



## February 2006

CDREWU Alumni Association  
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# CDREWU ALUMNI NEWS

### Upcoming Events

**Distinguished Donor Reception**  
March 24, 2006

**2006 Alumni Reunion &  
Graduation Celebration**  
June 4, 2006

### Announcement

**The Alumni News is now a quarterly publication. Look for your new issue in June 2006.**

Alumnae/Alumni can now access the CDREWU Alumni Online Community by visiting <http://alumni.cdrewu.edu>. Log into the community by using your first name as the username and your last name as the password.

**2006 marks the commencement of the CDREWU 2006 Phone-A-Thon for alumni and friends of the University.** All contributions made during the campaign support opportunities for CDREWU undergraduates to create new medical theories. As you receive details during the upcoming weeks regarding the 2006 Phone-A-Thon, remember that your contribution counts and helps CDREWU make a difference!

## Coretta Scott King: Gone but Not Forgotten



Coretta Scott King, who devoted her life to ensuring that the equality and human rights legacy of her husband was not forgotten, has died at the age of 78.

Born and raised in Marion, Alabama, Coretta Scott graduated valedictorian from Lincoln High School. She received a B.A. in music and education from Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and then went on to study concert singing at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music, where she earned a degree in voice and violin. While in Boston she met Martin Luther King, Jr. who was then studying for his doctorate in systematic theology at Boston University. They were married on June 18, 1953, and in September 1954 took up residence in Montgomery, Alabama, with Coretta Scott King assuming the many functions of pastor's wife at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

**"When you are willing to make sacrifices for a great cause, you will never be alone."**

After Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968, Mrs. King dedicated her time to developing programs and services toward bridging the gaps between equality and human rights, and was became known as the "first lady of civil rights." For 27 years (1968-1995), Mrs. King devoted her life to developing The King Center, the first institution built in memory of an African American leader. The Atlanta-based Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change was developed as a living memorial to her husband's life and dream. Situated in the Freedom Hall complex encircling Dr. King's tomb, The King Center is part of a 23-acre national historic park which includes his birth home, and which hosts over one million visitors a year. Flags at the King Center were lowered to half-staff on the morning of the announcement of her death on January 31, 2006.

Mrs. King served as an advisor to freedom and democracy movements all over the world, and as a consultant to world leaders including President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, and President Nelson Mandela of South Africa.

# CDREWU Hosts The Sixth Annual Jr. White Coat Ceremony



Los Angeles, CA--On January 14, 2006, the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science's (CDREWU) Saturday Science Academy II welcomed City of Los Angeles Mayor, Antonio R. Villaraigosa, as keynote speaker for its Sixth Annual Junior White Coat Ceremony. The Drew University "White Coat" symbolizes the achievement of academic success in the areas of mathematics and the sciences. Held at the King/Drew Medical Magnet High School Gymnasium, the event acknowledged 182 students, as they were presented with the "white coat" symbol of accomplishment while this annual rite of passage was witnessed by friends, family, faculty and fellow classmates.

The Saturday Science Academy II is dedicated to giving minority youth (ages 4 - 18) an opportunity to visualize their dreams of becoming physicians, scientists or other health care professionals through three 8-week sessions highlighting the human anatomy, marine biology, plant life and the natural sciences. This experience is complemented by one 4-week summer intensive mathematics enrichment course geared toward preparing the student for the mathematics component of the scholastic aptitude test (SAT). This innovative program also combines a rich and rigorous curriculum with sessions geared toward career guidance, tutoring, mentoring and parental advisement.

"The annual ceremony represents the pride and tradition our students acquire as they begin to see themselves in the medical field," said Lorraine Grey, Director for the Saturday Science Academy II. "These students pledge to treasure what they have learned and to continue their quest of one day becoming a dedicated physician."

As students prepared to put on their first white coat, Mayor Villaraigosa gave an inspirational speech to the over 450 attendees, expressing how much talent we have in our community. In his congratulations to the students, the Saturday Science Academy and Drew University; Mayor Villaraigosa praised the event as a "model example of success." Speaking directly to the students, the mayor remarked: "I am here because important things are happening here," said Mayor Villaraigosa. "I am here because you are doing important things here. I am here because you are important."

Shortly after his comments, students recited the Saturday Science Academy II Oath, representing their commitment to higher education and their eventual pursuit of medical and health professions. As a further example of student perseverance toward becoming medical professionals, Ms. Aneka Braxton, a former graduate of the Saturday Science Academy and now a third year medical student enrolled in the Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program, delivered a motivational presentation to the students on keeping their dreams alive.

Others in attendance at this year's ceremony included: Bart Harper Williams Esq., Drew University's Board of Trustees Chairman; Thomas Yoshikawa, MD, Drew's Provost-COO/Acting President; Randall Foster, MHA, Drew's Vice President for Administration; Ron Edelstein, EdD, Dean of Drew's College of Medicine and many of the University's faculty, students and staff.

For more information about the Saturday Science Academy II, call (323) 563-4926

By Michael W. Downer, Sr.

## Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science "Circle of Supporters"

**Join Charles R. Drew University Board of Trustees and Thomas Yoshikawa, MD, Acting President, Provost/Chief Operating Officer in a special evening honoring the University's "Circle of Supporters".**

Special recognition will be extended to:

American Honda Foundation  
California Endowment Foundation  
Muse Cordero Chen, Inc.  
Northrop Grumman  
Pfizer Health Solutions

It is our honor to welcome corporate and foundation leaders on this evening as the University applauds our Distinguished Donors for the significance of their support, both present and past contributions.

### Please join us!

#### Distinguished Donors Reception

Friday, March 24, 2006

6:00PM to 9:00PM

W. Montague Cobb Building, 1st Floor

1731 W. 120th Street

Los Angeles, California

For more information, please contact Gail Garber @ (323) 563- 4913

## Did You Know?

**Charles R. Drew University graduates have nearly perfect pass rates. Five out of six programs earned 100 percent pass rates.**

Internal Medicine	92%
Family Medicine	100%
Surgery	100%
Dermatology	100%
Endocrinology	100%
Anesthesia	100%

**We are proud of our success and our students!**

## Calling All Alumni!

**Have you recently been married, received a promotion at work or had a new addition to your family?**

Let us know by sending us a photo and your announcement to [alumni@cdrewu.edu](mailto:alumni@cdrewu.edu)