

CHEYNEY UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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For Immediate Release

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**Cheyney University Inaugurates its 11th President,
Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital**

CHEYNEY, PA – (September 22, 2008) – Cheyney University of Pennsylvania will inaugurate its 11th president, Dr. Michelle Howard-Vital on Friday October 10, 2008. Centered on the theme of *Fulfilling the Promise of Excellence*, a variety of events have been planned during the week. Proceeds from all events will generate funds to support student scholarships at Cheyney University. “A Celebration of Teacher Education” will kick-off the week on Monday, October 6th at CU’s urban site (7th and Market Streets) featuring a keynote address by CU’s new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Ivan Banks.

On Tuesday, CU will host a symposium on workforce development challenges facing higher education featuring keynote speaker, Joseph O’Brien, Executive Director of the Chester County Intermediate Unit. A student oratorical contest will be hosted on Tuesday evening (see full schedule below) providing students with an opportunity to compete for prizes while expressing their views and motivating others through the art of public speaking.

A number of student-focused events are planned for Wednesday (see schedule), concluding with a dramatic presentation of *Oedipus The King* directed by Jann Ellis-Scrugs and performed by The Cheyney Players on Wednesday evening. General admission to this event is \$5.

C. Vivian Stringer will sign copies of her new book, “*Standing Tall, a memoir of tragedy and triumph*” on Thursday, October 9th. Stringer was named one of the “101 Most Influential Minorities” in Sports Illustrated in 2003 and was the 2004 recipient of the Black Coaches Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award. She has led her teams to 20 NCAA Tournament appearances, including the Cheyney University Women’s Basketball Team who made it to the final four in 1982.

Headlining Friday, October 10th will be the inauguration convocation at 1:30 p.m. and an Arts and Lecture Series Concert by “Five Men On A Stool,” a contemporary rhythm and blues jazz ensemble accompanied by a touch of spoken word. General admission is \$25

and free to CU students, faculty and staff. For more information on Inaugural Week activities see the calendar below, visit www.cheyney.edu or call (610) 399-2186.

Inaugural Week Events Calendar

Monday, October 6, 2008

A Celebration of Teacher Education

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

701 Market Street in Philadelphia

Philadelphia, PA

Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Challenges for Higher Education in Workforce Development Symposium

8:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Marcus Foster Student Alumni Center Auditorium

Cheyney University Student Oratorical Contest

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Dudley Theatre

Wednesday, October 8, 2008

Internship Institute Graduation

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

(need location)

Career Fair

11:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Marcus Foster Student Alumni Center Auditorium

Entrepreneurial Fair

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Ada Georges Dining Hall

Oedipus The King

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Dudley Theatre

General Admission: \$5

Thursday, October 9, 2008

CU Student Art Exhibit

9:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Biddle Hall

C. Vivian Stringer Book Signing

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Duckrey Social Sciences Center Auditorium

Friday, October 10, 2008

Inaugural Convocation

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Historic Quadrangle

Five Men On A Stool -- Arts and Lecture Series Concert

7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Dudley Theatre

General Admission: \$25

Cheyney University is the nation's oldest historically Black institution of higher education, and the only Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. At its inception, the school successfully provided free classical education for qualified young people, and today the university offers baccalaureate degrees in more than 30 disciplines and six master's degree programs. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.cheyney.edu>.

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