Kickoff to a New Season
By Alicia L. Young

A spirit of change was in the air on the night of October 5, 2011 for the Schomburg’s Kickoff to a Season on the Cutting Edge. As attendees approached the Schomburg’s front door, the celebratory beats of djembe drummers greeted them. The Schomburg’s loyal attendees led the way. Yet among the crowd were significant numbers of young people who had never come to the Schomburg before—many of whom heard about the evening weeks prior from systematic enticement over social media: Facebook posts, links on Twitter, and YouTube clips.

Once inside, the buzz was contagious. Every 20 minutes, points of entry into the Schomburg’s infinite wonders simultaneously took flight: Guided tours, book talks and more. The galleries came alive as archivist Steven Fullwood vowed crowds straining to learn more about the exhibition honoring Romare Bearden’s centennial. Curator Mary Yearwood shared insight on the current exhibition on Malcolm X. And outside, on the “four corners” of the intersection of 135th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard, cameras clicked

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New Initiatives Expand the Schomburg’s Education Programs
By Deirdre Lynn Hollman

For more than 85 years, the Schomburg has been the center of knowledge on the global black experience. Empowering the community at large with this knowledge is at the root of the Schomburg’s mission and reflected through the robust activities of its research divisions, exhibitions, public programs, publications, and the vast online resources available through Digital Schomburg.

Cultivating this fertile soil, the Schomburg’s hallmark educational programs have targeted distinct audiences at many levels: The Scholars-in-Residence Program (for post-doctoral scholars and professionals); the Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute (for rising undergraduate seniors from NYC and HBCUs); the Summer Education Institute (for teachers and educators); and the flagship youth education program, the Schomburg Junior Scholars Program (for middle and high school students).

This past fall—under the leadership of its Director, Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad—the Schomburg launched several new educational initiatives to expand its impact on an even larger community of youth. Dr. Muhammad states: “Too many kids today are being taught that black history no longer matters, and that the past is no longer a source of knowledge and empowerment. The post Civil Rights Era has been fraught with culture wars and debates about the irrelevance of remembering slavery or Jim Crow or the Civil Rights Movement other than in the most sanitized way. Substance has given way

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(Above) Actor Jamie Hector with Dr. Muhammad at the Schomburg Center’s season kickoff on October 5, 2011 in Collaboration with the Harlem Arts Alliance.
I trust that this message finds all of you well on your way to enjoying a wonderful new year. I am happy that the Schomburg Society is as committed—as I am—to leading a nationwide effort to raise the historical and cultural literacy of young people. As the nation’s premier research library and cultural powerhouse dedicated to the global black experience, no other institution is better positioned to do this work. This effort of course begins at home. Partnering with the New York Urban League and a dozen other Harlem educational and community organizations, I am leading a series of college preparatory workshops called Harlem Dialogues on Youth Empowerment. The focus is on the history of criminal justice, economic inequality, and racial identity. Our goal is to learn from these students what their experiences are and to give them a broader and deeper framework for interpreting the world in which they live.

What our school curriculums will not allow, we will teach. What historical materials our community youth organizations cannot show, we will exhibit. Promoting the discovery of the past and life-long learning for the future is what we do at the Schomburg. Across the entire New York Public Library, new educational initiatives under the direction of President Anthony Marx are taking shape to increase access to our books and to our public spaces of learning.

In spite of budget challenges and a downsized program, I have redoubled the Schomburg’s commitment to the Junior Scholars Program as it celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. As the late ’70s disco duo McFadden and Whithead put it, ‘Ain’t No Stoppin’ Us Now.’ The program is our flagship educational initiative and a top fundraising priority. Staff and I are working closely together to cultivate new financial supporters to ensure a long and productive future.

As new partnerships and programs develop, access, engagement, and outreach will continue to be core values at the Schomburg. From honoring Romare Bearden here at the United States Post Office’s unveiling ceremony of four new Bearden Forever Stamps to co-hosting the 42nd Annual African American Day Parade Breakfast, for the first time ever, with State Assemblyman Keith Wright, where Congressman Charles Rangel, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, and Reverend Al Sharpton spoke, the Schomburg is carrying forward its legacy. Even living legends Harry Belafonte and Mayor David Dinkins shared a memorable moment here together recently when Mayor Dinkins received the Lifetime Achievement award from the Andrew Goodman Foundation, named for the slain civil rights worker.

The Schomburg is also committed to cultivating the imperative of historical literacy beyond Harlem. I have represented the Schomburg by delivering keynote speeches at Brooklyn at the Restoration Development Corporation, the City College of Technology, and Nazarene Congregational United Church of Christ, where the brilliant comedian and veteran political activist Dick Gregory challenged and entertained the congregation before me. The Schomburg also teamed up with the African American Research Library and Cultural Center in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and the Auburn Avenue Research Library in Atlanta, Georgia, in a webcast conference to commemorate the United Nations declaration of 2011 as the “International Year for People of African Descent.” And finally, San Juan, Puerto Rico, was the tropical scene of Schomburg nuptial bliss as Howard Dodson and I both attended Aysha Schomburg’s wedding to Matthew Powers. As many of you know, Aysha is the great-granddaughter of Arturo Schomburg and President of the Schomburg Corporation.

I look forward to the Schomburg Society’s continued support and presence as we embark on a new year of dynamic public programs, compelling exhibitions, and ongoing demonstrable impact from our education programs and initiatives. Indeed the buzz that we sparked at our Kickoff to a Season on the Cutting Edge has ignited a spirit of excited optimism in all that the Schomburg has to offer. I also plan on visiting cities around the country where there are concentrations of Schomburg Society members so that I can gather more of your feedback and insight about the Schomburg’s future.

“"What our school curriculums will not allow, we will teach. What historical materials our community youth organizations cannot show, we will exhibit."

“The buzz that we sparked at our Kickoff to a Season on the Cutting Edge has ignited a spirit of excited optimism in all that the Schomburg has to offer.”
Meet one of our Scholars-in-Residence

Kevin McGruder, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of African and African American Studies at Lehman College in the Bronx, is working on a book called *Race and Real Estate: Interracial Conflict and Coexistence in Harlem, 1890-1920*. He recently sat down with *Africana Heritage* to discuss his research.

**Africana Heritage (AH):** Given all the changes taking place in Harlem, your project is so timely; please tell us more about it.

**Kevin McGruder (KM):** I am expanding and revising my dissertation. It looks at the time period when the number of African Americans in Harlem increased dramatically. One of the things I am doing with my project is challenging earlier presentations about African Americans in Harlem. We tend to think that it’s only during this period, the 1890s to 1920s, that African Americans settled in Harlem, but they were always here. There was a little enclave right across the street, 135th to 134th, the blocks east of Lenox, and by 1900, half of the people who lived there were black. When the [135th Street] subway station was built in 1904, that’s when everything changed.

**AH:** What role did the Church play?

**KM:** When black people were moving to Harlem, it wasn’t with the intention that the neighborhood becomes a ghetto. They were forming communities. That’s why St. Phillips Church was so important. It was the first church to build up here in 1910. In terms of community formation, there was the church, there were the schools. That’s what people were looking for. At their previous locations, they always felt that they were in transition or not really in control of their institutions, so they began to feel as though they had more control here. Sometimes they did and sometimes it was perceived as control. It all kind of set the foundation as to why Harlem became the black capital.

(Continued on page 10)
Education Initiatives (Continued from page 1)
to symbolism. Given the stakes for two generations of black Americans having been born after the Civil Rights Movement, the Schomburg is meeting this challenge by raising the historical literacy of young people.”

The Harlem Youth Council
The Schomburg, in partnership with the New York Urban League, formed the Harlem Youth Council (HYC) to “engender young adults to become forward thinking and socially responsible youth who think locally but act globally, impacting their individual lives, communities, and others through leadership, advocacy and community engagement,” according to Arva R. Rice, the New York Urban League’s President and CEO. Hosted at the Schomburg, the HYC meets monthly to engage in educational conversations with Dr. Muhammad on the subjects of the history of economic inequality, criminal justice, and racial identity. HYC members and ambassadors, from a dozen Harlem community youth organizations, will develop a change agenda to present to decision makers.

The Links Incorporated
The Metro-Manhattan Chapter of the Links, Incorporated is partnering with the Schomburg Center to offer a series of historical literacy workshops for its young people who participate in its Model UN program. The workshops are aimed to immerse the Links youth in the Schomburg experience through engagement with adult scholars, dialogues with the Junior Scholars, and trips to the New York Historical Society and the NY African Burial Ground National Monument.

Additional Partnerships
The Schomburg Center is in the process of solidifying new partnerships with additional schools and educational organizations, including the Harlem Children’s Zone, The Abyssinian Development Corporation’s networks of schools, and the New York City Department of Education.

For more information about educational partnerships with the Schomburg Center, contact Deirdre Hollman, Director of Education, at schomburged@nypl.org.

Junior Scholars Program Celebrates its 10th Year

On Saturday October 22, 2011, the Schomburg Center Junior Scholars program kicked off its 10th anniversary. Since its 2002 inception, the program has served 1,500 youth—ages 11 to 18—from the New York Metropolitan area. This uniquely designed pre-college black studies program, utilizes both an inquiry-based and project-based approach to teaching its participants about black American history and the global black experience.

The Junior Scholars Program curriculum is specifically designed to advance each participant’s historical literacy, service learning/community activism, leadership experience, academic profile, and career aspiration. For 25 weeks, the Junior Scholars attend college-style lectures and presentations, engage in dialogue with adult scholars, participate in guided peer group discussions and activities, generate individual research projects and portfolios, and create collaborative media and art projects that grow from their intensive study at the Schomburg Center.

The impact of the Junior Scholars Program on its current participants and alumni is tangible. Here, several Junior Scholars and their parents share their reflections:

I was fascinated with my video project group; I never held a camera like that before nor had I ever visited a newsroom. The Junior Scholars Program not only gave me somewhere to go on Saturdays but provided me with an extension of learning marketable skills at my age. —Samuel Mathis

In the program, we respect each other’s opinions... At school, if you’re not popular, people say negative things about you. At the Schomburg, students work as a team to complete tasks and assignments without negativity. —Maat Silin

The Junior Scholars Program has made a significant change in my daughter’s life. Before joining the Junior Scholars Program, she was having some issues with her 8th grade school work. After going to the program every Saturday, for almost six weeks, I noticed an improvement in her academic performance, and her teachers noticed it, too. The Junior Scholars Program opened [my daughter’s] eyes to parts of history that schools dare not mention. She would come home and teach me things.” —Leslie Satterwhite, JSP Parent

Save the date for the Junior Scholars’ 10th Anniversary Youth Summit on Saturday, May 12, 2012. For more information, contact schomburged@nypl.org.

(Above) Metro-Manhattan Chapter of the Links presented a check for $50,000 and a stock certificate to the Schomburg Center’s Director, Dr. Khall Gibran Muhammad, to support the Schomburg Center Junior Scholars Program at a special reception on October 12, 2011. (Left to right): Judge Laura Blackburne, Madam President Anna Maria Bishop Harris, Dr. Khall Gibran Muhammad, Brenda Neal, and Cheryl Joyner.
Second Annual
Schomburg Summer Education Institute

Seventy-five educators—from across the nation and New York City—convened for the 2nd Annual Schomburg Summer Education Institute: Black History 360° from July 25 to July 29, 2011. Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad (Schomburg) gave a stirring opening address to the attendees, on what was his first day as the Schomburg’s new Director. During the five days, school teachers, college faculty, community educators, and college students gained valuable content knowledge and

in America” by Dr. Yohuru Williams (Furman University); “African Heritage Communities in Early New York” by Christopher Moore (Schomburg), Jennifer Scott and Elissa Blount-Moorhead (Westerville), and Cynthia Copeland (Seneca Village).

“The Schomburg Summer Education Institute is a rare dynamic learning experience that combines lectures, interactive workshops, curator talks, and community walks with the content of the Schomburg’s current exhibitions, permanent collections, and vast digital

learned inquiry-based approaches to teaching about African-American and African Diasporan history and culture.

The Black History 360°’s faculty consisted of premier historians and brilliant scholars. Discussion topics and their respective experts included: the “Black West” by Dr. Quintard Taylor (University of Washington); “Black Manhattan” by Dr. Robert O’Meally (Columbia University); “African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean World” by Dr. Sylviane Diouf (Schomburg); “Civil Rights resources,” according to Education Director, Deirdre Lynn Hollman. “Educators walk away from the summer institute with new knowledge and teachable resources, and then they walk back into the Schomburg in the fall with their classes to pay it forward. That’s our success.”

The 3rd Annual Summer Education Institute will run from July 23-28, 2012. For more information, contact schomburged@nypl.org.

Hold Your Event at the Schomburg Center

In addition to our research services and programs, 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, theater, and cocktail receptions to educational seminars and conferences. The Schomburg is a truly unique and special place to host an event.

For more information, contact:
Ebony Scott
Events Coordinator
212.491.2257
schomburgcenter@nypl.org
Around the Schomburg Center

(Far left) Schomburg Director Khalil Gibran Muhammad and his family attended the Harlem Book Fair on July 23, 2011. (Left to right): Stephanie Lawson-Muhammad, Justice, Jordan, Gibran, and Khalil.

(Near left) President of Bennett College Julianne Malveaux, a panelist at the Book Fair, with Khalil Gibran Muhammad.

(Right) NY State Governor Mario Cuomo, NY Congressman Charlie Rangel, and Dr. Muhammad were panelists at the breakfast.

(Below) Dr. Muhammad with NY-State Assemblyman Herman D. Farrell, Jr. at the African American Day Breakfast held at the Schomburg Center on September 18, 2011.

(Right) Visitors filled the Langston Hughes Lobby to buy United States Postal Service’s Romare Bearden stamps on September 28, 2011.
Black History Month and More at the Schomburg

By Alicia L. Young

This season at the Schomburg our programming and exhibitions range from the high quality, intellectually stimulating experience everyone expects, to programs you’ve yet to see here before.

New Series: Stage for Debate
With Stage for Debate, the Schomburg launches a series of high profile public debates with stellar thinkers who share their positions on the bandied-about notion of “post-blackness.” In the process, the Schomburg will engage a new generation in the spectator thrill of watching two great thinkers and a great moderator, meet face-to-face, with civility and respect, and passionate delivery and defense of their positions.

New Series: Talks at the Schomburg
There is nothing that can replace the experience of participating in live conversations with those who are the best in their field. Despite the dizzying array of options that we can use to tune in to news and information while alone, being in community, in connection, in conversation, in engagement—it’s what we all yearn for.

This season, the Schomburg debuts Talks at the Schomburg. Beginning in February 2012, the Schomburg will host some of the world’s leading artists and thinkers for special ticketed events. The 90-minute evening sessions will be exceptionally curated to allow for the highest standard of broad-ranging conversations between skilled interlocutors and world-famous writers, filmmakers, political analysts, and thinkers.

A book signing will follow all Stage for Debate and Talks at the Schomburg programs.

For more information about these exciting new series, see the listings on pages 8 and 9.

Kickoff to a New Season (Continued from page 1)

and strangers joined in to hear researcher Christopher Moore bring history to life.

Downstairs in the lauded American Negro Theater, every seat was taken as world-renowned scholars—all of whom had researched their works at the Schomburg—took the stage for conversations facilitated by staff members. For example, Digital Curator, Sylviane Diouf, shared images and background about her book Dreams of Africa in Alabama. In the audience, a young woman who couldn’t have been older than 25, turned to her friend and exclaimed in delight: “This is dope!”

In the hallways and lobbies throughout the building, friends greeted each other with smiles and laughter. Many spilled out to the Schomburg’s lovely outdoor patio where they enjoyed live music by The Rakiem Walker Project under trees lit by colored lights and a warm velvety sky.

Finally, the night’s crescendo built towards the Langston Hughes auditorium’s main stage during the evening’s last hour. Dr. Muhammad took the stage to discuss his book, The Condemnation of Race, with Dr. William Jelani Cobb. The two have been friends since they attended graduate school together at Rutgers. Their easy and respectful rapport made their conversation even more engaging to a full audience that had spilled in from all corners of the Schomburg for the Kickoff’s finale. After the conversation between the two scholars, the Harlem Arts Alliance emceed a showcase of performances from young dancers, poets and actors. To each, the audience spontaneously erupted in thunderous and appreciative applause.

All in all, over 500 people joined the Schomburg for the Kickoff. “It was the first event of a new era at the Schomburg that will embrace young people—five to 45—like never before,” Dr. Muhammad reflected. “We want to cultivate a new generation of supporters, stakeholders, and most importantly young people who are more and more disconnected from black history.”

“We want to cultivate a new generation of supporters, stakeholders, and most importantly young people.”
FEBRUARY 2012: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Wednesday, February 1 at 10 a.m.
The Dream Inn - A Birthday Tribute to Langston Hughes
Bring your classes to a special theatrical performance of Hughes' poetry in a story by Daniel Carlton that brings the poet's Harlem to life. Students will learn about Hughes' legacy in a cultural and historical context. Seating is limited. Registration required at schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2334.

Wednesday, February 1 at 6 p.m.
GMAA at 25: Opening Reception and Panel Discussion
Please join Gay Men of African Descent (GMAA), the oldest social services organization serving black gay men in New York City, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary at the Schomburg. The exhibition and panel will highlight milestones in GMAA's history, as well as offer a glimpse of the organization's activities for a quarter of a century. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Thursday, February 2 at 7 p.m.
(Series) Stage for Debate: Steve Stout and William C. Rhoden with Danyel Smith
Join Billboard Magazine Editor, culture critic, and sports enthusiast Danyel Smith, as she moderates a debate between former music executive and author Steve Stout and New York Times columnist William C. Rhoden. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Friday, February 3 at 6 p.m.
(Series) First Fridays at the Schomburg
Music, poetry, and cocktails—oh my. Join The Rakiem Walker Project—stars at the Schomburg's October 2011 Kickoff—as they play and offer historical tidbits on music that you know and love. We also invite you to take guided tours of our exhibitions! Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040. (See March 3, April 6).

Saturday, February 4 at 4 p.m.
(Series!) First Saturdays Family Fun: Gates of Equality!
This dynamic one man show chronicles the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from early childhood through his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. The fictional dialogue is interspersed with real excerpts from Dr. King's press conferences and speeches regarding Civil Rights and the practice of non-violent protest. For ages 6 and up. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040. (See March 3, April 7).

Monday, February 6 at 6 p.m.
What Would Derrick Bell Do? Critical Race Theory in the Age of Post-Black Seduction
Columbia Law Professor Kendall Thomas, the ACLU's Vanita Gupta, and Applied Research Center's Rinku Sen come together to honor the activism and scholarship of the late Derrick Bell, while also sharing insight into the relevancy of race to justice. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Tuesday, February 7 at 7 p.m.
(Series!) Talks at the Schomburg: David Remnick, Randall Kennedy and William Jelani Cobb with Farai Chideya
Join Editor of The New Yorker David Remnick, Harvard Law Professor Randall Kennedy, and Rutgers University Professor of African Studies William Jelani Cobb, for a conversation on the administration of President Obama. All three have written extensively about President Obama and will discuss their views on critical moments in his first term and his chances for reelection in November. Journalist Farai Chideya will moderate the discussion. Tickets: Members, Friends, and Students: $10; Non-members: $15. For ticket charge, call 1-888-77-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com. (See March 28, April 19).

Wednesday, February 8 at 6 p.m.
Harlem Fashion Row (HFR) in Conversation with June Ambrose
Kick off Fashion Week with a conversation between Brandice Henderson, CEO and Founder of Harlem Fashion Row, and stylist extraordinaire June Ambrose. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Saturday, February 11 at 4 p.m.
(Series!) Films at the Schomburg: Brooklyn Boheme
Brooklyn Boheme is an intimate portrait of the black arts movement that exploded in Fort Greene from the mid-1980s through the '90s as told by writer, historian, and Brooklyn resident Nelson George. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040. (See February 25, March 10 & 24, April).

Monday-Friday, February 13-17 at 10 a.m.
Something for the Youth: Black History Month Youth Film Series
Students and teachers are invited to celebrate black history, culture, and heritage during this week-long film series for all students (K-12). Free! Registration is required. For a list of films and to register, please contact schomburgcenter@nypl.org or call (212) 491-2234.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, February 13, 14, 15 & 17 at 6:30 p.m.
Something for the People: Black History Month Film Series

Tuesday, February 14, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
(Series!) Word Rapport: Rebecca Walker's Black Cool
Join author Rebecca Walker with image activist and writer Michaela Angela Davis as they discuss Walker's anthology Black Cool. The collection—with essays written by prominent voices and figures such as bell hooks, dream Hampton, and Staceyann Chin—explores the origins, aesthetics as well as personal definitions of “black cool.” Cool offers a unique perspective on cultural identity. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Thursday, February 16 at 6 p.m.
reception and 7:10 p.m. performance
Performances at The Schomburg: Harlem Opera Theater
The Harlem Opera Theater salutes Black History Month with an exciting presentation. The reception will be held at 6 p.m., followed by a concert at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information, visit www.harlemoperatheater.org or call (212) 592-0780.

Friday, February 17, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
(Series!) Word Rapport: Harry Belafonte's My Song
Join actor, author, and activist Harry Belafonte as he discusses his new memoir, My Song, with Schomburg Director Khalil Gibran Muhammad. Harry Belafonte is not just one of the greatest entertainers of our time; he has led one of the great American lives of the last century. In My Song, Mr. Belafonte tells us the story of his life, giving us its full breadth, letting us share in the struggles, the tragedies, and, most of all, the inspiring triumphs. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Tuesday, February 21 at 7 p.m.
The Indelible Influence of Malcolm X
Although Malcolm X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, his vision, philosophy and—above all—his words live on. A who's who of notable participants, including Salmon Rushdie, Ishmael Beah, Kathleen Cleaver, and Darryl Pinckney, will take the stage to read from Malcolm X's speeches, diaries, and letters to tell his story. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Wednesday, February 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Teacher Seminar Days at the Schomburg
This full-day professional development seminar pairs premier scholars with multi-media instructional approaches to teaching history, literature, and culture in connection to Schomburg collections and exhibitions. Contact schomburgcenter@nypl.org or call (212) 491-2234 for more info.

Thursday, February 23 at 7 p.m.
African Film Festival
African Film Festival, Inc. and Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture are proud to present the annual Black History Month Film screening. The program will honor the two-year anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti with a special preview screening of Guetty Felin's Broken Stones, a feature-length documentary about self-recovery after the tragic Haiti quake, followed by a riveting panel discussion with the filmmaker and special guests. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.
This season at the Schomburg, our programming and exhibitions range from the high quality, intellectually stimulating experience everyone expects to programs you've yet to see here before.

Saturday, February 25, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Series!) Films and Dialogue at the Schomburg Visit schomburgcenter.org/calendar for film listings. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Saturday, February 25, at 4 p.m. What's Race Got to Do With It? Join panelists Maya Wiley, Executive Director, Center for Social Inclusion; Ta-Nehisi Coates, Senior Editor at The Atlantic; Adam Serwer, reporter at Mother Jones; and moderator William Jelani Cobb, Associate Professor of Africana Studies at Rutgers University and author of The Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress, in a conversation on the economic impact of Obama administration's policies. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Saturday, March 3 at 4 p.m. (Series!) First Saturdays Family Fun: Make African Head Wraps with the House of Tafari Collection Internationally acclaimed for her style, Imani will show your children how to use gorgeous fabrics and African styles to highlight their hair. For ages 12 and up. All materials will be provided. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Saturday, March 10 at 4 p.m. (Series!) Films and Dialogue at the Schomburg Visit schomburgcenter.org/calendar for film listings. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Monday, March 12 at 7 p.m. (Series!) Women's Jazz Festival at the Schomburg Visit schomburgcenter.org/calendar for this year's line up. Tickets: Members: $20; Non-members: $25. For ticket charge, call 1-888-71-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com.

Monday, March 19 at 7 p.m. (Series!) Women's Jazz Festival at the Schomburg Visit schomburgcenter.org/calendar for this year's line up. Tickets: Members: $20; Non-members: $25. For ticket charge, call 1-888-71-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com.

Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. (Series!) Women's Jazz Festival at the Schomburg It's that time again! Women's History Month and the Schomburg's annual Women's Jazz Festival! Come and experience outstanding women vocalists and instrumentalists, from cutting edge underground sensations to well established artists. Visit schomburgcenter.org/calendar for this year's line up. Tickets: Members: $20; Non-members: $25. For ticket charge, call 1-888-71-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com. (See March 12, 19 & 26)

Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. National Black Writers Conference: Reading and Book Signing The Eleventh National Black Writers Conference will host a special book reading and signing. Keynote: Isabel Wilkerson. Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Wednesday, March 8, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Malcolm X: Gone but Never Forgotten: Exhibition Closing Ceremony Decades after his death, Malcolm X continues to inspire many. The Schomburg is pleased to host a special community open mic to give you the opportunity to share testimonials about Malcolm X’s message. This is one event you don’t want to miss! Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Wednesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. (Series!) Talks at the Schomburg: The Intersection of Health Care, History and Justice Join Professor Alondra Nelson, Jonathan Metzl, MD/PhD, and medical ethicist Harriet Washington for a conversation on race and health in America. Tickets: Members, Friends and Students: $10; Non-members: $15. For ticket charge, call 1-888-71-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com.

MARCH 2012: WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Friday, March 2 at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Series!) First Fridays at the Schomburg Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Monday, March 26 at 7 p.m. (Series!) Women’s Jazz Festival at the Schomburg Visit schomburgcenter.org/calendar for this year's line up. Tickets: Members: $20; Non-members: $25. For ticket charge, call 1-888-71-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com.

Friday, April 6, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Series!) First Fridays at the Schomburg Free! For registration, go to www.schomburgcenter.eventbrite.com or call (212) 491-2040.

Monday, April 16 at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Teacher Seminar Days at the Schomburg This full-day professional development seminar pairs premier scholars with multi-media instructional approaches to teaching history, literature, and culture in connection to Schomburg collections and exhibitions. Contact schomburg@nypl.org or (212) 491-2234 for more info.

Sunday, April 15 at 7 p.m. (Series!) Talks at the Schomburg: Alexander McColl Smith Don’t miss Alexander McColl Smith, author of the beloved bestselling No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency series, for his ONLY Manhattan appearance to discuss his new novel, The Limpopo Academy of Private Detection. Join McColl Smith for a wide-ranging discussion about his life and work. Smith’s Ladies’ Detective Agency series has been translated into 45 languages and has sold over 20 million copies worldwide! Tickets: Members, Friends, and Students: $10; Non-members: $15. For ticket charge, call 1-888-71-Tickets or visit www.ShowClix.com.

For more detailed program information, visit www.schomburgcenter.org/calendar
Exhibitions at the Schomburg

GMAD at 25: A History in Words and Images

February 1-May 30, 2012
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Please join Gay Men of African Descent (GMAD), the oldest social services organization serving black gay men in New York City, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary at the Schomburg Center. Since 1986, GMAD has served as a center for education, advocacy and social support for black gay men in New York. Over the years many men have attended GMAD’s Friday Night Forums, participated in advocacy initiatives, as well as utilized its wellness programs focusing on HIV/AIDS resources and prevention outreach. The exhibition will highlight milestones in the organization’s history, as well as offer a glimpse of the organization’s activities for a quarter of a century.

The exhibition is Co-Curated by Dr. Kevin McGruder, former Executive Director of GMAD, and current Scholar-in-Residence at the Schomburg Center, and Steven G. Fullwood, Project Director for the Black Gay & Lesbian Archive, Schomburg Center.

Initial funding of the LGBT Initiative provided by Time Warner Inc., with additional support from MAC AIDS Fund, Scor Foundation, and Friends of the LGBT Initiative.

The Obama Presidency: A Look Behind the Scenes

February 1-June 2, 2012
Latimer/Edison Gallery

This exhibition of 56 photographs by Pete Souza, the chief official White House photographer, forms a visual diary of nearly two years of President Obama’s time in office, from September 2009 through May 2011. Souza’s work documents the Commander in Chief’s daily executive routine, which includes attending historic events and dealing with crises. Some of the images also offer glimpses of the lighter side of President Obama’s personality and reveal his sense of humor in views of his more private interactions with his staff, family, and friends.

Narrative captions for each of the photographs, written by Souza, place the images in context and—at times—articulate the photographer’s own thoughts behind the individual capture.

Malcolm: A Search for Truth

Extended through March 8, 2012
Latimer/Edison Gallery

Scholars-in-Residence (Continued from page 3)

One of the things that I didn’t do in my dissertation but that I want to do in the book is look at educational institutions. P.S. 89, which was right across the street on Lenox, was a hub in the area. The principal, Jacob Theobault, a German-American, became a real advocate for black education and black achievement.

AH: What item(s) from the Center’s collection are you looking forward to using as you continue your research?

KM: The New York Age collection. It was the [major] black newspaper and had close ties to Booker T. Washington, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., and other black leaders of the first two decades of the 1900s.

AH: Why was it important to do your fellowship at the Schomburg Center?

KM: The Schomburg is one of the few places in the region where documents relevant to my research, including microfilm copies of newspapers such as the New York Age and The Harlem Local Reporter, are available. In addition, it’s also been extremely important for my research and writing to be able to access the NYPL research database of census, immigration, and other records and digital collections of newspapers such as the Chicago Defender and The New York Times from my office at the Schomburg.

More than a century ago, large numbers of African Americans moved to the blocks just to the south and north of the Schomburg’s current location. When I walk the same streets that those African Americans walked, which still include some of the buildings they owned or rented, it inspires me to work hard to explain as accurately as I can what strategies they used to get to Harlem and how their white neighbors responded to their presence here.

To read more about our current Scholars, follow us on Tumblr (schomburgcenter.tumblr.com) and on Facebook.
Meet Schomburg Society Member Cheryl Lane!

Cheryl joined The Schomburg Society at the Kickoff to a Season on the Cutting Edge on October 5, 2011.

Schomburg Membership (SM): Why did you attend the Kickoff to a Season on the Cutting Edge?
Cheryl Lane (CL): I’ve been reading the most recent biography on Malcolm X by Manning Marable, [Malcolm X: A Life of Re-invention], and I was curious about what [was] in the Schomburg’s exhibition [Malcolm X: A Search for Truth]. I found the photographs—and particularly the written correspondence—quite fascinating.

SM: Why did you decide to join the Schomburg Society?
CL: I joined the Schomburg Society because I view it as a small, yet significant, way of investing in the perpetuation of our stories, our culture, and our impact on society as a whole. I’ve since encouraged friends to do the same.

Tell us why you support the Schomburg Center. If you’re interested in being the next featured member, send an e-mail to schomburgsociety@nypl.org.

Go Green with the Schomburg Center: Become a Schomburg Guardian!

Did you know that you can make monthly contributions effortlessly and automatically? By signing up to be a Schomburg Guardian, you can direct a monthly credit or debit-card payment to the Schomburg to support the kinds of programs you enjoy. The Guardian members help the Schomburg by providing consistent and reliable income. Together, we contribute to a cleaner, greener planet by saving resources that would otherwise go to postage and printing. Visit www.schomburgcenter.org/guardians or call 212-491-2252 to become a Guardian!

Special Offer for Schomburg Society Members

The Battle for Civil Rights Thursday, February 16, 2012 6:30 p.m.
The Robert H. Smith Auditorium at the New-York Historical Society 170 Central Park West, NY, NY

The New-York Historical Society (NYHS), in collaboration with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, presents The Battle for Civil Rights, featuring Khalil Gibran Muhammad, and David Levering Lewis. Schomburg Society members may purchase tickets at NYHS’s member price ($12 instead of $24).

Use the discount code SCHOM36 when ordering. Limit of 2 discounted tickets per member. Visit www.nyhistory.org/programs/the-battle-for-civil-rights for more information on the program and how to order a ticket.

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Two members of the Harlem Dance School performed at the kickoff.