# **Historically Speaking**

## Published by The Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc.

## P.O. Box 63

Buffalo NY 14207

## www.aahanf.org

## Sharon Holley, Madeline Scott, and Sonia Walker, Editors

## Volume 40 Number 1 Fall - Winter 2016

**Eleventh Annual MLK Program**

Danielle Holley-Walker, Dean of the Howard University School of Law in Washington, DC will be the guest speaker for the Association’s Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Program on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 3:00 P.M. at the Buffalo History Museum. Dean Holley-Walker’s topic is “The Time is Always Now.”

She was previously the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of South Carolina, School of Law.

Dean Holley-Walker was born in Buffalo, New York, but grew up in Houston, TX. She earned a B.A. from Yale University and her J.D. from Harvard University. Following law school, she clerked for Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. She then practiced civil litigation at Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP (now Norton Rose Fulbright) in Houston, TX.

She began her teaching career at Hofstra University School of Law, and then moved to the University of South Carolina in 2005. She teaches Civil Procedure, Administrative Law, and Federal Courts. Dean Holley-Walker’s ongoing research agenda focuses on issues of educational opportunity and inclusion, with an emphasis on the governance of public schools. She has published scholarly articles on various issues of civil rights and education. She has won numerous awards and continues to be active in her community.

The program is free. Light refreshments will be served immediately after the program. Program sponsors are The Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Co-Sponsors for the program are: Buffalo Branch NAACP; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Rho Lambda Chapter of Buffalo; and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Phi Omega Chapter.

**Call for Nominations**

The Association is requesting nominations for the Executive Committee election that will be held in the year 2017 for a three (3) year term. Interested persons are requested to submit their name with a resume not to exceed 200 words. Mail this information to AAHANF, P.O. Box 63, Buffalo, NY 14207. Deadline for submission is Friday, February 10, 2017. Election ballots will be mailed to the membership in March. Nominee must be a member in good standing and whose name appears on the membership rolls at least one (1) year prior to the date the election is held or the nominating petition is filed.

**Contents:**

* **MLK Program**
* **Call for Nominations**
* **Carter G. Woodson Essay Contest**
* **Tribute to Dr. Nash**
* **Mrs. Annie C. Singleton**
* **AAHANF Annual Dinner**
* **Robert Coles’ Book**
* **Kwanzaa Schedule**

**Please consider submitting your original articles about African American history in WNY!**

# **40th Anniversary**

**CARTER G. WOODSON ESSAY CONTEST**

**2017 Theme: “The Educational Challenge of African American Students in Western New York Schools”**

The contest is open to all young people in grades 4 – 12. Essays must be written (printed or typed) in **500 words or less (200 words minimum) on the topic: The Educational Challenge of African American Students in Western New York Schools.**

Suggested topics include, but are not limited to: the history of African Americans in Western New York schools – integration or desegregation, access to technology, access to books and relevant study materials, transportation and busing issues, low graduation rates, high suspension rates, parent participation in schools, teacher attitudes, etc. You must include how the challenge has been addressed or your suggestions to address it.

Essays must be received by **Saturday, February 11, 2017.** Send to – Carter G. Woodson Essay Contest, P.O. Box 63, Buffalo, New York 14207 or leave at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library, 1324 Jefferson Avenue @ E. Utica St. **Your name, address, telephone number, school and grade must be written on your essay.**

Essays will be judged on content, quality and depth of research, clarity and neatness. Cash prizes will be awarded in three categories:   
Grades 4-6; Grades 7-9; Grades 10-12

## C:\Users\madeline\Documents\Scan0002.jpgFirst prize - $100 Second prize - $75 Third prize - $50

**Additional prizes may also be given to winners of the essay contest.**

**ONLY Winners will be notified of the awards program.**

Winning essays will be read by the participants at the African American History Program at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library, 1324 Jefferson Avenue on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. Essays will also be printed in **Historically Speaking,** Spring 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Sociology, Canisius College--  
WOW, how he influenced my life!**

by Sababu C. Norris  
ALANA Student Center, Canisius College

Professor Jesse E. Nash, Jr., became a father figure to me, just as he helped shape the lives of so many others. During his tenure at Canisius College, and long after his retirement in 1998, he helped us to understand some of the beneath-the-surface politics adverse to our inclusion in society and how not to be intimidated by it all. I am haunted by a study that Pro. Nash embraced in his later years from the work of Sidney Wilhelm, like Nash, also a sociologist (I don’t know the name of the author’s book):

White folk risked their lives to bring black folk to this country to work free of charge—

1.    During the Slave economy in the 1600s, blacks were useful;

2.    Industrial economy blacks were useful--cheap labor; and

3.    High tech economy blacks are not needed and therefore are useless according to some white Americans.

As the professor approached retirement from Canisius, I would often listen to him talk about death, the countless funerals of friends he and Mrs. Hortense Nash attended and how he had outlived his adversaries. He would reflect on how death does not discriminate. “What a powerful teaching tool,” he would say.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations to Robert Traynham Coles on the publication of his new book, *Architecture + Advocacy!* Compiled and edited by William H. Siener, PhD with Sylvia Coles. Published by Buffalo Arts Publishing.

**AAHANF Annual Family History   
Dinner & Meeting**

The very successful 39th Annual Dinner and Meeting was held in May at the Emerson School of Hospitality. Fern Beavers and Dr. Sharon Amos presented on “Centenarians: We have a Story to Tell.” William Wells Brown Awards for supporting the preservation of African American History were presented to Christine Parker and The Buffalo and Western New York African American History Group on Facebook. The Association’s President Awards were presented to Sandra Williams Bush and Pamela Fordham.

Save the date for our 40th Annual dinner and meeting! This year’s presenter will be Mrs. Georgia Burnette who will speak on “Growing Up Poor in Buffalo.” The dinner will be held on May 4, 2017 at the Emerson School of Hospitality.

**Buffalo 2016 Kwanzaa Schedule  
50th Anniversary of Kwanzaa  
“Our Inheritance”**

All programs will be from 7:00 – 9:00 PM unless otherwise noted. December 26-30 will be located at the Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts,

450 Masten Ave. @ Ferry St. African Marketplace each night, 6:30 – 9:30 PM. Buy Black!

**Monday, December 26 – Umoja - Unity**

**Opening Ceremony**

* “Kwanzaa in Buffalo - An Historical Perspective” by Kenneth & Sharon Holley
* Tribute to the Ancestors & Elders
* Tradition Keepers Storytellers
* Issiatou Afrikan Dance Ensemble of Miss
* Barbara’s Dance School
* Project Access to A-Free- Ka

**Tuesday, December 27-   
Kujichagulia - Self Determination  
An evening of electrifying performances by:**

* African American Cultural Center
* Daughters of Creative Sound

**Keynote: Dr. Maulana Karenga,   
Founder of Kwanzaa**

**Wednesday, December 28**

**Ujima - Collective Work & Responsibility**

* 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Black Panther Party
* Keynote Presenters: Kamau Fields & Cariole Horne
* Arts & Cultural Performances

**Thursday, December 29 -   
Ujamaa - Cooperative Economics   
TBA**

**Friday, December 30  
Nia - Purpose**

* NiaSoul Concert: “A Piano and A Voice”   
  By Drea D’Nur and Toney Rhodes

**Saturday, December 31  
Kuumba - Creativity**

**Children’s Kwanzaa 11a.m.-4p.m**@ Performing Arts

* Afrikan Cultural Education
* Art Activities
* Storytelling
* Marcus Garvey Math & Science Expo

**Evening Program**

50th Anniversary Karamu Feast  
Location: TBA/ 6:00p.m.-9:00p.m.

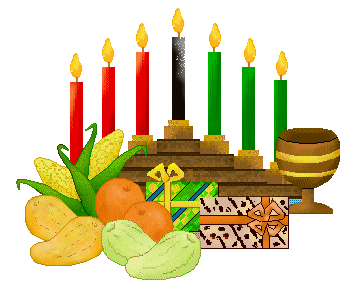
* Featured Performance by FragranceandJuan
* Cosmic Energy: Melodic Love Therapy
* Please feel free to bring a dish to share - no red meat, alcohol, or pork

**Sunday, January 1**

**Imani - Faith   
12:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

CAO Alphonso “Rafi” Green Jr. Masten Resource Center 1423 Fillmore Avenue

* Eye on History Presentation - “Black Woman in Leadership from Antiquity to the Modern Day Era” by Queen Mother Eva M. Doyle



**Afro-American Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc.**

**P. O. Box 63**

**Buffalo, New York 14207**

Please use the form below and join the team that's preserving and promoting the history of   
African Americans in New York.

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ZIP:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Check Membership Type:

\_\_\_\_\_ Golden ($100 or more) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Heritage ($50)

\_\_\_\_\_ Basic ($25) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student- grade & high school ($15)

\_\_\_\_\_ Journal Subscription Only ($25)

Contribution to Endowment Fund (list amount) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** All Memberships entitle the member to a one-year subscription to *Afro-Americans in New York Life and History.*

Afro-American Historical Association Non-Profit Org.

P.O. Box 63 U.S. Postage

Buffalo, NY 14207-0063 PAID

Buffalo, NY

Permit No. 4839