



A HOME AWAY FROM HOME TO BLACK YALE & GREATER NEW HAVEN

AF AM HOUSE Newsletter

Fall 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

The Afro-American Cultural Center Welcomes You Home!

Beautiful House Family,

Fall 2016 has brought a great energy to the House! We welcomed in the largest Black first year class in Yale's history *and* our first Assistant Director, Shane Lloyd. With an increased programming budget, we've been able to honor our great history while strengthening signature programming and expanding support services for our students. We even upgraded our look!

Renovations

We're wrapping up Phase 2 of renovations to our physical plant, which has included new lighting, paint, flooring, security, audio equipment, IT and more. By the summer, visitors will be able to enjoy our new kitchen and *air-conditioning!* If you can't make it back before Reunion, be sure to take a virtual tour on our [website](#) next semester.

Save the Date

BSAY marks its 50th anniversary in 2017, and we are already starting to plan for the House's 50th anniversary celebrations throughout 2019... Stay tuned for information on registration, the event schedule, travel and accommodations.

Support Our Progress

We love to hear from our community and welcome your support and involvement. Whether that is buying House merchandise, the proceeds from which support our students' leadership development, or mentoring our students (see p. 10), or simply sending updates. Keep in touch!

In solidarity,

Risë Nelson
Director, Afro-American Cultural Center/Assistant Dean, Yale College



The House's Newest Leaders

The House welcomes its newest student leaders and a wonderful new Assistant Director. | [Page 2](#)



BPP50 Fall Break Trip

The House kicks off a series of alternative break trips to connect our students with our communities and our histories. | [Page 9](#)

House Staff

In addition to hiring the House's first Assistant Director (see below), Dean Nelson – only in her fifteenth month herself – also rounded out our team with the following staff members and affiliates:

Graduate Assistants:

Gerald Sheffield ART '17, Art Gallery Management | **Haywood Perry** DIV '19, Student Success Programs | **Heaven Berhane** DIV '19, Wellness Initiatives | **N'Kosi Oates** DIV '17, Social Justice Programming | **Paige Tucker** DIV '17, Civic Engagement Initiatives

Student Assistants

House Management: **Jalen Parks** '19 & **Jemimah Orevaoghene** '19 | New Student Outreach: **Nick Brooks** '17 & **Seyram Dodor** '19 | Communications: **Nia Berrian** '19 | Events: **Alexis Williams** '18, **Celeste Dushime** '18, **Karnessia Georgetown** '19 | House Archivist: **Elizabeth Spenst** '18



Peer Liaisons

Alero Egbe '17 (*Head PL*), **Airenakhue Omoragbon** '19, **Araba Koomson** '17, **Chandler Gregoire** '17, **Dante de Blasio** '19, **Erika Hairston** '18, **Ivetty Estepan** '18, **Logan Lewis** '19, **Naiya Speight-Leggett** '19, **Patrick Peoples** '18

Staff Affiliates

OrLando Yarborough GSAS '10, BCAY Chaplain | **Pat Martin**, Custodian

Welcome, Assistant Director Shane Lloyd

We are thrilled to introduce Shane Lloyd as the House's first Assistant Director! Shane comes to Yale after serving as the Assistant Director for First Year and Sophomore Programs at Brown University's Brown Center for Students of Color (BCSC). In that role, Shane coordinated programming for prospective, first and second-year students of color to have a positive impact on their matriculation, transition to college, retention, and academic and co-curricular success.

In addition to his role at the BCSC, Shane advised the Black Greek Letter Organizations and Harambee House, a residential program for all those interested in the history and culture of people of African descent. In 2015, he received Brown University's Excellence in Diversity Award for partnering with faculty, students, staff, and alumni to advance Brown's diversity and inclusion efforts. Shane sits on the boards of Class Action, the New England Grassroots Environment Fund, and the Brown University Inman Page Black Alumni Council. He earned his MPH from Brown University and a BS in Behavioral Neuroscience from Northeastern University.

In this newly established role, Shane oversees the House's communications efforts and financial management as well as our intercultural programming. He also coordinates New Student Outreach (inclusive of our Peer Liaisons Program as well as new/prospective student events) and Graduate & Professional Student Support. Lastly, through the House's Student Leadership Development initiatives, Shane advises our resident groups and facilitates training workshops to ensure organizational success.



Events & Traditions

Welcome Back BBQ

The House has provided a beautiful setting for organizations, alumni and community events on a daily basis this fall. Our annual Welcome Back BBQ had over 200 attendees. We welcomed our new students in with the Wobble, the Cha-Cha Slide and, of course, the Electric Slide!

Family & Friends Weekend

Just a few weeks later, the House was overflowing with tons of new students and their loved ones who enjoyed Family & Friends Weekend with performances by the House's resident groups Shades, Rhythmic Blue, Steppin' Out, Yale Gospel Choir, along with a talk at St. Anthony's Hall by Elizabeth Alexander '84 on "Total Life is What We Need: Self-Determination and Black Art Collectives." Dr. Alexander is a poet (and former House staff!) who was recently named a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets. Now at Columbia University, Dr. Alexander previously served as the inaugural Frederick Iseman Professor of Poetry at Yale University, where she taught for 15 years and chaired the African American Studies Department. In 2009, she composed and delivered "Praise Song for the Day" for the inauguration of President Barack Obama.



That evening, The Yale Symphony Orchestra (YSO) also performed Symphony No. 3 by Florence Beatrice Price at Woolsey Hall. Price (1887-1953) was the first African-American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer and the first to have a composition played by a major orchestra. However, her works have been neglected for more than a half century. YSO's performance of her third symphony was the East Coast premiere, and it is also significant that the manuscript is housed in the Beinecke Library.

Welcome Receptions

We hosted receptions for our scholar-athletes and our international students to introduce them to the House's staff, resources and services. We're looking forward to making these annual traditions, along with a Black Faculty and Staff Reception!



Special Guest

We were also pleased to welcome back the Honorable Franklin R. Parker '96, who currently serves as the Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Navy. He met with several Black student leaders, including two midshipmen, to discuss post-graduate life over lunch.

Harvard/Yale

The House chartered a bus for over 50 students to cheer on our team as they won The Game for the first time since 2006! Upon their return, we enjoyed a beautiful Thanksgiving Dinner, which was co-sponsored by the Yale Black Alumni Association (YBAA).



Black Coffee & Winter Gala

Finally, we'll close out the semester by having Handsome Dan join us for our Black Coffee study breaks, during which YBAA will provide "final survival" care packages, and by reviving the annual winter celebration, which will be a formal dance.



New Student Outreach

Peer Liaison Program

To welcome Yale's largest ever class of Black first year students requires exemplary programming on the part of the House and the Peer Liaison (PL) Team. The House's ten Peer Liaisons, led by Head PL Alero Egbe '17, have stepped up to the challenge and hosted highly successful programs that have nurtured strong bonds among the first year students and introduced them to all that the House has to offer. The students kicked off the year with a very well attended Meet and Greet event where students from all of the cultural centers stopped by the House and met the PLs.

The PLs partnered with the Yale Sailing Team to host a PL Sailing trip at the Yale Corinthian Yacht Club. About 25 first years enjoyed sailing on the Long Island Sound and breaking the myth that Black people don't sail. PL Chandler Gregoire '17 and her sailing teammates talked about the history of the program, some of the team's recent accomplishments, and the importance of diversity in all of the athletic teams.

The PLs also hosted their annual mall trip to help first years acquire essential clothing before the winter arrives. Other programs have focused on study skills, academic writing, and navigating Yale as a Black student. Next month, the PLs will be visiting Alvin Ailey with their first years and planning Black Ice, a program to get more Black students on the ski slopes to kick off Spring 2017.

New Student Outreach

In October, the House had over 50 Black families come and visit during the Multicultural Open House. During the annual open house, prospective

students and caregivers were able to have their questions answered by various members of the House community. Prospective students and their families learned about the rich history of the House, major programs and initiatives, and notable accomplishments of Black alumni and current students. It was so great to see and meet prospective students from all over the country!

In November, the House hosted three visits with pre-college student groups from the South Bronx, Harlem, and Brooklyn. The first was a group of 40 middle school students from St. HOPE Leadership Academy in Harlem, New York. After talking with the New Student Outreach team, several of the visiting students expressed excitement for their college days and the potential to come to Yale.

The second visit was a coordinated by a Yale College alumna who is now a teacher at a local Brooklyn high school. She traveled to Yale with 25 young ninth grade scholars to help them learn about Yale University and more specifically, Black life at Yale.

Seventy-five students from Bronx Latin School also visited the House recently and met with members of La Casa Cultural Center and the House. The ninth graders now have a much better sense of what college life is like and how critical it is to ensure that their unique perspectives and narratives are represented at colleges and universities across the country. Our New Student Outreach team is looking forward to coordinating next semester's middle/high school visits and Bulldog Days!



YBAA-Chicago Summer Send Off

Dean Nelson welcomed first years and their families at YBAA-Chicago's annual summer send-off reception hosted by the Branch-Dyson Family



PL Sailing Trip at the YCYC

New students got some tips on sailing the Sound as well as their first year at Yale!



Multicultural Open House

House leaders waiting to welcome prospective students and their families



Pre-College Student Tours

St. HOPE Leadership Academy visits the House!

Student Success Programs

The History Keepers Program

Dean Nelson has created the House's newest initiative, The History Keepers Program to provide our students with the opportunity to learn about and preserve the histories of the House and Black Yale and to then share them with the campus community and beyond. Program participants will help build the House's archives, especially in preparation for our 50th anniversary celebrations, while learning about research foundations and careers in museum administration and library science. Through mentoring, workshops and culturally-based experience learning, this initiative aims to prepare participants for successful application to prestigious research based fellowship and scholarship programs such as Mellon-Bouchet, Fulbright, and more. The House is pleased to offer its History Keepers Program in collaboration with Yale's Department of African-American and University Library and with national research centers/programs, including the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American Heritage & Culture.



SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS

Whether you wish to share words of wisdom, leadership development opportunities, or co-sponsor their learning experiences by giving to the House's ORD endowment, our students would love to hear from you! Contact: afamhouse@yale.edu.

Wellness Initiatives

Responding to expressed student needs, Dean Nelson also created this new programmatic area through which the House actively cultivates our students' practice of self-care early on in their careers. "Selfie Sundays" is a new monthly series through which students can prioritize their wellness in culturally affirming ways. For example, we held an Afro-Latin dance workshop and a self-defense class taught by Qadry Harris YDS '18 who holds a Black Belt in Ketsugen Karate.

Just in time for winter break, students will be able to learn how to cook up all our traditional favorites with a healthier twist, and next semester, we'll enjoy our second annual Black Women's Retreat and other workshops that speak to the unique health concerns of communities of African heritage. Stay tuned!

Professional Development

In October, students assembled in a private room of the Union League Café, where Graduate Assistant Haywood Perry DIV '18 led them through an interactive workshop exploring the fundamental principles to navigating social and business settings with authenticity and grace. This workshop was the first in a series centered on professional development, with the aim of preparing our students to collectively place their best foot forward as they embark out into the world.

While dining over a three-course meal, participants delved into such topics as: dining etiquette, successful networking, the art of interviews and presentations, and developing meaningful working relationships.

Haywood's Spring 2017 events will focus on helping students explore their calling and connecting that to their academic and career goals.



Networking & Dining Etiquette Workshop

The House's student leaders learned how to make a strong impression over dinner and to build and work their professional networks.

Student Leadership Development

Just over thirty student organizations have residence at the House and provide dynamic leadership, impactful programming, and creative solutions to the myriad issues facing Black students here on Yale's campus. These resident groups also represent the best and brightest of the next generation's Black leadership. Here are just a few highlights:

Black Student Alliance at Yale (BSAY) President, Erika Hairston '18, was recently interviewed by women of Silicon Valley: [10 Questions with Erika Hairston](#).

The Black Men's Union (BMU) and Yale Black Women's Coalition (YBWC) enjoyed their tenth year anniversary, and the Yale African Student Association (YASA) hosted its tenth annual Africa Week, which featured noted Nigerian filmmaker, Mahmood Ali-Balogun. YASA leaders, Wabantu Hlope '18, Opelo Motome '18, Malaika Aryee-Boi '19, and Chaste Niwe '19 shared personal narratives about their experiences at Yale and the significance of Africa Week programming to the African community and the broader Yale community.

During Opening Days, YASA, BSAY, YBWC and BMU hosted a kick back event to bring everyone back together for pizza, music, and solidarity building activities, and a week later, the House gathered the leaders of the House's resident groups to review the mission and vision of the House and to promote collaborative programming among the resident group leaders. The groups also identified opportunities for future partnerships and training.

Over Halloween weekend, the Black Graduate Network, which serves our graduate and professional student body, hosted The Get Down, a well-attended party at the Gryphon's Pub, the campus grad bar. YBWC and BMU came together to host a dialogue on Black Music, and the Black Church at Yale (BCAY) hosted a timely workshop on mental health in the Black community. To keep the collaborative spirit going, the BGN, BSAY, YASA, YBWC and BMU co-sponsored the House's election watch and passport party, along with Yale's Center for International & Professional Experiences. We are also pleased to announce that the Black Solidarity Conference has sold out in only 19 days!

Assistant Director Shane Lloyd has also worked directly with resident group boards to support their leadership and organizational development through advising and training. He coordinated a Digital Media Center for the Arts training for our performing groups, and next month, Yale's Office of Public Affairs and Communication will facilitate a training for our resident groups so they can become even savvier in their media engagement and promotions.



Annual House Leaders Retreat

Resident group leaders gather to learn about the House's history and mission, build community and consider collaborative programs



BMU/YBWC Chairs Showing Love!



YASA's 10th Annual Africa Week

Celebrating the rich cultures of the Continent!

FOR MORE INFO ON SUPPORTING OUR ORGS

The 50th anniversary of BSAY will be celebrated throughout 2017. Contact bsayale@gmail.com to learn how you can support. Yale Gospel Choir has started coordinating their Spring Break trip to Chicago. Please contact yalegospelchoir@gmail.com to support!

Cultural Programming

Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. & Black History Month Celebrations

We have another exciting line up planned for this year's MLK celebrations, which will feature a keynote by [Ms. Diane Nash](#), co-founder of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), leader and strategist of the student wing of the Civil Rights Movement, and major coordinator and participant on the 1961 Freedom Rides. The House is also looking forward to coordinating another successful Black History Month with our campus and community partners. Stay tuned!



The Convergence of Black & Brown Power

Students discuss the intersections of social justice movements across the Black and Latinx communities

legacies of both organizations, and the present-day lessons we can draw from solidarity efforts of the past.

The House was the first stop on the second annual Cultural Center Crawl, coordinated by Melanie Pagan in Yale Housing to introduce new graduate and professional students to the staff, resources and staff of the four centers.

For Native American History Month, the Native American Cultural Center and the Afro-American Cultural Center invited Khalil Anthony Johnson, a Yale doctoral candidate in American Studies, to talk about his research on the history of Black educators who taught Native youth on reservations.

For Trans Awareness Week, the House co-sponsored *Her Story*, which featured a screening and talkback with the creators of the Emmy-nominated new media series that explores the dating lives of trans and queer women in Los Angeles. These events reflect the House's commitment to a multidimensional and intersectional exploration of Blackness across the Diaspora.

In addition to exploring past and contemporary examples of intercultural connection, the House recently partnered with the other cultural centers to host the annual Intercultural First Year dinner, which was attended by over 120 students. Students enjoyed a delicious meal catered by local restaurants and shared aspects of their cultures that they are most proud of. The night was a huge success, and we look forward to providing more opportunities for students of color to share their cultural heritages and celebrate the rich perspectives and experiences they bring to the Yale University community.

Later this year, we'll offer a Black/Jewish Dialogue for a second year partnership with the Slifka Center for Jewish Life, and we'll also sponsor a program with the Asian American Cultural Center on Black/Asian solidarity.

Intercultural Programs

The House regularly partners with other cultural centers and organizations on campus to explore the historical connections between the Black community and other racial and ethnic groups. Additionally, the House promotes programming that fosters intercultural connections and demonstrates the value of interethnic solidarity building. Over the course of this semester, the House has engaged in collaborative partnerships to bring intercultural programming to communities of color and the broader Yale community. For Latinx History Month, Ivetty Estepan '18, one of the House's PLs, coordinated a timely workshop entitled *The Convergence of Black and Brown Power*. Over thirty students and New Haven community members discussed the Black Panther's 10 Point plan and the 13 Point Platform of the Puerto Rican Young Lords, the

SUPPORTING OUR EVENTS

Know of amazing alums who would be interested in speaking at or facilitating workshops on social justice issues relevant to the House community? Interested in sponsoring speaker or event? Contact: afamhouse@yale.edu.

The Arts

The House was established during the height of the Black Arts Movement, and as such, performing, fine and visual arts have been integral to the House's mission and programming since its earliest days. In fact, Khalid Lum, the House's first full-time director, brought Ntozake Shange's "for colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf" to campus before it premiered on Broadway. Former director Caroline Jackson Smith '74 hosted a poetry reading with playwright August Wilson in 1987 and supported the development of his plays in partnership with Lloyd Richards, then dean of Yale's drama school, located directly across from the House. Angela Bassett YC '80, YSD '83 and Charles "Roc" Dutton YSD '83 performed Shakespeare at the House before they garnered silver screen success. Dean Pamela George created the annual Family Weekend event "Classically Black," which featured the House's best classically trained students during Family Weekend and hosted Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Amiri Bakara and Roger Guenveur Smith, among many others. We carry on this tradition with the renovation of our arts gallery, increased support for our performing groups, and sponsorship of a number of impactful artistic events in the past few months alone:



- **"Grace Notes: Reflections for Now":** Acclaimed photographer, video artist and 2013 MacArthur Fellow, Carrie Mae Weems presented a powerful and provocative new work that examines themes of social justice, race, and identity in the context of our historical moment. The House sponsored the program and purchased tickets for two dozen students and alumni to attend this moving piece and coordinated teas and dinners with Pierson College for our students to meet with the cast after the performance.
- **"Campus '70" Speaks to Campus 2016 and Beyond:** We are excited to announce a new acquisition for the House's art collection. We have just acquired from Davenport College – with the blessings of the donor – a powerful work of art on the historic May Day 1970 protests at Yale: "Campus '70: Homage to Rosso Fiorentino" by Amalia "Mali" Rapaport Pearlman (1918-2009). Mrs. Rapaport Pearlman held a Ph.D. from New York University in Art Education and was a founding member of the National Museum of Women in the Arts. "Campus '70" was originally a gift to Yale in 2012 from Mali's daughter, Yale alumna [Lise Pearlman](#) '71, a retired California Judge and prize-winning author of *The Sky's the Limit: People v. Newton*, *The REAL Trial of the 20th Century?* and *American Justice on Trial: People v. Newton*.
- **"Black at Yale" Art Exhibit:** After renovating the House's Art Gallery, we were excited to fill it with artwork representing our community and its history. Gerald Sheffield MFA '17, House Art Gallery Manager, and Elizabeth Spent '18, House Archivist, opened up the House's series of art exhibits with "Black at Yale," which featured student artwork and was attended by over 100 people. The event coordinators share the following: "We wanted to create a space that made room for Black artists at Yale to challenge our conceptions of what "Black art" is. We honor that legacy of Black creativity and Black futures during a highly charged political moment in contemporary history with "Black at Yale.""
- **"Black Joy":** Curated by current Yale School of Art graduate students Kenturah Davis, Vaughn Spann, Johnathan Payne, and Shikeith and sponsored by the House, this exemplary 26-hour multi-sensory experience combined visual art, performance, spoken word, dance, and music created by more than a dozen of our students. The event coordinators share "as our journey into a Post-Obama America begins, we as artists, thinkers, and makers recognize the importance of personal and collective self-preservation." No matter what, we won't let anyone steal our joy!
- **Theater in the City:** We have reinstated the House's annual tradition of coordinating a group trip for our first year students to celebrate successfully completing their first semester. The students will join their Peer Liaisons for a day trip to see matinee performances of Alvin Ailey and *The Color Purple*, followed by dinner. We want as many of our students as possible to be exposed to Black theater to further enrich their learning and deepen their cultural pride.

Experiential Learning Programs

➤ Higher Education Initiative:

With funding from the Ogilvie, Robinson, and DeChabert (ORD) Leadership Forum (the House's endowment fund that supports our students' leadership development), the Yale Black Alumni Association and the House were able to revive the Higher Education Initiative (HEI) this past summer. Through this opportunity, eight undergraduates and two graduate students lived together for a week in Oakland, CA to learn about the current state of the child welfare system and to lead workshops for current and former foster youth about goal development and college preparation. Sheryl Negash Carter '82 helped coordinate the trip program, and she and C'Ardiss Glesser Gardner '08 joined the student group from Yale. We're looking forward to heading to Atlanta for HEI during Spring Break 2017!



Reviving HEI

Students and alums gather to empower our youth



BPP50: The House Hits Oakland!

Celebrating the 50th anniversary with Ericka Huggins

➤ Black Panther Party 50th Anniversary Fall Break Trip:

The ORD Leadership Forum also approved Dean Nelson's proposal for our first [Alternative Fall Break Trip](#), during which students traveled to Oakland, CA for the [50th anniversary celebration](#) of the Black Panther Party. The trip was the idea of [Kathleen Cleaver](#) '84, LAW '89, the former Communications Secretary of the Black Panther Party and former Yale faculty member. In preparation for the visit, students were assigned readings about the Black Panther Party's connections to New Haven, Yale, and the Black Yale community. The trip included the following: the Black Panther 50th Anniversary Conference workshops; a group discussion facilitated by alumna and former House staff member, Rahiel Tesfamariam DIV '09; "All Power to the People" Exhibition Tour with the curatorial team, Ericka Huggins, Adrienne Humphrey, and several members of the Black Panther Party; "The Greatest Heist You Never Heard Of" Panel (featuring Kathleen Cleaver and BPP founder Bobby Seale); and the BPP 50th Gala. Five

undergraduates and two divinity school students participated in the trip. Many of the participants described the trip as transformative, timely and extremely beneficial to their development as leaders within the Black Yale community and beyond. Dean Pamela George and Assistant Director Shane Lloyd served as chaperones for this once in a lifetime opportunity. Check out the [Yale Daily News coverage](#)! BPP participants will deliver presentations on their BPP experiences to the ORD Advisory Board members and the campus community in the spring semester. Keep an eye out for more information.

➤ Alternative Spring Break Trip:

As we did last year, the House and Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale will be offering another Alternative Spring Break to the Mississippi Delta region. We will be working most closely with the organization [Delta Hands for Hope](#) and exploring Southern Jewish life with the [Institute for Southern Jewish Life](#). The focus of this trip will be on education, food insecurities and how these critical social issues affect this community. Participants will examine these issues by working in partnership with organizations in the area, meeting with community leaders, and exploring the cultures of the region.

Community Involvement

Tutoring & Mentoring

- ➔ **Urban Improvement Corps:**
Since its founding in 1968, Urban Improvement Corps (UIC) continues to be a significant contributor to the New Haven community through its tutoring services. With 27 diverse tutors serving over 40 K-12 students of color in New Haven, UIC not only helps young learners master their academic course work but they also provide valuable mentorship experiences for their tutees. Recently, UIC expanded its menu of options to include music and computer science cores in an effort to address gaps in both music and computer science education. To liven up the UIC tutoring space, the House has provided financial support for the UIC's mural project. UIC President, Aakeem Andrada '18, is working with his team to commission an artistic display that will reflect the work of UIC and breathe new life into the tutoring space. In 2018 UIC will celebrate 50 years of service to the New Haven community.
- ➔ In addition to UIC's great work, **Yale's Black Women's Coalition** is starting up its mentoring program for young people of color, and the **Black Men's Union** have enjoyed providing ongoing mentoring to young men at Conte/West Hills Magnet School (Dean Nelson's own middle school!).

Collaborations & Outreach

- ➔ The House continues to be home to folks in New Haven. The House is a host site for **Tatchol's weekly African drum and dance workshops**, and in the past year, we've hosted the community-centered **Kwanzaa celebration**, our students have coordinated a **"Day On, Not a Day Off" for Martin Luther King Day**, and we sponsored a great community brunch to kick-off **Black History Month**. We co-sponsored a Women's History Month celebration with **Sisters of Today & Tomorrow** to honor local women who are trailblazing paths to success in our city!
- ➔ A student group from nearby **Riverside Academy** attended the House's annual **Black Graduates' Celebration** so that they could experience the beauty of this congratulatory event, first created by Dean George in 2000. Dean Nelson met with students to help them understand the event's history and goals as they took up the charge of creating their school's own first event to celebrate Black excellence.

SUPPORTING OUR ENGAGEMENT

We look forward to building our relationships with local non-profit organizations and educational agencies to further support our community's youth, families and their advocates. We love when our alums connect us with organizations and service opportunities for our students to make a greater impact on our community! Contact: afamhouse@yale.edu.

Supporting the House

Show the House some love by supporting our students' learning, leadership and service:

- ➔ **Place orders now for House merchandise!** Our staff will work to get your gear to you by the holidays! All proceeds go back to the House's endowment fund that supports our students' leadership development. Visit <http://afam.yalecollege.yale.edu/>.
- ➔ **Library/art donations and other ways to support.** We'll gladly accept any gifts of books or art that celebrate and preserve the histories, cultures and traditions of the African Diaspora. Also, as we begin to prepare for the House's 50th anniversary in 2019, our staff and participants of our new History Keepers Program would love to capture your stories of the House and Black Yale back in the day! Of course, we will gladly accept monetary gifts to support our community as well! Contact: afamhouse@yale.edu.
- ➔ **Supporting our resident groups!** The 50th anniversary of BSAY will be celebrated throughout 2017. Contact bsayale@gmail.com to learn how you can support. Yale Gospel Choir has started coordinating their Spring Break trip to Chicago. Please contact yalegospelchoir@gmail.com to support!

AF AM HOUSE Newsletter

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Keep in touch!

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