



SHAW
UNIVERSITY
Divinity School



NEWSLETTER

Illuminating Paths to Prosperity

Greetings Shaw Divinity Family,

As the crisp days of October remind us of change and growth, we celebrate the continued journey of faith, scholarship, and service within our Shaw Divinity community. This month, we are inspired by the dedication of our students, faculty, and alumni who exemplify the mission of our School of Divinity—preparing leaders for transformative ministry and impactful service in the world.

We invite you to explore the stories, events, and opportunities featured in this edition, and join us in embracing the season of growth, reflection, and renewed purpose. Thank you for being an integral part of our vibrant community.

**With gratitude and blessings,
Dean Mark Harden**

October 2025
Issues #9

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Faculty & Staff Highlights



Dr. Seth Klayman, Dr. Annie Tinsley, Dr. McKinny Rosea, and Dr. Miriam Phillips Stephens, whose leadership and dedication continue to guide and inspire the Shaw University Divinity School community, at the 2025 Opening Convocation.

(Pictured From left to right)

Dr. Seth Klayman and Raven Abbott (SUDS Communication Specialist) engaging with students at Shaw University's Career & Internship Fair, made possible with the support of Mrs. Morgan Ray



We are proud to recognize alumna Rev. Dr. Tiffany Bennett-Cornelous ('98 & '14), who will serve as Music Director for Baptist Grove Church's landmark 150th Anniversary Celebration.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to justice and humanitarian service, Bishop Joe Stevenson will be presented with the W.E.B. Du Bois Humanitarian Award by Chad Lawson Cooper, acclaimed writer and director of the off-Broadway play Justice On Trial, on October 18, 2025.



Shaw University Divinity School Partners with Radio One's The Light 103.9

Shaw University Divinity School (SUDS) is proud to partner with Radio One's The Light 103.9, a collaboration that amplifies our mission and connects us to the community.

Through this partnership, SUDS reaches listeners in powerful and engaging ways:

- **Special Guest DJ Spots:** Faculty, staff, and special guests take the microphone to host live segments, sharing their unique insights, discussing faith and leadership, highlighting upcoming events, and offering words of inspiration. These spots provide a personal connection with the community, allowing listeners to hear directly from the voices shaping the next generation of leaders.
- **Commercials:** Professionally produced commercials showcase SUDS programs, initiatives, and events to a broad audience across the radio station's reach. These spots not only increase awareness of our educational offerings but also reinforce the impact of our Divinity School on students, alumni, and the wider community.



We are excited to continue this partnership, using the airwaves to educate, inspire, and engage our listeners while strengthening Shaw University Divinity School's presence in the community.

Stay tuned for more special guest DJ spots and upcoming commercials – it's a partnership you won't want to miss!

Help Us Reach Our Fall Endowment Goal!

The Shaw University Divinity School Fall Endowment is in full swing, and we are so close to reaching our goal! With your support, we are just \$10,000 away from our \$50,000 target.

Your gift makes a lasting impact, helping us provide scholarships, enhance programs, and strengthen the future of ministry leaders.

**HELP US REACH OUR
FALL ENDOWMENT GOAL!**



**\$10,000
AWAY**

FROM OUR \$50,000 GOAL

**GIVE TODAY!
SHAWU.EDU/GIVING**



Give today by visiting shawu.edu/giving and please make sure your donation is designated for the Divinity School to ensure it directly supports our mission.

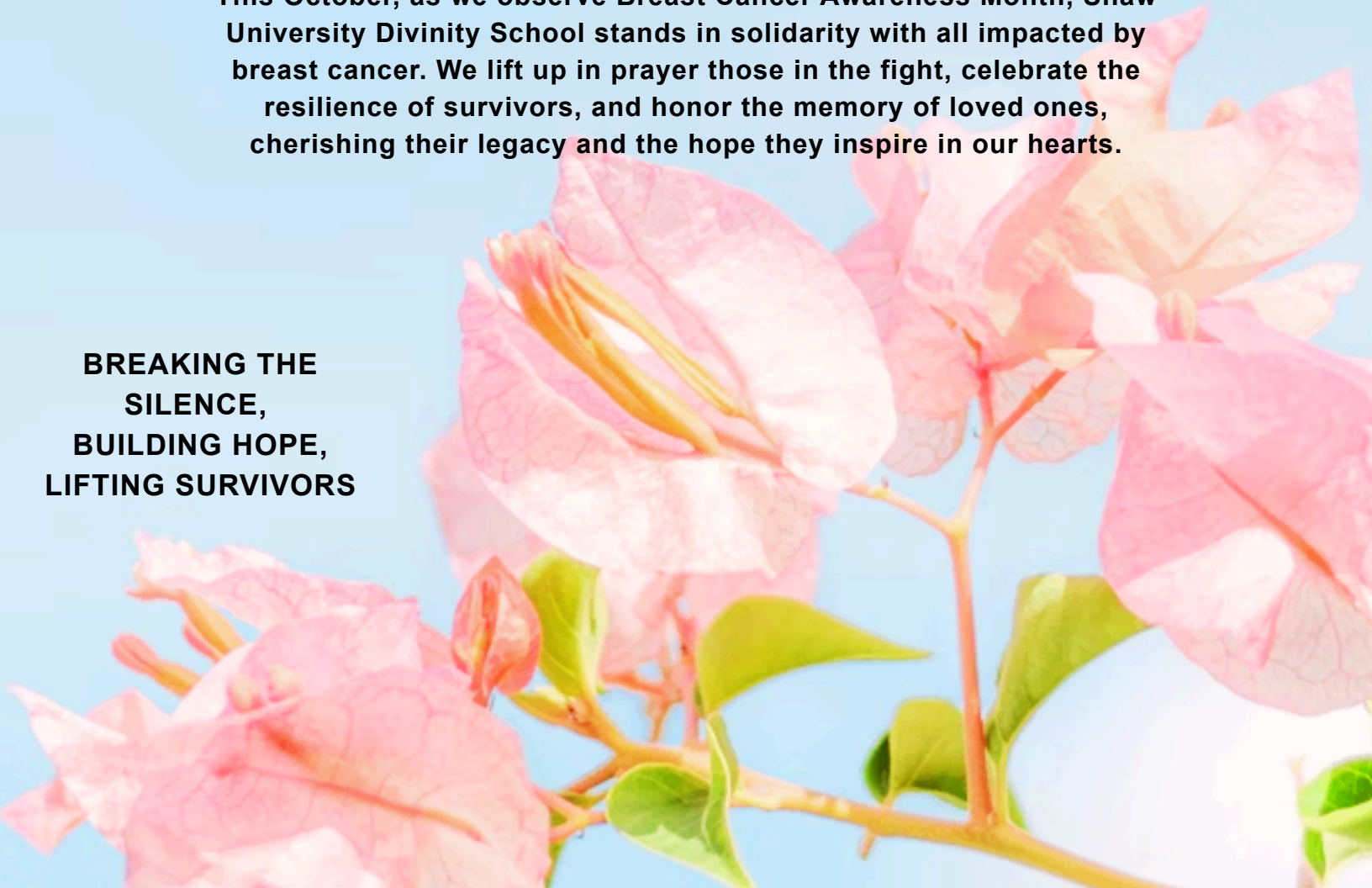
Together, we can continue to build a strong foundation for the next generation of leaders in ministry. Thank you for your generosity!



TOGETHER IN PRAYER, TOGETHER IN PURPOSE, TOGETHER FOR AWARENESS.

This October, as we observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Shaw University Divinity School stands in solidarity with all impacted by breast cancer. We lift up in prayer those in the fight, celebrate the resilience of survivors, and honor the memory of loved ones, cherishing their legacy and the hope they inspire in our hearts.

**BREAKING THE
SILENCE,
BUILDING HOPE,
LIFTING SURVIVORS**



Pre-Minister's Conference Advent Celebration

Mark Your Calendars!

Join us for an unforgettable evening of worship, fellowship, and reflection at the Pre-Minister's Conference Advent Celebration!

December 6th, 2025!!!

This year's celebration will be held in three exciting parts:

1. Community & Nonprofit Breakfast – Connect with community leaders and organizations making an impact.
2. Alumni Celebration Luncheon – Reunite with alumni, network, and celebrate our shared ministry journey.
3. Advent Worship & Celebration – Experience a spiritually uplifting service hosted by SUDS' very own Dr. Telika McCoy, Ph.D., Director of Nurturing Children and Youth for The Future, featuring inspiring messages and music.



This annual celebration is more than just an event—it's a sacred time to prepare our hearts and minds for the Advent season.

Expect an day filled with inspiration, connection, and renewal.

Why You Should Attend:

- Experience powerful messages and teaching from distinguished speakers
- Connect and network with peers, alumni, and leaders in ministry
- Be renewed in faith as we enter this sacred season

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." – Isaiah 9:2 (ESV)

☀️ The 2026 Ministers Conference – April 2026 ☀️

Sponsorship Opportunities



This spring, Shaw University Divinity School will host our historic Ministers Conference—a gathering of clergy, scholars, and community leaders. We invite you to partner with us through sponsorship opportunities that showcase your commitment to community impact and connect you with hundreds of faith leaders across North Carolina.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

BOOTH-ONLY EXHIBITOR – \$250

- TABLE IN NETWORKING ROOM
- PROGRAM LISTING

BRONZE PARTNER – \$500

- BOOTH + LOGO ON SIGNAGE & PROGRAM

SILVER PARTNER – \$1,250

- ALL BRONZE BENEFITS
- 5-MINUTE SPEAKING SLOT
- SOCIAL MEDIA RECOGNITION

GOLD PARTNER – \$2,500

- ALL SILVER BENEFITS
- 10-MINUTE SPEAKING SLOT
- PRESS RELEASE INCLUSION

PRESENTING SPONSOR – \$5,000+ (EXCLUSIVE SPOT)

- ALL GOLD BENEFITS
- TOP RECOGNITION IN EVENT MATERIALS
- VERBAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT AS PRESENTING SPONSOR

🔗 JOIN US IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FAITH LEADERSHIP WHILE GAINING MEANINGFUL VISIBILITY AND CONNECTIONS.

Stay Connected. Shape the Future.

Shaw University Divinity School alumni are the cornerstone of our legacy. Your involvement strengthens our community and empowers the next generation of ministry leaders.

Why Get Involved?

Mentor: Guide students and recent graduates in their calling and careers.

Network: Connect with alumni, faculty, and faith leaders nationwide.

Support: Contribute to scholarships, programs, and campus initiatives.

Celebrate: Share your achievements and inspire the SUDS family.

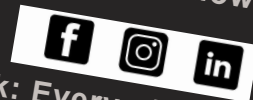


Ways to Engage:

Attend Events: Convocations, workshops, and alumni gatherings.

Volunteer: Speak, mentor, or serve in projects that make a difference.

Stay Informed: Subscribe to our newsletter and follow us online.



Give Back: Every gift counts. Support scholarships and endowments.



Together, we honor our legacy and empower the future. Join us today.