

Championing The Common Good

Walter M. Kimbrough
President
Dillard University



1967

**Four Defining Events
Impacting the Common Good**



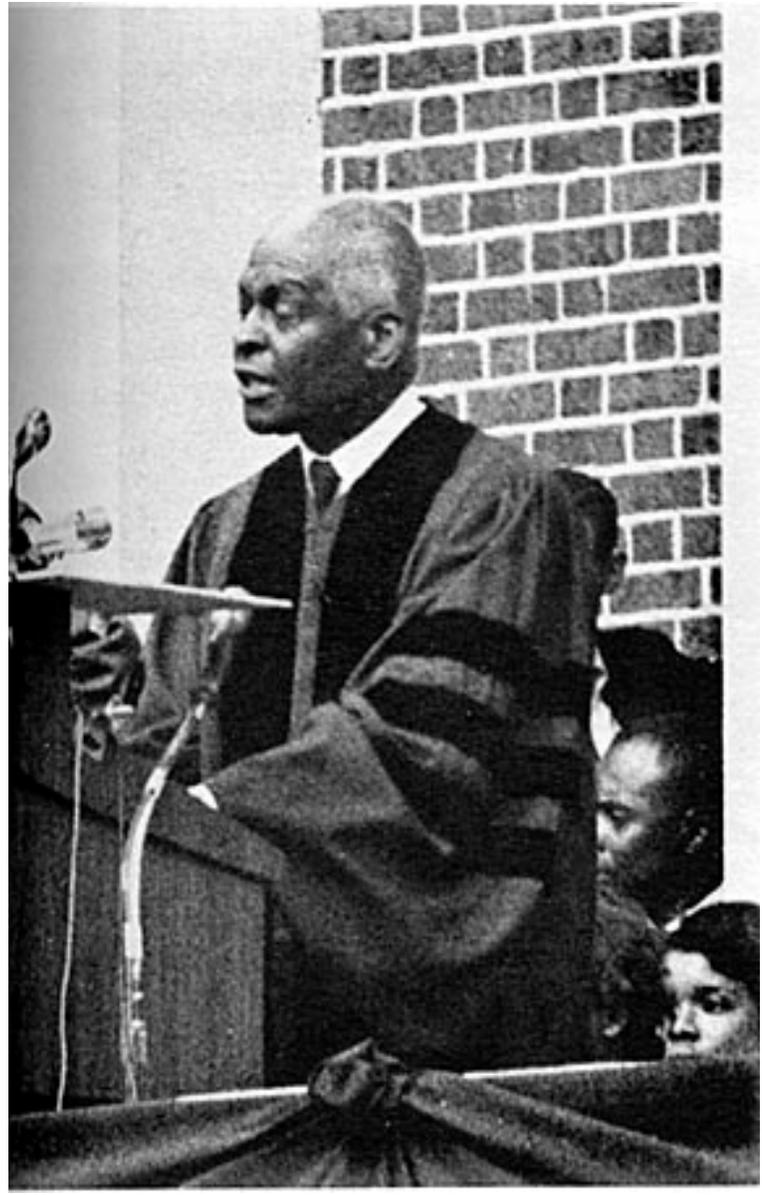
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Defining Event 1

Benjamin Mays leaves Morehouse



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Twenty-seven years of success and failure

May 30, 1967

- Thought he would be able to get financial support from Atlanta. “The Negro colleges in Atlanta are not considered part and parcel of the life of the community.”
- Felt school was too conservative: “I sometimes think we are allergic to change. We tend to be more tied to tradition and the past. Our danger lies in complacency, a disease that plagues all too many colleges.”



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Twenty-seven years of success and failure

- On competition: “The future of Morehouse will depend upon the ability to ‘buy’ the intellectually talented students, just as many of the predominantly white institutions are able to do with finances given for that purpose.”



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Defining Event 2

**Create Deficit Narrative of Schools
Designed for The Common Good**



Jencks and Riesman

“The American Negro College”

Harvard Educational Review



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Jencks and Riesman

- “The Negro college of the 1950’s was usually an ill-financed, ill-staffed caricature of white higher education.”
- “What has been the case is that the great majority of Negro institutions stand near the tail end of the academic procession in terms of student aptitudes, faculty creativity, and intellectual and moral ferment.”



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Jencks and Riesman (cont)

- “By almost any standard, these colleges are academic disaster areas. Underpaid as their faculty members usually are, many of them could not make as much elsewhere. Some, indeed, could not get any other academic job.”
- “Colleges such as these admit almost any high school graduate who will pay tuition, and graduate most of those who keep paying.”



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Defining Event 3

**Ronald Wilson Reagan Elected
Governor of California**



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President Reagan giving Campaign speech in Texas. Photo: [U.S. National Archives and Records Administration](#) (CC)

Reagan's 1967 Speech Changed Purpose Of College Forever, Says Journalist

Reagan's Budget In California Cuts Called For Ending 'Intellectual Luxuries'

- Since Reagan's 1967 speech, Berrett argues that the rhetoric swirling around higher education funding has influenced federal and state policy. "There's been a documented drop in state higher ed appropriations... and really the rhetoric that Reagan deployed in 1967 previewed some larger structural changes," Berrett said. One of those structural changes, Berrett said, is the fact that higher education started *to be seen more as a private good instead of a public one.*



Freeloaders!

Tax Eaters!

Welfare Queens!

Deadbeats!



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When College Was a Public Good

As the population has grown more diverse, support for grand efforts like the GI Bill to open doors to higher education has dwindled. Coincidence?

By *Scott Carlson* | NOVEMBER 27, 2016 ✓ PREMIUM



Bettmann, Getty Images

The GI Bill opened the doors to college to returning World War II veterans, including many from immigrant families. They joined the professional class and became further integrated into American society.

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**“Those kids don’t
need college.”**



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"It's not hard to figure out that when people say 'those kids,' it's a euphemism for African-American kids, Latino kids, Native American kids," Mr. Rhoades says.



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**"White people my age are not
going to vote to educate
Hispanic kids or black kids."**

- Anthony Carnevale, 70

**Georgetown University Center on Education
and the Workforce**



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"All the great advances in education (Morrill Act to create land-grant colleges in 1862 and the GI Bill to educate veterans of World War II) have come when there was a strong white majority."



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- Anthony Carnevale

By making college

UNAFFORDABLE

and student loans

UNBEARABLE

**we risk deterring our best and brightest from pursuing
higher education and securing a good paying job**



Mark Pocan via Gecko&Fly

AVERAGE DEBT BY STATE

NATIONAL AVERAGE:
\$53,850



\$31,065 TO \$45,756
 \$46,497 TO \$53,353
 \$55,831 TO \$69,697
 MORE THAN \$70,591

Parents' average out-of-pocket spending has declined

\$8,752 in 2010

\$5,727 in 2013



MAKE A PLAN

Build a plan to pay for all years, not just one year at a time. If a student needs to borrow, first explore federal loans and then fill the gap with responsible private education loans.

TIP



The national study by Sallie Mae, **How America Pays for College 2013**, conducted by Ipsos, is a compelling look at how today's families view college, manage college costs, and use various funding sources. For the full study, please visit SallieMae.com/HowAmericaPays.

#HowAmericaPays

What Is The Common Good?



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What Does It Look Like?



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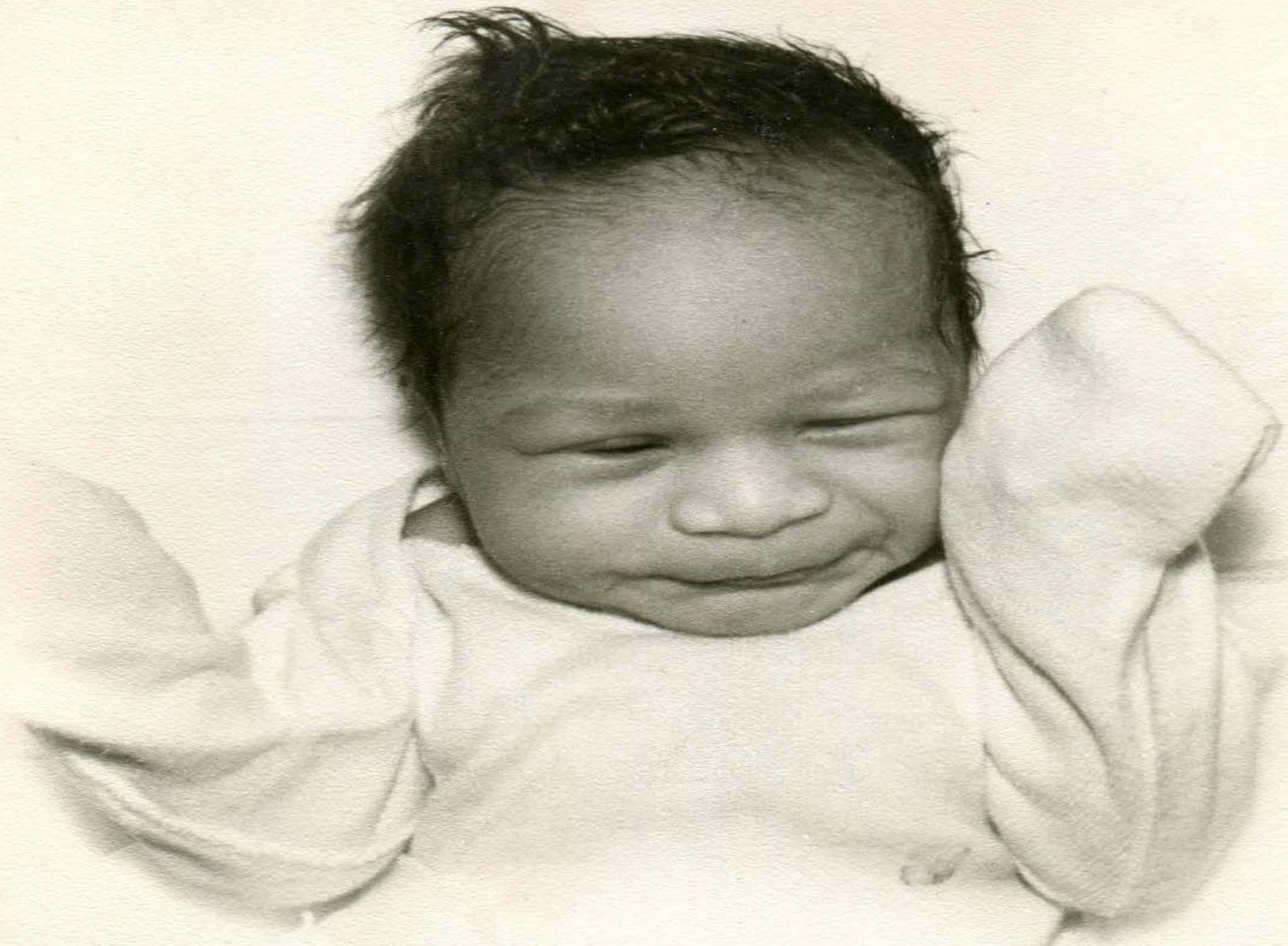
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Janelle Monae Robinson

I Did Say 4 Events, Right?



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The Trustees of
Dillard University

in the recommendation of the Trustees and Faculty, the Board of Trustees
have conferred upon
Garrett Morris
the Degree of
Doctor of Humane Letters
with all Rights, Responsibilities, Honors and Privileges appertaining thereto.
In testimony of this fact this Diploma is granted bearing the Seal of the University
and the signature hereto affixed.
This Diploma is awarded at New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, in the year of our Lord
the twentieth day of May 2024.

[Signature]
President



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