

DEAN, SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dean Paul Boylan

MAY 16 1988

RE: Projections for Visiting MLK/Chavez/Parks Professorships- 1988-89

FROM: Willis Patterson *WCP*

DATE: May 12, 1988

I have been in conversation with Profs. Aronson, R.L. Brown, Shirley Sparling, Spriggs, and Standifer, and with several minority students in the School of Music, regarding ideas for visiting MLK/Chavez/Parks Professorships for the coming academic year. The exchanges have been all very enthusiastic and hopeful, owing, at least partly, to the success which has been experienced by the visits of our four personalities during the past academic year. There is the general feeling among faculty and students, that this program provided the school of music community and curriculum with some wonderful experiences, interactions and performances. We are very anxious to have at the same amount of support from the MLK visiting professorship committee this year as the past, and more if at all possible and feasible. To this end, the following names are put forth as visiting professors under this program for the coming academic year:

**FALL TERM, '88**

PROF. DAVID BAKER - Chairman of the Jazz Studies Department at Indiana University, Bloomington, and possibly the leading figure in composition of works for large ensembles (orchestra, bands), and solo instruments and voice which "fuse" the styles of jazz with such familiar and favored western classical music forms as concerto, suite, artsong, and Sonata. He writes these compositions for String Quartets and other chamber combinations, as well. More than six long playing records featuring his music, exclusively, are commercially available, and performances of his music have been given by many of the top American and European orchestras and solo artists. He has indicated a willingness to come for a one or two week period, during which time, he could interact with students in the composition department, our jazz studies classes, those in performance areas and with our minority students in general. It is possible that a composition of his could be performed by one of our ensembles in a public performance.

DR. CHARLOTTE HETH - Native American (Juneau, Alaska Indian), is a member of the ethnomusicology department (Assoc. Prof.) of the University of California in Los Angeles, where she chairs the area of Indian Studies. She is presently the Director of native American program at Cornell University as a visiting professor. She is a highly regarded authority on the music of Native Americans, and has been

recommended by Prof. Standifer. She could lecture to some of our classes in Music Education, meet with students in Music History and Musicology, and perhaps give a seminar on the subject of Native American Music. Her name has been put forth by Prof. Standifer. (See attached vitae).

UNDINE SMITH MOORE- Composer, retired Professor of Theory, piano and composition from Virginia State University, Petersburg, Va. One of the most highly respected composers and authorities on the music of black Americans. Her presentations around the country on the subjects of black writers, poets and dancers have been highly lauded. Many of her former students look upon her as a most important figure in the history of black American music. These former students include Billy Taylor, Camilla Williams, Michael Gordon (current Dean of Students, Indiana University, Bloomington), and conductor Isaiah Jackson. She is available for either fall or winter terms. Her very important work, SCENES FROM THE LIFE OF A MARTYR, would be an excellent composition for a second Concert in Memoriam. She would do a public lecture, in addition to speaking to classes in American Music, Music Theory and Compositio

#### **WINTER TERM, 1989**

HALE SMITH - Composer of considerable reputation, and one of the main figures present during the 1985 Symposium on Black American Music. He has recently retired from the faculty of the University of Connecticut, at Storrs. His work MEDITATIONS IN PASSAGE will be performed by the Ann Arbor Symphony in April of 1989, conducted by Carl St. Clair. The solo parts will be sung by Washington Holmes, Baritone, and Glenda Kirkland. Visits and presentations to classes in Composition and American Music would be planned in addition to an open seminar sponsored by Music History and Musicology.

ANDRE DeSHIELDS - Highly regarded and respected director, performer and choreographer. The theatre department has put forth the request that this artist be invited to our campus for the Winter term, 1989. He is projected to work with two graduate design students and a School of music graduate composition major in directing a scheduled production of Euripides TROJAN WOMEN in conjunction with students in the acting/movement class. He would also give lectures and workshops in Theatre 222: Introduction to Black Theatre, and Theatre 233, Acting and the Black Experienced. Mr. DeShields as previously on our campus during a Humanities Institute Symposium on Black Theatre in America for two days last January. It think it highly important that this particular request be approved. The department of Theatre has put forth an excellent