



A Publication of the Carter-Parramore High Alumni Scholarship Fund, Inc.
3415 W. Lake Mary Blvd., Unit 952528, Lake Mary, FL 32795

An Announcement of the 2022 Scholarship Recipients

by Kayla M. Hamilton

At the end of the spring semester of 2022 the Carter-Parramore High Alumni Scholarship Fund, Inc. made awards to three Gadsden County High graduates; Ayani Colston, Fonisia Fain and, Evoni Jenkins. We take this opportunity to share the following information about the members of our first class of award winners.

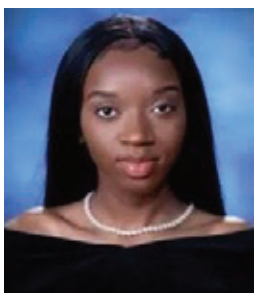


The first recipient (listed in alphabetical order) is **Ayani Colston**. As a student, she was involved in Varsity Cheerleading and Student Government. While in high school she had an opportunity to participate in Upward Bound at Florida State University. Ayani also worked at McDonalds and the Riverchase Health and Rehabilitation Center. One of her high school instructors stated that “Ayani is a model student and values the importance of receiving a quality education”. Ayani has a keen interest in children and has as a career goal that of working with children. Her experience of working with others has led her to explore issues related to mental health issues in children. This interest has led her to pursue a degree in child psychology and psychiatry. It is her passion to change the world by assisting children before they go into the world.



Our second recipient is **Fonisia Fain**. While in high school she was involved in student government as well as community service activities. As a high school student, she also enrolled in several courses at Tallahassee Community College as a dual enrollment student. In addition, Fonisia was a teaching assistant and was on the Honor Roll and President’s List. One comment in her recommendation noted her creativity and enthusiasm. Specifically, it was stated “She is a class act! She has the dedication to go the distance”. The time spent at Tallahassee Community College led Fonisia to select a major in nursing. During her time at Gadsden County High, she participated in a nursing assistant class that prepared her to be a nursing assistant. She also participated in

the Florida State University’s SSTRIDE program that allowed high school students the opportunity to gain experience in the health care field.



Our third recipient is **Evoni Jenkins**. While in school Evoni participated in Track and Field, Volleyball, and Flag Football as well as Student Government. During the summers in high school she was a member of the 21st Century Summer program. While a student in high school Evoni took classes at Tallahassee Community College under the dual enrollment program and received an AA degree in June 2022. She was also on the Dean’s List. Her recommendation noted her leadership and teamwork qualities, her positive attitude and the support of her peers. Evoni’s passion is mathematics. She recognized her love of the subject at a young age. She wants to use that passion for mathematics to earn a degree in accounting. After her time at FSU, Evoni also

wants to continue her studies and earn a Master’s Degree. Her goal is to use her knowledge and bring to her community information about financial literacy and to ensure that future generations will benefit from her achievement.

This article was written by Kayla M. Hamilton. Kayla is a recent addition to the Board of Directors and currently serves as the Director of Housing at Emory University. She resides in Atlanta, GA.

From the Desk of the President

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I am pleased to announce the addition of three new members to our Board of Directors. They are:

Ms. Marilyn Gunn Smith. Ms. Smith is a 1966 graduate of Carter-Parramore High. She received a B.S. Degree from Florida A&M University. Her career path included positions at Shands Teaching Hospital & Clinics, Inc., the Florida Department of Administration, the State University System Board of Regents and with Shands HealthCare. She recently retired and currently resides in Gainesville, FL.

Mrs. Edna L. Cofield. Mrs. Cofield received B.S. and M.S. Degrees from Florida A&M University, and a M.S. Degree from Capella University, Minneapolis, MN. She has more than 20-years of experience in administrating STEM (science, technology engineering and mathematics) educational programs at the high school and collegiate levels. She recently retired and currently resides in Tallahassee, FL.

Ms. Kayla M. Hamilton. Ms. Hamilton is a graduate of Benjamin Mays High School (Atlanta, GA), Duke University (B.A.), Durham, NC and the University of Georgia (M.A.), Athens, GA. She has worked for more than twenty years in University Housing at locations that include the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Appalachian State University (Boone, NC) and the University of California at Berkeley. Currently, she is employed as the Director of Residence Life at Emory University, Atlanta, GA and is a resident of Atlanta, GA.

As you see in the cover story, the Board of Directors of the Carter Parramore High Alumni Scholarship Fund, Inc. presented its first scholarship awards totaling \$7,500 to three 2022 graduating seniors of Gadsden County High School. Mrs. Eunice Davis presented the awards to Ms. Ayani L. Colston (class Valedictorian), Ms. Evoni R. Jenkins and Ms. Fonesia M. Fain. With much fanfare and excitement, the awards were accepted by the students. Each of them has enrolled at Florida State University for the Fall term

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the generous contribution to the C-P Alumni Scholarship Fund (the Fund) made by the Centennial Bank, Pat Thomas Pkwy, Quincy, FL. The Centennial Bank organization has a strong commitment to the communities it serves through its involvement with and support of local charities. That commitment helped, in a measurable way, and assisted in providing support to the scholarship recipients in the 2022 class of Gadsden County High School.

In closing, I offer thanks to the countless individuals who made contributions to the C-P Alumni Scholarship Fund over the course of the past year and a half. Through your collective efforts, the Fund awarded scholarship support to three 2022 graduate of Gadsden County High School (GCHS). We have initiated plans to provide awards to selected graduates in the 2023 GCHS class. We would very much like to offer awards to a greater number of graduating seniors. Your tax deductible contributions will help make that possible.

Franklin D. Hamilton



Figure 1. School Class Portrait, Old Mitchell Hall, West Clark St., Quincy, FL Dated: 1914, with Rev. Cupid A. Whitfield, Ephrom Jacob and Mrs. Leila Jones Preston. State Library and Archives of Florida, Tallahassee, FL. [3]

PART II: The Pivotal Role Played by Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald in Educating Black Youth in 15 Southern States of America

by James Lloyd Milton



Part II [In Part I, the education of Black students was reviewed briefly from the period at the end of the Civil War to the year 1913. There had been 48 years, with only minor progress with education in the Black community. With the construction of Rosenwald Schools beginning in 1913, there was, slowly, a change in attitudes regarding the in education of Black students].

Scope of Their Accomplishments. Information [1] on 15 Southern states [in alphabetical order] is included in this article: AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA and WV [with some schoolhouses that were located in MO. In the early years of construction, Booker T. Washington [hereafter referred to as Washington] utilized the infrastructure at Tuskegee to architect school buildings, work with local Black communities and project manage local construction of the buildings. While Black communities did not have very much cash, they could provide the land, sweat equity and they also raised millions of dollars during the two-decades that schools were

constructed. These new schools were a source of progress and major pride for Black communities. Sometimes, local Whites contributed to the effort, as they recognized the benefits of the schools for their towns. Washington died in 1915; his educational concepts were deep-rooted and endured. In 1919, Julius Rosenwald [hereafter referred to as JR] hired Fletcher B. Dresslar, a professor of educational architecture at George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, to conduct a study [1] of the 600+ school buildings that had been constructed. Dresslar found that not all schools met local building standards. Local builders had made non-approved changes, used shoddy products and workmanship, and cut corners. Tuskegee had found it difficult to project manage the large number of construction activities, scattered across such great distances. JR responded to this weakness by managing the construction effort in-house, at the Rosenwald Fund. Margaret Washington [Booker T.'s widow] and Robert Morton [Tuskegee's new president] objected to this action. The rate of construction [1] for schoolhouses was high during the 1920s: over 400 a year! In 1927, Rosenwald

received a special gold medal from William E. Harmon Awards for Distinguished Achievement in Race Relations for his contributions to the education of Black youth.

By 1932, schools constructed using some Rosenwald Foundation funds accommodated a third [1] of the Black school population across 15 Southern states. There were some 15,000 teachers giving instruction to 650,000 Black students in Rosenwald-sponsored schools, in every county in the South with a sizable Black population. Per independent studies, Rosenwald-funded schools, architected by Tuskegee, provided superior education, and students learned faster. When the two-decade program ceased in 1932, over 5300 schools, teacher's homes, and buildings had been constructed [1] in 883 counties. NC had the largest number of Rosenwald Funded schools at 813; with TX and SC with ~500 each. JR held education in high regard and considered it key to African American progress, even though he had not finished high school himself. JR had completed two years of high school; then he dropped out and did a six-year apprenticeship with his Hammerslough uncles in NYC. The uncles were major manufacturers and retailers in the clothing business. JR would benefit from this apprenticeship later in life as one of the founders of Sears, Roebuck and Co.

Rosenwald recognized that support for Black educational opportunities in the South was compromised [1] by racial policies and White supremacy. In his initial effort, JR provided support for the construction of few schools in an AL county near Tuskegee with no/few schools for Black students. Later, JR provided funds for the construction of rural schools and for teacher salaries—as well as school supplies across the 15-state region. This was at a time when the Southern government [local, state, federal] had literally abdicated the role of funding Black student education. The Rosenwald School construction effort was launched some 48+ years following the Civil War! Washington is reported to have stated that it was Rosenwald's initiative that made local and state governments aware of their role in funding Black student education. In 1912, Washington also reported that, about half of the children in school in AL were Black. The AL state government allocated \$2M for Whites students and \$0.35M for Black children. In 1896, the US Supreme Court decided Plessy v. Ferguson case, yielding the “separate but equal” doctrine. This ruling

reinforced segregationist conditions, but did not result in equal funding for the education of Black students. Jim Crow reigned. With time however, the newly constructed facilities for Black communities going forward however, would become county owned/funded schools, representing a significantly improvement for the education of in Black students.

Both Washington and JR are significantly underrated in the roles they played in educating Black youth in the American rural South. The Rosenwald Foundation [1] sponsored teacher training programs for Rosenwald Schools, bussing programs, construction of 22 black YMCA/YWCA buildings, construction of rural libraries for Black and White alike, medical care and the training of medical professionals, race-improving fellowships, NAACP, National Urban League and emerging Black colleges. The Foundation also provided a third of funding for the litigation of the May, 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education Supreme Court case that ruled that separate education for Blacks was inherently unequal, and therefore, unconstitutional. JR died in 1932.

A Postscript on Gadsden County, FL. In rural communities [2] outside Quincy, typically there was a “one room” building that doubled as a church on Sunday and school during the week. Frequently, the family of the students attending schools paid the teacher's salary of ~\$15/family-year. Many rural communities had large landowners. They frequently provided a small building for church and school for their Black family workers, and other families from nearby smaller farms. Many of these buildings existed until the early 1930s, when the Rosenwald Foundation built [2] new schools for Black students in Gadsden County. Without public transportation, students walked to school. You will recall from Part I, that Black students living in Quincy went to school in the Old Mitchell Hall, located on West Clark Street. A 1914 photo of the facility and class is included from Reference [3]. This photo includes Rev. Cupid A. Whitmore, Ephrom Jacob and Mrs. Leila Jones Preston. [Some of our native Quincy readers might look closely at Figure 1 and see a youthful future grandma or grandpa.] In 1919, Odd Fellow's Hall on South Duval Street became the school for Blacks. Members of the Quincy Historical Preservation [2] provided the opinion that Odd Fellow's Hall was renamed Dunbar High School. It was named

after the Black poet, Paul Lawrence Dunbar. The school was partially funded by the Rosenwald Foundation and enrolled grades 1-12. The building became undersized by 100+ seats and was eventually sold. Sanborn Map data [4] showed the existence of the Dunbar High School in 1922; but not there in 1913. No map data existed between 1913 and 1922. However, the Florida Archive suggested that Dunbar had to have been after the school's move date to Odd Fellow's Hall in 1919. So, it seems to have come into existence between 1919 and 1922. Nonetheless, Dunbar High School and afterward, Stevens High School were the schools for Black students from 1919+ to 1956.

The name of Dunbar High School was changed to Stevens High School [5] upon reopening in 1929 as Gadsden County's high school, serving Black students. Dr. W. S. Stevens, a physician, was named Supervisor of the Quincy Schools in 1914, and he was one of the most outstanding leaders of the Black community in northwest Florida. Dr. Stevens had overseen a four-year expansion [2,5,6] of Dunbar High School; it was then renamed in his honor. Dr. Stevens' school supervisory tenure of the school system for Black students from 1914-1949 significantly overlapped the Rosenwald schoolhouse building effort, 1912-1932.

In the writer's community, Sawdust, the local public school was moved to merged with Salem Elementary in 1950 in Greensboro, launching his bussing era. Stevens High was replaced in 1955 with Carter-Parramore High School. The old Stevens High School building burned on 26 Mar 2017. Communication of September 2021, with Stephanie Deutsch [1] provided information contained in the Fisk University database on Rosenwald Schools in Florida between 1912 to 1932: The database showed a total of 121 schools [Gadsden County 7 schools, Leon County 8], 1 teacher's home, and 4 shop buildings. The location & application sequence of where the seven Gadsden County Rosenwald Schools [7] are shown by: **Budget Year School/Application #:** 1923-24 Shiloh Elementary/5-C, Salem Elementary/7-E, Oak Grove Elementary/10-C; 1925-26 Gretna Elementary/7-E; 1926-27 Midway Elementary/8-F; 1927-28 Chattahoochee Elementary/9-G; and 1928-29 Stevens High School/37-H. Reference [7] serves as the definitive source on Rosenwald Schools. Note that even though Dunbar High was the first Rosenwald

School in Gadsden County [2,5]; it was sold [6] by the Gadsden County School Board in early 1928 to help fund Stevens High School. To seek Rosenwald support, Black communities had to petition the School Board with demonstrated local support, plans and in-hand funding sources. Once the word spread about Washington's AL school initiative, Black communities wanted a Rosenwald School to help facilitate their children's educational process. After all, it had been over 55 years since the Civil War ended, and educational progress had been poor.

Death of Washington, 14 Nov 1915. Following the death of Washington, Robert Russa Morton was elected president and held the position for 20 years. He was an 1890 graduate of Hampton and a friend of Washington. JR had initially supported the appointment of Washington's secretary, Emmett Scott. He relented and agreed to support Morton after receiving a strong letter supporting Morton from ex-president Theodore Roosevelt. Margaret Washington [Booker T's widow] also supported new blood.

Death of JR, 6 Jan 1932. JR's last years were plagued by two distinct, exogenous shocks: illness, and the Great Depression. Both were overwhelming. Note the timing of the Great Depression [8], Aug 1929 to Mar 1933. Most of JR's wealth was tied up in Sears, Roebuck and Co. stock. When he died, his net worth was ~\$80M [~\$1.58B today [8]].

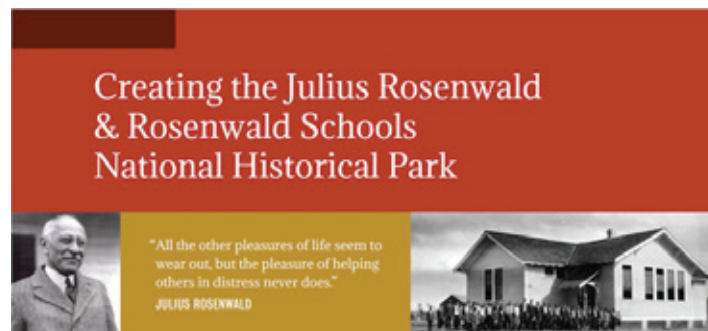
Some Rationale. In addition to helping Black communities, which was working on pent-up-schooling demands, Washington needed a new source of students and to expand Tuskegee's impact. The construction of new schoolhouses for Black communities provided a ready solution. New schoolhouses solved several of Washington's problems. The motivation for JR's commitment was a bit more complex. First, his Jewish upbringing [1] had taught him to value "tzedakah", to use his resources to help others and the community. His efforts were given out of respect for justice. Second, because Jews were so often victims of persecution in Europe, and prejudice in the US. He cared for members of his community. Third, JR had read newspapers and Washington's bestseller book on Up from Slavery. Riots occurred in larger cities. From this knowledge, he made the historical connection with the way Jews had been treated. Upon meeting Washington

and engaging Tuskegee, he found a vehicle to work on mutual interest in support of the Black community. And fourth, Black communities were already working on the denied forebears' schooling issues. JR joined that effort.

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The research for and writing of this article was performed by J. Lloyd Milton. Milton was born and raised in Gadsden County, FL; graduated from Carter-Parramore High in 1960; attended a 2-year pre-engineering program at FAMU; graduated Howard, Univ., (Washington, DC), with a B.S.M.E., and the Univ. of Massachusetts (Amherst) with an M.S.M.E. and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. He had a successful, 27-year industrial R&D career at Bell Laboratories and AT&T in Ohio and New Jersey, retiring in 2000. He and his wife Martha currently reside in the Tampa Bay Area. The author wishes to express his sincere thanks to Dr. Dorothy Canter, Mrs. Stephanie Deutsch, Ms. Isabella M. Folmar and Ms. Dixon D. Gutierrez for providing vital historical information for this article; and thanks to Editor Et Al LLC, Lake Mary, FL for editorial support.



HAPPY 160th BIRTHDAY, JULIUS ROSENWALD!

by **Stephanie Deutsch**

One hundred and ten years ago today, Julius Rosenwald chose an unusual way to celebrate his fiftieth birthday, one that says a lot about the kind of man he was. On August 12, 1912, the Chicago Record-Herald announced that to mark his first half-century the president of Sears, Roebuck was making charitable donations totaling \$687,500 – an amount equivalent to \$17 million in today's dollars. The paper ran a cartoon showing Rosenwald holding a bag of money next to a sign with a slogan that had been invented for the occasion – “Give while you live.”

The recipients of these generous contributions were varied. There were two major gifts – \$250,000 went to the Associated Jewish Charities, of whose board he was president, for a new Central Administration Building. A second gift of \$250,000 went to the University of Chicago on whose board he also served. This was a matching grant and resulted in, among other things, a new building for the Geology and Geography Department.

Other gifts went to create a country retreat for urban social workers, a plan recommended by his good friend



Jane Addams; for a gymnasium for the Chicago Hebrew Institute; to compete a new building for a Jewish orphanage in Chicago; a matching grant towards a new tuberculosis sanitarium; and \$12,500 for the Glenwood Manual

Training School to enable them to add a farm to the boarding school for impoverished youth.

The final gift – of \$25,000 – went to establish a fund, to be administered by Booker T. Washington, to provide matching grants to small schools and colleges, “offshoots of Tuskegee,” for training African American teachers. It was from this gift that, at Washington’s suggestion, \$2,800 was put aside for matching grants for the first six small schoolhouses in rural Alabama that led to the construction of 5,357 Rosenwald schools, teacher homes and shop buildings in 15 southern states between 1912 and 1932.

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Dr. Dorothy Canter leads the Rosenwald Park Campaign effort to create the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park. Legislation was passed in late 2020 and signed into law in early January 2021 directing the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct a special resource study of the sites associated with Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools. The NPS expects that the complete study and recommendations will be submitted to Congress in early 2024. The Campaign hopes that Congress will initiate the legislation to create the National Park with a visitor center in Chicago and a small number of Rosenwald schools shortly thereafter. This National Park would commemorate the legacy of Julius Rosenwald and tell a little known but key aspect of early 20th century American history. For more information visit: rosenwaldpark.org.

Peter Ascoli wrote the definitive biography of his grandfather, whom he called JR. “What distinguishes JR from Carnegie and Rockefeller,” Ascoli writes,

“is his comparative youth, his lack of corporate ruthlessness or bullying, and the fact that he started donating large sums of money while he was still very active in business. Both Rockefeller and Carnegie gave away the vast bulk of their fortunes after they had retired. JR was far from retired, but already in 1912, philanthropy, rather than business, was becoming the true interest and passion of his life.”

Julius Rosenwald’s approach to philanthropy was a reflection of the kind of person he was – collaborative rather than authoritarian, generous, genuinely modest. He declined the honor of having things named for him (Rosenwald Hall at the University of Chicago was a rare exception), yet insisted that his gifts not be anonymous. By attaching your name to your donations, he maintained, you show your community where you stand and what you value. On his 50th birthday one hundred and ten years ago Julius Rosenwald did just that.

Happy birthday JR!

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