



Fordham University
Fordham Research Commons

Oral Histories

Bronx African American History Project

Summer 8-2020

Carolyn Bowman

Mark Naison

Follow this and additional works at: https://research.library.fordham.edu/baahp_oralhist

 Part of the African American Studies Commons

Transcriber: Kate Caperan

Mark Naison (MN): Hello Everyone, this is the fourth interview for the Bronx African American History Project with members of the Eta Omega Omega Chapter of the great sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha and this is an experience which not only gives our audience an opportunity to learn about this great organization, but also go back to the history of the Civil Rights Movement. And today we have Carolyn Bowman with us, who is the first initiate into the Eta Omega Omega Chapter. So Carolyn, thank you for joining us. As always, at the Bronx African American History Project we begin by talking about their family background and then how they got involved with this case with Alpha Kappa Alpha.

Carolyn Bowman (CB): Okay. Hello, I'm Carolyn Bowman. I was born and raised in Harlem. 80 ½ years ago. I am an only child. My father was a postal employee and my mother a seamstress and a music teacher. I attended public schools. – PS-68 in Harlem and then Junior High School 136, also named Harriet Beatrice Stowe in Harlem. After that I went to the county school of Julia Richmond high school which was the honors segment, honors school of Julia Richmond. After graduating from Julia Richmond High School I entered the City College of New York, aka CCNY and after that I entered the Rabinowitz School of Social Work at Hunter College from which I received a Master's Degree in 1964. Which is the year by the way that Eta Omega Omega was chartered. – I joined the Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service working in Foster Care and Adoption for the first job after Grad School. Qualified to take the examination to become a clinician in the New York City Board of Education. Took the exam in 1965 on my Birthday. – To 1966 I was called as a clinician social worker, that is, in the New York City

Board of Education. I wasn't quite ready to go because I finished number five on the list. I had kids away at camp, I was behind in dictations. I had not had a psychiatric consultation that I needed for a family. So I asked for a little bit of time. They gave me 30 days. So October 3rd as opposed to a September date, I started in the New York City Board of Education as a social worker where I continued until 1996. So 30 years in the New York City Board of Education as a clinician and in 1996 I retired. And then I did one day a week consulting at Turning Fives, those are children who are in therapeutic nursery settings. When they turn 5 they have to come out. So I had to do the evaluation to determine where they were going. Whether they were going into regular education or a special education situation. In addition to my 30 years at the Board of Education, in 1980 I became a travel consultant, which I did until 2015 actually.

MN: A travel consultant could you describe to us what that involves.

CB: Yes, I was a travel agent. I planned cruises for various people all over the world.

MN: Wow.

CB: And because my work here was only 185 days a year, I was totally lucky to not only travel a great bit, but also to do travel for coworkers and kids.

Avery Russell (AR): Could I ask a question, is that alright?

MN: Sure.

AR: What made you interested in getting involved in social work?

CB: I think I always wanted to be in a helping situation. I was always diagnosing something or somebody's problems. I was always the go-to person so at some point I changed my major, because when I started out at CUNY I was a bio-chem major. But calculus and analytic geometry

helped me to change my mind. And I went into psychology and social work and that's where I stayed.

MN: So you were in high school and college and graduate school in a very exciting and tumultuous era of the 1960s. What was it like for you in New York to be in the public schools and public colleges in the New York City school system in the 60s?

CB: Well I think I was a little bit insulated in the elementary and junior high school settings. It was an all Black setting in terms of the kids. The teachers of course were primarily white. – We were aware of racial differences and racial situations, but thank goodness it wasn't a very blatant kind of situation, it was more undercover and surreptitious. I got an excellent education in the schools which proved itself when I got to Julia Richmond County Schools, where there were probably two to three Blacks per class. We had to maintain a minimal average of 85, I'm sorry 87 to stay in the county schools. So there were teachers who were not used to Black kids – and sometimes that was evident. But again, it wasn't a blatant situation. There were situations where you could figure out what was going on, but it wasn't an unpleasant situation at any time. At least for me it wasn't unpleasant.

MN: Mhm. So, – when you started working in the New York City Public Schools, there were a lot of upheavals then, you know, around decentralization, curriculum. What was it like when you went from being a student to being a, you know, a clinical social worker in the public schools.

CB: Well I don't know if you're old enough to remember the Ocean Hill Brownsville Situation.

MN: – I'm 74 so I was there also and I was at Columbia in '68 in the uprising, so.

CB: Well in addition to the marches and the various – exposures of the racial situation, you had to cross the picket line to go to work. So I was faced with being reexamined, having to start all over again, or to cross the picket line. Needless to say, I wasn't totally happy about it but I knew what I had to do so I crossed the picket line so I actually taught in a school for several months because the teachers were out on strike and the clinicians were called into the classroom. I did what I had to do to maintain my status.

MN: Mhm. So where was that school located? Was that in Manhattan or in the Bronx?

CB: Where I worked?

MN: Yeah.

CB: At that time, all in Harlem.

MN: All in Harlem. So, you're up to that time, are you still living in Harlem at that time? – Cuz I'm curious.

CB: I lived in the house in which I was born.

MN: Wow. So the Eta Omega Omega Chapter was founded in the Bronx. How did you choose to become part of that, rather than the Harlem or Manhattan Chapter?

CB: Well that's a very interesting situation. – Because I was active in various organizations, the NAACP being one of them, I met a woman whose name was Aloncita J. Flood who happened to be a regional director for Alpha Kappa Alpha. I was not totally, I was rushed by the dauntas first, and then AKA's. I wasn't totally ready to do either of them at that time, and Aloncita almost made me promise on a stack of bibles that once I graduated I would go into the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority so that when I finished graduate school – in '64, I guess she couldn't wait for me to go into a chapter in Manhattan. And the Bronx was having a line at the time, so I joined the

line at Eta Omega Omega. Then we pledged the long tide. So I think we started out in '65, even though I didn't go over until December of '66. So I owe being an Alpha Kappa woman to Aloncita J. Flood. Because I was interested in the service organization, I was interested in just the whole situation of sorority. It wasn't as important to me as it would have been had I gone away to school because when you go away to school a sorority serves a lot of purposes. I was already involved in a lot of organizations. I had my friends and my family so I waited, and in 1966 I became an Alpha Kappa Alpha woman and made Aloncita J. Flood a very happy woman.

MN: Mhm. Ok Donna I want to turn it over to you to ask questions you know from the organization's point of view and then I'm gonna come back to, you know with the questions about the messages you would have to young people of today.

Donna Joseph (DJ): Ok, Thank you. Good afternoon again to Carolyn and we have our chapter historian – Saudah, and our former historian Sorjina, and – again I'm Donna Joseph the president of Eta Omega Omega. And so Caroline you just shared with us how you were initiated and – giving reference to Aloncita Flood. Can you, – share with us as your time in the sorority over the years, can you give us your fondest or your most impactful, your most memorable moment.

CB: Oh my goodness. – I think the ceremony when I was initiated. That was at Patricia Murphy's in December of 1966. And there was a solemnity about the ceremony, a spiritual kind of feeling. – So many of my friends were there. Both AKA's and Delta's. And, there was just a movement as it were from one situation to another situation. And inclusion, and a sisterhood which has remained till this day.

DJ: – I'm not sure you remember who the international president was at that time, but do you remember any specific programs that the chapter did in the late 60s?

CB: Well, we had a fundraiser every year for scholarships. And that was one of the major targets, was getting scholarships. And, and we did a great deal in terms of having a function, a major major function every year, and from that function we had funds to give our scholarships.

DJ: Now, do you remember how much the scholarship was?

CB: I think it was a whole big \$500 dollars [laughter]

DJ: Right. So over the years its increased so much. – What about your – you told us about the fundraiser. – What service projects took place during the late 1960s?

CB: Well helping – eventually became the – tutoring. We did tutoring. – We did scholarships as I said. – I did work in a club that I was involved with and I sort of made it coincide with the work, and it was helping children primarily. Because that was really primarily my major interest, working with children and families. And we did the same things in sororities.

DJ: Excellent. I know education is a huge focus. – What was the chapter's size during this time period?

CB: – I think it was about twenty people, and I was the youngest, which was not the greatest position to have been in because it meant disagreeing with my elders at times and having to do it in a diplomatic and respectful fashion, which wasn't always easy because I was always referred to as the baby, which I stayed for a very very long time and I held offices up to Anti-Basileus and of course to have somebody who's your children's age or your grandchildren's age in an authoritarian position didn't always go very well.

DJ: Oh, Carolyn I understand.

Everyone: [laughter]

CB: I'm sure.

DJ: So, twenty members. We know that the chartering line was twelve and then they grew to twenty. What—how do you feel with the chapter being five times that size now?

CB: It's like a new world all together. I can remember one Soror we had who came to our chapter and she was a worker, but she said she could not function at our chapter because it was too small and everything, as she said, hit the floor. And she came from very large chapters and she said many of the problems or situations that weren't so positive stayed in a small circle. Whereas in Eta Omega Omega, everything hit the floor. And that she didn't like. It didn't bother me – I worked with what I had.

DJ: Right. Right, so – what impact do you think Eta Omega Omega has had on the Bronx over the years?

CB: Oh I think it's had a great impact on the Bronx. – Young people, uh rights of passage um that we've had for years is a wonderful example of what can happen with young people when they are, what's the word, encouraged, nurtured, and education is stressed, and things other than education, families etcetera. We used to have a program where we went to children. We were at the Forest Neighborhood House and I think that and we worked with children in Forest Neighborhood house because one of the Sorors, who I think was one of the chartering members, was a director at the Forest Neighborhood House.

MN: Yah, just to let Avery know the Forest Neighborhood Houses are in the middle of a large public housing complex in the Bronx.

CB: Yes.

DJ: So, – you're referring to Guideline Bland, correct?

CB: Yes.

DJ: So Reading One to One did you, did you participate in that? Was that a program you were referring to?

CB: Yes.

DJ: Excellent. – So education, even when you were younger, even later on in the sorority, these were the programs you focused on? Cuz I know Reading One to One was a little bit – that was in the last ten years or so.

CB: Right, because I had also done a great deal of tutoring, um, in general education. And actually in German also and Spanish. Because at City College if you were a science major you had to take French or German. I already had Latin in High School so I took German because I was scared to death of French. And that was a good choice. And I learned in tutoring for years, if you don't use it, it sort of leaves you.

DJ: Absolutely. – Since you... so Carolyn. Over your 50 years of membership – I know you were initiated with the Civil Rights Movement. We went through the 90s with the Rodney King movement and now we have Black Lives Matter. So if you had to give a forwarding message to the next generation of Eta Omega Omega in terms of activism, – with the chapter, what message would you leave with... I'm gonna say with us?

CB: Continue to work because the struggle is not over and it won't be over anytime soon and it's interesting because at one regional I think it was 1968 we were in Baltimore when the cities were on fire and that was an experience because the sorority was there and of course we were considered boujee on some levels, and yet we were a part of the struggle firsthand. And I remember seeing some of the burnings a few weeks back and I thought, this is exactly like, I think it was 1968.

MN: Yah, after Dr. King's assassination there were events like that in over 100 different cities around the country.

CB: That's exactly right 1968.

DJ: Like history just repeats itself, right? – So you had the ripple effect across the country with Civil Rights and then Rodney King was the same and Black Lives matter is the same.

CB: Mhm.

MN: Mhm.

DJ: So you would encourage members to–

CB: To stay active, to work in any situation they can, because as I said I started out at the NAACP youth group that's where I met Aloncita Flood, because she was active in the NAACP also. But we went on, in fact we had a youth march on Washington I think somewhere back in the late-50s I don't remember exactly when. But that preceded the actual march on Washington which I think it was in 1963.

MN: Now, one of the things that you know Avery's involved in and many of my students are involved in is trying to change curriculum at schools to incorporate more of the Black experience. When you were in school, were you part of any movements for Black studies or –

CB: There was no such animal.

MN: So in the mid-60s you said it wasn't even on the radar screen?

CB: No. [laughter]

DJ: I think that was–

CB: Before there were no – I don't even think there were special programs back then. All of those programs came to being after I graduated. There were no Black studies programs. You

learned Black History as an aside in elementary and in junior high school. We probably learned a little bit more than others because we were in the Harlem community. And we were a part of what was going on in that community.

DJ: I think the – post-Civil Rights with the Black Power Movement was when they really started trying to rally behind inclusion in schools. But even in New York State it's not, I teach history at a high school level and it's not really incorporated.

MN: Really? And, I mean at Columbia there were no Black studies courses until the uprising of 1968. Where it was demanded by student activists. I never in my entire, – four years at Columbia College was assigned a book by a black Author. That was 1962 to 1966 and so it required an upheaval, and again part of the Black Power Movement to get that change and now, you know we see that coming back with a lot of young people including my own University.

DJ: That's interesting because–

CB: There were so few Black students on campus at CUNY College in the daytime in 1957 until I hardly think we would have been comfortable becoming part of any movement because the bottom line was finishing your education in four years. And my mother could count, and seven and four was eleven, so I went in '57 and I came out in '61. And I remember being asked in later years by Columbia students, “oh did you guys, um, sit-in, did you guys strike?” and we said no we were interested in getting our education and that was first and foremost. Other things came secondarily I think.

MN: Avery do you have some questions?

AR: Yah, I was gonna ask – when you were active in the Civil Rights Movement were there times you were worried the movement was dying down?

CB: That was— worried that the movement was?

AR: Dying down.

CB: – No not really because I was connected with the NAACP so there was always a cause with the NAACP involved, so no I didn't think it was dying down. I think when there is a disaster, for example, what we've been going through recently, that's when it reaches its peak. And then it might level off, but it wasn't dying down. And as I said I was always connected with NAACP, so I always had another perspective.

MN: It's also organizations like this keep it going. You know when you, you know when the peak goes down, you know, this organization and the NAACP and other groups like that keep working, but they do it more quietly. You know, and but – if you go into even the history of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Black Women's organizations in Montgomery were really what this movement was built around, even more than the churches. And that's a whole story that, you know, most people don't know, that two thirds of the activists in the Montgomery Bus Boycott were Black women. And they were organized and they were the ones that were able to pull together the boycott. And all the, so you know I think that's one of the reasons I wanted Avery to meet all of you. Because organizations like this, you know, they don't go in and out of fashion. They're always there.

CB: And what people don't realize is that there was a woman who preceded Rosa Parks in the bus situation, and the March on Washington was actually formulated in my churches, we owned the building called The House of Friendship, and the workers came to that building that Dr. King, Hyun Preston, the people involved in the march, Thomas Kilborne Jr. who was the pastor

of Friendship at this church at the time. So I had another firsthand look at the actual organization of the March on Washington.

MN: So you had met Dr. King, you know, at your church?

CB: Oh, yes. I met him twice.

MN: Mhm. Who are other people you have met, – you know, we might as historians know about?

CB: Well Bayard Rustin was incredible. – Ralph Wilkens, who was the sleeping car porter person at the time. I think it was Ralph Wilkens. Uh, he was the person in charge of these sleeping car porters. He was very involved in the beginning of the planning of the march. – Ralph Abonathy we met. Um, there were others I just can't think of who they were at this time.

MN: Avery, you have another question?

AR: Yah, I was gonna ask like when did you start getting involved with the NAACP?

CB: When I was about sixteen. And then, I decided I wanted to work for them. So after school and during the summer I worked at the New York Branch NAACP as secretary. And I was under the president of the time, L. Joseph Overton. And people like Russell Crawford and (26:55) Hortense Bowery, they were education chairmen. And I learned a lot about community work at the NAACP.

AR: So what attracted you to it?

CB: – I think I met a young man who was involved in the NAACP. I went on the youth march on Washington and we became very good friends, we're friends to this day. And he was involved as one of the – chaperones for the March on Washington. But it was, because the NAACP was on my corner, I would see various people. And there was a woman who was a secretary of the

branch, the major secretary of the branch, that I always felt I wanted to be like. I liked the way she looked, I liked the way she spoke, I liked the way she walked, and I wound up being her assistant at the NAACP when I started to work there. So I had a lot of firsthand knowledge early on. And I wanted to work and my father didn't so I signed working papers and I was able to work with things like that.

MN: So – are you optimistic about the future, uh, you know or given all the craziness around us, but also given the activism of young people, what's your perspective on where we're heading?

CB: Well I think it's in the hands of the young people quite frankly. I think they are going to be the motor that is going to push this along. I am cautiously optimistic, hopefully optimistic, it's going to take a lot and it's going to take a long time because I don't think that people's attitudes change that radically. And even if they're not changed, at least if they can be altered to the point where these situations can be less troublesome than they have been. But we have to think that it's going to get better.

MN: Do you have, again, remembering that this interview is gonna be put on a digital site where people from all over the world are gonna be viewing it, uh, cuz that's what we do with the Bronx African American History, do you have any other thoughts that you'd like to share with the people who will be, ya know, watching this?

CB: Well I think if we're ever able to freely travel again, which we were able to do before – when we go to other countries, I think we need to learn as much about the inhabitants in the countries as we can. I think we have to be open to sharing our culture, and what goes on in our country with others. And you have to continue to learn, accept, and be able to put your opinions and your most positive thoughts about what should happen in the future.

MN: One more thing, because there's another part of you which was the travel consultant, what countries that you visited or organized groups to go to had the biggest impact on you?

CB: Well my favorites quite frankly were Italy and Greece. I went back and forth to Switzerland a lot, of course I've been to the islands, I've been to China, I've been to Japan, and actually because I was a social worker there is the International Conference of Social Workers. Which held its conference every two years in a different country. So I went to Africa, I went to China, I went to Japan, I also traveled to Australia. I did some of this in conjunction with work, but much of it I did on my own because I was able to plan my own trips, and I was also able to take part with other groups going. But I think if I had to choose countries, Italy and Greece were my favorites.

MN: Okay. Any other questions before we pose for our photo?

CB: No I don't think so.

MN: Ok, one second. So everybody, let me get my cell phone ready, and everybody smile. Smile again. Excellent. Ok, so thank you again for this very illuminating portrait into, oh uh I almost forgot, one other question. Do you still live in Harlem?

CB: Yes, I still live in the house in which I was born.

MN: Oh that's amazing, so Harlem has gone through some interesting demographic changes that some people would use the term gentrification to describe.

CB: Yes.

MN: What is your view of that phenomenon and its impact on your neighborhood, your home, your community?

CB: Well I think there are positives and negatives. – There's a lot to be learned from other cultures. There's a lot that we could share with other cultures. The only— and of course a lot of the services improved with the gentrification. But unfortunately many of the people who called Harlem home and could afford to live in Harlem can't afford to stay, or can't afford to live there now. And that's unfortunate. Because, it has changed the color of the various blocks, it has changed the color of organization, and that's a good thing however, the other people, the people who were living in Harlem, and wanted to remain to be a part of it, many of them have not been able to remain there.

MN: Mhm. Right, so you've seen some displacement – of people, who would have liked to see you know, more resources, more services, but now are being pushed into the Bronx or Westchester, or wherever.

CB: Yah. And I can remember there was an exodus of people moving to the suburbs. Many Blacks that lived in our area moved to St. Albans. That was one of the major areas to which they moved. And then they decided they wanted to come back, but they couldn't afford to come back, and many of them had sold their houses, and renting or buying another house was prohibited. So there are pluses and minuses to the quote “gentrification” situation. And, our block for example, we have a meet and greet every year. And year by year, the balance becomes almost fifty-fifty. Because the homes that are sold are primarily bought by white families – and there are many more white families on our block than there were when I was growing up or in later years.

MN: What's your block?

CB: 131st Street.

MN: 131st Street between where and where?

CB: Lenox and Seventh.

MN: Oh my god. My favorite—

CB: It's between Malcolm X and Adam Clayton Powell.

MN: Right. Well my favorite bookstore was on the corner of 131st. Libertarian Bookstore. And I used to have my students come down from Fordham to order their books there. The owner Una Mulzac was an amazing person.

CB: Tall light-skinned black woman that was there with the curly hair?

MN: Yes! Her father was the first black captain of a merchant marine ship. Hugh Mulzac, you know uh, legendary figure in the 1940s during World War II. And she owned that bookstore and — I was there all the time. I also did research at the Schomburg Center a lot, and I still remember restaurant Shabazz Steak and Take that was run by the nation of Islam.

Saudah Muhammad: I went to school across the street, I went to that school.

MN: Oh Okay, okay.

CB: What was the name of the restaurant?

MN: Shabazz Steak and Take. There was a Chock Full o'Nuts I think in the corner.

CB: A Chock Full o'Nuts was on 135th and Lenox.

MN: Right. But — that was a Nation of Islam — Restaurant. — I was probably one of the few white people to go there but that's sort of the story of my life anyways, so.

CB: Danny Sparrow who bought that property and had — Pan Pan, I don't know if you remember the restaurant called Pan Pan. He grew up on 131st Street and Lenox Avenue right across from the Bookstore and eventually bought and owned that Pan Pan until it had a major fire and was destroyed.

MN: Wow. Well, – it's amazing – so you're still in the house you were brought up in. That's a great New York story.

CB: Until it falls down around me [laughs].

MN: I mean that something you should be a feature article in The New York Times Magazine. I mean how many people in New York still live in the house they were born in, and have had a distinguished career as yours. I mean it's kind of amazing.

CB: And I traveled all over the world but that was still home. And Ginger still lives in the house she was born in.

MN: Mhm, okay.

CB: She took time away, I've never left.

MN: Hahaha okay well if there's not anything else – thank you all so much. – You know again I'm glad Avery you can join us because, you know she's a leader of the future and meeting someone with your–

CB: Now Avery is attending where now?

AR: – I go to Packer. It's a private school in Brooklyn Heights.

MN: And she's – making them make some changes, right? In curriculum – just as my students are doing at Fordham right now so it's a time when people in positions of authority are being asked what, you know, you give lip service to Black Lives Matter, what are you doing to change the way your institution deals with–

DJ: Where is this school located?

AR: Mine?

DJ: Yes.

AR: It's in Brooklyn Heights.

MN: It's been there since, what, the 1850s or something?

AR: Yah. Yah it's been there since the 1800s.

CB: Is it near Congress street?

AR: – I don't think so.

MN: Joralemon is that it? Joralemon Street?

CB: Oh Joralemon.

AR: Yeah.

CB: My first job was on um, Court Street, I'm sorry Skurmahount Street Brooklyn Bureau of Social Service. And when the Department of Welfare changed its name it became the Brooklyn Bureau Community Service.

MN: Right.

JC: I asked because, um, I know public schools and private schools are different across New York State so I don't know if you have to take the Regents exam? Because on the U.S. history Regents Exam they only have one question of African Americans. As I was saying, the curriculum has not changed.

MN: So where do you teach high school, in what city?

JC: I teach U.S. history in Yonkers.

MN: In Yonkers.

JC: Mhm. So it's the second largest school district in the state. But across the state for the entire state the U.S. Regents they're fifty multiple choice questions on the Regents and there's only one question on African Americans. And it's the same answer every year. It's either Martin Luther

King Jr. or Rosa Parks. So the curriculum hasn't really changed from what – sort of Carolyn has been talking about. If you look at most of the textbooks they don't include Malcolm X, so they'll be a whole page on Martin Luther King and one sentence on Malcolm X so – I applaud you Avery for starting on with the private schools but I had a feeling they don't really uh fall under the New York State guidelines.

MN: Right.

CB: Now Avery is your school a high school or a private college?

AR: No, my school goes from lower school to high school. So my siblings also go there, well two of them do.

CB: Have you chosen a college?

AR: I have not – I'm just going into Junior Year so I'm still, I'm starting to look more now.

CB: Well you'll have to start making a decision soon.

AR: Yes.

CB: Many of my friends have masters of social work degrees from Fordham, down here near Lincoln Center.

MN: Right, yeah they have a very good social work school. – And – but everybody is – under scrutiny to see if they can do better, if they can make their faculty more diverse, if they can – have policies that are more redistributive in terms of communities which have been underserved.

So this is very complicated, but – the issues are being raised at my University, even if it makes some people uncomfortable. And when you raise issues, people get uncomfortable –

Saudah Muhammad (SM): Can I ask Avery a question as well?

AR: Yes.

SM: I applaud you for that work – being so young and trying to make a curriculum more inclusive is an uphill battle. Are you finding that the teachers and other administrators and students are supporting your work?

AR: I think students in my grade have changed a lot because there's been a lot of like forums and stuff where people have liked talked about issues – which I think has helped the students a lot. A lot of teachers are willing to work. I would say administration is the hardest part of it, um, yeah that's the most challenging to get through but once you get I think more teachers and more students it becomes – and parents emailing the school that's when I think administration starts to be more willing to change.

MN: Okay, well thank you again for the remarkable interview. And – as our graduate assistant Lionel Spencer when he, you know, in September will get all four interviews up. Please send me information about the chapter that I can pass on to students at Fordham because sometimes it is a very lonely existence for students of color at schools like Fordham. And – I think solidarity and support from people who have a lot of experience with these issues is very important so thank you again. Thank you Saudah for pushing me to do this because – it's something I've learned a lot from but I also think that the young people I work with when these interviews are up are going to gain a lot from, you know, from stories that are not in, first of all they may not have even had them in history books as Donna was saying, but these stories, you know, bring history to life. So thank you, and Avery we'll see you soon.

AR: It was great to meet you, bye.

CB: And all the success Avery.

MN: Avery did great.

Everyone: Thank you, goodbye.

[End of Zoom Call]