The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed the year 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has chosen to feature *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*, a landmark exhibition by the Schomburg Center, as the traveling exhibition of its yearlong commemoration. The Schomburg Center/UNESCO partnership includes the development of the exhibition in multiple languages and the creation of an international Web site. Both projects were adapted from a popular exhibition that marked the Center’s 75th anniversary year and was on display from June 2000 through March 2001. The exhibition examined the oppression and brutality of slavery and explored the centrality of the transatlantic slave trade in the making of the new world. Featuring some 450 artifacts and documents drawn from the collections of the Schomburg Center and other repositories and private collections, the exhibition illustrated the capacity of human beings not only to survive unsealable hardships but to grow and develop spiritually, politically, intellectually, and artistically in the face of oppression.

Produced in association with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO) Slave Route Project, the exhibition was extended for

**Schomburg Center Junior Scholars Help Launch Hip-Hop Reader Web Site**

On Saturday, March 6, 2004, Schomburg Center Junior Scholars and more than 300 young people unveiled The Hip-Hop Reader Web site at a rally in the Center’s Langston Hughes Auditorium. The Hip Hop Reader, a youth-based literacy and leadership project was launched with funding from Verizon Foundation through a partnership between the National Urban League and the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network. The New York City pilot was coordinated in collaboration with the New York Urban League and the New York City Department of Education. A number of the project’s Leadership Council members, including Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., Russell Simmons, Howard Dodson, Reverend Run, Andrew Cuomo, Marc Morial, Loon, and Rabbi Marc Schneier attended the launch, treating young people to music and dance performances, panel discussions, gift bags, a reception, and site instruction.

The Hip-Hop Reader project offers

*Continued on page 3*

**PULL-OUT PROGRAM CALENDAR INSIDE**

Because of enduring budget cuts, the monthly program calendar will be printed quarterly and incorporated into the newsletter (see pull-out calendar between pages six and seven).

*Continued on page 6*
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ver the last few years, numerous national and interna
tional organizations have turned to the Schomburg
Center for assistance in planning, organizing, and im-
plementing major projects and programs on Africana
and African diasporan themes. Last year, as you know,
the United States General Services Administration contracted
with the Schomburg Center to organize and present the com-
memorative and reburial ceremonies for the 419 eighteenth-cen-
tury African ancestors that had been removed from New York
City’s African Burial Ground over a decade ago. Earlier in the
year, the Senegalese government and the newly formed African
Union asked the Schomburg Center to co-sponsor and host a day-
long symposium on the role of African diasporan scholars in the
future development of Africa. In 2002, the United Nations Gener-
al Assembly passed a resolution proclaiming 2004 as the Interna-
tional Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its
Abolition. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cul-
tural Organization, which was assigned responsibility for organiz-
ing the commemorative activities, has asked the Schomburg Cen-
ter to assist it in organizing and managing three aspects of the

All of the young people that you know should
tune in to the Hip-Hop Reader Web site and
get involved in the Hip-Hop Reader program.

– Howard Dodson, Schomburg Chief

international commemoration: a series of traveling exhibits based
on the Schomburg exhibition Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over
Slavery; a Web site exhibit based on the same theme; and a series
of special events to be held at selected exhibition venues in the
Caribbean, South America, Africa, and Europe. The lead article in
this issue of Africana Heritage provides background on this major
international initiative.

The Schomburg Center was also asked to host and co-
sponsor official launches of two new major Internet Web sites that
will be of interest to people concerned about African history,
culture, and development. The first event took place on March 6,
2004, and was sponsored by the National Urban League and the
Hip-Hop Summit Action Network. The launch event for the new
Hip-Hop Reader Web site brought together leading hip-hop
artists and New York City high school students in a program that
included such luminaries as Urban League President Marc Morial
and Hip-Hop Summit Leader Russell Simmons. The Hip-Hop
Reader Web site highlights a collection of books and other reading
materials selected by major figures in the African-American
community that they believe young people should be reading.
The goal of the site is to encourage young people to read about
African-American history and culture and to reward them for
doing so. The site awards prizes to youth that demonstrate that
they have read some of the selected titles. All of the young people
that you know should tune in to the Hip-Hop Reader Web site
and get involved in the Hip-Hop Reader program.

The second major Web site launch will take place on May
14. It targets an older audience. Sponsored by the American
Association of Retired Persons, the Civil Rights Movement Web
site seeks to capture, share, and preserve for posterity the voices
and experiences of ordinary people—specifically those not
recorded in the history books—who contributed or were
impacted by the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. Those of
you who do the on-line thing will be able to log on to the site
and record your most memorable Civil Rights Movement story.
Those of you who have not yet ventured into cyberspace can
stop by the Schomburg Center, and a staff member will help you
post your story. Or you can simply send your handwritten or
typed story to the Center (not more than 500 words), and we’ll
have it posted for you.

As you know, the Civil Rights Movement era was one of the
most important periods in African-American and American
history. Capturing and preserving your most memorable
experiences will make a significant contribution to knowledge
about this most important era of transformation and
change. The information collected on the Web site will
be preserved at the Schomburg Center. Let us
hear from you.

Ten years ago, when the
Schomburg Center
sponsored its first conference
on “Africana Libraries and
Schomburg Center
(PlutoPress,2004),
The African
T

he New York Life/Schomburg Center Junior Scholars have amassed a treasure trove of information during the current program year. It will be used to inform their special projects, which will debut at the May 15, 2004, Youth Summit. This year’s Youth Summit, a multimedia conference entitled Identity Matrix, will explore historical and contemporary notions of African-American identity.

To prepare for the summit, Junior Scholars have been involved in intense academic inquiry, considering questions such as “Who Am I?” and “Who Was I?” To encourage introspection and dialogue on these topics, the program has developed curricula and enlisted scholars and staff members to engage scholars on these questions.

Schomburg Center chief Howard Dodson provided rich insight into the emancipation of African Americans as described in Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture, a publication that considers how enslaved Africans triumphed over slavery and succeeded in developing into a new people under the most oppressive circumstances. The discussion enabled students to gain a deeper understanding of the experiences and coping mechanisms of their ancestors.

Schomburg Center staff member Redell Armstrong engaged students in scholarship on the African-American migration and introduced students to In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience, a new Web site in development at the Schomburg Center that examines the African Diaspora and charts the migration experience over hundreds of years and multiple generations.

The Junior Scholars also screened several provocative films and videos that facilitated discussion on historical and contemporary events, including the New York Life sponsored video series, “The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow,” which aired on the Public Broadcasting System. Junior Scholars also worked with the program’s complementary Web site, www.jimcrowhistory.com. The film Tulia, Texas: Scenes from the Drug War, a documentary examining the highly questionable arrests of a significant percentage of the African-American community, and a subsequent discussion with WBAI-FM Program Manager Bernard White, provided a contemporary look at some of the challenges facing African Americans. Students were also helped along their journey of self-discovery and scholarship by a screening of All Our Sons: Fallen Heroes of 9/11. The discussion with the film’s producer, Lt. Craig Kelly, and with mothers and wives of deceased firefighters, was a moving experience for the scholars.

The program also engaged students with a field trip to the Studio Museum of Harlem exhibition Harlem World: Metropolis Metaphor, and with a cultural exchange with students from the Republic of Angola. Work is on-going by the Junior Scholars on their portfolios. They continue to use this tool as a device to develop their personal voices and as a place to analyze current and past events. At the conclusion of the program year, each Junior Scholar will have a collection of work that documents his or her participation in the Junior Scholars Program.

The Junior Scholars look forward to sharing their visual arts, theater, music, dance, Web site, video, and magazine with the public at the Youth Summit on May 15. Please support our Junior Scholars and attend a multimedia perspective of history and of the present as viewed by our young people. See you at the Youth Summit!
Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and Lenora Fulani participated in a panel discussion for Gates’s book, America Behind the Color Line; Gates signed copies of the book, a companion volume to “America Beyond the Color Line,” a series on PBS that aired in February.

Ileana Santamaría joined dancers (below) and other musicians for “Peace Song 4 Mongo,” a tribute to her father, legendary Cuban jazz musician Ramon “Mongo” Santamaría, at a Schomburg Center Holiday Open House performance in December 2003.
In January, The 2004 Historically Black Colleges & Universities All-Star Big Band performed a specially commissioned musical arrangement in tribute to jazz icon Benny Carter at the Schomburg Center.

The Schomburg Center celebrated the 25th anniversary edition of Kindred with a reading and book signing by author Octavia Butler in February.

Jean Fagan Yellin, a former Schomburg Center scholar-in-residence and author of Harriet Jacobs: A Life, signed copies of her biography after at a book celebration at the Center in February.

Clockwise from above left: Camille O. Cosby and Renee Poussaint signed copies of their book, A Wealth of Wisdom: Legendary African American Elders Speak, after a panel discussion featuring contributors; panelists and contributors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee signed copies of the book; David N. Dinkins, Jimmy Heath, a young panelist from the National Visionary Leadership Project, and Lee Archer discussed the roles of African-American elders in young people's lives.
The Schomburg Center and UNESCO Launch
Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery

UNESCO Launch, continued from page 1

three months to accommodate popular demand and became the basis for the Schomburg Center publication Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture, published by National Geographic in 2002.

This year, to mark the United Nations General Assembly’s resolution proclaiming 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, a thirty-two-panel traveling version of Lest We Forget has been created by the Schomburg Center in conjunction with the UNESCO Slave Route Project. The show, on view at the Center from March 18 to July 11, 2004, will feature four-color panels documenting the slave trade, slavery, and the contributions of enslaved Africans throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The UNESCO Slave Route Project
The Slave Route project was mandated in 1993 by a resolution of the General Conference of UNESCO, and officially launched at the First Session of the International Scientific Committee of the Slave Route in September 1994. Since that time, the project has sought to end the silence surrounding the history of the slave trade and slavery. The project seeks to illuminate the enormous human costs of slavery and recognize the moral imperative to educate the public about the political, social, and cultural consequences of the slave trade. For ten years the Slave Route Project has used its resources to promote research and documentation on the slave trade and slavery and to educate the international community, particularly younger generations, about the history and the consequences of slavery in the modern world.

A Historic Commemorative Year
Historically, 2004 marks the bicentenary of the Haitian Revolution, the most successful slave rebellion in the Americas, and the revolt that established Haiti as an independent republic. The Haitian Revolution inspired blacks in other slave societies to take up arms and fight for their freedom. The Haitian Revolution can be remembered as a symbol of the victory of the principles of liberty, equality, dignity, and the rights of the individual and as a celebration of the history of the liberation of the peoples of the Americas and the Caribbean. It is in this spirit that the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, highlighting the achievements of the UNESCO Slave Route Project. With the recognition of slavery as a crime against humanity (World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Durban, South Africa) in 2001, the proclamation of 2004 as the commemorative year, as outlined in UNESCO’s Programme to Commemorate the Year 2004, has the following aims. (For UNESCO’s complete commemorative program, visit www.unesco.org and click on “2004 – Int. Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition.”)
Objectives of the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and Its Abolition

• Celebrate the bicentenary of the Haitian Revolution, which resulted in the creation of the first black republic, and consequently encouraged the progressive emancipation of the peoples of the Caribbean and South America.

• Mobilize the international community, the academic world, and civil society to clarify the aftermath of this tragedy and exert a renewed vigilance against new forms of slavery.

• Ensure a deepened knowledge of the slave trade and of slavery for the emergence of a new historic consciousness in and beyond the countries that were affected by this history.

• Restore broken links and broaden solidarity between the African continent and its diasporas, in particular through the networking of its intellectual community.

• Study and promote the modalities of this dialogue between cultures, and foster peaceful coexistence between peoples by highlighting the interactions generated by the slave trade and slavery in artistic expressions, spiritual traditions, and the transfer of know-how.

• Collect and disseminate scientific information on the abolition of slavery; study and visit the places and sites of this history; celebrate the event that marked the abolition process and the memory of the personalities who, in whatever capacity, pioneered such abolition.

The Schomburg Center and UNESCO hope that *Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery* will be a valuable educational tool in this commemorative year. The thirty-two-panel exhibition is part of an important international effort to institutionalize the memory of slavery, to promote the truth of its history and effects, and to acknowledge and combat contemporary racism, discrimination, and intolerance. Versions of *Lest We Forget* have been produced in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. The panels featured above represent a snapshot of this historic exhibition, which will travel to the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, and other locations in this commemorative year.
African-American intellectual history and historiography have been viewed for some time as the stepchildren of African-American Studies. Despite the centrality of bibliophiles, collectors, and trained professional historians in crafting the African-American historical narrative, no comprehensive history of the evolution of the field from its inception through its professionalization has been written. This omission seems egregious since so many programs and departments in the nation’s colleges and universities exist as an outgrowth of sustained lay and scholarly interest in the history of persons of African descent. One might ask why this is the case.

From the 1950s through the early 1970s, the civil rights and black power movements brought increased awareness of the history and culture of African Americans. One important outgrowth of this intensely contentious period was the institutionalization of African-American history in the academy. Subsequent focus on the founding and development of programs and departments, however, obscured the rich traditions of historical thinking and writing that reached back to the early 1800s. My book, “A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth Century America,” recaptures and reconstructs a lost milieu of historical writing by illuminating the contours of history and historical writing among African Americans and investigating their evolution and maturation up to 1915. This study begins with the publication of one of the earliest tracts on African-American history, Jacob Oson’s A Search for Truth, or, An Inquiry for the Origins of the African Nation (1817), and the subsequent growth of black institutions, especially the black press, during the first thirty years of the nation’s history. Freedom’s Journal, the first African-American newspaper, was founded in 1827 and serves as the first viable organ of public opinion in the black community. It also occupies a central place in the creation of a historical discourse. My book ends with the establishment of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) in 1915, the formation of which signaled the formal move toward professionalization within the ranks of African-American historians.

In addition to charting the genealogy of African-American history prior to 1915, this book also examines four underlying themes that inform the evolution and maturation of African-American history in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: the engagement of African-American intellectuals with emergent “technologies of power” (reading, writing, newspapers, and book publication); the engagement of African-American intellectuals with, and selective appropriation of, ideological and intellectual constructs from mainstream intellectual movements, including the European and American Enlightenment, Classicism, Romanticism, Realism, and Scientism and Objectivity; the influence of the African Diaspora on the development of historical study; and the creation of discursive spaces that simultaneously reinforced and offered counter-narratives to more mainstream historical discourse.

While this study builds on the existing literature in African-American historiography, it also represents a significant departure from earlier work. Unlike most African-American historiographical studies, I argue that serious African-American historical writing began in the antebellum period through the scholarly production of ministers and abolitionists rather than the late nineteenth century with the publication in 1883 of George Washington Williams’s History of the Negro Race in America, 1619-1880. Also, unlike studies that focus mainly on racial vindication and contributionism as the primary determinants of African-American historical discourse, this project examines the discourse from the perspective of its internal logic (methodology, argumentation, and sources), and the construction and dissemination of history in the African-American community. By doing so, this book provides a holistic portrait of African-American history informed by developments within and outside the African-American community.

My approach to the evolution and maturation of African-American histo-
ry prior to 1915 differs significantly from the existing literature. Traditionally, historians characterize historical writers in the period prior to 1915 as amateurish and unprofessional, and their historical production as pre-professional and non-scholarly. This approach has led numerous historians to dismiss the scholarly production of lay and amateur historical writers in the nineteenth century without adequate discussions of the relationships between earlier historical paradigms and the subsequent development of history and historical consciousness in African-American communities. Moreover, it has led some authors to label these writers Afrocentric or nationalist when these authors engage Africa or the African Diaspora. I argue this labeling is not only misleading but presentist and anachronistic. In addition to traditional methodological approaches, this study also relies heavily on textual analysis, an approach to reading texts that is widely used in literary criticism, especially the work of Henry Lewis Gates, most notably in *Figures in Black: Words, Signs and The “Racial” Self* (1987). Moreover, this study engages a burgeoning interdisciplinary literature in intellectual history, which focuses on the construction of African-American counter narratives to majoritarian intellectual discourse. This is evident in Rafia Zafar’s *We Wear the Mask: African Americans Write American Literature, 1760-1870* (1997), Mia Bay’s *The White Image in the Black Mind: African American Ideas About White People, 1830-1925* (2000), and Elizabeth McHenry’s *Forgotten Readers: Recovering the Lost History of African American Literary Societies* (2002). Lastly, I attempt to selectively use emergent models on the meanings of Africa and the African Diaspora to discuss the international and diasporic implications of African-American history. For African-American intellectuals, their concerns were not only limited to the African Diaspora but also extended to other people of color in Asia, the Pacific Islands, and Latin America.

In broadening the understanding of how African-American history emerged as a discipline, this project will make important contributions to African Diaspora studies, American and African-American intellectual history, and most important, *The History of Education*. Given current scholarly discussions concerning the need to internationalize United States history, my project provides important insights on this issue. As the works of Alexander Crummell, William Wells Brown, T. G. Steward, Pauline Hopkins, and George Washington Williams demonstrate, African-American writers were always deeply engaged with and influenced by events in Africa and the African Diaspora. These concerns internationalized African-American history and fostered an awareness and engagement among its writers on a wide variety of issues in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, namely nationhood and sovereignty, colonization, emigration, Social Darwinism, imperialism, colonialism, civilizationism, and manhood.

Given current discussions of African-American history, one would not suspect that the discipline’s origins and meanings are as multifaceted and complex as this study will reveal. The Schomburg Center’s comprehensive holdings in African-American intellectual history and historiography are ideal for a project of this type. While here I plan to examine the textual production of black historians Robert Benjamin Lewis, Maria Stewart, Ann Plato, James W. C. Pennington, Hosea Easton, William Wells Brown, William Alexander, Joseph Wilson, N. F. Mossell, Lelia Amos Pendleton, John Cromwell, and the paper collections of Daniel Murray and John Bruce. This study will not only shed light on the historical work of nineteenth century intellectuals but provides critical insights into the maturation of African-American history and studies in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries by providing a holistic portrait of the field’s origins.

*Stephen G. Hall* is an Assistant Professor of History at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, where he teaches courses in American and African-American intellectual history and historiography. He has published several articles, review essays, and numerous bibliographical entries on African-American historians and black intellectual history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Hall is currently completing work on a book manuscript titled “A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth Century America.”
COMING IN MAY!
Buffalo Soldiers, a postcard book by the Schomburg Center and Pomegranate Communications

In recognition of African-Americans’ service during the Civil War, in 1866 Congress authorized six black infantry regiments (subsequently consolidated into the Twenty-fourth and the Twenty-fifth U.S. Infantry) and two cavalry units (the Ninth and the Tenth U.S. Army Cavalry). Black soldiers served admirably in Texas, the Southwest, and the Great Plains, maintaining order on the frontier and distinguishing themselves during the Indian Wars (thirteen enlisted men earned the Medal of Honor). During the harsh winters the soldiers wore coats made of buffalo hides. Because of the coats’ appearance and the men’s own tightly curled hair, the Native Americans called them Buffalo Soldiers, a respected and honorable sobriquet the men proudly accepted. The Buffalo Soldiers went on to serve with distinction, through World War II. Despite their impressive military record, the American public remained largely unaware of the valuable service African-American soldiers performed. The photographs reproduced here offer a rare glimpse into their world.

Standing in the Need of Prayer
A Celebration of Black Prayer

Foreword by Coretta Scott King
The Free Press, $27.50, 224 pp.

From the darkest days on slave ships to the most defiant moments of the Civil Rights Movement, prayer, more than any aspect of religion, has embodied the most intense expression of traditional African and African-American spirituality. In this one-of-a-kind volume, striking photographs and inspiring prayers drawn primarily from the unparalleled collections of the Schomburg Center span the broad spectrum of religious traditions during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Reflecting themes relevant to the black experience—including struggle, triumph, worship, family, and community—Standing in the Need of Prayer features examples from diverse religious traditions, including Islam, Christianity, Yoruba, and Vodou. The book also includes prayers from some of history’s most powerful voices, among them W. E. B. Du Bois, James Baldwin, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jubilee: The Emergence of African-American Culture
Howard Dodson, Amiri Baraka, John Hope Franklin, Gail Buckley, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Annette Gordon-Reed, and Gayraud S. Wilmore
National Geographic, $35, 224 pp.

This illustrated history documents the courageous and innovative ways that enslaved Africans developed their own unique culture in the midst of slavery and examines how that culture developed and flourished through the years after emancipation to the turn of the century.

March 18 – July 11, 2004
Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) has elected Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery to be its official travelling exhibit highlighting the triumph of the principles of liberty, equality, and the dignity of human rights. Lest We Forget documents and interprets the obstacle-ridden but life-affirming experiences of enslaved African peoples in the Americas, and examines the extraordinary capacity of human beings to confront and transcend oppression, and to triumph over state-sanctioned evil and injustice.

Schomburg Center Call for Docent Volunteers

Help the Schomburg Center fulfill its mission to educate the public about the history of the African Diaspora. Become a Schomburg Center docent volunteer.

Every year, the Schomburg Center features important exhibitions on the African diasporan experience. From Ralph Johnson Bunche: Nobel Laureate, a centennial retrospective of an extraordinary educator, diplomat, and intellectual, to The Buffalo Soldiers: The African-American Soldier in the U.S. Army, an examination of the contributions of black soldiers on the Western Frontier, to Invoking the Spirit: Worship Traditions in the African World, a series of astonishing photographs documenting the worship practices of people of African descent, our exhibitions and educational tours help spread the word of the important history, culture, and contributions of people of African descent. Bring our history to life! Become a tour docent for the Schomburg Center. For more information about how you can become a docent, contact Tessa Hamilton, tour coordinator, at (212) 491-2207.
March 18 – July 11, 2004

Blacks and the United States Constitution

Blacks and the United States Constitution examines the pivotal role of race in American Constitutional history, the black presence in American society, the dynamics of race relations in the United States, and the history of black freedom struggles. Highlights include proceedings of nineteenth-century black conventions, David Walker’s fiery Appeal using natural rights philosophy to justify slave violence in pursuit of freedom, Secretary of State William H. Seward’s signed certificate attesting to the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, and the Supreme Court’s formal judgment in Brown v. Board of Education.

Blacks and the United States Constitution is supported by Eastman Kodak Company.

April 2 – 15, 2004

Senegalese Contemporary Art Exhibition

Featuring works by Mbaye Ousseynou dit Seyni, El Hadji Mboup, and Mbaye dit Tita. Sponsored in cooperation with the General Consulate of Senegal at New York

SAVE THESE DATES!

July 20 – July 25, 2004

Book Fair

QBR’s Harlem Book Fair Celebrates Its Sixth Anniversary!

This year’s Harlem Book Fair begins on Tuesday, July 20, with the Harlem Book Fair Launch Party, a very special event hosted by QBR: The Black Book Review and Harlem World Magazine. The Annual Book Fair will take place Saturday, July 24, 2004. This, the largest book fair of its kind, is expected to draw more than 40,000 New Yorkers and visitors to West 135th Street (between Fifth Avenue and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard in Harlem) from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. More than 250 booths will be set up along 135th Street, offering books, storytelling, readings, and opportunities to meet and greet authors, and four stages will feature spoken word poets, celebrities, and music throughout the day.

Schomburg Center programs and exhibitions are supported in part by the City of New York, the State of New York, the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan, the New York State Black, Puerto Rican and Hispanic Legislative Caucus, the Rockefeller Foundation Endowment for the Performing Arts, The Coca-Cola Foundation, New York Life Foundation, Annie E. and Sarah L. Delaney Charitable Trusts, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., and the Edler Hawkins Foundation.

The Schomburg Center is a member of the Harlem Strategic Cultural Collaborative (HSCC).

Yes, it’s true…

Unless you leave your IRA or pension plan to a spouse, it can be taxed heavily in your estate. If your estate is over $1 million, these funds can be subject to both estate and income tax, which may total over 80 percent. This leaves your family or other heirs a mere 20 percent of a lifetime of savings.

If you are not leaving your IRA or pension plan to a spouse, it may make sense to name the Schomburg Center as beneficiary of your plan. You can avoid completely income and estate taxes on these funds, thus enabling you to leave more of your other assets to your heirs. And you can make a meaningful gift to the Schomburg Center as part of your legacy. For more information, please contact Randy V. Beranek, Manager of Planned Giving, (212) 930-0568. E-mail: plannedgifts@nypl.org.

AFRICANA HERITAGE

2004 Volume 4, Number 2

Africana Heritage is a quarterly publication of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture for members who contribute $35 or more annually. The Schomburg Center is one of the Research Libraries of The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

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A Message from the National Membership Chair

Knowing our legacy—undistorted by others and documented by those who lived it—correctly aligns you and me and our children in the continuing struggle to fully claim our dignity in all areas of life.

Please join with me and thousands of others who are making certain that the Schomburg has the funds not only to continue its unique mission, but to expand its outreach into every home, school, and library.

Please join me as a Schomburg Society Member now!

Schomburg Society Benefits

ASSOCIATE - $35
($23 tax deductible)
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• A monthly program calendar
• A personalized membership card
• Up to 20% discount on tickets to select Center-sponsored programs

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CONSERVATOR - $1,000
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• Acknowledgment in the Schomburg Center newsletter
• An invitation to join the Schomburg Center’s Chief, Howard Dodson, at a special black-tie event with a distinguished artist
• Complimentary copies of selected Schomburg publications

Please make check or money order payable to the Schomburg Center/NYPL. Mail to: The Schomburg Society • 515 Malcolm X Boulevard • New York, NY 10037-1801. To charge call The Shop: (212) 491-2206, Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.