

GOBLE JOHNSON

ಾನ್ಯ. Statue & Scholarship Dedication Ceremony

August 25, 2018 11 a.m.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to West Virginia State University!

Today we have the rare opportunity to attach ourselves to a truly historic moment as we dedicate a scholarship and unveil a statue of Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson. What a privilege it is to welcome Katherine and her family back to campus to celebrate this remarkable woman and proud alumna of West Virginia State University.

We are extremely proud of our rich and storied history as well as all of our alumni, like Katherine, who have been at the forefront of many groundbreaking moments in American history. Today, we join together to celebrate the lasting contributions and enduring legacy of this American icon.

This life-size bronze statue placed on our University quad will serve as an inspiration to current and future students of all that is possible through dedication, hard work and perseverance. We are honored to have this statue of Katherine as a part of our campus and as a constant reminder of her distinguished life. Her pioneering work as a "computer" at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) and later at NASA helped America win the space race and land a man on the moon. Even with all of her significant accomplishments, Katherine remains humble and has never forgotten her West Virginia roots and the faculty and mentors from West Virginia State who encouraged her and helped her overcome the barriers faced by a young African-American woman in the mid-twentieth century.

As we embarked on this quest to honor Katherine, it was her wish that any effort we undertake be of benefit to students of the University. Thus, we are humbled to also announce and celebrate today the establishment of the Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson Scholarship. This scholarship will benefit students with a strong interest in pursuing a STEM field of study. Johnson Scholars will be encouraged to participate in undergraduate research as well as outreach to students in area K-12 schools to promote interest in STEM fields, helping both current and future WVSU students make their dreams a reality. Through this endowed scholarship, countless future generations of students will have the opportunity to pursue their own dreams and to reach for the stars.

On behalf of the West Virginia State University family, it is with gratitude and appreciation that we offer a congratulatory salute to Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson for her pioneering work and for showing that any dream is obtainable through dedication, self-confidence, and resolve.

GO STATE!

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.

President

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KATHERINE COLEMAN GOBLE JOHNSON STATUE AND SCHOLARSHIP DEDICATION CEREMONY

MONTCLAIRE STRING QUARTET

WELCOME

Patricia J. Schumann, Mistress of Ceremonies

POSTING OF COLORS AND SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Yellow Jacket Battalion Color Guard United States Army ROTC

> Cedrick Farmer Mr. State

RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Yvonne Darlene Cagle, M.D. (Colonel, U.S. Air Force, Ret.) Space and Life Sciences Directorate, Johnson Space Center

STUDENT SPEAKER

Tat'ana Dillard-Sims, STEM Scholar

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY STATE SINGERS

My Home Among the Hills, E.W. James, Jr.

Lift Every Voice and Sing, James Weldon Johnson

DEDICATION OF THE KATHERINE COLEMAN GOBLE JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP

Mark W. Kelley, Esq., Past Chair, West Virginia State University Foundation

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D., President, West Virginia State University

Joylette Hylick and Katherine Moore Daughters of Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson

> Jasiaha Daniels, Scholarship Recipient Alexis Scudero, Scholarship Recipient

UNVEILING OF THE STATUE

Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D., President, West Virginia State University

Laurie Hylick Braxton, Troy Hylick, Doug Boykin, Greg Boykin, Michele Boykin Sanders, Michael Moore Grandchildren of Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson

RESPONSE FROM THE FAMILY

Joylette Hylick and Katherine Moore

CLOSING REMARKS

ALMA MATER

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YVONNE DARLENE CAGLE, M.D.

(Colonel, U.S. AIR FORCE, RET.)

Space and Life Sciences Directorate Johnson Space Center

Point, N.Y., but considers Novato, Calif., to be her hometown. She is a graduate of Novato High School and received a Bachelor of Arts in Biochemistry from San Francisco State University in 1981 and a Doctorate in Medicine from the University of Washington in 1985.

Cagle's medical training was sponsored by the Health Professions Scholarship Program, through which she received her commission as an officer with the U.S. Air Force, and subsequently was awarded her board certification in family practice. During her initial active duty tour at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, she was selected to attend the School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas. In April 1988, she became certified as a flight surgeon logging numerous hours in a wide range of aircraft.

During May 1989, while a flight surgeon assigned to the 48th Tactical Hospital, United Kingdom, Cagle volunteered to serve as the Air Force Medical Liaison Officer for the STS-30 Atlantis shuttle mission to test the Magellan spacecraft. She was assigned to the Trans Atlantic Landing (TAL) site at Banjul, West Africa, to provide emergency rescue and evacuation of the shuttle crew should it have been required. Cagle has contributed ongoing data to the Longitudinal Study on Astronaut Health, and served as a consultant for space telemedicine. She was a member of the NASA Working Group and traveled to Russia to establish international medical standards and procedures for astronauts. She also conducted health screenings of Mir-18 consultants from the Russian Federation.

From 1994 to 1996, Cagle served as the Deputy Project Manager for Kelsey-Seybold Clinics, practicing as an occupational physician at NASA's Johnson Space Center's Occupational Health Clinic, in Houston. In addition to conducting job-related exams, routine health screenings, and providing acute care for onsite injuries and illness, she designed the medical protocols and conducted the screenings for select NASA remote duty operations.

Selected by NASA in April 1996, Cagle reported to NASA's Johnson Space Center, located in Houston, in August 1996. She completed two years of training and evaluation, and is qualified for flight assignment as a mission specialist. Initially assigned to the Astronaut Office Operations Planning branch, supporting the Space Shuttle Program and International Space Station, followed by a special assignment to NASA's Ames Research Center.

Prior assignments include the lead ARC Astronaut Science Liaison and Strategic Relationships Manager for Google and other Silicon Valley Programmatic Partnerships. Cagle's groundbreaking work is preserving historic NASA space legacy data while, simultaneously, galvanizing NASA's lead in global mapping, sustainable energies, green initiatives and disaster preparedness.

Cagle is a consulting professor for Stanford University's Department of Cardiovascular Medicine and to the Department of Electrical Engineering, where she has conducted and published research on various biotechnologies. She is on the Advisory Committee for the National Center for Human Performance at the Texas Medical Center.

In 2017, Cagle escorted Katherine Johnson onto the stage of the 89th Academy Awards in Hollywood, Calif. Johnson had been portrayed in the movie "Hidden Figures."



The Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson Scholarship will honor the legacy of one of West Virginia State University's most distinguished graduates by providing scholarship support for students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Building upon Katherine Johnson's legacy as a pioneer in mathematics and WVSU's strong record of accomplishment in education and the sciences, this scholarship will benefit students majoring in STEM fields, with emphasis on assisting talented individuals who are underrepresented in those fields, as Johnson was.

Throughout her distinguished career, Johnson never forgot her roots in West Virginia and the teachers and mentors who encouraged and helped her overcome the barriers faced by a young African-American woman in the mid-twentieth century. Her wish is that any effort that bears her name help create opportunities for the next generation of scholars, researchers and leaders.

Johnson Scholars will be chosen based on financial need, academic excellence, proven potential for success, and a strong interest in pursuing a STEM field of study. First preference will go to students from West Virginia. Johnson Scholars will be encouraged to participate in undergraduate research as well as outreach to students in area K-12 schools to promote interest in STEM fields, helping both current and future WVSU students make their dreams a reality.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Contributions to the Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson Scholarship may be made online at http://connect.wvstateu.edu/KatherineJohnson or by a check payable to WVSU Foundation, Inc., PO Box 1000, Institute, WV 25112. Brochures and donation envelopes will be available at the dedication check-in table.

For information about corporate giving opportunities please contact Patricia Schumann at (304) 766-3021 or patricia.schumann@wvstateu.edu.



KATHERINE COLEMAN GOBLE JOHNSON

Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson is a native of White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., who first came to Institute at the age of 10 to attend the high school that used to be part of West Virginia State's campus. Johnson excelled in school and graduated early, enrolling for college classes at West Virginia State by the time she was 15.

At State, Johnson became immersed in the mathematics program, and was inspired by one of her professors, Dr. William W. Schiefflin Claytor, to dream bigger. The young professor encouraged

Johnson by telling her that one day she would make a great research mathematician.

Johnson excelled in her studies and graduated summa cum laude from State in 1937 at the age of 18 with bachelor's degrees in mathematics and French. She became a teacher herself for several years following graduation, but never forgot about the encouragement her professor and mentor had given her at State to follow her passion for mathematics.

In the 1950s, Johnson was hired as a "computer" at the Langley Research Center with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), the agency that preceded NASA.

As a computer, she calculated the trajectory for Alan Shepard, the first American in space. Even after NASA began using electronic computers, John Glenn requested that she personally recheck the calculations made by the new electronic computers before his flight aboard Friendship 7 – the mission on which he became the first American to orbit the Earth. She went on to do the calculations for the Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969.

In her later NASA career, Johnson worked on the Space Shuttle program and the Earth Resources Satellite and encouraged students to pursue careers in science and technology fields.

Johnson worked at the agency until 1986, when she retired after 33 years of service. During her tenure at NASA, she received many prestigious awards. Among them were the NASA Lunar Orbiter Award and three NASA Special Achievement Awards. She was named Mathematician of the Year in 1997 by the National Technical Association.

In November 2015, in recognition of her career at NASA and her service to the nation's space program, Johnson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest award that can be bestowed upon a civilian.

In giving the award, former U.S. President Barack Obama said, "In her 33 years at NASA, Katherine was a pioneer who broke the barriers of race and gender, showing generations of young people that everyone can excel in math and science, and reach for the stars." Johnson's story became widely known with the publication of the book "Hidden Figures" in fall 2016, followed shortly thereafter by the release of the movie of the same name. She appeared at the 2017 Academy Awards alongside actress Taraji P. Henson, who portrayed her in "Hidden Figures," and has been profiled in an article in Vanity Fair which was accompanied with photos by well-known photographer Annie Leibovitz.

In September 2017, NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., named its newest building after her -- The Katherine G. Johnson Computational Research Facility.

With the release of the book and movie "Hidden Figures," numerous alumni and friends of WVSU approached the University with ideas on ways to honor Johnson and her legacy at the University.

When the idea of a statue was proposed, the University went to Johnson and her family, who insisted that any effort to honor her also benefit students. From those desires, the Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson endowed scholarship fund was established.

The scholarship will build upon Johnson's legacy as a pioneer in mathematics and will benefit West Virginia students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) with emphasis on assisting talented individuals who are underrepresented in those fields. The funds raised thus far for the endowed scholarship will allow for the awarding of two scholarships each year, and fundraising is ongoing. The endowed scholarship fund and the statue honoring Johnson stand as a legacy and testament to a lifetime of accomplishments that will inspire others for generations to come.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

West Virginia State University alumnus Frederick Hightower is the artist who created the statue depicting Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson during her time as a mathematician at NASA.

A native of Madison, W.Va., Hightower has created numerous portraits and has sculpted many portrait busts and miniature statuary, but the statue of Johnson is his largest creation to date. One of the busts he created, that of Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient Major General Charles Rogers, is on display at the Wilson University Union on WVSU's campus.

"I am very appreciative to WVSU for giving me the opportunity to create the monument sculpture of Mrs. Katherine Johnson," Hightower said. "This sculpture being on our campus will not only honor

the great accomplishments of Mrs. Johnson, but will also bring national attention and recognition to one of America's great HBCU's, West Virginia State University"

University."

Hightower's business, Excellent Images Creations, specializes in classical portraits done both in oil, acrylic, pencil and sculpture. In addition, Hightower is also the founder and pastor of the All Nations Revival Center Church in Institute, W.Va. Hightower's artwork is featured prominently at his church where an 85 foot by 30 foot mural serves as the sanctuary's backdrop.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

The West Virginia State University Foundation would like to thank the hundreds of donors who helped make possible the creation of a statue and endowed scholarship honoring Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson. Because of their generous support, this statue will stand as a tribute to the legacy of one of West Virginia State University's most distinguished alumnae. The Katherine Coleman Goble Johnson Endowed Scholarship will provide an enduring source of support for students from groups underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FAMILY OF KATHERINE COLEMAN GOBLE JOHNSON

On behalf of our mother, Katherine Johnson and our family, we would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to President Jenkins, the West Virginia State University Foundation and the WVSU community, friends, donors and supporters for honoring her with this beautiful statue and named scholarship to support aspiring students in STEM fields. It is even more special as we are blessed to have it unveiled, in her presence this weekend, as we celebrate her 100th Birthday! It was at West Virginia State that her dreams were launched with the encouragement of several esteemed faculty members. Mom is an intelligent and humble woman of enormous personal grace. For many years, her work and contributions were hidden, but we hope that through the statue and the scholarship, generations of young people will be inspired to be curious, enjoy learning, and follow their dreams. Again, our sincere thanks to everyone for your generosity.

-Joylette G. Hylick and Katherine G. Moore

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NEIGHBORGALL CONSTRUCTION

ZMM ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

WVSU PHYSICAL FACILITIES

KATHERINE JOHNSON STATUE AND SCHOLARSHIP DEDICATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

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LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

J. Rosamand Johnson, composer, James Weldon Johnson, lyrics

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.



ALMA MATER

Ernest Wade '30, Martha Spencer '31

There is a place we love so dear—
Its name we'll ever praise and revere
'Tis West Virginia State we love—
Just one more step from there is Heav'n above.

REFRAIN

West Virginia's praise we'll sing—
Lift our voices 'til heavens ring—
As we gaily march along—
We'll sing a song—
For Alma Mater
How we love her
Pride of all our loyal hearts—
From her we will never part—
Thoughts of thee will ne'er be few
Alma Mater we love you.



