Action (now)! Cameras (soon)! Groundbreaking for $4M Media Center, home of OU Broadcasting Network, creating "our own voice"

Before the dedicatory prayer, OU Church senior pastor and Breath of Life Speaker/Director Dr. Carton Byrd indicated that while several other Adventist media ministries must now look for production facilities, the Breath of Life broadcast will utilize Oakwood's new Media Center facility once completed. Then Byrd prayed for Oakwood Administrators (l-r) Garland Dulan, David Knight, Sabrina Cotton, Prudence Pollard, Leslie Pollard, Tim McDonald, Kisha Norris and Howard Weems, as well as for the projected nine-month building project.
Artist’s sketches for the 11,700 sq. ft. Media Center, to be constructed between Ford and Cunningham Halls.
To demonstrate the $9.3M capital campaign theme, "Building on the Past," Kisha Norris indicated that the Media Center will be built on the site of one of Oakwood's first brick buildings, the old Music Hall.
(L-R) Dwyane Cheddar, Sabrina Cotton, Anthonye Perkins, student president Christopher Readus, Leslie Pollard, Garland Dulan, Rennae Elliott and Tim McDonald.

Staff members, Administrators and a Trustee take their turn with the shovel. (L-R) Chris McNish, Roengsak Cartwright, Tim McDonald, Anthonye Perkins, Leslie Pollard, Carlton Byrd, Stephen Foster and Amanda Pitt.

Read about the groundbreaking event on Oakwood's website.
Oakwoodite U.S. Senate Chaplain to Congress: "Save us from the madness"

In the first week of the government shutdown the Senate chaplain, Barry C. Black, urged lawmakers to admit their mistakes. He prayed to deliver members of Congress from hypocrisy and 'stubborn pride.' Read the complete New York Times story here.
Columbus ship replicas viewed by OU Historical Society

The Department of History and Political Science sponsored a fieldtrip of the OU Historical Society to tour full size replicas of two ships (the Niña and Pinta) used by Christopher Columbus to cross the Atlantic in 1492. On October 6, 2013, Oakwood's Transportation Department took the students to Ditto Landing (on the far south side of Huntsville) on the Tennessee River where the two ships were anchored.

The Santa Maria (the largest ship used by Columbus to cross the Atlantic) was not replicated because the draught, or draft, would be too great to safely traverse through the relatively shallow river system of the United States.
Students were surprised at the actual size of the vessels they had read about in their history books. They were especially surprised to learn that the entire crew, who crossed the Atlantic, slept in the open air on the deck of the ships. Some were expecting larger ships with spacious, onboard accommodations.

Built in Brazil, the replicas sailed to the United States where they are now on tour. The replica ships left the Huntsville area on October 8 and continued their journey up the Tennessee River to Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Gramond McPherson, senior History major and President of the OU Historical Society, is to be commended for his effort in helping to organize the field trip, which gave students new insights into the history of the world and the age of discovery. Those who participated are thankful for the continued support given by Dr. London and the Department of History and Political Science.

OU Faculty attend 14th annual HBCU & HSI Health Services Research Conference
Beat Reporter: Maxine Garvey - Department of Allied Health

The National HBCU Research Network for Health Services and Health Disparities held its 14th Annual HBCU and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) Health Services Research Conference at Alabama State University on September 13, 2013. The theme for the conference was "HBCU & HSI Researchers Engaging Communities in Innovative Health Interventions: Protect, Prevent, Live Well." This very informative and insightful event explored research areas in chronic diseases including HIV/AIDS, Diabetes, Maternal & Child Health, and Health Access issues.

OU faculty members in attendance were: Veronica Leftridge, MSN (Nursing Dept); Christopher Howard, MPH, MBA (Business Dept); and Maxine Garvey, DPT (Allied Health Dept).

(L-R) Veronica Leftridge, Clara Cobb, Christopher Howard and Maxine Garvey at the HBCU and HSI Research Conference.

OU Alumna Rear Admiral Clara Cobb, Assistant Surgeon General & Regional Health Administrator, opened the conference, recognizing Oakwood University for being the only HBCU in Alabama that has had a smoke/tobacco free campus for over 117 years. She also addressed current minority issues such as the Affordable Care Act, investing in prevention and wellness, and laws to address health inequalities.

Other highlights from the conference include:

Keynote speaker, Thomas LaVeist, PhD, Professor in Health Policy & Director, Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions at John
Hopkins University, provided insight regarding health equality and the fallacies of which health professionals must be aware in addressing minority health in research and clinical practice.

Flora Ukoli, MD, MPH, of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN, presented her research focusing on the prevention of obesity among African American infants and toddlers. The purpose of the study was to offer an educational intervention to encourage pregnant women to breastfeed their babies until they are one year old, in order to reduce the chance of obesity.

Carolina Rodriguez-Cook, MD, of the University of South Carolina presented her work on the Navigantes para Salud project. This focused on improving health care access and utilization among Hispanic women and children residing in the catchment areas of one rural and two urban areas in the South Carolina Midlands.
OU presents renowned pianist Leon Bates - Musician/avid body builder to offer master class, recital

OU Music Department will present internationally acclaimed pianist Leon Bates on Wednesday and Thursday, October 23 and 24.

Bates will offer a master class at the campus' Peters Hall (music building) on Wednesday, October 23, 1:00 p.m., and a recital on Thursday, October 24, 8:00 p.m., at the Oakwood University Church.

According to department chairman Dr. Wayne Bucknor, "Bates has performed on five continents and in virtually every state in the United States. Often, he is seen performing with orchestras, and has soloed with the Alabama Symphony as well as Philadelphia, New York, Boston and many other symphonies.

"His program at Oakwood will include works by Beethoven, Ravel, R. Nathaniel Dett and George Walker, the latter being the first African-American Pulitzer Prize winner."

According to Wikipedia, "Leon Bates likes to spend some of his time in an endeavor quite unusual for a concert pianist: he was an avid body builder. He used a gym for two hours at a time as much as six days a week despite his rigorous and demanding performance schedule. He has performed with numerous orchestras and symphonies.

"Bates is considered something of a renaissance man, and enjoys a wide variety of performance arts including dance, theater and music. He also enjoys watching and following sports programs.
Break the Silence  Celebration of Survivors and Memorial Service

The Madison County CCR Taskforce Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault and Crisis Services of North Alabama invite you to join in a special service celebrating survivors and honoring those whose lives have been taken as a result of domestic violence.

Thursday, October 17, 2013
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Oakwood University-Wade Hall
7000 Adventist Blvd NW, Huntsville, AL 35896

1 in 4 women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime.
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
October 2013 Events

BREAK THE SILENCE

September 21  Health Screening—DV and SA Screening. A&M University Health Center, “Telling Amy’s Story”, Sponsored by Asha Kiran, NACH, 100 Black Men and A&M University

September 29  Human Chain and DV Awareness Month Kick Off Big Spring Park - East. (We hope to have local officials and proclamations. 2pm FLASHMOB

October 5  Madison Street Festival and Parade Awareness materials will be distributed; parade at 8:30 a.m.; 7:45 a.m. for parade line up. Downtown Madison

October 8  Candlelight Vigil Limestone County — 6pm Downtown Athens On the Square, Sponsored by Limestone County DV Task Force

October 9  Kiss A Cop. Law Enforcement Appreciation Day Madison, Morgan, Jackson and Limestone Counties And Redstone Arsenal

October 12  Domestic Violence Information Fair, Richard Showers Center 9am to Noon. Sponsored by the Mizpah Chapter No. 37 Order of the Eastern Star

October 17  Madison County Candle Light Vigil Oakwood University, Wade Hall, 6pm-7:30pm

October 18  Walk A Mile™—Downtown On the Square, Decatur Sponsored by the Morgan County DV Task Force http://walkamileinhershoes.org/

October 21  Jackson County Candle Light Vigil— 6pm, On the Square Scottsboro, Sponsored by the Jackson County Task Force Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

October 21—25  Red Flag Project—UAH Campus Deana Stepnic, CSNA, Facilitating Clothesline Project

Music Department Chair to release CD

Alumnus Wayne Bucknor, chair of Oakwood's Music Department, will host a release party for his CD: "40 Years: God is good" on Saturday night, October 12, 2013, at 8:00 p.m. in Peters Hall.

The CD features Dr. Bucknor's original compositions and arrangements. Several Oakwoodites perform vocals on the recording, including Committed, Tamara Bodie, Bryan Cordell, Duawne Starling, and Kevin and Shavonne Sampson.

Bucknor gives 'behind the music' stories about each composition. He describes a song entitled "I Know It's You Lord" as "a praise song that welled up in my spirit one day as I was walking into the music building at Oakwood University. (...) I realize that all of the good happenings in my life, couldn't have been of my own doing or coincidence.

"Why did you ask me, Pastor Doggette, at age 25, to be the minister of music for one of the premiere Adventist churches in the world [Madison Mission SDA]? Why did you ask me, Dr. Lacy, to be the piano instructor at Oakwood University, without a long history of successful piano students? Why did you ask me, Take 6, to substitute for Cedric Dent on an 18-show tour of Japan when singing isn't my specialty? Why did you ask me, Vice President Anderson, to conduct the world-renowned Aeolians in 2007-08 year with no other class obligations, without knowing that I actually needed that extra time because of my deadline to complete my dissertation? Why am I the chair of the music department that I resigned from in 2006-07? I know it's You, Lord."
Oakwood University's Office of Contracts
Career Fair for Government Contracting Opportunities

Thursday - October 24, 2013
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

4920 University Square, Huntsville, AL 35806 (Auditorium)*

Admission and parking are FREE!!!!

Looking for:

Program and Project Managers
Project Managers and Engineers
Systems and Software Engineers
Applications Programmer
Database Analyst/Programmer
Help Desk Support Service Specialist
Web Software Developer
Network Administrator
Documentation Specialist
Training Specialists
General Clerks
Interns

Positions available at various locations, including Alabama, Maryland, Texas, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia.

*Although this "career fair" is being held in Huntsville, OU? Oh, Yes! readers from everywhere are welcome to apply.

For more information, contact Evangeline Rivers-Lang at (256) 726-7495 or erivers@oakwood.edu.
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE LEAP INTEREST MEETING
Thursday, October 17, 2013 | 6:00 pm

McKee Business and Technology Complex – Room 226
on the campus of Oakwood University (Enter on Adventist Blvd. at Wynn Drive)

If you are 25 years of age or older and would like to finish your bachelor's degree in 18 months*; this is for you!

*18 month curriculum based on met requirements. Contact us for more details.

It's your time.
You can do this!

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7000 ADVENTIST BLVD, NW
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LEAP@OAKWOOD.EDU
WWW.OAKWOODLEAP.COM
WAAY-TV anchorwoman Meredith Wood (right) interviews Miss Kisha Norris, Executive Director of Advancement and Development, as Oakwood's subject matter expert for "Ask the Experts" midmorning news segments.

Miss Norris' "The ABCs of Fundraising" will air October 8 and 22, November 5 and 19 on Huntsville's ABC affiliate station.
Community Health Fair

Wednesday, October 30, 2013
Time: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Millet Activity Center
(on the campus of Oakwood University)

Platinum Sponsorship: $300
Gold Sponsorship: $150
Vendor Tables: $25

For more information, contact Ron Gilbert @ 256-726-7420 or rgilbert@oakwood.edu.
OU breaks ground for $3M Media Center

Wednesday, October 09 2013 10:15

On Wednesday, October 7, 2013, 12 noon, Oakwood University officials will break ground for its newest addition: a 7,000 sq. ft. $3M Media Center, as part of its $9.3M capital campaign as a “game changer,” according to President Dr. Leslie N. Pollard.

“Oakwood University Media Center will be a game changer for us. We will produce our own products – our own talk shows, our own dreams, our own dramas, our own editorials and religious newscasts – and market them on our own terms, in our own voice,” he explained in his annual presidential address at the university’s First Chapel/opening convocation program, August 22, to the entire Oakwood campus, perhaps Alabama’s only K-18 community.

Oakwood University’s First Couple, Drs. Leslie and Prudence Pollard, made the capital campaign’s first contribution, in April 2013; thus, Media Center conference room 330 will be named in their honor, due to their $10,000 donation.

“The Media Center will be set between Ford Hall and the newly renovated Cunningham Hall, on the campus mall,” stated Miss Kisha R. Norris, Executive Director of Advancement & Development. Not only will it be a learning environment for our communications students, but we plan to begin telling ‘our Oakwood story’ by forming Oakwood University Broadcasting Network (OUBN), she continued.

“The Oakwood story of God-ordained ministry is something that needs to be spread to the corners of the Earth. We believe that this is the first step in blanketing the gospel message to places that others cannot reach.”
This nine-month construction project, she concluded, should have this facility ready for use for the 2014-2015 academic year.
WASHINGTON — The disapproval comes from angry constituents, baffled party elders and colleagues on the other side of the Capitol. But nowhere have senators found criticism more personal or immediate than right inside their own chamber every morning when the chaplain delivers the opening prayer.

“Save us from the madness,” the chaplain, a Seventh-day Adventist, former Navy rear admiral and collector of brightly colored bow ties named Barry C. Black, said one day late last week as he warmed up into what became an epic ministerial scolding.

“We acknowledge our transgressions, our shortcomings, our smugness, our selfishness and our pride,” he went on, his baritone voice filling the room. “Deliver us from the hypocrisy of attempting to sound reasonable while being unreasonable.”

So it has gone every day for the last week when Mr. Black, who has been the Senate’s official man of the cloth for 10 years, has taken one of the more rote rituals on Capitol Hill — the morning invocation — and turned it into a daily conscience check for the 100 men and women of the United States Senate.

Inside the tempestuous Senate chamber, where debate has degenerated into daily name-calling — the Tea Party as a band of nihilists and extortionists, and Democrats as socialists who want to force their will on the American people — Mr. Black’s words manage to cut through as powerful and persuasive.

During his prayer on Friday, the day after officers from the United States Capitol Police shot and killed a woman who had used her car as a battering ram, Mr. Black noted that the officers were not being paid because of the government shutdown.

Then he turned his attention back to the senators. “Remove from them that stubborn pride which imagines itself to be above and beyond criticism,” he said. “Forgive them the blunders they have committed.”

Senator Harry Reid, the pugnacious majority leader who has called his Republican adversaries anarchists, rumps and hostage takers, took note. As Mr. Black spoke, Mr. Reid, whose head was bowed low in prayer, broke his concentration and looked straight up at the chaplain.
“Following the suggestion in the prayer of Admiral Black,” the majority leader said after the invocation, seeming genuinely contrite, “I think we’ve all here in the Senate kind of lost the aura of Robert Byrd,” one of the historical giants of the Senate, who prized gentility and compromise.

In many ways, Mr. Black, 65, is like any other employee of the federal government who is fed up with lawmakers’ inability to resolve the political crisis that has kept the government closed for almost a week. He is not being paid. His Bible study classes, which he holds for senators and their staff members four times a week, have been canceled until further notice.

His is a nonpartisan position, one of just a few in the Senate, and he prefers to leave his political leanings vague. He was chosen in 2003 by Senator Bill Frist, a Tennessee Republican who was the majority leader at the time, from a group of finalists selected by a bipartisan committee. Before that he ministered in the Navy for nearly 30 years.

“I use a biblical perspective to decide my beliefs about various issues,” Mr. Black said in an interview in his office suite on the third floor of the Capitol. “Let’s just say I’m liberal on some and conservative on others. But it’s obvious the Bible condemns some things in a very forceful and overt way, and I would go along with that condemnation.”

Last year, he participated in the Hoodies on the Hill rally to draw attention to the shooting death of Trayvon Martin. In 2007, after objections from groups that did not like the idea of a Senate chaplain appearing alongside political figures, he canceled a speech he was scheduled to give at an evangelical event featuring, among others, Tony Perkins of the conservative Focus on the Family and the columnist and author Ann Coulter.

Mr. Black, who is the first black Senate chaplain as well as its first Seventh-day Adventist, grew up in public housing in Baltimore, an experience he draws on in his sermons and writings, including a 2006 autobiography, “From the Hood to the Hill.”

In his role as chaplain, a position that has existed since 1789, he acts as a sounding board, spiritual adviser and ethical counselor to members of the Senate. When he prays each day, he said, he recites the names of all 100 senators and their spouses, reading them from a laminated index card.

It is not uncommon for him to have 125 people at his Bible study gatherings or 20 to 30 senators at his weekly prayer breakfast. He officiates weddings for Senate staff members. He performs hospital visitations. And he has been at the side of senators when they have died, most recently Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii in December.

He tries to use his proximity to the senators — and the fact that for at least one minute every morning, his is the only voice they hear — to break through on issues that he feels are especially urgent. Lately, he said, they seem to be paying attention.
“I remember once talking about self-inflicted wounds — that captured the imagination of some of our lawmakers,” he said. “Remember, my prayer is the first thing they hear every day. I have the opportunity, really, to frame the day in a special way.”

His words lately may be pointed, but his tone is always steady and calm.

“May they remember that all that is necessary for unintended catastrophic consequences is for good people to do nothing,” he said the day of the shutdown deadline.

“Unless you empower our lawmakers,” he prayed another day, “they can comprehend their duty but not perform it.”

The House, which has its own chaplain, liked what it heard from Mr. Black so much that it invited him to give the invocation on Friday.

“I see us playing a very dangerous game,” Mr. Black said as he sat in his office the other day. “It’s like the showdown at the O.K. Corral. Who’s going to blink first? So I can’t help but have some of this spill over into my prayer. Because you’re hoping that something will get through and that cooler heads will prevail.”
Leon Bates (pianist)  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Leon Bates likes to spend some of his time in an endeavor quite unusual for a concert pianist: he was an avid body builder. He used a gym for two hours at a time as much as six days a week despite his rigorous and demanding performance schedule. He has performed with numerous orchestras and symphonies. Bates is considered something of a renaissance man, and enjoys a wide variety of performance arts including dance, theater and music. He also enjoys watching and following sports programs.

Contents
- 1 Early life
- 2 Career
  - 2.1 Awards and recognitions
  - 2.2 Contributions to society
- 3 References
- 4 External links

Early life

Leon Bates was born in 1949 in the heart of Philadelphia, where by the age of six he had excelled in the study of music, specifically at playing the piano and violin. As a young artist, Bates was an understudy of Irene Beck. He also was a student of Natalie Hinderas at the Esther Boyer College of Music at Temple University in Philadelphia.[1]

While growing up, Leon Bates divided his time between two disparate passions: the pursuit of music and the physically demanding sport of body building. According to Karima A. Haynes, Leon Bates grew up defying stereotypes. Bates claims that the two disciplines have synergistic benefits. "The last piece on the program is the one that is the most demanding and dynamic. You don’t want to run out of energy as you are coming to the piece that demands the most from you [2] (Haynes qtd Bates 164)."

Career

Bates has toured the world, performing with many symphonies. In the United States, he has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Cleveland Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the San Francisco Symphony, Atlanta Symphony, Detroit Symphony and the Boston Symphony. In Europe, he has performed with the Vienna Symphony, the Basel Symphony, the Radio-Orchestra of Dublin, the Strasbourg Philharmonic, Orchestra Sinfonica dell’Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Malmo Symphony of Sweden and more. One of his most highly regarded performances was with Lorin Maazel, and the Orchestra of France[3]. This concert was in celebration of the 500,000th piano built at Carnegie Hall. The event itself was held at La Scala in Milan. He has also composed prominent pieces of music with the accompaniment of Janet Vogt for a method book entitled Piano Discoveries [4] (Heritage Music Press).

Awards and recognitions

Leon Bates has been recognized by countless awards including earning the Philadelphia Orchestra Senior Auditions as a student in his hometown. His most prideful award which he earned throughout his career as a pianist is the NANM (National Association of Negro Musicians) which was presented to him in 2007.[5] This achievement was given to Bates because of his masterful musical talent coupled with his influence and work with young people.

Contributions to society

Leon Bates prides himself on helping young musicians to receive an education in music. Consistently, Leon Bates is included in over fifty charity events with relation to his career in music, such as orchestra events and recitals, in an effort to install a passion for music in the hearts of young children. Leon Bates is also coveted around numerous college campuses worldwide because of the gift he brings to the campuses and the mutual appreciation from both the audience, and Leon Bates. He has also been invited and has performed in numerous amounts of prideful venues, adding to his prestigious list of awards and accomplishments. These performances include appearances at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, and Philadelphia's...
References


External links

- Rile Management Biography (http://rilearts.com/roster/instrumental/piano/leon-bates/leon-bates-biography/)
- Official Youtube channel (http://www.youtube.com/user/leonbates)


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