ALUMNI & FRIENDS
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Save the Dates

Summer Commencement
The 2013 Summer Commencement Convocation will convene on Sunday, June 23, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the J. F. Lane Health and Physical Education Building.

New Student Orientation 2013
A look into the Lane College experience for new students planning to enroll in Fall 2013.
June 28-30, 2013
ADMITTED STUDENTS ONLY!

Homecoming 2013
Lane College Dragons vs Central State (OH) Marauders
Saturday, October 19, 2013
Summer Commencement

The College will convene its Summer Commencement Convocation on Sunday, June 23, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the J.F. Lane Health and Physical Education Building. Over fifty young and proud men and women will be awarded baccalaureate degrees in the Arts and Sciences.

Reverend Dr. Marvin Frank Thomas, Sr. will deliver the commencement address. Dr. Thomas is the President/Dean of the Phillips School of Theology, which is a component of the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, GA. He holds the Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in sociology from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He also earned the Master of Divinity degree from Phillips School of Theology at ITC and the Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

Prior to assuming his current position, Dr. Thomas served as the pastor of Walls Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to his tenure as pastor of Walls Memorial, he has served as pastor of congregations of the CME Church and presiding elder in the states of Alabama and Tennessee. He has also served as the Vice President for Student Affairs and a member of the Religion faculty at Lane College, and as a member of the Religion faculty and Student Services staff at Stillman College.

Dr. Thomas is an Ordained Elder in the CME Church, where he is a member of the Southeast Missouri, Illinois, and Wisconsin Annual Conferences. He is currently serving as chair of the Council of Deans at ITC. Additionally, he serves as an adjunct instructor at the ITC and pastor of the Good News Community CME Church in Lithonia, GA.

Dr. Thomas has a special interest in denominational courses. His most significant publication is “How to Have a Praying Church,” and an unpublished manuscript: “Effective Preaching on the College Campus: A Reaction to Preaching by Lane College Students.”
**Lane College Graduate Publishes Scholarly Article**

Alumnus Jonathan Freeman, a member of the Class of 2012, authored his first scholarly research article entitled, “Tools of Resistance: The Involvement of the Militant Wing of the African National Congress in the Dismantling of Apartheid.” The article was published by Harvard University Press in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Journal. Freeman’s research looks at how the African National Congress shifted from its non-violent policies to a militant approach to combat the notorious segregation system known as apartheid. Until its abolishment in 1993, this oppressive system plagued South Africa since 1948. 

Freeman is a current graduate student in African-American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles Campus. As a Lane College student, he was selected to participate in the University of Cape Town January Institute in South Africa. As such, he and other Fellows traveled to Cape Town during January 2011 and spent 10 days immersing themselves into the examination of special readings penned by leading scholars of the day. This Institute served as a component toward the Fellows achieving their ultimate goals of obtaining Ph.Ds in core fields in the Arts and Sciences.

**A Visit to the Holy Land**

Alumnus Tiggs Washington, a member of the Class of 2012, was a recent participating member of a fellowship to Israel as a Masters-seeking, graduate student at the Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL. While in Israel, Washington experienced life-changing moments including his visits to the mountaintop in Zippori; the Masada; the Jericho Road, the White Synagogue in Capernaum; and first-century synagogues where Jesus taught. Of particular spiritual inspiration to Washington was his immersion in the Jordan River, the holy waters where Jesus was baptized.

Washington grew up on the East Side of Buffalo, NY. He graduated from McKinley High School (Buffalo), and subsequently enrolled at Lane College. At the age of 19, during his tenure at Lane, he accepted the call to the ministry.
New School Teachers Ready to GO

Alumnae Antia Fitzgerald and Teaira Evans graduated on April 28, 2013, after receiving their Bachelor of Arts degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies. Merely 2 months after receiving their diplomas, these two scholars have passed all requirements for teaching licensure in the State of Tennessee, and have been offered (and accepted) teaching positions with the Jackson Madison County School System and Gibson County Special School District.

Congratulations to both of them for their hard work and persistence. They will do well.

Where There’s a Will, There’s a Way

Alumnus John Nyaberi completed his academic coursework at Lane in December 2012. As such, he was scheduled to walk across the stage and receive his diploma during Spring commencement in April 2013. But because of his assignment with his employer, DynCorp International, he was half-way around the world in Afghanistan performing his duties in aviation on Commencement Sunday. Realizing that graduation from Lane College is a one and only occurrence, provisions were made to get him his cap, gown, and diploma. To the right, from Afghanistan, I present to you Mr. John Nyaberi, an honored alumnus who is proudly attired in his regalia displaying his valuable diploma.

The Power of Potential®
Cleveland Browns Sign Lane Alumnus

On Monday, June 10, 2013, the Cleveland Browns signed Spring 2013 graduate Vernon Kearney to its roster as a defensive back. Kearney participated in the club's minicamp on a tryout basis. He was originally signed by Buffalo as an undrafted free agent in April, but was later waived. However, displaying the persistence that he learned at Lane College, Kearney would not quit. He pursue the opportunity with the Browns, and was rewarded for his hard work and persistence with a contract.

Kearney spent his first two seasons as a wide receiver at Lane College before switching to defensive back. During his junior year, he totaled 21 tackles and seven pass break-ups before registering 24 tackles, two interceptions, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery as a senior.

The 6-2, 185-pound Kearney is a native of Sarasota, Florida, where he attended Sarasota Riverview High School.

At Lane, Kearney exhibited the true meaning of a student-athlete. He graduated with a 3.24 grade point average.

We wish Vernon all the best!
Jacoby Watch

One of Lane College’s favorite sons, Jacoby Jones, Class of 2009, made a name for himself and the College during his recently-completed stint on ABC’s Dancing With the Stars. Although he did not win the first-place trophy, his splendid performances and gregarious personality captured the hearts of viewers around the world, and focused attention on the transformative and positive effects that Lane College has on the lives of its students.

After his appearance on Dancing With the Stars, Jacoby travelled to the White House with his Baltimore Ravens team mates to meet the President of the United States to celebrate their 2013 Super Bowl Championship.

President Obama kept the 10-minute ceremony light, joking about the dance steps of recently-retired Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis and Jones, all the while chiding former Ravens safety Ed Reed for his graying hair and agreeing with Joe Flacco’s assessment that the former University of Delaware standout is an “elite” quarterback.

From the Lighthouse, on the corner of Lane and Middleton, to the White House, at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, our fellow alumnus, Jacoby Jones, has traveled along the road of success and has remained a humble and proud son of the College. He is truly a Lane Man who carries with him the Four Secrets of the Dragon, and who epitomizes what we mean when we refer to The Power of Potential®.
Several years ago, the College received a gift from Bloomberg Financial Markets, the world’s leading provider of business and financial information, analytics, news, and insight. The gift was in the form of two computer terminals. These terminals are used by stockbrokers and financial analysts across the country. Here at Lane, Business and Finance majors are able to analyze securities, research companies, and monitor Bloomberg’s newswire for their business and journalism classes. The terminals also give Lane students hands-on experience with state-of-the-art technology. Students can create an interactive, multi-media network that allows them to share library, faculty, and student databases. They also have access to job listings in the financial field and can put their own resumes into a national job database.

Last month, the College acquired three additional terminals from Bloomberg. The current number of terminals now total five. Additionally, several members of the faculty within the Division of Business, Social and Behavioral Science received their certifications from Bloomberg. This is a major achievement.

This added gift from Bloomberg provides our students with valuable access to the information superhighway and to the world of business and finance. It prompts more students to explore careers in finance and on Wall Street where African Americans are under-represented. The possibilities for exchanging information and sharing ideas are endless.

The additional computer terminals will be installed in the Science and Business Building (Millennium Hall), and the Chambers-McClure Academic Center (CMAC).
Books Do Make A Difference

A few semesters ago, the College christened an endeavor to assist students in the purchase of their textbooks called the Ken Bentley Books Make a Difference Program. This initiative was established because of notification received by the College from the U.S. Department of Education that a Federal grant program that assisted a large number of our students in purchasing classroom books would no longer be funded by Congress. Without the extension of this grant, many students would have been unable to afford their textbooks...some of which cost in excess of one hundred dollars.

Because of the generosity of Mr. Bentley, a member of the management team at Nestles Inc., and the support of individual alumni and friends of the College, over thirty thousand dollars have been raised and 213 students have been assisted in the purchase of their textbooks. This fund has significantly impacted the lives of our affected students by providing them with the ability to acquire needed books to continue with their education. It has also helped the College in a mighty way by preventing the necessity of redirecting vital resources from our Annual Fund.

If you would like to make a donation to the Ken Bentley Books Make A Difference Program, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 731-426-7523, or via email at ia@lanecollege.edu to find out more information.

“The worth of a book is to be measured by what you can carry away from it.”
~James Bryce
Do you know a student who just graduated from high school and need help deciding what’s next in their life? Contact our Office of Admissions to speak with an enrollment counselor NOW!

731-426-7533 or via email @ admissions@lanecollege.edu.
Alumni, We Would Like to Hear From You

We are very proud of our alums, and would very much like to hear from you. The Alumni and Friends E-Newsletter is a monthly publication that provides the latest campus news. Each month we will keep you updated on particular topics, upcoming events, and areas of interest related to Lane College. The newsletters will be archived monthly and available on the College website.

If you have news you would like to share in an upcoming issue of the Alumni and Friends E-Newsletter, or you would like to sign up to receive the e-newsletter, please contact:

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Lane College Re-launches the Dr. J.L. Perry Golf Tournament for Homecoming 2013

If you are a golfer or know someone who is (pass the word to him or her), please save the date for the Dr. J. L. Perry Homecoming Golf Tournament, to be held on Friday, October 18, 2013 at Bent Tree Golf Course in Jackson, Tennessee. Please sign up to play (4 – man/woman scramble) or refer any questions or comments that you may have to Monica Clayborne-Scott, Director of Alumni Affairs, at mclayborne@lanecollege.edu or via phone at 731-426-7523.

This Homecoming event is sponsored by the Lane College Office of Alumni Affairs. All proceeds derived from this tournament will be used to benefit Lane College and its students.

Alumni, We Would Like to Hear From You

We are very proud of our alums, and would very much like to hear from you. The Alumni and Friends E-Newsletter is a monthly publication that provides the latest campus news. Each month we will keep you updated on particular topics, upcoming events, and areas of interest related to Lane College. The newsletters will be archived monthly and available on the College website.

If you have news you would like to share in an upcoming issue of the Alumni and Friends E-Newsletter, or you would like to sign up to receive the e-newsletter, please contact:

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