



## ALUMNAE ENGAGEMENT

February 27, 2018

Dr. Georgianne Thomas, C'64  
1375 Adams Dr SW  
Atlanta, GA 30311

Dear Dr. Thomas,

### INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE ON A PANEL AT THE SPELMAN COLLEGE FOUNDERS DAY HISTORY AND TRADITIONS CONVOCATION

The Spelman College Office of Alumnae Engagement cordially invites you to participate on a panel at the 2018 Founders Day History and Traditions Convocation at Spelman College, Sisters Chapel on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Additionally, we invite you to participate in our Alumnae-Students Connection Lunch from 12:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m. in the Suites Dining Hall.

In the spring of 1879, New England teachers and missionaries, Sophia B. Packard and Harriet E. Giles journeyed south to study living conditions among freed persons. Appalled by what they found, particularly the lack of educational opportunities for females, they pledged to return to the South to open a school for Black women and girls. Many showed interest in their vision but lacked financial capital to support it. Yet, equipped with \$100 from the First Baptist.

On this 137<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of our founding, Spelman College, celebrates a long-standing commitment to academic excellence and service to others, inherited from the Founders. This year's theme is *Forever Spelman: Tradition Lives Here*. Spelman's rich history and traditions is inclusive of the spirit of activism that was deeply rooted in the hearts and work of our founders, Packard and Giles, as well as several of our distinguished alumnae and students. You, along with other Spelman alumnae, come top of mind for your activism in civil rights as a student and throughout your career. To honor our founders, Spelman alumnae and student activists, and to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it would be our honor to have you speak at our History and Traditions Convocation.

The event will feature a panel discussion with other Atlanta Student Movement alumnae to share your stories with our students to educate, empower and encourage them to stand for social justice. We have invited several local area alumnae from various generations and our students to attend this event. Thank you for your contributions towards civil rights for women and people of color. We look forward to receiving a favorable response by Wednesday, March 7, 2018.



Spelman College®

*A Choice to Change the World*

ALUMNAE ENGAGEMENT

To confirm your attendance or for further details please contact me at 404-270-5663 or via email at [asdorsey@spelman.edu](mailto:asdorsey@spelman.edu)

Thank you for your consideration

Respectfully,

Alyson Shumpert Dorsey, C'2002  
Interim Senior Alumnae Programs Manager/Founders Day Lead  
Spelman College  
Office of Alumnae Engagement