

Homecoming

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Subject:

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FYI,

Here are some ideas on future Homecoming speakers to keep in mind. I had asked a friend at Bowling Green, KY for a reference on Dr. Carleton Jackson (guy who spoke on Hattie McDaniel this year) and she also provided a few other names we might consider down the road. Sherda

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m To: Sherda_Williams@nps.gov

cc:

03/16/2005 01:17 Subject: speaker, thumbs up w/ ?
PM EST

Hello Sherda of the High Plains:

I asked around about Prof. Jackson. I got positive responses w/ one question-what will he talk about? He is likable, has the ability to speak to nonacademic audiences, is on optional retirement, has longish hair, shuns suits and ties. His wife supposedly put him thru college by working in a hosiery mill. He finished a book for Zane Gray and wrote about Hattie McDaniels. He writes so that his manuscripts are accessible to many folks, not a selected few of academics. So what would you have him talk about at the homecoming at NICO?

Three more thoughts-alternatives that you may have already considered...

1. Jim Horton at Geo Washington U. Is a big buddy of Dwight Pithcaithly, wrote a nonacademic coffee table book that was popular in mid to late 90s on blacks in Am. Has been on TV many times. He would be good and loves the spotlight. Just remember that the cause of the Civil War was slavery. He is African Am. He has spoken at several NPS venues.

2. John Long, Prof of Religion, head of Dept., here at Western. Good speaker, popular, is currently researching to find out if any of the early slaves were Muslims. Was a minister or organizer in the 60s in Detroit. Wants equitable housing for low income folks in BG. Heard him speak at the Unitarians and he was interesting. I don't know him personally but he gets a good review from various sources. He is African Am. John.Long@wku.edu He is a serious dude whereas there is a light hearted ness that comes thru w/ Horton. I know Horton much better because I had him for 2 social history classes.

3. More expensive. A man named Hasan Davis portrays an African Am soldier during the C. War. He has done lots of Chataqua appearances in KY and is quite good. Also portrays York, the slave who went along the Lewis and Clark expedition. He lives in Louisville and works w/ troubled kids. Could find out contact info.

That's the news! Hope something helps. Gotta prep for a talk I'm giving tomorrow at a historic house museum on Irish cottage architecture. Happy St

Pat's Eileen