competition of "who can fit under the desk the fastest." As students, we were disciplined to hide under our desks during an earthquake drill. We have never experienced a significant earthquake. I never had to worry about earthquakes in Missouri, as the last major earthquake was before my mother's lifetime (Missouri Department of Natural Resources, n.d.). In essence, we were preparing for an emergency that was likely not to occur. As time has passed and matriculated, the child who once used the earthquake drill as a competitive sport now views things differently. Working in the education system positions me as a role model for the younger generations that follow me. I must instill the best practices of emergency drills as they save lives. I am responsible for educating them on the importance of following emergency drills. **[Read Full Article](#)**



Greetings from Cape Town, South Africa

On March 2, 2024 a HUSSW delegation of twenty graduate students, staff and faculty members led by Assistant Provost for International Programs and South Africa native, Dr. Cudore Snell, (twelve MSW and four PhD students) embarked from Dulles International Airport headed to Cape Town, South Africa. The twenty two plus hour flight left the group excited but tired upon arrival in Cape Town, touching down in the early morning light. Their mission: to learn, to participate, to build upon their social work curriculum and to share ideas while experiencing first-hand as social workers, speaking with South African social workers, clients, volunteers and caring persons. The delegation witnessed firsthand the majesty, the history, the beauty, warmth, the caring, the poverty, the remnants of apartheid and the continued oppression of people in Cape Town, South Africa and its immediate surroundings. Students visited with four non-government organizations (NGOs). They learned a great deal. They saw how people with so little achieved so much. They witnessed social work clients and volunteers making their way despite the poverty, despite the violence, despite having few resources and not enough jobs. Dr. Katrina Floyd, Director of the HUSSW Online MSW Program reported “it has been such a privilege to be included on this trip. I appreciate the leadership of the School of Social Work and Howard University for their commitment in offering this opportunity to students, staff and faculty”. **[Read Full Article](#)**



Student Spotlight



Carmen Ross
Current Student

Q: What are you reading these days?

A: For leisure and learning I am currently reading a book called Attached: The New Science of Adult Attachment and How It Can Help You Find - and Keep - Love. It's been a really helpful book in learning about and understanding my attachment style when it comes to relationships.

Q: What movies, TV shows, or music have you been watching or listening to?

A: I love drama shows that show the inner workings of an industry I don't know much about. Right now it's been the shows 'The Bear' and 'Drops of God' on Apple TV. On the music side, my favorite artist on my playlist right now is Jorja Smith.

Q: What is your motivation to do the work that you do?

A: I believe that I've been called to serve as an ambassador for Christ, which 100% includes serving others. My aim is to contribute what I can to help move those I'm serving go from surviving to striving to thriving.



Jaylynn Williams
Alumni

Q: What are you reading these days?

A: I am currently in school, so I read a lot of journal articles and textbooks relating to trauma and the Strong Black Woman role; however, I am on break and cannot wait to go to my local library and pick up "Black Girls Must Die Exhausted" by Jayne Allen. The last book I read was "Seven Days in June" by Tia Williams.

Q: What is something you have accomplished that you are proud of?

A: I am proud of everything I do; this year, the odds looked stacked against me, but I crushed my goals and pushed myself. But, I am most proud of returning to church consistently and receiving funding for my doctoral degree.

Q: Who do you look up to in social justice work?

A: I look up to Afeni Shakur and Ida B. Wells. I resonate with them as Black women and activists because we often get boxed in and told who we are, how we should act, and what we should be doing; when we go against that, we are doubted, threatened, or ostracized, but we press on for the good of our community, our beliefs and ourselves, whatever that may look like. Afeni defended herself in court without a law degree and was victorious for herself and other defendants. Ida raised awareness by writing about lynching, the Black experience in America, and supported Black women's rights when we were excluded from the Women's Suffrage Movement. I feel empowered, grateful, and humbled when I read about their experiences.



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Areas of Interest:

- Technology
- Environmental Justice
- Ethics
- Political Considerations
- Wellness and Health
- Gun Violence
- Elderly and Gerontology
- Trauma
- Expressive Arts Therapy