

## SCAD honors Internationally Renown Performer Jackie Chan



Jackie Chan and SCAD President Paula S. Wallace

**Hong Kong** -- Jackie Chan received an honorary professorship from the Savannah College of Art and Design for a lifetime of excellence in the cinematic arts and for nurturing others to pursue their own artistic dreams. SCAD President and Co-founder Paula S. Wallace named Chan as an honorary professor of performing arts at a reception in his honor Wednesday, Sept. 3, at the Intercontinental Hotel, 18 Salisbury Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

This marks the first time the college has awarded an honorary professorship.

According to Wallace,

SCAD selected Chan to be the college's first honorary professor because he personifies SCAD's focus on preparing students for creative careers by weaving creative vision with technical mastery to transform artistic vision into professional expertise.

"Mr. Chan has never stopped learning and creating as an actor, director and producer," said Wallace. "He has spent a lifetime refining the artistic skills and techniques he first learned at the Peking Opera School, and is an inspiration for all who wish to pursue an artistic life, particularly SCAD students."

## 'State of the Black World' Conference Aims to Set Post-Election Black Agenda

By Hazel Trice Edney

NNPA Editor-in-Chief  
WASHINGTON (NNPA) -

Unemployment for Black people has crept back into double digits for the first time in three years; currently 10.6 percent in comparison to the 5.4 percent unemployment rate of Whites and the 8 percent rate of Hispanics.

While Black unemployment hadn't reached 10 percent since November 2005, a search of data bases of the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that White and Hispanic unemployment rates have not reached that high for at least the past decade.

Unemployment stats are just one illustration of social and economic disparities that persist between the races in America. From education to health care to the criminal justice system, the adage still holds that when America gets a cold, African-Americans get pneumonia.

This is one of the reasons that a group of seasoned Black community activists and organizers will gather in New Orleans Nov. 19-23 well after the Nov. 4 election - to discuss the "state of the Black world."

"We're excited about the



Dr. Ron Daniels

prospect of Obama winning the White House," says Dr. Ron Daniels, convener of the conference. "But we must work to create and advance a progressive Black agenda no matter who wins the White House. The crisis afflicting New Orleans, before and after Katrina, is a metaphor for the conditions facing Black people across America," he says. "We must not make the mistake of believing that the new President will be able to resolve all our problems without a powerful grassroots movement to promote our agenda. This is very much in keeping with Barack Obama's position that change comes from the bottom up."

Daniels, president of the New York-based Institute of the Black World 21st Century, says the event will bring together Black civil rights leaders from all walks of life. The line up reads like a who's who of the "Black world."

They include radio talk mogul Bev Smith and Harvard law professor Charles Ogletree, who will modify a town hall meeting, the opening event of the conference. Panelists will include Marc Morial, president/CEO National Urban League; Rev. Al Sharpton, president, National Action Network; Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., president, National Rainbow/PUSH Coalition; Ben Jealous, the new president/CEO, NAACP; Dr. Julianne Malveaux, president, Bennett College for Women; Dr. Ronald Walters, Professor of government and politics, University of Maryland; Dr. Elsie Scott, president/CEO, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation; Dr. Iva E. Carruthers general secretary, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc.; Faya Rose Sanders, founder, Voting Rights Museum, Selma, Alabama; and, Dr. E. Faye

Williams, president, National Congress of Black Women. Minister Louis Farrakhan, Leader of the Nation of Islam, has also been invited as a panelist for the Town Hall Meeting.

Other activities will include a Damu Smith Leadership Development and Organizer Training Institute; Katrina policy roundtables; a special session on Haiti; a Pan-African policy forum; a Black Family Summit; and a wide range of issue-oriented work session and intergenerational dialogues.

"The Conference is timed to occur two weeks after an historic presidential election. While people of African descent are excited about the prospect of an Obama victory, most seasoned observers concur that a myriad of issues rooted in institutional racism and poverty will continue to plague Black people in America and the world whoever wins the White House," says a statement issued by Daniels.

His sentiments reflect those of civil rights leaders who spoke at a "Unity Breakfast" during the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

At that breakfast, civil rights icon Rev. Joseph Lowery - a chief supporter of Obama - declared that even if he is elected president, he must still be held accountable. "Those of us who are called to speak truth to power, we don't care what color power is," Lowery told the applauding audience.

The issues at the State of the Black World Conference will not be contained to just Black America. Daniels says delegations of organizers across North and South America, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean are expected to attend.

"The failure of government to respond effectively to the tragedy of Katrina mirrors a failure to act in Darfur, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti. Millions of our people around the world suffer because of these failures of vision and will," states conference committee chairman Rick Adams in a release. "SOBWC will be our political convention, a time to collectively embrace priority policy proposals to present to the new administration."

The town hall meeting, to be held Nov. 20, will focus on the theme, "The Black Agenda and the Presidential Election." The overall conference theme will be "Return to the Source, Restoring Family, Rebuilding Community, Renewing the Struggle."

## SSU

### Basketball...

Continued from page 17

Morris, Longwood and North Carolina Central.

Key road games include visits to Florida, Louisiana-Lafayette, Texas Tech, Georgia and Mississippi State.

Savannah State will participate in the Cincinnati Holiday Tournament Nov. 28-30 and close out the season by participating in the Independent Colleges and Universities Tournament in Orem, Utah March 5-7.

Baker will be looking to improve on last year's 14-15 record. "We hope to get our first winning season. It's one of the toughest schedules in the nation."

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### 2nd Annual South Coast Regional M/WBE Conference

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**Tuesday, September 30, 2008 - Golf Tournament**  
**The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf & Resort**

**Wednesday, October 1st, 2008 - Conference and Trade Fair**  
**Savannah International Trade and Convention Center**

<p><b>Cornell McBride</b> CEO of McBride Research Laboratories</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, September 30, Golf Tournament</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>7:00 a.m.</td><td>Registration</td></tr> <tr><td>7:30 a.m.</td><td>Driving Range Open</td></tr> <tr><td>7:45 a.m.</td><td>Sponsor Acknowledgements</td></tr> <tr><td>8:00 a.m.</td><td>Shot Gun Start</td></tr> <tr><td>1:00 p.m.</td><td>19th Hole Awards &amp; Welcome to Savannah Reception</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Wednesday, October 1, Conference &amp; Trade Show</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.</td><td>Registration</td></tr> <tr><td>8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.</td><td>Conference Breakfast</td></tr> <tr><td>9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.</td><td>Guest Speaker, Cornell McBride</td></tr> <tr><td>10:45 a.m.-12 p.m.</td><td>Workshop: Building Effective Relationships Through Networking with Nancy Lewis</td></tr> <tr><td>12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m.</td><td>Workshop: Creating Powerful Business Plans &amp; Getting Your Business Funded w/Chris Hanks</td></tr> <tr><td>1:30 p.m.</td><td>Conference Luncheon, Guest Speaker, Dr. Eunice Dudley</td></tr> <tr><td>1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.</td><td>Ribbon Cutting Ceremony</td></tr> <tr><td>2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.</td><td>Trade Show</td></tr> <tr><td>3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</td><td>Concurrent Sessions: How To Do Business With The City of Savannah</td></tr> <tr><td>5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.</td><td>Concurrent Sessions: How to Obtain Your Certification Reception</td></tr> </table>	7:00 a.m.	Registration	7:30 a.m.	Driving Range Open	7:45 a.m.	Sponsor Acknowledgements	8:00 a.m.	Shot Gun Start	1:00 p.m.	19th Hole Awards & Welcome to Savannah Reception	7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.	Registration	8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Conference Breakfast	9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Guest Speaker, Cornell McBride	10:45 a.m.-12 p.m.	Workshop: Building Effective Relationships Through Networking with Nancy Lewis	12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m.	Workshop: Creating Powerful Business Plans & Getting Your Business Funded w/Chris Hanks	1:30 p.m.	Conference Luncheon, Guest Speaker, Dr. Eunice Dudley	1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	Trade Show	3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions: How To Do Business With The City of Savannah	5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions: How to Obtain Your Certification Reception
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