

HOST & MODERATOR



**Tavis Smiley**  
Television and Radio Host,  
Author, Philanthropist

With his award-winning television talk show, *Tavis Smiley* on PBS, and his radio show, *The Tavis Smiley Show* from PRI, Smiley is the first and only American to simultaneously host signature talk shows on both public

television and public radio. Smiley is the CEO of The Smiley Group, Inc., and founder of the Tavis Smiley Foundation. In 2006, Smiley made publishing history when the book he edited, *Covenant with Black America*, reached #1 on *The New York Times* Best-seller list. Smiley also offers political commentary twice weekly on the *Tom Joyner Morning Show* and has authored 11 books, including his current releases, *What I Know for Sure* (Doubleday), *Never Mind Success... Go for Greatness!* and *THE COVENANT: In Action*, published by his own imprint (Smiley Books) with Hay House. Texas Southern University recently honored Smiley with the opening of The Tavis Smiley School of Communications and The Tavis Smiley Center for Professional Media Studies.

COHOST



**Tom Joyner**  
Radio and Television Host

Tom Joyner is one of the most influential, inspirational, and dynamic personalities in the country. More than just a radio personality, Joyner is an entrepreneur, an entertainer, and a philanthropist. He is founder of BlackAmericaWeb.com,

REACH Media, Inc., and the Tom Joyner Foundation, and host of the leading nationally syndicated morning radio show, the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*, and the nationally syndicated *Tom Joyner Show* on television. This 2005 *Broadcasting & Cable* magazine Hall of Fame inductee also won the prestigious Marconi Award as the nation's leading network/syndicated personality.

MODERATOR



**Michel Martin**  
TV and Radio Journalist

Award-winning journalist Michel Martin hosts a daily afternoon public affairs and cultural program focusing on stories of importance to African Americans, slated to launch in late 2006 on NPR. Martin also contributes to ABC News

programs, including *Nightline* and *ABC News Now*. Previously, Martin was a correspondent for ABC News's *Nightline*. Martin joined ABC News in 1992 and has contributed to a wide range of its programs and specials, including the network's award-winning coverage of September 11 and a documentary on the Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas controversy.

MORNING INVOCATION



**Dr. B. Courtney McBath**  
Founder and Pastor of Calvary  
Revival Church, Norfolk, VA

Dr. B. Courtney McBath is the founder and pastor of Calvary Revival Church, which *Outreach Magazine* listed as one of the top 100 largest and fastest-growing churches in America. McBath also produces an international televi-

sion program, administrates a highly accredited K-12 school system, and oversees hundreds of churches in the U.S. and abroad.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE



**Daniel Beaty**  
Actor, Singer, Writer, Composer

Daniel Beaty is an award-winning actor, singer, writer, and composer seen on HBO's *Def Poetry*, NBC's *Showtime at the Apollo*, BET's *106 & Park*, and most recently in his show *Emergence-SEE*. A Fox Networks National Redemption Slam Champion, Beaty has

performed at the White House, the Kennedy Center, and the Apollo.

## Panelists

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**Charles Ogletree**  
Professor at Harvard Law School, Founding and Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice, Author

Charles Ogletree is a professor at Harvard Law School and founding and executive director of the Charles Hamilton Houston

Institute for Race and Justice. His historical memoir, *All Deliberate Speed: Reflections on the First Half-Century of Brown v. Board of Education*, was published in April 2004. *Ebony* magazine named Ogletree one of the 100+ Most Influential Black Americans. He earned an MA and BA from Stanford University and a JD from Harvard Law School.



**Dr. Eddie S. Glaude**  
Associate Professor of Religion and African American Studies, Princeton University

Dr. Eddie S. Glaude is associate professor of religion and African American Studies at Princeton University. He is also editor of *Is It Nation Time? Contemporary Essays on Black Power and Black*

*Nationalism* and coeditor of *African American Religious Thought: An Anthology*. He is the author of *Exodus! Religion, Race, and Nation in Early 19th Century Black America*. Glaude received his BA from Morehouse College and his MA and PhD from Princeton University.



**Marian Wright Edelman**  
Founder and President, Children's Defense Fund

Marian Wright Edelman is the founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF). Under her leadership, CDF has become the nation's strongest voice for children and families. In 1968, Edelman became counsel for

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Poor People's Campaign and served as the director of the Center for Law and Education at Harvard University for two years. Edelman also founded the Washington Research Project, a public interest law firm and the parent body of the CDF.



**Bruce S. Gordon**  
President & CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Bruce Gordon is the president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and former president of Retail Markets Group for Verizon Communications. In 2002, Gordon

ranked #6 in *Fortune* magazine's "50 Most Powerful Black Executives." Gordon is a board member of CBS and Tyco International, Ltd., and a trustee of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Foundation. He received his BA from Gettysburg College and his MS from MIT.



**Congressman Keith Ellison**  
Representative of House District 58, Minnesota State Legislature

Representative Keith Ellison represents one of the most economically, racially, and demographically diverse districts in Minnesota. He is a member of the legislature's Public Safety, Policy and Finance committees,

and Election and Civil Law committee. Keith has a long history of community service. For eight years he hosted a public affairs program on community radio. He received his JD from the University of Minnesota Law School.



**Dr. Julia Hare**  
National Executive Director, Black Think Tank; Motivational Speaker

Widely regarded as one of the most dynamic motivational speakers on the major podiums today, Dr. Julia Hare has appeared on *CNN and Company*, *Talk Back Live*, the *Tavis Smiley* show, and ABC's

*Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher*. She coauthored *Bringing the Black Boy to Manhood*, *The Endangered Black Family*, and *The Miseducation of the Black Child*. Her most recent best-seller is *How to Find and Keep a BMW (Black Man Working)*. Hare has received the Carter G. Woodson Education Award and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Black Writers and Artists Union.



**L. Douglas Wilder**  
Mayor of Richmond, Virginia

L. Douglas Wilder is the mayor of Richmond, VA. In 1989, Wilder was elected governor of Virginia—the first African American to govern a state. In 1969, he won a seat as state senator, becoming the first African American to serve in the Virginia legislature since

Reconstruction. A native of Richmond, Wilder is hailed for his skill in easing tensions between races. Wilder studied law at Howard University.



**Dr. Mae Jemison**  
President,  
The Jemison Group, Inc.

Dr. Mae Jemison—the first African American woman in space—is president of The Jemison Group, Inc., in Houston, Texas. She served as a mission specialist on STS-47 (*Endeavour*) in 1992. Astronauts on this cooperative

mission between the United States and Japan conducted experiments in life sciences and materials processing. Jemison earned a degree in chemical engineering from Stanford University and an MD from Cornell University.



**Congressman  
Robert C. Scott**  
Democrat, Virginia

Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott is serving his eighth term as a member of Congress. Before serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, Scott served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1978 to 1983 and in the

Senate of Virginia from 1983 to 1993. Among his legislative successes in the Virginia General Assembly are laws that improved healthcare benefits for women, infants, and children; increased the Virginia minimum wage; and established the Neighborhood Assistance Act. Scott serves on the House committees on Education and Labor, Budget, and the Judiciary. He is the chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.



**Malika Saada Saar**  
Executive Director,  
Rebecca Project for  
Human Rights

Malika Saada Saar is the founder and executive director of the Rebecca Project for Human Rights, which was recently honored by the Ford Foundation for Human Rights achievements with the "Leadership

for Changing World" award. Saar was also selected by *Redbook* magazine for the Mothers and Shakers 2005 Award. She has been featured in *Essence*, the *Washington Post*, and *USA Today*, and on *Good Morning America*. Saar received her BA from Brown University, her MA from Stanford University, and her JD from Georgetown University.



**Lerone Bennett Jr.**  
Historian and Executive Editor  
Emeritus of *Ebony* magazine

Lerone Bennett Jr. is Historian and Executive Editor Emeritus of *Ebony* magazine. He is the author of ten books, including the classic study of African American history, *Before the Mayflower*. He won the Patron Saints Award of the society of

Midland Authors for his biography of Martin Luther King Jr., *What Manner of Man*. Bennett serves on the Board of Trustees of Columbia College Chicago and the Chicago History Museum. He graduated from Morehouse College.



# Panelists

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**Wade Henderson**  
President and CEO of Leadership  
Conference on Civil Rights  
(LCCR)

Wade Henderson is the president and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR) and counselor to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund (LCCREF). He is a professor of public interest law

at the University of the District of Columbia. Previously, Henderson was the Washington bureau director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He is a graduate of Howard University and the Rutgers University School of Law.



**Tim Reid**  
Actor, Director, and Producer

Tim Reid is an Emmy-nominated actor, director, and producer. Reid starred as “Venus Flytrap” on *WKRP in Cincinnati* and has had many starring roles over the years in other television series, including *The Richard Pryor Show*, *Simon & Simon*, *Frank’s Place*, *Snoops*, *Save Our*

*Streets*, and the hit WB series, *Sister, Sister*. As the founder and president of New Millennium Studios, Reid has secured Blockbuster’s first African-American direct vendor deal. He received his BA from Norfolk State University.



**Cathy Hughes**  
Founder and Chairperson,  
Radio One, Inc.

Cathy Hughes is the founder and chairperson of the largest African American owned and operated broadcast company in the nation. In 2000, *Black Enterprise* named Radio One “Company of the Year,” and *Fortune* rated it one

of the “100 Best Companies to Work For.” Radio One is recognized for its intense community involvement—Hughes’s trademark. She was also named by *Essence* as one of the “100 Who Have Changed the World.”



**Rev. Dr. Otis Moss Jr.**  
Pastor of Olivet Institutional  
Baptist Church

The Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr. is pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. Moss served as chairman of Morehouse College’s board of trustees, received the national Hampton Ministers’ Living Legend

Award, and, in 1985, delivered the Easter sermon on nationwide CBS-TV. He received his BA from Morehouse College, master of divinity from Morehouse School of Religion/Interdenominational Theological Center, and DMin from the United Theological Seminary.





**Omar Wasow**  
Cofounder of BlackPlanet.com  
and On-air Technology Analyst

Omar Wasow is the cofounder of and ongoing strategic advisor to BlackPlanet.com and an on-air technology analyst. Wasow demystifies technology issues through regular TV and radio segments on NBC's *Today Show*

and public radio's *Tavis Smiley Show*. A K-6 charter school that Wasow helped found opened in Brooklyn in fall 2003. He received his BA from Stanford University and is pursuing a doctorate in African American studies and political science at Harvard.



**Dr. Cornel West**  
Professor and  
Groundbreaking Author

Dr. Cornel West, a professor of religion at Princeton University, is author of the best-seller, *Race Matters*, and was praised by *The New York Times* for his "ferocious moral vision." An influential force in developing the storyline for the

*Matrix* trilogy, West is the spokesperson for the hit series and had recurring roles in the final two films. He earned his BA from Harvard, and his MA and PhD from Princeton.



**Angela Glover Blackwell**  
Founder of Policylink

Angela Glover Blackwell is a nationally recognized voice on racial and social equity issues. She is the founder and president of Policylink, a national nonprofit focused on community building. Blackwell previously served with the Rockefeller Foundation and

as a partner with public advocates. She is the coauthor of *Searching for the Uncommon Ground* and has been published in the op-ed pages of several major newspapers. Blackwell earned a BA from Howard and a JD from the University of California, Berkeley.



**Chuck D**  
Founder of Public Enemy  
and Rapstation

Chuck D is the founder of Public Enemy and is considered a pioneer of rap music. Known for redefining hip-hop as music with a message, he was honored for his work with the Rock the Vote campaign with the Patrick Lippert

Humanitarian Award. Chuck D is the author of *Fight the Power: Rap, Race and Reality*, and appeared in the film *Burn, Hollywood, Burn*. He recently launched Rapstation, a portal Web site for the rap industry.



**Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr.**  
Founder and President of the  
Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, Inc.

Reverend Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., founder and president of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, is one of America's foremost civil rights, religious, and political figures. In 1991, the U.S. Post Office put his likeness on a pictorial postal

cancellation—only the second time a living person has received the honor. Jackson has been on the Gallup List of the Ten Most Respected Americans for over 12 years and has written several books. He graduated from North Carolina A&T State University and received his master of divinity degree in 2000.



**Daphne Maxwell Reid**  
Actor and Cofounder of  
New Millennium Studios

Actor and cofounder of New Millennium Studios, Daphne Maxwell Reid is most recognized for her role as "Aunt Viv" on NBC's *The Fresh Prince of Bel Air*. She was the first Black woman to grace the cover of *Glamour*

magazine. Reid designs a line of patterns—the Daphne Maxwell Reid Collection—for McCall Pattern Company. She also designed the "Suddenly You're Sewing" kit, which won the prestigious PCM award for the best new product from the home sewing and craft industry.

# Panelists

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**Sonia Sanchez**  
Author and Public Speaker

Sonia Sanchez, a nationally respected author and speaker, explores women's lives, the struggles and triumphs of people of color, and global themes through her writings. An influential part of the Civil Rights Movement, Sanchez is considered

an advocate for people. She has received countless awards, including the Lucretia Mott Award in 1984. Sanchez earned a BA from Hunter College.



**Glenda Hatchett**  
Judge, Television Host, and Author

Glenda Hatchett presides over the syndicated show, *Judge Hatchett*, and authored the national best-seller, *Say What You Mean, Mean What You Say*. She previously distinguished herself as Delta Air Lines' highest-ranking African

American woman. She also became Georgia's first African American chief presiding judge of a state court. Hatchett is a board member of the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) and the Atlanta Falcons Football Organization. She received her JD from Emory University School of Law.



**Rev. Al Sharpton**  
Host, *The Al Sharpton Show*

Rev. Al Sharpton—one of America's most renowned civil rights leaders and preachers—is host of a new daily talk show, *The Al Sharpton Show*. Sharpton ran for president of the United States in 2004, and has served as youth director of New York's Operation

Breadbasket, director of ministries for National Rainbow/PUSH coalition, and founder of his own civil rights organization, the National Action Network.



**Stephanie Robinson**  
President and CEO of the Jamestown Project at Yale; Principal of the Robinson Sullivan Group, LLC.

Stephanie Robinson is president and CEO of the Jamestown Project at Yale and principal of the Robinson Sullivan Group, LLC. Robinson served as majority

chief counsel for Senator Edward Kennedy on the senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committees. She is a member of the National Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the State Bar of Georgia. She received her BA from the University of Maryland and her JD from Harvard Law School.

