Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute Launched

This summer the Schomburg Center and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation launched the Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute to encourage minority students and others with an interest in African-American and African Diasporan Studies to pursue graduate study in the humanities. Both institutions share the deep concern of establishments of higher learning and learned societies regarding the unacceptably low number of African Americans who pursue graduate education in the humanities. Of even greater concern for the Center is the comparatively low number of minority and other undergraduates who are pursuing graduate work in African-American and African Diasporan studies.

In order to help improve this situation the Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute, a three-year program, identifies ten carefully selected prospective humanities scholars, develops and nurtures graduate potential, and establishes a resource for minority students to pursue graduate study in the humanities.

In the Wake of Katrina

We join all of you in offering prayers for all whose lives have been touched by the ravages of Hurricane Katrina. While work is in progress on restoring basic needs—food and decent housing—to all those in need, we ask that you also support the educational and cultural institutions in Louisiana and Mississippi whose work was disrupted by the storm. Restoring schools such as Dillard and Xavier Universities in New Orleans and Tougaloo College in Mississippi, along with state and local educational institutions along the Gulf Coast, is vital for ensuring a better quality of life for the youth they serve. We hope that you will also remember the African-American cultural institutions in the region that help to preserve and perpetuate our history and heritage. Young people need the sense of pride and self-worth that they instill if they are to be resilient and lead productive lives.
Summer is usually the slowest season of the year here at the Schomburg Center. As the school year winds down, so usually do the programs and activities at the Center. Not so this year. The major catalyst is the 80th Anniversary tribute exhibition, *Malcolm X: A Search for Truth*. Word about the exhibit has seemingly gotten out across the country, and people are making pilgrimage-like visits to the Center to see the show. All age groups, races and religious groups are counted among the pilgrims. The hundreds of visitors who come each day are really something to behold.

The hundreds turned into thousands during the Harlem Book Fair. The Langston Hughes Auditorium was filled to capacity all day, even as the exhibition galleries stayed full. The auditorium was the principle venue for six of the book fair’s provocative forums and book discussions, several of which aired live on C-SPAN. An estimated 40,000 to 50,000 book lovers crowded the two-block long stretch of 135th Street in front of the Center where over 350 vendors (principally booksellers) sold their wares.

Some of the leading scholars in the fields of African and African Diasporan Studies were featured instructors in an intense six-week Summer Humanities Institute funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Nine students entering their senior year in New York City and Historically Black Colleges and Universities were immersed in a five-day-a-week, eight-hours-a-day program of lectures, seminars, film screenings, research, and writing on the twentieth-century global black experience. All report that the six weeks of study and research were transformative.

“From Hollywood to Harlem,” a weeklong film festival organized and produced by *Ebony* magazine in conjunction with the annual Harlem Week celebrations has been another major attraction. Three days of programs and screenings were held at the Schomburg Center attracting seniors and young people as well as traditional moviegoers to special programs featuring historic and contemporary films on black life.

*Malcolm X: A Search for Truth* will run through December 31, 2005, and continue to be a major attraction. Beginning in late September, we will shift into the second phase of the Center’s yearlong 80th Birthday Celebration. Among the planned program highlights are the second annual commemoration of the African Burial Ground ancestors; a gospel brunch featuring the Mama Foundation of the Arts, producers of the world-acclaimed “Mama I Want to Sing”; a forum series featuring Cornel West; an education summit on the theme “Slavery in the Curriculum”; two film festivals; and much, much more. And that’s only through December!

In addition, two new research resources are slated for release before the end of the year. The first, *Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience*, a digital archive of some thirty volumes on major themes in African Diasporan history and culture, will be released in October. Edited by the Schomburg Center and published on-line by ProQuest, this digital collection will be available to colleges and universities on a subscription basis. The second edition of *The Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture*, also edited by the Schomburg Center, will be released later this year. This comprehensive, six-volume compendium of knowledge on the African-American (in the hemispheric sense of the term) experience is also targeted for the college and university library market, but sets will be available to Schomburg Society members on an individual basis at a members-only price.

With work on the renovation of the Schomburg Center underway, it is anticipated that the first phase will be completed in time for a gala reopening at the conclusion of the 80th Anniversary celebration in May 2006. Obviously, we have a busy year ahead. Hope you will be able to join us!
Junior Scholars Start Fifth Year

Applications for the 2005-2006 New York Life/Schomburg Center Junior Scholars Program continue to stream into the Schomburg Center as young people between the ages of eleven and seventeen eagerly watch for their letters of acceptance to the program.

The primary objective of the program is to encourage students to strive for excellence in their academic settings and to prepare themselves for professional and entrepreneurial careers in which academic excellence is a requirement. The program is organized around a twenty-five-week Saturday school with a curriculum focused on the study of the histories and cultures of people of African descent worldwide. Formal instruction by leading authorities in African and African Diasporan studies is complemented by equally formal meetings with successful African-American professionals and entrepreneurs.

Activities and events for the upcoming program year will emphasize research and content rich study. Junior Scholars will have ample opportunities to showcase their academic abilities, artistic talents, and analytical acumen as they explore topics such as the life and impact of Malcolm X (based on the Center’s current exhibition), the struggle for civil rights in the United States, the African presence in the Americas, the role of children in warfare, and the significance of the arts and education in the struggle for achieving equality for African Americans.

Students will learn new information, synthesize ideas through directed research at the Schomburg Center, and prepare multimedia presentations for the Junior Scholars community. This year promises to be a lively one as students challenge preconceived ideas and push each other to increasing levels of academic achievement.

The 2005-2006 Junior Scholars Program begins on October 22. Applications are still available and must be submitted by September 30. Contact either Carlyle G. Leach, Director of the Junior Scholars Program, at cleach@nypl.org or Deirdre L. Hollman, Associate Director, at dhollman@nypl.org and (212) 491-2234.

SCHOMBURG CENTER NAMES 2005-2006 FELLOWS

Six scholars have been awarded fellowships to work at the Schomburg Center during the 2005-2006 residency period. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and endowments established by the Ford Foundation and Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Newhouse, the scholars will serve six-month residencies.

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows


Charles Isidore Nero, Associate Professor, Department of Rhetoric & Theater, Bates College. Study: Writing a New African Diasporic World: Melvin Dixon, Joseph Beam and the Generation of the 1980s.

Sandhya R. Shukla, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University. Study: Cross-Cultural Twentieth Century Harlem.

Jacqueline Najuma Stewart, Associate Professor, Department of English/Cinema & Media, University of Chicago. Study: At the Crossroads: Style, Segregation, and the Films of Spencer Williams.

National Endowment for the Humanities/Newhouse Endowment Fellow


Applications and information about the Schomburg Center Scholars-in-Residence program are available on the Center’s Web site.
NEW SCHOMBURG CENTER RESEARCH RESOURCES

Two new Schomburg Center resources will soon be available for research on African-American and African Diasporan history and culture. *Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience*, a new digital archive, will be released in October; and the second edition of *The Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture*, published in association with the Schomburg Center, will be released early next year.

Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience

This digital archive of thirty volumes on major themes in African Diasporan history and culture was edited by the Schomburg Center and will be published on-line by ProQuest. Howard Dodson is the Series Director and Colin Palmer is the Managing Editor. The collection will be available to colleges and universities on a subscription basis.

The archive provides groundbreaking work from the foremost experts in the field. These leading scholars have selected core articles and book chapters that illustrate the best research and writing in a variety of disciplines, including history, religion, sociology, political science, economics, art, literature, and psychology. Presented in essay form, the writing is self-contained but links together to provide an exhaustive, interdisciplinary survey of the experience of peoples of African descent. While centered on African Americans, the survey examines African and Afro-Caribbean experiences as well. *Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience* presents ongoing debates and controversies in a thought-provoking and engaging way with the goal of encouraging continuing scholarship.

The Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture

A product of the most recent scholarship on the African-American and African Diasporan experience, the second edition of the *The Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture* is a comprehensive compendium of knowledge on the historical and cultural development of people of African descent at the beginning of the twenty-first century. The quantity and quality of knowledge generated on the black experience, especially over the past four decades, has created a diverse and increasingly complex field of human endeavor and intellectual interest. The encyclopedia format offers a convenient introduction to this vast array of information. Organized alphabetically by entry, it is easy to use and written in a language that makes complex concepts and ideas accessible to a general reading audience.

This comprehensive, six-volume work is targeted for the college and university library market, but sets will be available to Schomburg Society members on an individual basis at a Black History Month members-only price in February 2006. Orders can be placed through The Shop at (212) 491-2206.

Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture

An excerpt from the introduction to the *Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture* by Howard Dodson

A century ago an encyclopedia such as this was unthinkable, much less imaginable. The reigning unwisdom at the time in the United States was that people of African descent had no history or culture. A foundation on which the myths of black racial inferiority and white supremacy were based, this notion that black people were history- and culture-less beings provided the ideological justification for the European colonization of Africa and the establishment and enforcement of systems of racial segregation in the United States during the 19th century. Systems of colonization and segregation based on race survived in Africa and the U.S. south respectively well into the 20th century.

This reigning unwisdom transcended geographical, class, regional and even racial boundaries. Newspapers, journals and magazines promoted it, churches and religious bodies subscribed to it, legal systems were invented to enforce it and colleges and universities taught it and produced the “scholarship” to affirm its truth. It wasn’t a regional, southern belief. It was national (and indeed international). European colonial powers who were flexing their triumphal colonizing muscles like their
Euro-American counterparts in the United States were convinced of the truth of their mythology. Their dominance of African people (and people of color in general) proved (for them at least) that their white supremacist mythology was true.

Fledgling efforts to rescue and reconstruct the history and cultural heritage of people of African descent had been made throughout the 19th century. Black newspapers founded to defend “the race” from these racist assaults, challenged the reigning unwisdom throughout the century. Black churchmen and black ministers challenged the Christian myth that attributed the presumed inferiority of black folk to the Biblical curse on Ham. Nineteenth century black historians including William Wells Brown and George Washington Williams, among others wrote histories of black folk that disproved the myth of black racial inferiority. All to little or no avail. The overwhelming preponderance of the testimony if not evidence through the end of the 19th century came down on the side of the reigning unwisdom. And so it reigned.

By the first decades of the 20th century, vindicationist collectors and scholars had started gathering evidence and creating new works of scholarship whose purpose was to destroy the myth of black racial inferiority and document the place of people of African descent in the making of human history, civilization and culture.

A number of bibliophiles and collectors of the late 19th and early 20th centuries assumed leadership roles in amassing collections of documents, images, artworks, books and memorabilia to support the new research and scholarship. Daniel Alexander Payne Murray started his career at the Library of Congress in 1871 and over a period of fifty-two years devoted most of his time to collecting Afro-American. His Murray’s Historical and Biographical Encyclopedia of the Colored Race throughout the World,” a six-volume compendium never came to fruition, but the Africana collections he assembled at the Library of Congress were among the strongest in the United States at the turn of the 20th century. Other distinguished collectors of this period included Jesse Moorland whose collection was eventually purchased by Atlanta University; Wendell Dabney; William Carl Bolivar and Robert Dabney; William Carl Bolivar and Robert

Mara Adger (Sinnette, 76–87).

Foremost among these vindicationist collectors, however, was Arturo Alfonso Schomburg, a Puerto Rican of African descent who began his collecting adventures toward the end of the 19th century and continued until his death in 1938. By 1926 he had amassed a collection of over 10,000 items—all containing evidence of the place and role of people of African descent worldwide in the making of human history, culture and civilization. The foundation on which today’s Schomburg Center is based, the 10,000-item collection has grown to more than 10 million sources of evidence on the historical and cultural legacies of African peoples around the globe. It is arguably, the most comprehensive research library in the world devoted exclusively to documenting the global black experience. It was the emergence of collections such as these that inspired and supported the work of researchers and scholars who sought to rescue and reconstruct the true history of black people.

In the meantime, African American scholars took the lead in creating the new 20th-century scholarship on the African American and African experience. W.E.B. DuBois and Carter G. Woodson, both Ph.D. graduates of Harvard University’s History Department were among the foremost creators and exponents of this new scholarship during the first half of the 20th century. DuBois, working from his base at Atlanta University, produced both historical and sociological studies of Africans and African Americans. His Souls of Black Folk remains a classic work in African American Studies. Woodson, frequently called the father of black history (U.S.A), founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, the Journal of Negro History, the Bulletin of Negro History and Associated Publishers. Beginning in 1915, and continuing until his death in 1950, Woodson used these tools to organize and conduct research on the black experience, publish research findings, disseminate the new knowledge to public audiences and promote the study of the black experience.

It should not be surprising that these same two 20th-century scholars of the African American experience, W.E.B. DuBois and Carter G. Woodson would fol-

Continued on page 11
New York Public Library President Paul LeClerc (top), Councilman Bill Perkins (center), and Howard Dodson launch the Center’s renovation project. Perkins was responsible for spearheading an $8 million gift from the New York City Council for the project.

Dick Gregory arrives at the Schomburg Center to get ready for two nights of pithy comedy.

Above: Tribute presenters Avery Brooks, Ruby Dee and Haki Madhubuti are flanked by Allison Neal, Manager of Dallas African American Read-In (far left) and Carla Ranger (far right). Director of the Dallas African American Read-In, co-sponsors of the Harlem Book Fair Wheatley Book Awards evening. Right: Honoree Rosa Guy enjoys the evening with Ruby Dee and Haki Madhubuti. Honoree Gordon Parks was not able to attend, but made videotaped remarks.
their interest, and provides them with the requisite basic intellectual challenges and orientations needed to encourage them to pursue humanities careers and to reach their potential.

The first Summer Institute took place from June 20 to July 29. The fellows in attendance were rising seniors from New York City universities: Kathleen Johnson (Fordham), Darren Sands (Hofstra), and Melanie Singleton (Columbia). Six students came from Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Zenab Abdill (Delaware State University), Katrice Dallas (Bennett College for Women), Alan Gaines (Tougaloo College), Jacqueline Holliday (Delaware State University), Miesha Rice (Johnson C. Smith), and Jessica Taylor (Bennett College for Women). Sean Greene, a doctoral student in history at the University of Pennsylvania, served as their mentor throughout the program.

The theme this year was Africana Age. Focusing on the twentieth century, it enabled students to explore areas such as the dominant political, economic, and military events of the period; achievements in social, artistic, and cultural realms that challenged the myth of white supremacy; efforts to forge political and cultural relationships among African peoples across boundaries; and commonalities and differences in the condition of African peoples across time and geography. Twenty-two distinguished scholars such as Ali Mazrui, SUNY Binghamton; Robert Hill, UCLA; Farah Jasmine Griffin, Columbia University; Gerard Aching, New York University; William Strickland, University of Massachusetts; and Maryemma Graham, University of Kansas, conducted three-hour seminars each morning. Afternoon sessions were devoted to film critique and research in the Schomburg Center collections.

By the end of the program, the participants had mastered sufficient content to help them identify, select, and interpret materials such as photographs, prints, illustrations, scholarly articles, books, and manuscripts for the development of a Web site. Each student also worked on a research prospectus to be used for fulfilling academic requirements during their senior year.

All students stressed that the program, which runs from 9 to 5, was intense. And they loved it. They emphasized how the seminars had forced them to reevaluate what they thought they knew and had opened up a whole world they did not know existed. As one student put it, “the scholars challenged all our preconceived notions. We just cannot be as complacent as before.” Another said, “The best of the best were conducting the seminars. They were specialists but they also had such a broad base of knowledge that they could make connections with many other topics. They really took pride in their craft.” The dialogue with “the people who actually write the books” was a major highlight of the program.

The students also stressed that they realized how much a history background was necessary to understand the rest of the humanities. One English major stated, “The richness of literature will escape you if you do not know history.” Going through the collections of the Center was an illuminating experience. Students agreed that they now have a solid foundation when talking about a number of topics—said one, “I’ve seen the manuscripts, I’ve seen the pictures. I’ve done the research.” They stressed that they came out of the program with a deeper appreciation for the humanities, and saw a much stronger connection between academic and real life.

The next Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute will take place from June 19 to July 28, 2006. The program and registration forms will be available in Fall 2005.
NEW FROM THE SCHOMBURG CENTER

A SPECIAL INVITATION TO MEMBERS

Explore the Rich History of the African Diaspora and Receive an Additional 10 Percent Off These Schomburg Center Publications at The Schomburg Shop!

Black New Yorkers

Standing in the Need of Prayer:
A Celebration of Black Prayer
Foreword by Coretta Scott King
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 (The Free Press) 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 Martin Luther King, Jr.

EXHIBITION
Through December 31, 2005
Malcolm X: A Search for Truth
Malcolm X: A Search for Truth provides the first opportunity for the general public to examine materials from the Malcolm X collection. The Malcolm X collection is unique in that it contains a wide range of speeches, sermons, radio broadcasts, diaries, correspondence, and other documents handwritten by Malcolm X or typed and edited at his direction. Most significantly, Malcolm X: A Search for Truth offers the public fresh new insights into the nature of his thoughts and development, as well as his multifaceted, at times seemingly contradictory, persona and personality.

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
Jubilee (National Geographic), a beautifully illustrated full-color volume, documents the courageous and innovative ways that enslaved Africans developed their own unique culture in the midst of slavery and examines how that culture evolved and flourished through the years after emancipation to the turn of the century.

The Schomburg Shop is open Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. To order, call (212) 491-2206.
Keeling Wainwright Associates has selected the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture to be the beneficiary of the 10th Anniversary National Black Fine Art Show (NBFAS) preview party on Wednesday evening, February 1, 2006. The preview will be held at the Puck Building at Houston and Lafayette Streets in New York City. The National Black Fine Art Show presents the unique opportunity to view as well as purchase work by African-American, African, and Caribbean artists, both established and emerging. Since its founding in 1997, the show has become one of the most influential fine art fairs in the world. Thirty-eight international exhibitors will participate in the 2006 NBFS.

Schomburg director Howard Dodson noted, “The Schomburg Center is delighted to have been selected to be the National Black Fine Art Show’s 2006 Preview Beneficiary. Its focus on the art of people of African descent complements and enhances the Center's commitment to preserve and celebrate the history and heritage of African peoples worldwide.”

Describing its impact and significance, show founder Joscelyn Wainwright commented, “The National Black Fine Art Show has taken an underexposed area of the fine art market and successfully injected it into the mainstream consciousness of the art world. The art produced by any culture represents the experience, thoughts, and circumstance of the people of that culture. Supporting the unhindered production of that art is a job that we all have the obligation to encourage.”

The opening night preview will be hosted by Susan L. Taylor, Editorial Director, Essence magazine. The show is co-sponsored by The New York Times, Essence, American Legacy, WNYC, Hennessy, and Moet & Chandon. Early entry at 5:00 p.m. is $150; admittance at 6:30 p.m. is $100. For preview tickets, call The Schomburg Shop at (212) 491-2206. For general information visit www.blackfineartshow.com.
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO ISSUE DRAFT REPORT ON AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Continued from page 1

agement alternatives for public consideration as well as a suggested mission statement, mission goals, interpretive themes and scenarios.

The report will be available on September 28. Please visit http://parkplanning.nps.gov/. Click on <Plans/Documents Open for Comment> and go to Management Recommendations for the African Burial Ground to view the report. It will also be available at www.africanburialground.gov. To request a copy of the report please contact the National Park Service at:

Email: NPS_AfricanBurialGround@nps.gov

Telephone: (212) 825-6887 or (213) 597-1570

Mailing address:
National Park Service
African Burial Ground Technical Assistance Project
200 Chestnut Street, 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Comments on the Management Recommendations for the African Burial Ground will be accepted for 30 days after the release of the report and can be submitted in the following ways:


Written comments can be mailed to:
Tara D. Morrison, Project Manager
National Park Service
African Burial Ground Technical Assistance Project
200 Chestnut Street, 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

You may also hand-deliver comments at public open house gatherings to be held on Saturday, October 22, at the Brooklyn Public Library from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Monday, October 24, at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

HONORING THE AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND

Africans in the Americas 2005
Celebrating the Ancestral Heritage

Friday: September 30, 2005
Youth Ring Shout & Consecration/Affirmation Ceremony

10:00 a.m.
Youth Assembly & Ring Shout Ceremony with MC Lyte and cast members from Drumstruck.

Begins on Chambers Street, between Broadway and Centre Street, and moves to the African Burial Ground Memorial site at Duane & Elk Streets.

Noon

2:00 p.m.-Midnight
Vigil

7:00 p.m. Jazz Tribute: Louis Hayes with The Cannonball Adderley Legacy

8:00 p.m. Spoken Word Tribute: Russell Simmons Def Poetry.

For reservations for open mike presentations between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. or between 10 p.m. and Midnight call (212) 491-2040.

Saturday: October 1, 2005
Celebration of Ancestral Heritage
African Burial Ground, Duane & Elk Streets

10:00 a.m.
African Diasporan & Native American Drummers Fanfare

11:00 a.m.
Ecumenical prayers & music with The African Burial Ground Tribute Choir and The Silver Clouds Singers and Dancers.

Noon
Cultural Celebration with Phylicia Rashad, Avery Brooks, Taye Diggs, and James McDaniel and artists representing the African Diaspora: Wyclef Jean, Kaissa and Ileana Santamaria.

Sunday: October 2, 2005
Noon-5:00 p.m.
African Burial Ground memorial site open for visitation

3:00 p.m.
Tribute Concert, Schomburg Center
The Spiritual: An Underground Railroad featuring Kevin Maynor.

For ticket information call The Shop at (212) 491-2206.
ENCyclopedia, Continued from page 5

low Daniel Murray’s lead and attempt to publish encyclopedias of the black experience. Each was possessed of encyclopedic knowledge of the subject and each was committed to making the available knowledge accessible to the public. Each was committed to, on the basis of authoritative information and scholarship, setting the record straight and challenging the “reigning wisdom” with unimpeachable facts and truths. DuBois first proposed to publish an encyclopedia in 1909. Woodson proposed such a work in 1921. DuBois’ efforts eventually produced a preparatory volume that appeared under the auspices of the Phelps Stokes Fund in 1945. Principally a list of subjects to be included in such a work with the sources to support each entry, DuBois’ preparatory volume demonstrated the scope of such a project and the potential such a compendium had for enhancing public knowledge and appreciation of the African American historical and cultural experience. Funding for such an effort was not forthcoming, however.

The Woodson proposal never materialized in any form during his lifetime. Like DuBois, Woodson was unable to raise the funding from traditional foundation and other philanthropic sources to give material form to his ideas. “The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History,” which Woodson had founded in 1915 published a multi-volume International Library of Negro Life and History in 1967, which had largely been inspired by Woodson’s encyclopedia idea. Organized thematically, the volumes treated specific subjects in African American history and culture but did not conform to the alphabetical ordering by entry title that has become the norm for encyclopedias.

Meanwhile, DuBois’ later efforts to revise his Encyclopedia Africana idea under the sponsorship of President Kwame Nkrumah and the independent republic of Ghana was not completed prior to his death in 1963. While scholars in Ghana continue to work on it, it is more an aspiration rather than a reality. Henry Louis Gates’ and Anthony Appiah’s one-volume Encyclopedia Africana, which was published in 1999, three years after the publication of the first edition of the Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History, was inspired by the DuBois project.

At the beginning of the 20th century, an encyclopedia such as this was, indeed, unimaginable and unthinkable. At the beginning of the 21st century, the state of knowledge and scholarship on the African American and African Diasporan experience is such that it insists that the Encyclopedia of African American History and Culture be published.

SCHOMBURG SOCIETY CONSERVATORS

The Schomburg Center is pleased to acknowledge the following donors of gifts of $1,000 or more from June 11, 2005 – August 29, 2005.

The Abyssinian Baptist Church
Reverend Calvin O. Butts
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Mrs. Maria Cole
Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole
Mr. Larry Dais
Mr. James H. Degraffenreidt, Jr.
Ms. Linda C. Guyden
Dr. Collette M. Hopkins
Mrs. Queen E. Jordan
Mr. Cornett L. Lewers
Dr. Adelaide L. Sanford
Mr. Dean W. Schomburg
Ms. Gloria B. Thompson

E-mail Announcements

The Schomburg Center would like to send our members e-mail announcements about upcoming program events. To join our e-mailing list, please fill out this coupon and return it to Membership, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Malcolm X Boulevard, New York, NY 10037.

Name___________________________________________________________
E-mail address__________________________________________________
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Rental Service Available

In addition to our collections, the Schomburg Center has an active rental service. The beautiful facilities are professionally equipped and can accommodate a wide range of special events from concerts, music, theater, and receptions to educational seminars and conferences at competitive market based rental rates. Call (212) 491-2257 for rates and information.

African Heritage, 515 Malcolm X Boulevard, New York, NY 10037


**Schomburg Society Benefits**

**ASSOCIATE** - $35  
($35 tax deductible)  
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- A 20% discount in the Schomburg Shop  
- A monthly program calendar  
- A personalized membership card  
- Up to 20% discount on tickets to select Center-sponsored programs

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- An annual subscription to the Quarterly Black Review of Books  
- Invitations to VIP events

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($226 tax deductible)  
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($434 tax deductible)  
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- Two tickets to a select Schomburg Center concert or performance

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($914 tax deductible)  
All Sustainer benefits, plus:  
- Acknowledgment in the Schomburg Center newsletter and the Library’s Annual Report

**HERITAGE CIRCLE** - $2,500 ($2,414 tax deductible)  
All Conservator benefits, plus:  
- A private behind the scenes tour led by the Center’s Chief

**CHIEF’S CIRCLE** - $5,000  
($4,864 tax deductible)  
All Heritage Circle benefits, plus:  
- An invitation to an annual luncheon with the Chief

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.

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**AFRICANA HERITAGE**  
The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture  
The New York Public Library  
515 Malcolm X Boulevard  
New York, NY 10037-1801

Visit the Schomburg Center On-Line at www.schomburgcenter.org

The Schomburg Center is available for space rental.  
For further information contact: (212) 491-2257.