The Legacy of Dr. John Hope Franklin

The Howard Years: A Symposium

In Commemoration of the Life and Contributions of Dr. John Hope Franklin
Thursday, April 8

3:00 pm  **Session I: John Hope Franklin, the Legend**  
Location: Rankin Chapel

**Welcome: Dr. Sidney A. Ribeau, President, Howard University**

**Greetings: John Whittington Franklin, Director of Partnerships and International Programs, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution**

**Keynote Address: “From Slavery to Freedom to Reparations”**  
Professor Charles Ogletree, Jesse Climenko Professor of Law, Harvard Law School and Founding and Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice

4:15 pm  **Session II: Reflections: Scholar, Mentor, Friend**  
Location: Rankin Chapel

**Roundtable:**  
Reflections on Black Education during the Post-war Period

**Moderator:**  
Dr. Jeanne Maddox Toungara, President, Gamma of the District of Columbia Chapter, Phi Beta Kappa

**Panelists:**  
Professor Consuela Wilder (retired), Coppin State University  
Dr. Arnold Taylor, Professor emeritus, Howard University  
Dr. Adelaide Cromwell, Professor emerita, Boston University  
Professor Richard Thornell, emeritus, Howard University

5:30 pm  **Keynote Address: “The ‘New’ From Slavery to Freedom and the Legacy of John Hope Franklin”**  
Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University

6:30 pm  **Reception (paid & registered guests)**  
Location: Gallery Lounge, Blackburn Center

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Friday, April 9

8:15 am  **Continental Breakfast**  
Location: Blackburn Center, Digital Auditorium Foyer

9:00 am  **Session III: The Howard Years 1947 - 1956: The Vortex of Black Intellectual Thought and Social Activism**  
Location: Digital Auditorium, Blackburn Center

This panel will address Dr. John Hope Franklin’s early career as a historian, with particular emphasis on his tenure at Howard University as reflective of other Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The discussion will focus particularly on how Dr. Franklin dealt with the challenges of those institutions as he progressed to become one of the most distinguished scholars in the United States.

**Moderator:**  
Joseph E. Harris, Distinguished Professor emeritus, Howard University

**Panelists:**  
Dr. Frederick Parker, Professor of History, North Carolina Central University  
Dr. William Banner, Professor emeritus of Philosophy, Howard University  
Dr. Leslie H. Hicks, Professor, Howard University  
Dr. Pearl Robinson, Professor of Political Science, Tufts University

10:30 am  **Session IV: HBCUs, Archives and Historical Collections: Searching for Truth in the Historical Record**  
Location: Digital Auditorium, Blackburn Center

Dr. Franklin used archives, manuscript collections, special rare book libraries, and cultural heritage resources to distinctively inform the writing of United States history. This session focuses on the ways Professor Franklin’s records-based research uniquely redrew and redefined the development of twentieth-century history. The new African American historical syntheses he developed, his research agency, and his vital analyses of cultural landmarks are pivotal points that will be interwoven into this session.

**Moderator:**  
Dr. Elizabeth Clark-Lewis, Professor of History, Howard University
Friday, April 9

Panelists:
Ms. Karen Jefferson, Records Manager, Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center
Ms. Karen Jean Hunt, John Hope Franklin Research Center, Duke University
Dr. Trichita Chestnut, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington DC
Ms. Adrena Ifill, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Avoice Project Director
Dr. Ida E. Jones, Assistant Curator, Manuscript Division, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center

12 noon Luncheon (pre-paid registered guests)
Location: Gallery Lounge, Blackburn Center
Guest Speaker: Ms. Lin Liu, formerly Deputy Director for Policy and Research, William Clinton's Presidential Initiative on Race, 1997-98

1:45 pm Session V: Politics and Civil Rights
Location: School of Business Auditorium
Presiding: Dr. James Wyche, Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Howard University

Keynote Address:
“Presidential Spin Control: John Hope Franklin and the Politics of Civil Rights”
Dr. Mary Frances Berry, Geraldine R. Segal Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania

3:00 pm Session VI: The Black Experience and American History
Location: School of Business Auditorium

While on his journey toward his ultimate status as the premier historian of Southern society and culture in America, Dr. John Hope Franklin wrote many groundbreaking works, including studies of free Blacks during slavery, Reconstruction, and the crucial post-Reconstruction period. His insights changed our understanding of the American South in ways that have affected both the academy and the community. They continue to inform the struggle to create a more just society even as new approaches and interpretations emerge.

Moderator:
Dr. Emory J. Tolbert, Chair, History Department, Howard University

Friday, April 9

Panelists:
Professor Lisa Crooms, School of Law, Howard University
Professor Jay Stewart, Political Science Department, Howard University
Dr. Paul Finkelman, President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy and Senior Fellow in the Government Law Center, Albany Law School
Dr. Gregory Carr, Chair, Afro-American Studies Department, Howard University

4:45 pm Session VII: International Dimensions and Global Impact
Location: School of Business Auditorium

The panel will address Dr. Franklin’s international scope and the influence of his esteemed career as a scholar and champion of social equality on individuals and groups in a global context. It will examine African American activism, scholarship, and service; including missionary and religious work, cultural and educational activities, anti-colonial struggles, transnational collaboration, and post-colonial engagement.

Moderator: Dr. Mbye Cham, Chair, African Studies Department, Howard University

Panelists:
Dr. Selwyn H.H. Carrington, History Department, Howard University
Dr. Charles D. Johnson, History Department and Associate Director of the South African Research and Archival Project (SARAP), Howard University
C. Lynn McNair, Vice President, Philanthropic Partnerships, Salzburg Global Seminar
Dr. Beverly Lindsay, Higher Education and International Policy Studies, Pennsylvania State University
Saturday, April 10

8:15 am  Continental Breakfast  
Location: Digital Auditorium Foyer, Blackburn Center

9:00 am  Session VIII: Documentary films, interviews, and commentary  
Location: Digital Auditorium, Blackburn Center  
Moderator: Dr. John Parks, Lecturer, Afro-American Studies Department, Howard University

Excerpts of film documentaries:  
“John Hope Franklin Charter Day Speech”  
Howard University, 2001  
“Franklin and Tutu: A Journey Towards Peace,”  
Renee Poussaint, Teaching for Change, 2000  
“Before They Die! Survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot and their Quest for Justice”  
Reggie Turner, 2008

12:30 pm  Session IX: Scholar-Activism and Justice  
Location: Digital Auditorium, Blackburn Center  
Presiding: Dr. Charles Betsey, Interim Dean, Graduate School

Keynote Address: “John Hope Franklin and the Struggle for Equality”  
Dr. Ronald Walters, Professor emeritus, University of Maryland

1:30 pm  Luncheon (pre-paid registered guests)  
Location: Gallery Lounge, Blackburn Center

Tributes

US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Congressional Black Caucus

Association for the Study of African American Life and History  
Dr. James Stewart, President  
Professor emeritus, Pennsylvania State University

Organization of American Historians  
Dr. Darlene Clark Hine, Board of Trustees  
Professor of African-American Studies and Professor of History, Northwestern University

American Historical Association  
Dr. Nora Lee Frankel, Assistant Director, Minorities, Women, and Teaching

Phi Beta Kappa  
Dr. Allison Blakely  
Past president (2006-2009) and the George and Joyce Wein Professor of African-American Studies, Boston University

A Remembrance  
Dr. David Levering Lewis, Julius Silver University Professor and Professor of History, New York University

Remarks  
John Whittington Franklin, Director of Partnerships and International Programs, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution