

# TADOHE

FEBRUARY 2022 SPOTLIGHT  
HBCU CELEBRATION SERIES

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This issue: St. Philip's College

HBCUs have long-been a cornerstone of the Black community. With the majority of them being founded a few years after the passing of the Emancipation Proclamation, they represent the desire that the Black community has for collective advancement through education.

This is one of the main reasons TADOHE wanted to utilize our platform to spotlight our Texas HBCUs and their accomplishments over the years. It is so important to value and celebrate these spaces because they foster the diversity and inclusion that TADOHE and our national association, NADOHE, were created to support.

## About St. Philip's College

St. Philip's College, one of the oldest and most diverse community colleges in the nation. It is the only college to be federally designated as both a historically black college and a Hispanic-serving institution. They have two campuses located on the East and Southwest sides of San Antonio.



ALAMO  
COLLEGES  
DISTRICT

St. Philip's College

# A Brief History of St. Philip's College

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- Founded in 1898 by James Steptoe Johnston, a bishop of St. Philip's Episcopal Church of the West Texas Diocese, St. Philip's Normal and Industrial School was a school designed to educate and train recently emancipated slaves. It opened March 1, 1898, as a weekend sewing class for six black girls, taught by Miss Alice G. Cowan, a missionary with the Episcopal Church.
- In 1902 Artemisia Bowden, the daughter of a former slave, joined the school as an administrator and teacher. Miss Bowden served St. Philip's College for 52 years. Under her leadership, the school grew from an industrial school for girls into a high school and later a junior college (During this period, the institution was known as Bowden's School).
- In 1927, After several building additions, St. Philip's became a junior college for the black community of San Antonio and the area.
- During the Great Depression, the Episcopal Church was unable to continue providing financial support for the school it founded. Bowden, now the president of St. Philip's College, fought to keep the school afloat. She is considered the savior of St. Philip's College, as she frequently used her own money to pay teachers and to keep the doors open. In a fundraising effort, she traveled around the country with a quartet of singing students soliciting donations for the historically black college.
- In 1942, the school, retaining the St. Philip's Junior College name, became affiliated with San Antonio College and the San Antonio Independent School District, marking the end of the college's era as a private institution.
- Since 1987, St. Philip's has undergone a lot of expansion. The college added the Southwest Campus, a hub for technical training programs and formerly part of Kelly Air Force Base, as an official campus. A multi-million-dollar capital expansion added major buildings to the campus; including the state-of-the-art theater complex at the MLK campus; the Northeast Learning Center in 1996; and the Learning and Leadership Development Center in 1997 (in collaboration with the City of San Antonio). In 2009, the Welcome Center, Center for Health Professions, and Center for Learning Resources were officially open to welcome students.
- In 2015, nearly 50 years after her death, Artemisia Bowden, was recognized by the Episcopal Church as a Holy Woman. The 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Salt Lake City authorized adding Bowden's name to the liturgical calendar in "Holy Women, Holy Men: Celebrating the Saints." August 18 is her designated feast day.

St. Philip's mission is to empower their diverse student population through educational achievement and career readiness. As a Historically Black College and Hispanic Serving Institution, St. Philip's College is a vital facet of the community, responding to the needs of a population rich in ethnic, cultural, and socio-economic diversity. St. Philip's College has earned a legacy of creating an environment that fosters excellence in academic and technical achievement while expanding its commitment to providing increased opportunity and access to students.

## SPC 2021-2022 Highlights

- Percentage of SPC Male Graduates Climb Ahead of National Average
- Dr. Loston Delivers Keynote for Visit San Antonio
- SPC Partners with Strada Education Network to Connect Students' Education and Aspirations
- Director for Student Success Named a 2022 Outstanding First-Year Student Advocate
- SPC Debuts New Community Garden
- SPC Partners with San Antonio Spurs to Provide Career Development Opportunities to HBCU Students

## SPC 2022 Black History Month Celebration

- St. Philip's College is celebrating Black History Month (BHM) beginning February 1, 2022. The 2022 schedule features events for students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community. The diverse schedule of virtual programs and events strives to motivate, inspire and enlighten the SPC community in honor of National Black History Month.
- The month kicked off with a virtual presentation featuring Dr. Kenneth R. Kemp and SPC President, Dr. Adena Williams Loston premiering on February 7, 2022, at 3 PM. The kick-off presentation with closed captioning is available to view on their YouTube Channel.
- Their celebration of Black History Month 2022 continued with the Meet the Artist Showcase featuring artist Lionel Sosa. Sosa created a series called, "Living in My Skin". It features 30 oil-on-linen portraits of Black men, ages 10 to 90, as well as a two-part film documentary which premieres on PBS station KLRN in February 2021 during Black History Month. (The series can be streamed at the KLRN streaming site.) The purpose of the project is to shine a light on today's reality, what it's like to be a Black man or boy in San Antonio, and to help bring about a better understanding of each other as a community.
- Another great opportunity SPC is providing during Black History Month is a discussion on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: Bystander Intervention with guest speaker, Latasha Teamer. Teamer is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist Associate, and certified General Education teacher who specializes in the counseling and educational services of children, adolescents, and adults. She uses a multidisciplinary approach, as she believes that through collaboration clients are offered a wide range of options and services that meet their diverse needs in our growing society.

An institution is only as good as those who lead it. Pictured below, are members of Jarvis's administration. We would be remiss if we did not take space to show our appreciation and shine the spotlight on all of the St. Philip's College faculty and staff. They are a huge part of what makes SPC so wonderful.

## St. Philip's College Leadership:



Dr. Adena Williams Loston,  
President



Marsha P. Hall,  
Executive Assistant to the  
President



Randall Dawson,  
Vice President for Academic  
Success



George H. Johnson III,  
Interim Vice President for  
College Service



Diane Hester,  
Interim Vice President for  
Student Success



Chris Beardsall  
Dean for Academic Success,  
Applied Science & Technology



Edith Orozco  
Dean for Academic Success,  
Applied Science & Technology



Dr. Vanessa Anderson  
Dean for Academic  
Success, Academic  
Services



Dr. Michael Grillo  
Interim Dean for Academic  
Success, Arts & Sciences

# St. Philip's College Leadership (continued):

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Jessica Cooper  
Dean for Academic Success,  
Health Sciences



Dr. Paul Machen  
Dean for Student Success,  
Educational Support Services



Christina Cortez  
Dean for Student Success,  
Enrollment Management



Jeffrey French  
Director of Strategic Initiatives



Adrian Jackson  
Director of Marketing & Strategic  
Communications



Dr. Sharon Crockett-Ray  
Director of Institutional  
Advancement



Dr. Tomeka C. Wilson  
Academic Program Director, Title  
III Grants Management Office



Jorge Flores  
College Budget Officer



Dr. Diane Gavin  
Interim Director of Institutional  
Readiness