

Polo Ralph Lauren

EXCLUSIVELY FOR

Morehouse College
&
Spelman College





Polo Ralph Lauren



EXCLUSIVELY FOR

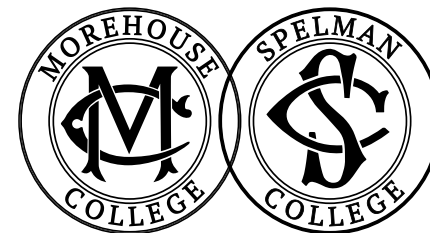
Morehouse College & Spelman College



This special edition Yearbook commemorates the Polo Ralph Lauren Exclusively for Morehouse and Spelman Colleges Collection, exploring the Collection's design ethos from conception to creation. Photographs from the 2022 Campaign are apposed to rare, inspirational imagery from Morehouse College and Spelman College yearbooks, dating from the 1920s through the 1950s.

There was great care taken in responsibly showcasing the history, people, and nature of life and style at these educational ecosystems, each a haven of equity and belonging.

In that spirit, the Collection is dedicated to the tireless work that Morehouse College, Spelman College, and all historically Black colleges and universities have done and continue to do in support of a more just world.



“Our portrait of American style,
and our vision of the American dream,
would be incomplete
without Black experiences like this.”

—Ralph Lauren—

FOREWORD

I have always believed in the American dream.

That is why I consider it our greatest responsibility to understand, be inspired by, and aspire to the dreams of all those who call this country home — and to share them to the world.

Growing up as the son of immigrants, I saw what life could be by embracing its possibilities. Ever since I started my company more than 50 years ago, I have been fortunate to do that every single day, creating worlds and sensibilities to inspire the dream of a better life through authenticity and timeless style. When I was approached with the idea for a collection inspired by the storied heritage and sartorial traditions at historically Black colleges and universities, it became clear that part of our collegiate design sensibility has been missing. We had stories left to tell.

I am deeply inspired by the spirited history, profound sense of community, and legacy of timeless dressing at historically Black colleges and universities.

The Polo Ralph Lauren Exclusively for Morehouse and Spelman Colleges Collection and Yearbook — a collaboration with the students, faculty, and alumni of both esteemed institutions — extends the authenticity of our brand heritage, writing untold chapters in our storytelling. Our portrait of American style, and our vision of the American dream, would be incomplete without Black experiences like this.

Ralph Lauren

ORDER OF CONTENTS

MOREHOUSE — 8

THE YARD — 16

CLASSES — 32

ATHLETICS — 44

SPELMAN — 80

SISTERS CHAPEL — 88

THE OVAL — 98

WHITE ATTIRE TRADITION — 118

THE FORMAL — 132

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS — 142



Morehouse College

EST 1867



Spelman College

EST 1881



“Injustice anywhere
is a threat to justice everywhere.

We are caught in an inescapable
network of mutuality,
tied in a single garment of destiny.

Whatever affects one directly,
affects all indirectly.”

—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Morehouse College Class of 1948—

A HISTORY OF MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

Morehouse College has represented a cornerstone of the Black diaspora for more than 150 years. Renowned as the only historically Black college or university dedicated to the education and moral development of Black men, the institution is celebrated for engendering within its graduates a servant leader compass, no matter what discipline studied or what occupation assumed.

Originally established in 1867 as Augusta Institute in the basement of Springfield Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia, Morehouse College moved to Atlanta in 1879 and has helped to grow change agents from the crucible of the Civil Rights Movement since before the “movement” was popularly recognized. Impactful Morehouse College alumni include cultural icons ranging from Howard Thurman to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to Maynard Jackson Jr. to Spike Lee.

But even more important than the notable alumni is the space that Morehouse has drawn for young Black men to be bold in thinking and working on how they will serve society, making the world a better place through practice and by example.





- VAUGHN COLFAX PAYNE, *Medicine* Calhoun, Ala.
 Omega Psi Phi
- THEODORE HARVEY BURRIS, *Education* Savannah, Ga.
 Kappa Alpha Psi
- CASSANDER WOODLIFF SELLERS, *Journalism* Macon, Ga.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- CLYDE AVERY LAWLAH, *Education* Bessemer, Ala.
 Non-Frat
- SAMUEL MILTON NABBIT, *Education* Atlanta, Ga.
 Omega Psi Phi
- WILLIAM DANIEL MORMAN, *Medicine* Augusta, Ga.
 Kappa Alpha Psi
- AURELIUS SOUTHWALL SCOTT, *Business* Johnson City, Tenn.
 Omega Psi Phi
- MARTIN WALTER HAWKINS, *Fine Arts* Birmingham, Ala.
 Omega Psi Phi



- JAMES BUCHANAN HARRIS, *Business* Cleveland, Ohio
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- CHARLES JOHNSON DUNN, *Business* Monroe, Ga.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- CLAUDIUS ROSWELL JONES, *Journalism* Macon, Ga.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- HENRY JAMES CHARLES BOWDEN, *Ministry* Brunswick, Ga.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- THOMAS JAMES YARBROUGH, *Philosophy* Birmingham, Ala.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- ABRAHAM HENDRICKSON PEELER, *Teaching* High Point, N. C.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- QUENTIN THEODORE BOYD, *Business* Selma, Ala.
 Alpha Phi Alpha
- MONTAGUE LAY, *Medicine* Rome, Ga.
 Alpha Phi Alpha





“While the College had a way of emphasizing well-dressed, there was also communicated, ‘What you’re here to learn to reveal, you must remember, should not be put on your back, but in your head.’ The emphasis was on learning. It was on discovering and daring to be bold and courageous with integrity, without looking down on those who were less fortunate. The emphasis was on becoming strong in terms of the liberal arts, so that you can ‘lift as you climb,’ you can improve the situation of our people and leave it better than you found it.”

—Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter Sr.,
Dean of the Chapel, Professor of Religion, Archivist, and Curator—



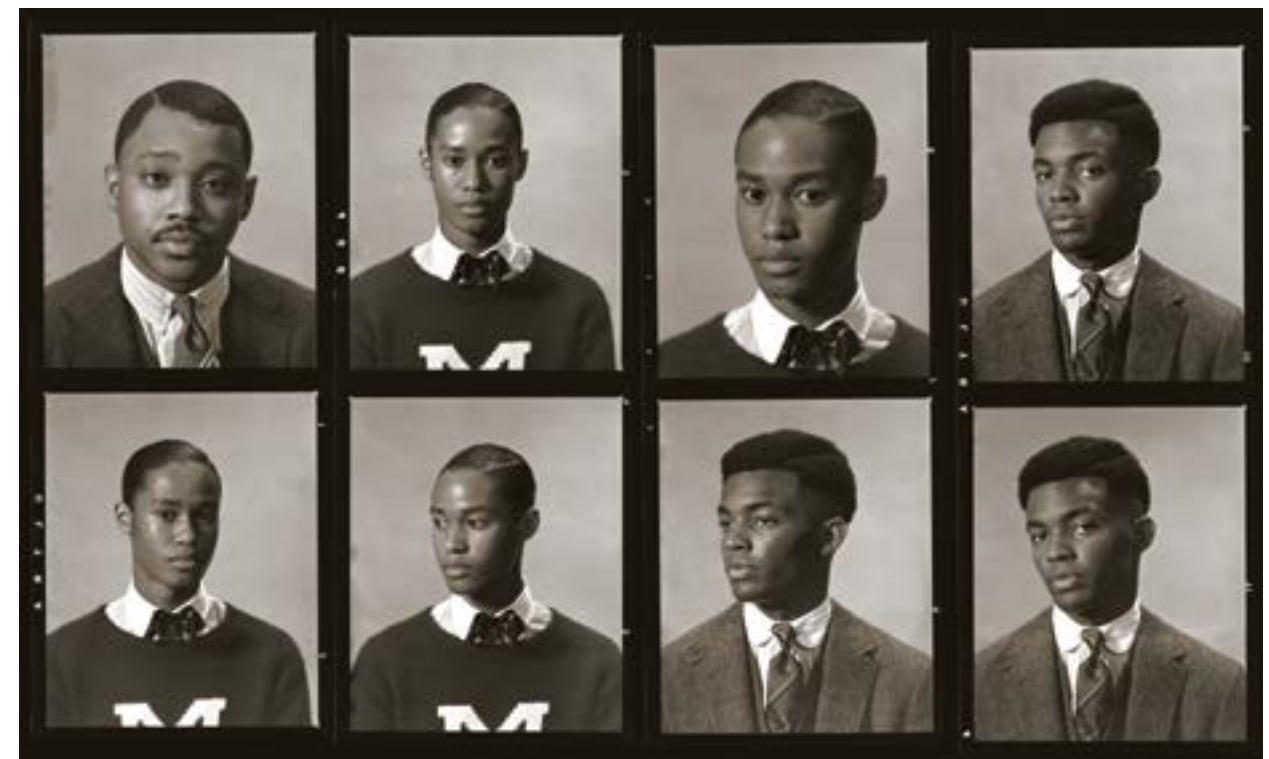
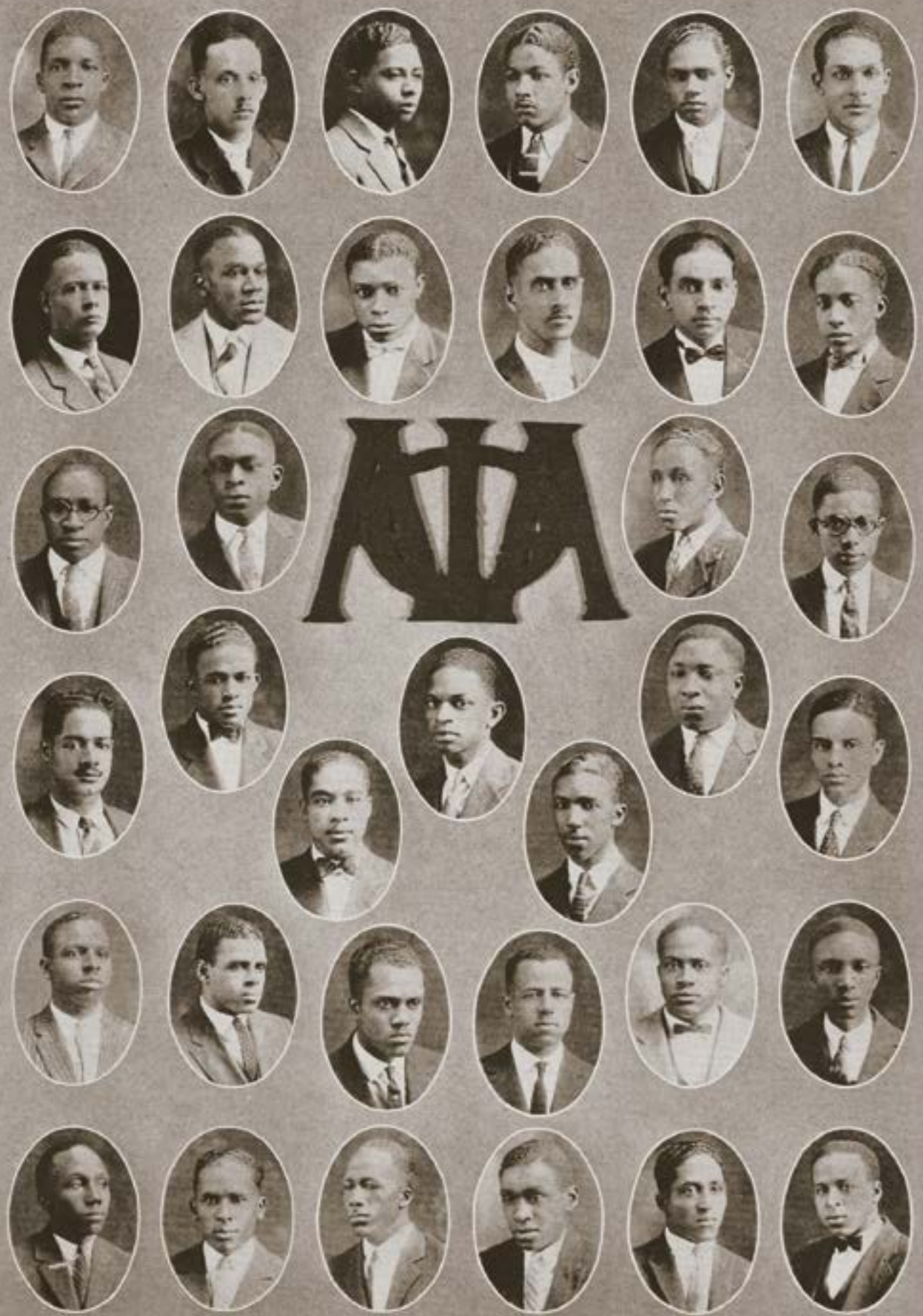


Kenneth C. Lewis Jr., Theatre and Performance Major,
Morehouse College Class of 2022



“The Yard holds the inexplicable magic of campus life, the places between lectures where students socialize and stretch to find who they want to become. Here, conversations are as enriching and as important as lessons found in the classroom.”

—James Marsalis Jeter, Morehouse College Class of 2013—



“All the photographs always picture the students very dignified, very serious, not smiling — and that was to contradict the Eurocentric stereotypes about scratching where you don’t itch, and shucking and jiving, and not being serious, because the situation wasn’t funny.”

—Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter Sr.,
Dean of the Chapel, Professor of Religion, Archivist, and Curator—

THE FIVE WELLS

WELL

READ

SPOKEN

TRAVELED

DRESSED

BALANCED

The Five Wells is a philosophy of living beyond the halls of academia. Distilled from the unique qualities of its distinguished leaders and alumni, these values are ingrained in each student and passed through generations.

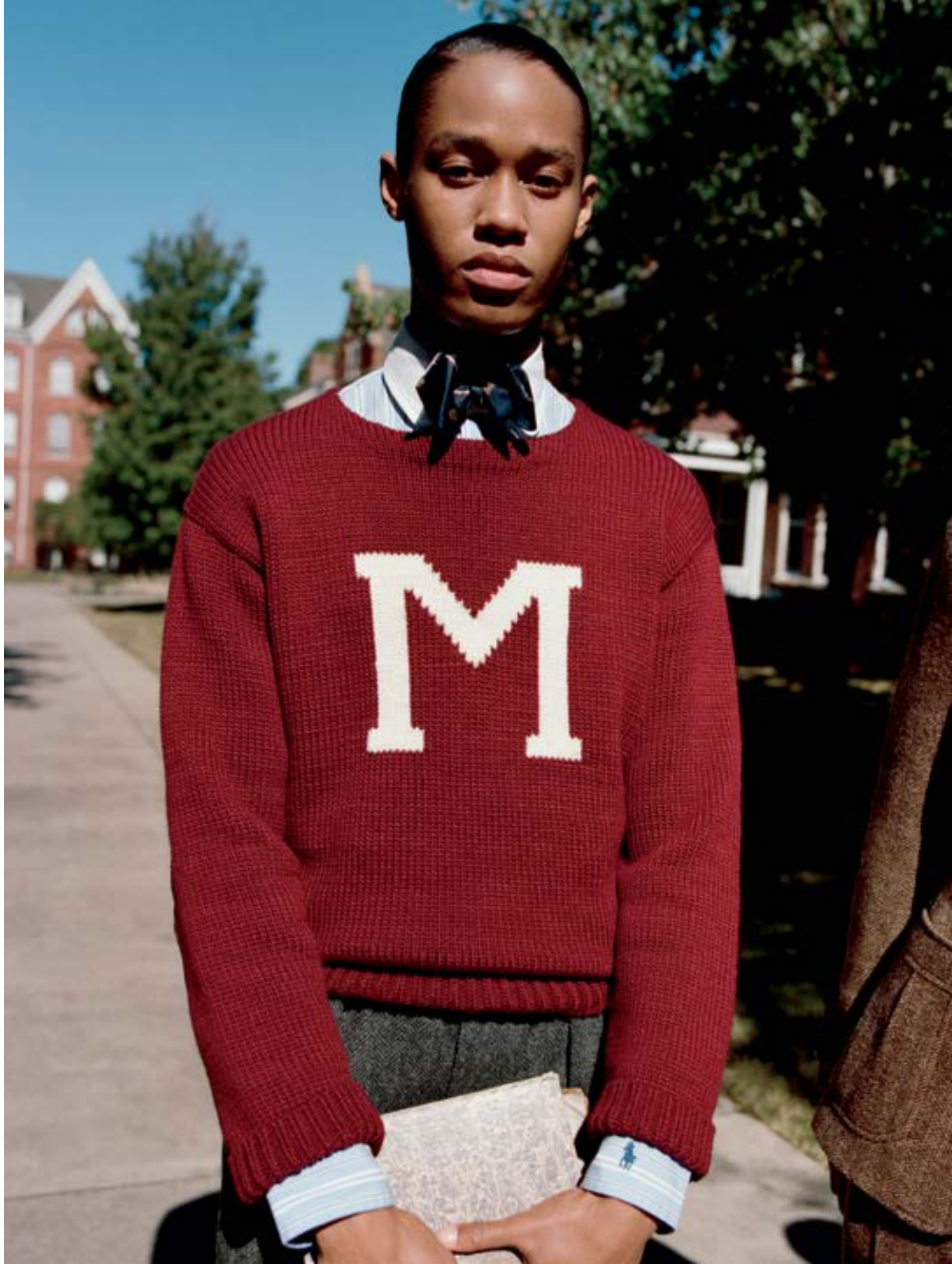
A Morehouse man exemplifies each of them to become “Renaissance men with social conscience and global perspective,” notes Dr. Robert M. Franklin, President Emeritus of Morehouse College, 2007–2012, Class of 1975.





“Et Facta Est Lux”—“And There Was Light”

—The Morehouse College Motto—





“One of the things that encouraged the learning, that motivated the students to understand what being on the campus was supposed to do for them, was related to this affirmation they got of their character, of their self-esteem.”

—Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter Sr., Dean of the Chapel,
Professor of Religion, Archivist, and Curator—





“Documenting Morehouse and Spelman in this way is important because it gives earned visibility to institutions that are too often figured as flat, overlooked for a rich culture that, in many ways, defines America.

It isn’t just about the clothes. It’s about the spaces and a history that is crucial to navigating the here and now.”

—Dr. David Wall Rice, Professor of Psychology, Morehouse College Class of 1995—



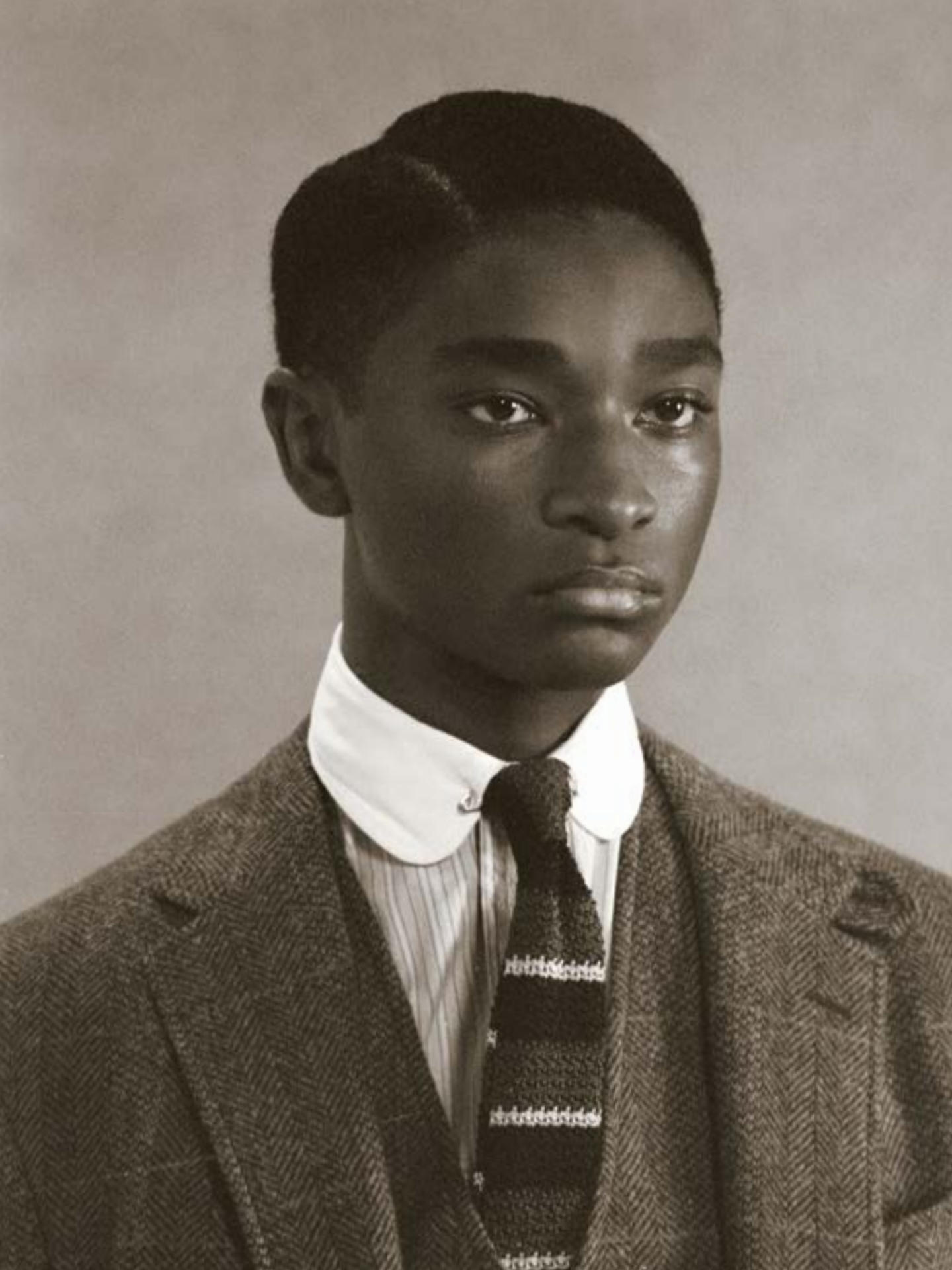








Dean Benjamin Griffith Brawley,
the first Dean of Morehouse College, 1912–1920
Morehouse College Class of 1901



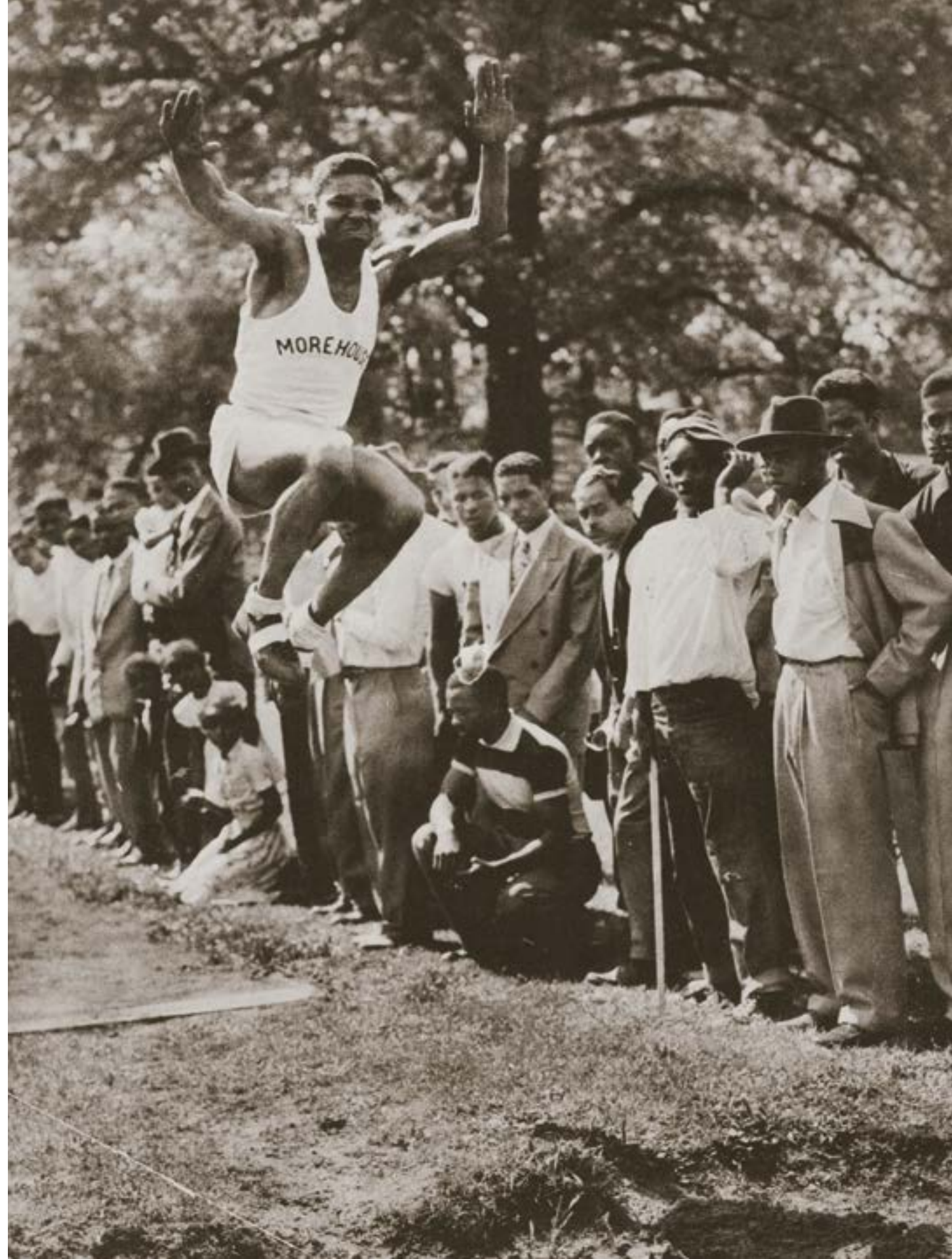
“It captures a time when Morehouse was speaking to the world about the future, projecting to a better, more inclusive embrace of humanity.”

—Dr. David Anthony Thomas, 12th President of Morehouse College—

MOREHOUSE ATHLETICS

Athletics is among the most longstanding and beloved collegiate traditions, unique in its capacity to teach lessons through physicality that no classroom could.

At Morehouse, there is special focus on teamwork, perseverance, and the ability for sport to instill within student scholars the necessary freedom to be more than an athlete.





“The history of Athletics at Morehouse College has its setting away back in the early 1890s.”

—*The Morehouse Tiger Yearbook, 1925*—









On Century Campus, in front of Sale Hall







"I was in a dual degree program at Morehouse and did my studies in physics.
I used science to develop a better training technique...
common sense based in scientific theory and application."

—Edwin Moses, Morehouse College Class of 1978, and Olympic Gold Medalist, 400-meter hurdles, 1976 and 1984—



TRACK



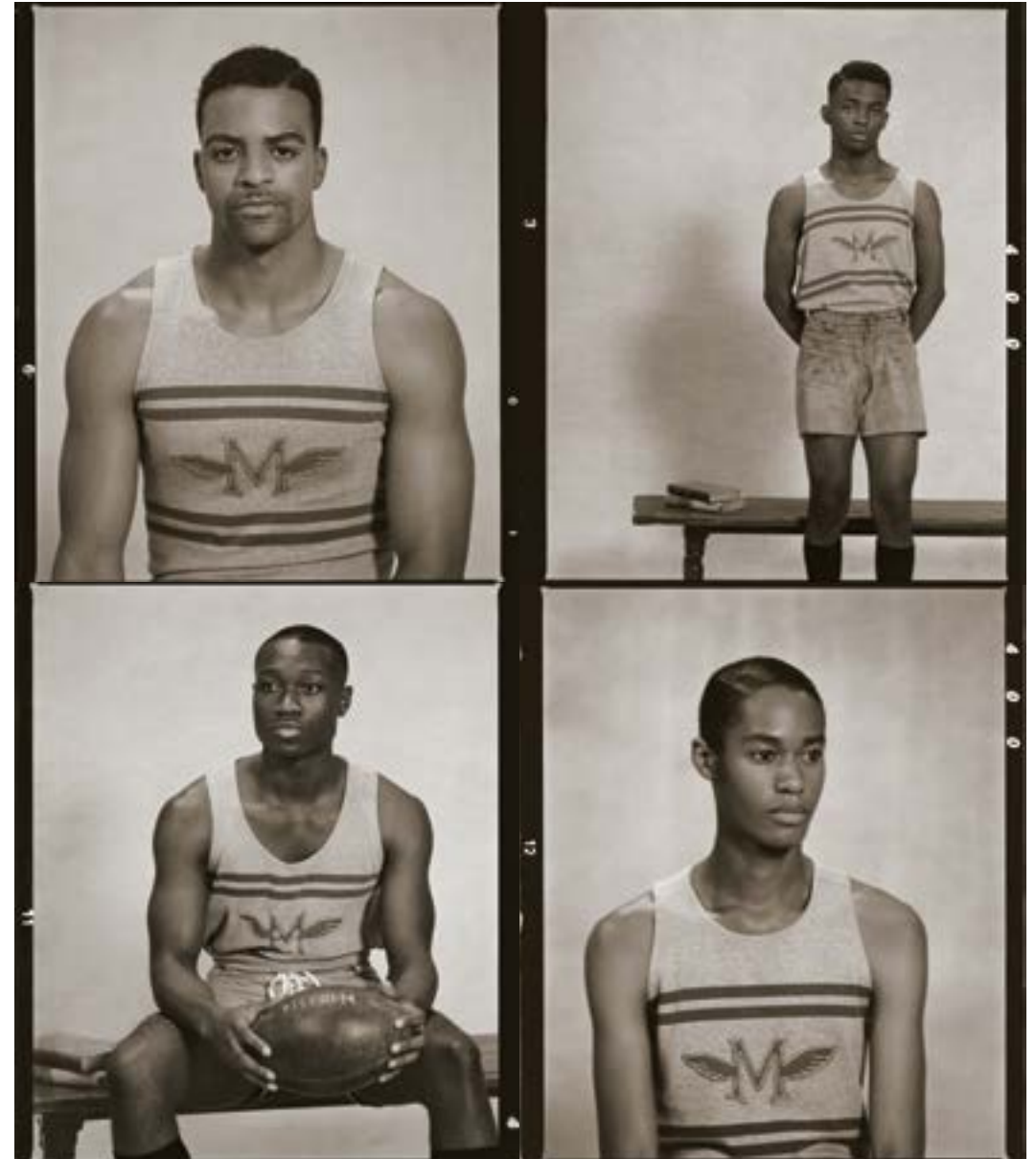
Morehouse has produced some of the most outstanding cinder path luminaries in the south. They have held records in almost all events and some are yet unbroken. The most famous individual stars are George Mitchell, '41; Joe Allen, '40; Ulysses Amos, '40; Ike Meadows, '38; James Haynes, '42; John Lewis, '40. As in the past, again at this time of year our hopes soar as we proudly look at our records and visualize this season's "Tiger" track representatives who will proudly bear the Maroon and White colors to unknown heights.



Wilbur Jones



Calvin Smith



Above: Inspired by the "M" Club from The Torch Yearbook, 1943



Left: An homage to both Morehouse College and Ralph Lauren, "67" honors the founding of Morehouse in 1867 and Polo Ralph Lauren in 1967

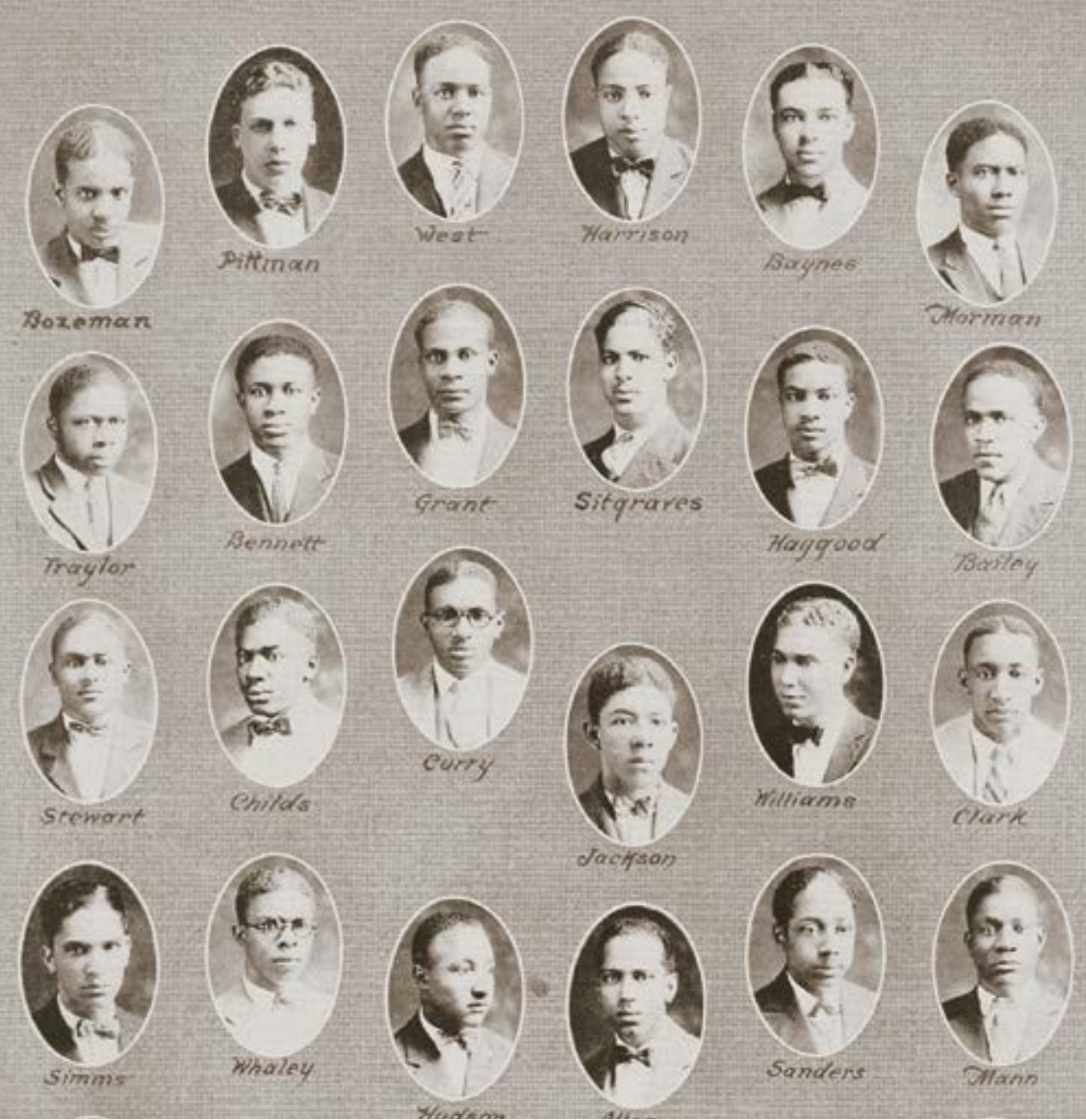


“Over the heads of her students, Morehouse holds a crown that she challenges them to grow tall enough to wear.”

—Howard Thurman, *Morehouse College Class of 1923*, translating the weight of a Morehouse College education as communicated by John Hope during chapel. Hope was the fourth President of Morehouse College, 1906–1931.—

The right work that is demanded of a Morehouse College student and graduate is bound in the process toward wearing the Crown. Noted theologian Howard Thurman popularized this concept of excellence not to suggest hollow ornamentation, but to emphasize a never-ending obligation to do the work of goodness and community.





Nodding to the legacy of the Morehouse Blazer, a tailored jacket exclusively designed for this Collection is embellished with “Et Facta Est Lux” — “And There Was Light” — the Morehouse Motto. Through the symbol of a torch, this reflects education’s unique power to enlighten and the duty of Morehouse men to carry it forward through leadership and service.

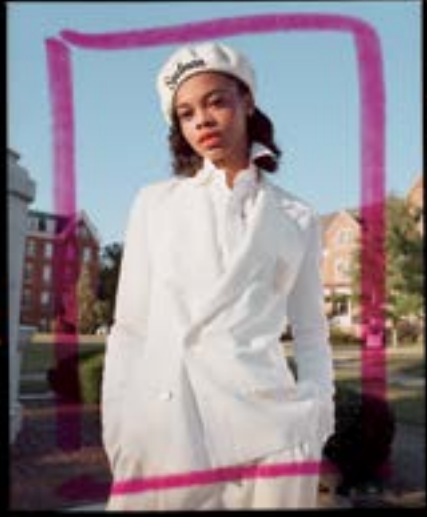




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Spelman College has long emphasized the health and wellness of its students, extending beyond any court, track, or stadium and into their everyday lives. A departure from formal, organized sports has allowed for a deeper investment in the wellness of every woman gracing its campus.





“An education that teaches you
to understand something about the world
has done only half of the assignment.

The other half is to teach you to do something
about making the world a better place.”

—Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, President Emerita of Spelman College, 1987–1997—

A HISTORY OF SPELMAN COLLEGE

Founded in 1881 as the Atlanta Baptist Female Seminary in the basement of Friendship Baptist Church, by Sophia B. Packard and Harriet E. Giles with just one Bible and \$100, the institution became Spelman College in 1924.

The College empowers women to engage in the many cultures of the world and inspires a commitment to positive social change through service, dedicated to academic excellence in the liberal arts and sciences and the intellectual, creative, ethical, and leadership development of its students.

Through a lifelong sisterhood, elders ingrain a dauntless spirit within the next generation of Spelman graduates as they begin on their path of global engagement.





“The impact of Black feminist thinking and writing permeates Black communities and culture...”

—Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Professor of Women’s Studies, Spelman College Class of 1966—











The Spelman Hymn

Spel - men thy name we praise
Standards and honor raise
We are so faithful be
Through out eter - ni - ty
May peace with thee abide
and God for ever bind
Our hearts su - preme and true
Bless - ings to you





“Education is for improving the lives of others
and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.”

—Marian Wright Edelman, Spelman College Class of 1960—



"A Choice to Change the World"

—The Spelman College Tagline—



Emma Jean Franklin
Home Economics



Fannie Ruth Gilbert
Social Science, English



Johnnie Mae Hall
History, English



Barbara Jean Ingram
Psychology, Biology



Ernestine Jackson
Home Economics



Gertrude Yvonne Ketchum
Social Science, History



Dwendolyn King
Biology, History



Jacqueline Jean Kirby
Social Science, Psychology



Glorja Rosalyn Knight
Biology, History





“The Spelman sisterhood is more than just a social notion; it really is core to the values of what we believe our students will take with them when they graduate from here, and that is to understand that they have an education for themselves, but they also have a responsibility to a larger community.”

—Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, 10th President of Spelman College—







THE WHITE ATTIRE TRADITION

The wearing of white attire on designated official occasions is among the most well-respected and treasured hallmarks of Spelman College. In this tradition, white garments, unique yet coordinated, are proudly donned by students in tribute to the sisters who came before them.

The obligation for each Spelmanite to have a “respectable and conservative” white dress was established around 1900. During this period, a white dress was the attire most often used for formal occasions, establishing a uniformed appearance among those present and denoting the significance of the occasion. A pair of “sensible black shoes” and accompanying hosiery were among the other dress code requirements.

In the spirit of this tradition, all first-year students are required to wear this white dress ensemble for the New Student Orientation Induction Ceremony. All students are required to wear it when attending the Founders Day Convocation, and graduating seniors are required to wear this same attire underneath academic regalia for Founders Day, Class Day, Baccalaureate, and Commencement. To honor their abiding sisterhood, alumnae also follow this dress code when attending the Founders Day Convocation, related Founders Day activities hosted by alumnae and chapters of the Alumnae Association around the country, and for the March through the Alumnae Arch held during Reunion.







“The white dress ceremony goes back to the inception of the institution, over 100 years ago, when 123 students were instructed to bring a dress made of simple white cotton...”

“As alumnae, we still wear our white dress.
No matter where we are in the world, on Founder’s Day, we wear it as an homage to our past.”

—Dara Douglas, *Spelman College Class of 2003*—



The Granddaughters Club — founded in 1910 by Lucy H. Upton, Dean of Spelman Seminary and Acting President, 1891–1910 — is comprised of students with legacy connections to the College through grandmothers, mothers, aunts, cousins, and sisters.

These women are devoted to preserving the College's rich history and ensuring its traditions live on.





A point of entry into the next phase of life, the Alumnae Arch is a physical manifestation of a world of possibility and opportunity awaiting students once they depart from Spelman.

Ivy-laden and lingering over the heads of students throughout their tenure, the Arch stands as a perpetual motivator and a reminder of life's potential.





“I like to think of white attire as a symbol of solidarity, that we are going to dress in a way that expresses to the world: We are sisters; we are connected; we do have this responsibility for each other.”

—Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, 10th President of Spelman College—

Left: Spelman College students and alumnae holding a traditional banner

THE FORMAL

Changing format as generations come and go, formal traditions have remained a staple coming-of-age experience, from debutante balls and cotillions to Homecoming celebrations. No matter the occasion, these soirées blend the students of Morehouse and Spelman for an evening of revelry imbued with elegance and sophistication.

The Campaign's formalwear presentation pays tribute to the timeless white-tie attire of the early-to-mid 20th century, often depicted in archival texts of the Colleges.









“There were varied images of elegance that I found in my family photo albums growing up. The pictures gave me a full arc of Black beauty, a depth that many Black families found in similar collections of photographs. Of note were images of my mother and grandmother at cotillion balls, formal gatherings that celebrated good manners and polite habits. The clips of my family members in this context are important because they let me know that, no matter what the mainstream showed, Black people belonged. And that remains true.”

—James Marsalis Jeter, Morehouse College Class of 2013—





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



CONCEPTION & EDITING: James Marsalis Jeter
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YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPHY: Freddie L. Rankin II
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ARCHIVIST: Lawrence Edward Carter Sr.

SPELMAN COLLEGE

PRODUCTION: Ashli J. Washington
ARCHIVIST: Holly A. Smith

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Morehouse College and Spelman College, whose trust and passion unearthed extraordinary stories that transverse film, ink, and thread

Ralph Lauren, whose guiding vision, support, and resounding commitment to the American dream made all of this possible

The team at Ralph Lauren, including Maurice Brown, Mary Randolph Carter, Sarah Gentillon, David Oscroft, Michael Rider, Sabrina Tager, Christy Woodby, John Wrazej, and so many others

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Grace Ahn, Joyya Baines, Jadawnya Baker, Darian Bogie, Madison Bryant, Jalen Campbell, Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, Nicole Carr, Indi Clayton, Johnetta B. Cole, Kelli Daniels, Dr. Robert M. Franklin, Henry Goodgame, Dr. Beverly Guy-She tall, Aaliyah Hyde, RJ Jackson, Thea Johnson, Niyo Jones, Kendall Jones, Alexandra Kushel, Dr. Sarah E. Lewis, Kenneth C. Lewis Jr., Dimone Long, Mykal-Michele Longino, Caleb Nelson, Rosina Pang, Mideyah Parker, Dr. David Wall Rice, Franciele Santos, Dr. Karcheik Sims-Alvarado, Dr. David Thomas, Kasmere Trice, and Jerry Yekeh

Printed in Italy by Milani





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