

**BECAUSE  
OF THEM  
WE CAN**

**BOX**

**JUST FOR KIDS**

# BECAUSE OF HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

ISSUE 3, 9-12

FUTURE GRADS POSING AS STUDENTS OF  
**HOWARD UNIVERSITY**

WHICH WAS FOUNDED ON MARCH 2, 1867





# FIVE FACTS ABOUT HBCUs

## FUN FACT

**HBCU** IS AN ACRONYM FOR **HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY**

- HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WERE CREATED FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS TO PURSUE HIGHER EDUCATION WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF THEIR RACE
- THERE ARE OVER 100 HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUS) IN THE UNITED STATES
- LINCOLN UNIVERSITY IS THE OLDEST DEGREE-GRANTING HBCU
- CHEYNEY UNIVERSITY WAS THE FIRST HBCU TO BE ESTABLISHED IN 1837 (BEFORE LINCOLN UNIVERSITY) BUT THEY DIDN'T GRANT DEGREES UNTIL 1914
- JAMES WELDON JOHNSON WAS A GRADUATE OF ATLANTA UNIVERSITY (NOW CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY) AND WROTE THE WORDS TO "LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING" WHICH IS REFERRED TO AS THE "THE BLACK NATIONAL ANTHEM" AND SANG AT MANY HBCUS

## FUTURE DIPLOMA ACTIVITY

1. FILL OUT THE FUTURE DIPLOMA IN YOUR BOX
2. HAVE AN ADULT SIGN IT
3. POST OR HANG IT ON A WALL WHERE YOU CAN SEE IT EVERY DAY



## LYRICS: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

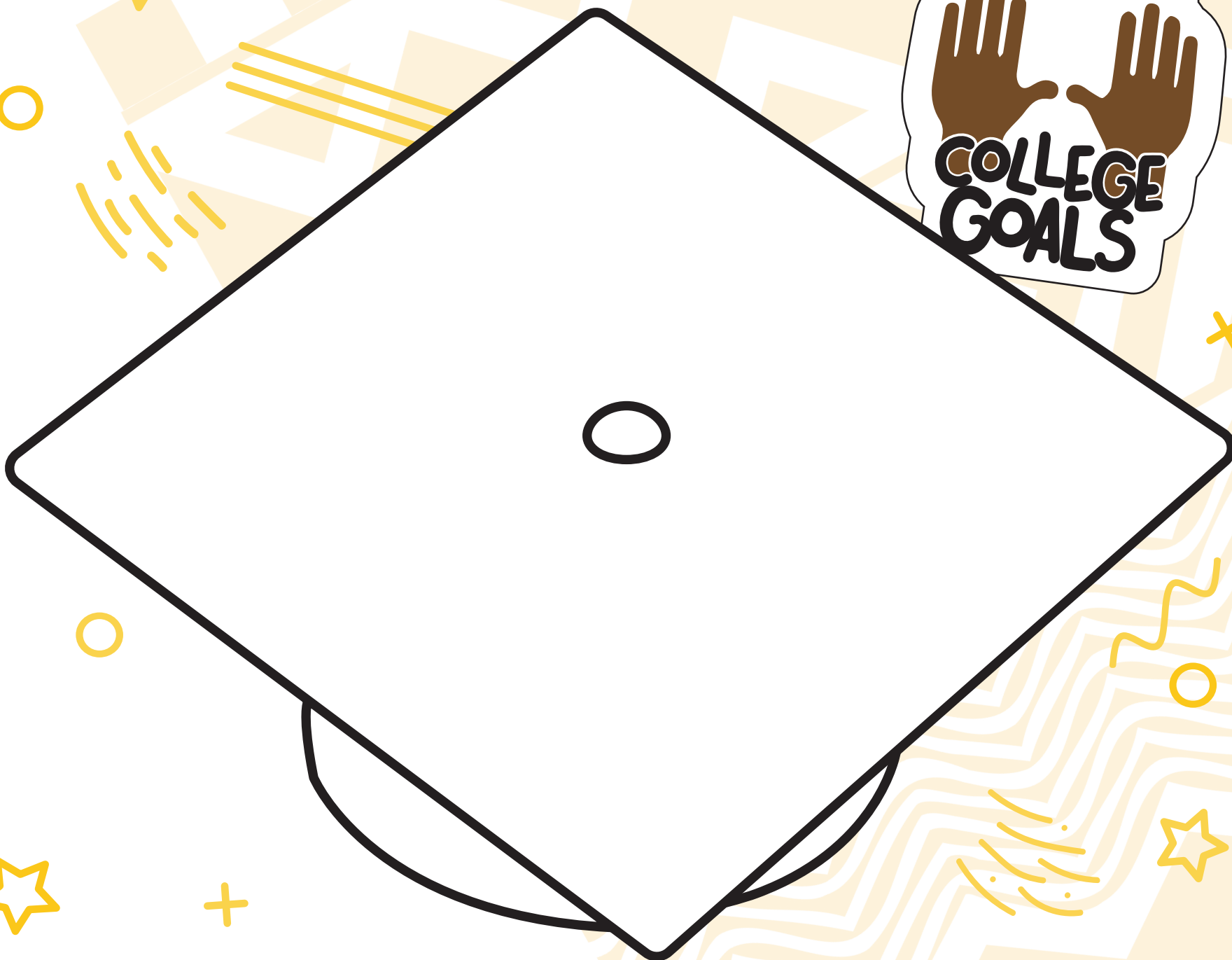
Lift every voice and sing  
Till earth and heaven ring  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
let our rejoicing rise,  
high as the list'ning skies, let it resound loud as  
the rolling sea  
sing a song full of faith that the dark past has  
taught us,  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has  
brought us;  
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chast'ning rod,  
felt in the day that hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat,  
have not our weary feet,  
come to the place on witch our fathers sighed?  
we have come over a way that with tears has been  
watered,  
we have come, treading our path through the  
blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who has by thy might,  
led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray  
lest our feet stray frm the places, our God,  
where we met thee,  
least our hearts, drunk with the wine of the  
world, we forget thee,  
shadowed beneath the hand,  
may we forever stand,  
tru to our God,  
Tru to our native land.



# ACTIVITY: DESIGN YOUR CAP



USE THE MARKER IN YOUR BOX TO DRAW A DESIGN ON THE GRADUATION CAP  
HERE ARE SOME IDEAS OF THINGS YOU COULD INCLUDE:

YOUR NAME

THE YEAR YOU MIGHT  
GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE

YOUR FAVORITE SAYING OR QUOTE  
(I.E. BECAUSE OF THEM WE CAN!,  
I CAN DO IT!, DREAM BIG!)

FUTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(FILL IN THE BLANK WITH ONE OF YOUR  
FUTURE DREAMS, LIKE ARTIST, DOCTOR,  
MUSICIAN, ENGINEER ETC)

THANKS MOM!  
(OR MOM AND DAD, OR GRANDMA, OR  
GRANDDAD, OR ANYONE WHO HELPS YOU!)

# HBCU TRAILBLAZERS

HERE ARE THE NAMES OF SOME TRAILBLAZERS WHO ATTENDED A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY. CONNECT THE DOTS TO THE HBCU THE TRAILBLAZER ATTENDED.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
THURGOOD MARSHALL  
OPRAH WINFREY  
SPIKE LEE  
JOHN LEWIS  
KATHERINE JOHNSON  
ALICE WALKER  
LONNIE JOHNSON  
CHADWICK BOSEMAN  
ALTHEA GIBSON  
LANGSTON HUGHES  
JANICE BRYANT HOWROYD  
JOHN W. THOMPSON  
ZORA NEALE HURSTON  
RUTH E. CARTER

HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
MOREHOUSE COLLEGE  
SPELMAN COLLEGE  
FISK UNIVERSITY  
TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY  
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
LINCOLN UNIVERSITY  
WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY  
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY  
NORTH CAROLINA A&T UNIVERSITY

## BONUS

WRITE ONE SENTENCE ABOUT 5 OF THE INDIVIDUALS ABOVE AND HAVE AN ADULT POST IT TO INSTAGRAM WITH THE HASHTAG #BOTWCBOX. WE'LL SELECT THREE SUBSCRIBERS TO RECEIVE A BECAUSE OF THEM WE CAN BACKPACK.

## ANSWER KEY

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. (MOREHOUSE COLLEGE) SPIKE LEE (MOREHOUSE COLLEGE) THURGOOD MARSHALL (LINCOLN UNIVERSITY) OPRAH WINFREY (TENNESSEE STATE) JOHN LEWIS (FISK UNIVERSITY) LONNIE JOHNSON (TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY) KATHERINE JOHNSON (WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY) ALICE WALKER (SPELMAN COLLEGE) CHADWICK BOSEMAN (HOWARD UNIVERSITY) ALTHEA GIBSON (FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY) LANGSTON HUGHES (LINCOLN UNIVERSITY) JANICE BRYANT HOWROYD (NORTH CAROLINA A&T UNIVERSITY) JOHN W. THOMPSON (FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY) ZORA NEALE HURSTON (HOWARD UNIVERSITY) RUTH E. CARTER (HAMPTON UNIVERSITY)

# TAKE THE PLEDGE

**I WILL HONOR**  
THE SACRIFICES OF  
MY ANCESTORS.

**I WILL BELIEVE**  
IN ME.

**I WILL PURSUE**  
MY DREAMS.

**I WILL HELP**  
OTHERS ALONG  
THE WAY.