



Speaking parts for alumna in the movie 'Good Hair'

A'Lelia Bundles, J-'76, has two speaking parts in the Chris Rock documentary/comedy "Good Hair" that opens in select cities on Oct. 9, then everywhere Nov. 23.

Bundles [photo] is a natural – please forgive the pun – on-camera expert for the film since she is great-great-granddaughter of hair care entrepreneur Madam C.J. Walker, plus author of "On Her Own Ground: The Life and Times of Madam C.J. Walker," the definitive biography of the self-made millionaire.



At NABJ-Tampa in August, hundreds of journalists watched two preview screenings of the film then interviewed director Rock and actress Nia Long after each screening.

In Rock's film, a combination of Michael Moore-style expose with sideline wisecracking similar to Rock's "Everybody Hates Chris" sitcom, viewers will learn about the addictive power of "creamy crack," the mystery of "tumbling tumble weaves," and experience scenes from the Bronner Brothers hair styling completion in Atlanta.

'09 graduate off to Chi-town and the Tribune

Daarel Burnette II, '09, is to start Oct. 5 at the Chicago Tribune as a member of the two-year metro residency program. As part of the program he will write general assignment and breaking news stories for the metro desk and have the opportunity to pitch enterprise stories.



Burnette, a Hampton University graduate, left the Louisville Courier-Journal in May 2008 in order to travel to [West Africa](#) and then to New York to get his Master's of Arts degree in journalism at Columbia University. "The program was spectacular," said Burnette. "I was able to take courses with some of the top journalists in our industry including Alexander Stille of the New Yorker magazine and Thomas Edsall formerly of the Washington Post and the current politics editor of the Huffington Post." Burnette said his education was fully funded by the Pulitzer fellowship.

LATE-BREAKING NEWS: NABJ cuts back, [asks members](#) to pony up; Board meeting [Oct. 16-18](#) in Baltimore.

Mass media inside stuff at NABJ-Tampa

Former news pros advise how to unravel secretive science of academia

By **Wayne Dawkins, J-'80**

Want to know a dirty little secret about what professors do at many universities? Teaching amounts to one third of their jobs. Depending on the institution, the other two pieces are grantsmanship [fund raising] plus scholarly and creative publishing, and service.

At NABJ-Tampa, a panel of long-time journalists who, in recent years, transitioned to academia, staged its third “From the Newsroom to the Classroom” panel for about 30 attendees Aug. 7. The presenters were [Bonnie Newman Davis](#) of Virginia Commonwealth University School of Mass Communications; [Cornelius “Neil” Foote](#) of the University of North Texas Frank W. and Sue Mayborn School of Journalism; [Yanick Rice Lamb](#) of Howard University John H. Johnson School of Communications. Wayne Dawkins of Hampton University Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications served as moderator. [SHSJC classroom photo by Eba Hamid]



The audience was split between working journalists who wanted to learn about making the transition from the newsroom to the classroom, and members who already made the switch but were seeking to unravel the sometimes secretive science of academia. For example, when a panelist described the documents professors must collect for the three-to six-year tenure and promotion process, an experienced professor in the audience exclaimed, “I wish someone had told me this years ago.”

Well, depending on the institutions, some administrations won't. Thus, preparation is essential. That means finding a mentor right away, preferably someone who is entrenched in and savvy about the politics of your institution.

The panel also explored the pros and cons of seasoned media professionals returning to school earn doctoral degrees. Journalism is an unlicensed field, and the need for advanced degrees beyond a Masters in order to teach can be contradictory and conflicting. [Last spring, when I asked Dean Nicholas Lemann about Columbia J-school's new Ph.D. program, he said *it was not* for people who aspire to teach journalism practice; it's for a small number of theorists who conduct scholarly research]. None of the panelists were Ph.D.s, but all of them have advanced degrees.

Although newsrooms have been shrinking [more than 46,000 left print and broadcast newsrooms last year, according to one report], and a lot of journalists are out of work, campus Mass Media programs are growing. Student applications have generally been up [Columbia grad school [applications](#) were up 38 percent this year, despite or maybe because of the recession, and at Hampton where I teach, applications reached a plateau after several years of bringing in the largest freshman classes on the nine-school campus].

When seeking jobs in academia, Newman Davis, Foote, Rice Lamb and Dawkins advised the audience to prepare for stark cultural changes such as layers of bureaucracy unheard of in most newsrooms. Also, journalists-turned-professors also must be ready to connect with “digital natives,” students who are hard-wired with Internet and cellular technology, but need help with critical thinking and cultural literacy. The bell is ringing. Time for class.

People



Frances Hardin '77, is director of communications for the Project on National Security Reform. PNSR is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, funded by Congress, to analyze and recommend how to improve the country's national security system. Last fall, PNSR issued an 800-page report that made specific recommendations for overhauling national security. Several of PNSR's board members are now serving in the Obama administration including National Security Adviser Jim Jones; Director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair; Under Secretaries of Defense, Michele Flournoy and Ashton Carter and Deputy Secretary of State Jim Steinberg.

Akua Lezli Hope, '77, alerted us about a new short film, "Lucky Lake": It is a 14-minute documentary about a racially mixed vacation community that was robbed of its lake. Nestled in the Catskill Mountains about 2 hours from New York City, Luxton Lake (aka "Lucky Lake") has a vibrant, seductive past full of jazz music, lakeside dances, and [Harlem families](#) saving to build their own cottages in the mountains. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, children fished from the bridge over the dam, adults sipped cocktails in the clubhouse, and families cherished their summers at Lucky Lake. But in 1982, Luxton Lake's residents watched in horror as their lake was drained. Bigoted town officials were blamed, and racial tensions escalated. Homeowners hired a prominent civil rights attorney to sue the town for racial discrimination. The town's defense: the old dam was a hazard and had to go. Today's decrepit clapboard cabins and rotting rowboats are the only reminders of the lake's rich history. Director Tina Spangler, who has produced work for Sundance Channel and PBS, made her debut film, "Lucky Lake" to reveal this compelling untold story of an African-American vacationland. The film premiered Sept. 16 in New York City. Spangler told us she will show it again in winter 2010 in Sullivan County in Upstate New York and she is scheduling additional screenings. Spangler can be reached at 212-777-7228, or tina.spangler@gmail.com

Monica Miya, 88, former J-school associate dean

PORTLAND, Maine – **Monica Miya**, former associate dean of student affairs at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, died Sept. 2 at Maine Medical Center while recovering from surgery for a hip fracture. She was age 88. Miwako Monica Oana was born in San Francisco on Aug. 3, 1921 to Min and Henry Ina Oana, and was raised in San Pedro, Calif. She attended Compton Junior College where she studied journalism. Being of Japanese heritage, Mrs. Miya was sent with her family to the Heart Mountain Internment camp when World War II erupted, where she wrote Mo's Scratchpad for the Heart Mountain Sentinel. Part way through the war she went to New York City where she lived until last year when health issues brought her to Maine to be with family. Though she enjoyed Maine, she remained a New Yorker at heart, quietly rooting for the Yankees in a Red Sox household. She met and married Tadashi Miya in 1945 and raised two daughters, Ann Christine and Mari. Her husband died in 1985.

Mrs. Miya was a lifelong learner who enjoyed traveling the world, going to museums, reading widely, and experiencing other cultures often through their cuisines. She loved animals, art and art history, wrote poems for her friends, and did pottery for many years. She especially enjoyed her years at Columbia where she worked with students on admissions, financial aid and housing. She was a friend to many and will be remembered for her warm, generous spirit, keen intellect, and genuine interest in the lives of those around her. As a mother, she was an inspiration. She retired in 1993. Before that she worked at Columbia's American Press Institute and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

A memorial service was held Oct. 2 at the Japanese American Church, 255 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10001. The family asked that in lieu of flowers, those who would like to make memorial contributions do so to their local ASPCA or animal shelter in honor of Mrs. Miya's love of animals, especially black labs.

Mrs. Miya's family has created a memorial in her honor: www.mem.com/ContentDisplay.aspx?ID=17007107

Jobline and career opportunities

Web 2.0 Training for Journalists Dec. 14-18; and Feb. 22-26, 2010. The Knight Digital Media Center at the University of California, Berkeley is accepting applications for 20 fellowships per workshop for mid-career journalists. These training sessions combine practical instruction in current and emerging technologies that affect news gathering and reporting with in-depth exploration of issues in online publishing. Application **DEADLINE** for both seminars is **OCT. 30**. During five days of intense, hands-on instruction the fellows selected for the Web 2.0 training will: Blog breaking news using Twitter; Post photos in interactive news maps; Produce and publish photo galleries and audio slideshows; Create and edit videos with Final Cut Pro; Incorporate user-generated content in breaking news stories; Use Facebook and publication widgets for news distribution; Learn technical specifics for optimizing breaking news rankings in Google. **WHO SHOULD APPLY**: Professional print, radio, broadcast and online journalists who want to develop the Web 2.0 technology and techniques to support their publication's Internet publishing effort. Fellowships include lodging, meals and instruction. All equipment is provided. Cost of travel to the workshop must be paid by the applicant's news organization. **HOW TO APPLY**: An online application form and instructions are available at: <http://multimedia.journalism.berkeley.edu/workshops/> For more information contact Alisha Diego Klatt, program specialist, at kdmcinfo@journalism.berkeley.edu or (510) 642-3892.

The Virginian-Pilot is seeking a **copy editor**. This person will copy edit stories that appear in The Pilot news and sports sections, write headlines and captions, and proof pages, maps and graphics. A minimum of two (2) years experience on a daily newspaper copy desk and a bachelors degree from an accredited college or university are required. Hours: Nights and weekends, 4 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., including holiday shifts. To apply: Go to www.thevirginianpilot.com/careers, click on Opportunities, click on Search for Jobs, and enter job code 2633. Job will remain open until filled.

The new California HealthCare Foundation Center for Health Reporting at the USC Annenberg School for Communication is looking for **three experienced, accomplished, self-starting journalists** to report about the health care issues. Candidates should be skilled in narrative, explanatory and investigative reporting and able to undertake complex projects, including multimedia components. Candidates should be knowledgeable about California, its diverse population, its government and politics and its news media. Applications must be made through the USC employment Web site <https://jobs.usc.edu> for positions under the listings for health care public communications specialist. Resumes and cover letters may also be sent to Prof. Michael Parks, USC Annenberg School for Communication, 734 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90089-7725.

The **Black Alumni Network** of Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism was founded in May 1980 and since July the group has published a monthly newsletter. The BA Newsletter's mission is to keep people connected. We publish job changes and moves, news about books and films published or produced by alumni, and family milestones. And of course we keep alumni connected to news from the Columbia GSJ. Log on to our Web site at www.jrn.columbia.edu/alumni/services/ban/ or see our link on the home page of www.blackjournalist.com Wayne J. Dawkins – **editor**, Betty Winston Baye, Kip Branch, Kissette Bundy, Angela Chatman, Cheryl Devall, Dan Holly, Keith Rushing, **contributing editors**
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