

Greetings Af-Lat-FAM,

Hope that 2022 has been going well for you so far. After what seems like a quick winter, we are now looking forward to warmer weather this spring. As the COVID pandemic starts to become endemic in the United States, many of us have fully or partially returned to in-person learning and working in offices. While it seems that life may be returning to a new normal with COVID, we are still reminded of the daunting challenges that face our world every day from rising costs of living to climate change to war in Ukraine. These do seem like unprecedented times, but there is also cause for celebration as Ketanji Brown Jackson was recently confirmed as the first Black woman to sit on the United States Supreme Court.

Closer to campus, Andover prepares to ceremoniously install Dr. Raynard Kington, MD, PhD, P'24 as Head of School, the first African American to hold that position, in May. Earlier this month, Dr. Kington released a report from the Andover Anti-Racism Task Force (AATF). Formed by the Board of Trustees in September of 2020, the AATF aimed to "identify manifestations of racism at PA and formulate strategies to speed the growth of a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community." Comprised of alumni, faculty, staff, and parents, the AATF met regularly for nearly a year to meet that aim. They read extensive reports and archival materials, while also interviewing faculty, staff, students, parents, and other PA community members. While the report shows that Andover has made strides to become more inclusive over time, there is also much more work to be done to further address institutional structural racism and equitably educate youth from every quarter. We encourage you to closely read the report and anticipate hosting an Af-Lat-Am event to discuss the findings and how we can work with the Academy to move this work forward. You can find the report [here](#).

Spring is another reminder that Commencement and Reunion are approaching. After two years of mostly virtual events, both auspicious events will take place in person, on campus. Also, Saturday, June 11, 2022, will be the launch of [Andover Day!](#) We are in the process of planning some Af-Lat-Fam-focused gatherings at these events and will send more details about those soon.

Finally, we are happy to share uplifting and positive news about our Af-Lat-Fam members in this newsletter and encourage you to share more news with us using this [Google Form](#). Continue to take care and we look forward to engaging with you at upcoming Andover events, online or in-person.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Joseph '00, Rob Rush '14, Rosanne Adderley '85,
Carolyn Chica '08

Af-Lat-Am Alumni Communications Sub-Committee

Family in the News

One of our biggest hopes as the Af-Lat-Am Alumni Committee is to connect alumni in our community with each other. Although the current state of global affairs makes it hard for us to connect in person, our increasingly virtual world is an accessible space that allows us to increase awareness. Especially focusing on Af-Lat-Am alumni making waves in their respective spheres of influence. Check out just some of our Af-Lat-Am family members in the news:

[Wanda Y. Mann '90](#) - wrote her first article in [Food & Wine magazine](#).

[Angela N. Brown '96](#) - was named assistant head for admission and strategic initiatives at the Dana Hall School.

[Luis F. Adame '99](#) - of [Moss Earth](#) argues [here](#), that crypto emissions are much lower than advertised and incredibly cheap to offset.

[Tiffany D. Joseph '00](#) - was awarded a National Library of Medicine Grant for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health" to support the final writing stages of her upcoming book (Not) All In: Race, Immigration, and Healthcare Exclusion in the Age of Obamacare, which is currently under contract with Johns Hopkins University Press' Series on Health Equity in America.

[Lethy Denise Liriano '00](#) - has released a single on Spotify entitled Cold Outside.

Shanna R. Bowie '01 - had her book pitch, FIXER UPPER, chosen for the [NANOWRIMO Pitchapalooza 2022](#).

Dr. Zabecca S. Brinson '04 - received the [ASFNR-AAWR Carolyn C. Meltzer Joint Award](#).

[Ryan C. Chapoteau '04](#) - was elevated to principal at [Jackson Lewis P.C.](#)

[Lissette A. Duran '05](#) - was named a 2022 "Top Lawyer Under 40" by the Hispanic National Bar Association.

[Kenechi N. Igbokwe '05](#) - recently joined Citi in their Mergers and Acquisitions team.

[Jonathan Figueroa '06](#) - was named senior marketing manager at Pepsi.

[Aba T. Lekeaka '06](#) - joined Workboard as an implementation consultant.

[Curtis J. Holden '07](#) - had a big 2021 – he got married and was promoted to director at Doordash.

[Mercy L. Bell '08](#) - joined Webflow as a Sales Enablement Manager. Mercy is also the co-founder of Sourcing Voices, a mental health storytelling platform to increase awareness and empathy on complex wellness subjects like substance use and chronic illness.

[Carolina E. Marion '08](#) - recently joined PayPal as a manager in HR & culture Communications.

[Osei RT. Wilks '08](#) - was recently promoted to business intelligence engineering manager at Amazon Web Services.

[Menelik K. Washington '09](#) - founded the "Dope Connection."

[Sheya Jabouin '11](#) - recently started a new position as a law clerk at O'Melveny & Myers in Washington D.C.

[Junius O. Williams '14](#) - former student body president, joined Crossboundary as an investment associate working on sustainable investment initiatives in the Middle East and Northern Region of Africa.

[Charlie A. Jarvis '15](#) - co-founded [Fairchain](#), a marketplace for artists and collectors backed by blockchain technology to build a more secure, trustworthy, and equitable art ecosystem.

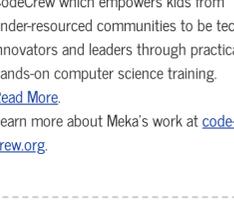
[Kayla A. Thompson '15](#) - joined Google as a business associate on their Strategy and Operations team after beginning her career at McKinsey & Co.

[Skyler-Bree E. Takyi '16](#) - joined HBO Max as a staff writer and was recently signed by CAA Talent Management, the premier talent agency in the world.

Have some exciting news you'd want to share with the AfLatAm Community? We want to hear from [YOU!](#) Click the link below to submit an update about you or another member of our Alumni Community.

SHARE THE NEWS

Andover Magazine Features - as seen in Instagram



Soyia Gecaga '92

Women changing the world for the better: Soiya Gecaga '92 created the nonprofit "We the Change Foundation" that provides education and care of children and their families in under-resourced communities of Kenya. Soiya's work in human rights and *non sibi* action earned her the Andover Alumni Award of Distinction in 2016. "My time at Andover was seminal," said Soiya, adding that she first began community service work while at PA. [Read More](#)

Thanks to Nnaemeka "Meka" Egwuekwe '91, Memphis teens aren't just using apps—they create them. Meka saw the lack of educational opportunities for his own young daughters and decided to do something about it. In 2015 he launched CodeCrew which empowers kids from under-resourced communities to be tech innovators and leaders through practical, hands-on computer science training. [Read More](#)

Learn more about Meka's work at [code-crew.org](#).



Meka Ekwuekwe '91



Brian Gittens '89
Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Brian Gittens '89 knows first-hand the power of standing up for what you believe in—even when you're standing alone. As Gittens stood on the steps playing excerpts of Dr. King's speeches, students began to gather. One year after Gittens's protest, PA launched MLK Jr. Day in 1990, cancelling regular academic classes and instead devoting the day to continue King's work and teachings by offering workshops, service opportunities, lectures, and performances. [Read More](#)

Learn more by watching Jack McGovern '15's documentary, [The Story of Brian Gittens](#). [on vimeo.com](#)

When we think of justice, of taking the high road in the face of adversity, Hafsat Abiola '92 comes to mind—and brilliantly illuminates the human spirit. President and CEO of the Women in Africa Initiative, Hafsat is a noted civil rights activist. Among her many global and national awards, she was presented with the Andover Alumni Award of Distinction in 2013, a Global Leadership Award in 2013, the National Civil Rights Museum's Freedom Award in 2019.



Hafsat Abiola '92

Hafsat was also one of the inspirations behind the SEVEN play—a riveting documentary play based on personal interviews with remarkable women who show us that even in the darkest times, one person, one voice, and a single act of courage can change the lives of thousands. [Read More](#).



William Thomas

1975: The year Andover's music department was forever changed thanks to William Thomas joining the ranks. A beloved instructor and chair in music from 1975 to 1989 and director of performance from 1989 to 2008, Thomas breathed new life into Andover's music programs and raised the bar by establishing the Gospel Choir and the Chamber Music Program, conducting the Phillips Academy Orchestra and the Cantata Choir. [Read More](#).

Committee Work Update: Open Call for Committee Members!

The Office of Alumni Engagement and the Af-Lat-Am Alumni Committee of Alumni Council welcomes all alumni to consider serving on the committee.

Interested in adding your name for consideration or learning more about the work of the committee? Please reach out to any current committee member listed below or email [Jenny Savino P'21, '24](#) in the Office of Alumni Engagement.

- [Carolyn Chica '08](#) & [Quincy R. Evans '96](#), co-chairs
- [Rosanne M. Adderley '85](#), [Alba M. Disla '15](#), [Jolena James-Szanton '86](#),
- [Tiffany D. Joseph '00](#), [Willie M. Ivey Jr. '68](#), [Adijatay S.N. Nyadjroh '03](#), [Robert Rush '14](#),
- [Franco Torres '96](#)

Af-Lat-Am Statement of Interest Form

Looking Ahead - Upcoming Head of School Events

CAMPUS: Investiture of Raynard S. Kington, MD, PhD, P'24
Saturday, May 7, 2022, 11 a.m. ET

Details & Registration

DENVER, CO: Excellence at Our Core with Head of School Raynard S. Kington, MD, PhD, P'24
Monday, May 16, 2022, 6 to 8 p.m. MT

Details & Registration

LOS ANGELES, CA: Excellence at Our Core with Head of School Raynard S. Kington, MD, PhD, P'24
Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. PT

Details & Registration

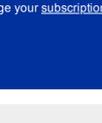
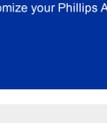
SAN FRANCISCO, CA: Excellence at Our Core with Head of School Raynard S. Kington, MD, PhD, P'24
Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. PT

Details & Registration

Check out the full [Alumni & Family Events Calendar](#) and sign up for upcoming events in your city!

Get Connected

Be sure to follow the [CAMD Instagram](#) page!
[Af-Lat-Am Alumni Committee Mission Statement](#)



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ANDOVER

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Discover Knowledge & Goodness

