

NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

12 Future Teachers at Historically Black Colleges to Receive Metropolitan Life Foundation Scholarships

NEW YORK — Twelve future teachers attending predominately Black colleges have been named recipients of the 1987-88 Metropolitan Life Foundation Future Teacher Scholarships.

These scholarships, established in 1985, are designed to attract the best and the brightest students to teaching careers in elementary or secondary education. It is the second year that 17 historically Black colleges were eligible. This year's winners were chosen competitively for their academic ability and commitment to the teaching profession.

The foundation also announced plans in 1988 to expand the eligibility of the program to include 45 predominantly Black colleges.

"By enlarging the scope of these scholarships, we hope to encourage more outstanding students to pursue careers in the classroom," said Dr. Sibil Jacobson, president of the Metropolitan Life Foundation. "It is also our hope that these future teachers will inspire their students — most importantly, minority students — to pursue a college education or perhaps to become teachers themselves."

Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of America, Inc., a national, nonprofit scholarship organization in St. Peter, Minn., administered the program.

Two schools were represented by multiple winners. Norfolk State University at Norfolk, Va., claimed five winners, and Virginia State University at Petersburg had three.

Constance R. Meadows, an elementary education major at Virginia State, said, "One of the most crucial times in young people's lives is the elementary school experience. I want to be there to instill in them a sense of pride in their families, education, community, country, and in themselves."

Apart from the 12 scholarship winners from historically Black colleges, 32 students from 73 colleges and universities across the country were also announced as winners in the 1987-88 Future Teacher Scholarship Program. Since the program began, the foundation has awarded more than \$400,000 to 120 students to help develop a new generation of teachers.

The Metropolitan Life Foundation, established in 1976 by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, has contributed nearly \$50 million to date to support a variety of activities in the areas of health, education, civic affairs and culture throughout the country.

The 1987-88 Metropolitan Life Foundation Future Teacher Scholarship recipients from historically Black colleges are: Kathleen C. Edwards, Dover, DE; Betty A. Negrón, Miami, FL; Patricia A. Cromwell, Baltimore, MD; Stephanie S. Booth, Washington, D.C.; George E. Fausel, Virginia Beach, VA; Martha R. Frye, Portsmouth, VA; Dale M. Knight, Suffolk, VA; Amanda D. Moncur, Nassau, Bahamas; Barbara L. Hildebrand, Stuttgart, AR; Robin P. Cole, Disputanta, VA; Constance R. Meadows, Wakefield, VA; and Sonia L. Nichols, Colonial Heights, VA.

'Lou Rawls Parade of Stars' Telethon Raises Millions



Telethon success! The 1987 "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon to benefit the United Negro College Fund ended successfully as cash and pledges topped the \$10 million mark. Joining an ecstatic Rawls in celebrating the results are co-hosts Leslie Uggums and Robb Weller. The telethon, underwritten by Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., was televised nationally during the Christmas holidays.

LOS ANGELES — Preliminary totals show that more than \$10 million in cash and pledges was raised during the 1987 "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon for the benefit of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF).

The annual holiday special, viewed this year by over 20 million people, was televised the day after Christmas on more than 80 television stations nationwide. Over fifty superstar entertainers appeared on the benefit program.

Christopher F. Edley, president and chief executive officer of the UNCF, said proceeds from the telethon help UNCF schools keep tuition low for some 45,000 students.

"For the eighth consecutive year, the 'Lou Rawls Parade of Stars' telethon has made a significant contribution to higher education," Edley said. "We sincerely appreciate the efforts of the stars who appeared on the show, the sponsoring corporations, and especially the thousands of viewers who generously contributed to the UNCF."

Among the stars appearing on the show were Bill Cosby, Sammy Davis, Jr., Nancy Wilson, Lynn Redgrave, Al Jarreau, Ben Vereen, Jody Watley, Pia Zadora, Bob Hope, Whitney Houston, Anita Baker, George Benson and Earl Klugh. National segments of the telethon were broadcast from Hollywood and Las Vegas, with local segments originating in cities across the country.

Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., the founding and national sponsor of the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars," underwrote the production of this year's entertainment special.

"We at Anheuser-Busch know the importance of education, and we are proud to be a supporter of the 42 colleges and universities of the UNCF," said Wayman F. Smith III, vice president of corporate affairs at Anheuser-Busch Companies. "Young people who are willing to earn a college degree deserve the opportunity, and it's great that the telethon helps to make that possible."

Anheuser-Busch has underwritten the production of the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" since its inception eight years ago. Through its Budweiser brand, Anheuser-Busch also provides national promotional, advertising and marketing support for the program.

The Kellogg Company, national co-sponsor for the third year, contributed \$1 million. In addition, Kellogg hosted five celebrity fundraising dinners throughout the country for the United Negro College Fund. The telethon also received support from Kellogg employees who work as volunteers during the program.

American Airlines was the telethon's contributing sponsor, and the Polaroid Corporation and Tylenol were contributing co-sponsors.

The predominately Black colleges of the United Negro College Fund have graduated thousands of students who are making valuable contributions to society. Nearly 90 percent of the students attending these schools require financial assistance to complete their college education.

Parents Get AIDS Help from PTA

CHICAGO, ILL. — Most parents have a hard time talking with their children about sex, drugs and death, which makes it difficult for them to discuss AIDS because these topics must be included says the National Parent-Teacher Association.

Regardless, the National PTA is encouraging all parents to talk to their children and teens immediately about Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and is making it possible for them to do so more easily with the help of a new brochure, "How to talk to your teens and children about AIDS."

"The only way to prevent the spread of AIDS is through education," said National PTA president Manya Ungar. "Parents must be informed about AIDS and willing to speak with their children. They cannot hope that their children will learn all the facts they need somewhere else. That would be gambling with their children's lives."

The PTA brochure provides basic information about the health problem and how it is spread in a frank and easy-to-understand manner. It answers such common questions as, "How do you get AIDS," "How is AIDS not spread," "Who can get AIDS," and "How can you protect your teens and children from AIDS?"

There are separate sections for parents of preschoolers, 5-to-8-year-olds, preteens and teens advising how to discuss AIDS with each age group.

Among the suggestions the PTA makes is for parents to find out what their children or teens think they know about AIDS and correct any misinformation. Learning accurate information about AIDS is critical before starting such talks. The PTA tells parents not to wait for their kids to begin the discussion and urges them to take the first step. The brochure is designed to help parents answer questions and guide them in telling youngsters how they can reduce the risk of contracting the virus.

The PTA also stresses the need to give support, compassion and understanding to those who have AIDS or carry the virus.

The eleven-page brochure is available through local PTAs or by sending a stamped, self-addressed long envelope to AIDS Brochure, National PTA, 700 N. Rush St., Chicago, IL 60611.



Platters on a "Minnie" Tour — Eloise Whitaker and Paul Robi, members of the rhythm and blues group, "The Platters," serenade Minnie Mouse during a recent visit at Walt Disney World Epcot Center. The group was in Central Florida for a five-night performance. Robi, the only original member still with the group, said The Platters had just finished a tour of South America and China.



Professional golfer Lee Elder, who has had a successful 30 year career, helps disadvantaged students with his scholarship fund financed by the Lee Elder Invitational Golf Tournament. The 17th Annual event held at Hilton Head, South Carolina attracted celebrity participants such as Julius "Dr. J." Erving, Calvin Peete, and Mrs. Bob Hope. Elder talks about his advice on education to young athletes, and expresses his concern about the decline in Black golf pros. "When I first started on the professional tour, we had twelve Black professionals on the tour. Today, we only have two. So we are decreasing where we should be increasing. And I think the reason why gets back to corporate America. It is such an expensive sport and unless you have help from the beginning then it's (number of Black players) going to continue to be on the decline." Host Deborah Crable (C) gets a grip on gold with pro Lee Elder and his wife Rose.

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