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Media Contact:

Rey Cheatham Banks, Press Secretary

(703) 205-3480

media@uncf.org

United Negro College Fund Announces 61st National Alumni Council Conference

Award winning poet and Fisk graduate Nikki Giovanni to receive Legacy Award

FAIRFAX, Va.—The 61st annual National Alumni Council (NAC) conference, sponsored by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), will be held in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 31-Feb. 04, 2007, and the deadline to register is Jan. 16, 2007. Noted poet and author, Nikki Giovanni, will be the recipient of this year's NAC Legacy Award.

Other conference participants include hip hop historian and journalist, Kevin Powell, a recent panelist at UNCF's Leadership Summit titled, "Young, Gifted and Black: Promoting Achievement Among Young Black Men"; founder of Brothers of the Academy, Lee Jones, Ph.D.; and Director of African American Studies at Middle Tennessee University, Adonijah Bakari, Ph.D.

The NAC conference is open to alumni of all 39 UNCF historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). (See list of UNCF member schools below.)

This year's theme, "Empowerment through Education, Information and Motivation," is the focus of workshops and seminars conducted by industry leaders such as Stephen L. McDaniel, CFRE, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the University Foundation at Alabama A & M University; and Kristie Belle, vice president of worldwide marketing for IBM System Storage. A complete list of participants and speakers can be found at UNCF's Web site, by clicking [here](#).

"'Empowerment' is the key word in our theme and activities for our 2007 conference," said Rubye Taylor-Drake, NAC president. "HBCUs graduate 75 percent more of their African American students than majority schools and even though HBCUs represent just 3 percent of the nation's institutions of higher learning, they graduate nearly 25 percent of African Americans who earn degrees."

Tennessee is home to three UNCF member institutions, Fisk University in Nashville, Lane College in Jackson and LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis.

In addition to dynamic training opportunities, the conference will feature the much anticipated coronation of Ms. UNCF, the culmination of a year-long fundraising drive by the contestants. Selection of the National Pre-Alumni Council (NPAC) president, the group poised to become active members in NAC upon graduation, will also be made.

The deadline for registering is Jan. 16, 2007. For detailed information and registration, please visit the [NAC Web site](#).

About NAC

The National Alumni Council was founded in 1946 by James E. Stamps, a Fisk University alumnus, two years after UNCF was incorporated to establish a national alumni organization to serve the needs of private historically black colleges and universities in partnership with UNCF. All graduates of UNCF schools are automatically members of the National Alumni Council.

About UNCF

As the nation's oldest and most successful minority higher education assistance organization, the United Negro College Fund's mission is to provide financial support to its 39 member institutions and increase minority degree attainment by reducing financial barriers to college. UNCF institutions and other historically black colleges and universities are highly effective, awarding 25 percent of African American baccalaureate degrees. UNCF administers more than 400 programs, including scholarship, internship and fellowship programs, mentoring, summer enrichment, and curriculum and faculty development programs. Today, UNCF supports more than 65,000 students at over 900 colleges and universities across the country.

UNCF Member Institutions

Allen University, Benedict College, Bennett College, Bethune-Cookman College, Claflin University, Clark Atlanta University, Dillard University, Edward Waters College, Fisk University, Florida Memorial University, Huston -Tillotson University, Interdenominational Theological Center, Jarvis Christian College, Johnson C. Smith University, Lane College, LeMoyne-Owen College, Livingstone College, Miles College, Morehouse College, Morris College, Oakwood College, Paine College, Paul Quinn College, Philander Smith College, Rust College, Saint Augustine's College, Saint Paul's College, Shaw University, Spelman College, Stillman College, Talladega College, Texas College, Tougaloo College, Tuskegee University, Virginia Union University, Voorhees College, Wilberforce University, Wiley College, Xavier University.

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