



*On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of Morris Brown College, I tip my hat with deep admiration and great respect for our President-elect, Mr. Barack Obama. Though obscure just a few years ago, Obama, a man of color, has shown that all things are possible as he has risen to lead the greatest nation in our world today. Obama has given all of us hope for the future. He has brought to fruition the dream that started with our forefathers — and he has inspired us all, regardless of our backgrounds, to aspire to greater heights. We at Morris Brown pledge our unwavering support to Obama as he fulfills his destiny as a change agent. Mr. President, you can count on Morris Brown College!*

**Dr. Stanley Pritchett**

Barack Obama is a pivotal figure that will be transformative for this country. Just his mere election has finally given credibility to the Declaration of Independence. He brings not only an intellectual genius which is so important to leadership, but eloquence and a serenity which verses on the near mystical. We are definitely entering a whole new day in the 21st century and it is President Obama who will usher us in. He is a man of character, sensitivity, integrity, temperament and intelligence. He loves this country deeply. He has always put service ahead of ideology. He has a courage that is unmatched. He epitomizes that in America, anything is possible.

**Dr. Rufus G.W. Sanders**, Sandusky, Ohio



This triumph triggers so many emotions in all of us. For me, a child of the Jim Crow era, it conjures up all the sacrifices, the marches, the lives lost, the places you could not go, the places you could not sit and the dreams you dare not pursue. That is why it is so difficult for my generation to speak about it, for any length of time, without tears welling in our eyes, and our voices being choked with so much emotion that we are left speechless. I am so proud of what has happened and now committed more than ever to "Be the Change." That is the challenge now for all of us!

**James E. Young**

When the new "First Family" walked across the stage after President Barack Obama's acceptance speech, I overflowed with emotion. I thought, 'finally, a family that looks like my family!' All I could do was give thanks.

**Patricia E. Chambers**

*One of my favorite quotes is "love is a commitment, not an emotion." I love that quote because one always finds success in the things that they commit to, and if an emotional approach is taken to everything, then that can lead to bad decision making. This quote exemplifies the Obamas.*

**Nicole Barrett**

*I was in Denver interviewing some of the people who were responsible for bringing the DNC to Denver for the 100th year. Once the election results were in, people began to say how they felt. A statement was made that I thought was wonderful: "Rosa sat so that Martin could walk; Martin walked so that Barack could run; and Barack ran so that our children can fly!"*

**Denise DeBurst Gines**

*After the tears flowed, I felt like, Wow! Unearned suffering is truly redemptive. The suffering and sacrifice of dad and mom and all of the Non-violent freedom soldiers of the movement laid a strong foundation for President-elect Obama to stand in hope and to withstand the enemies of change. My mother, Coretta S. King, was right when she said, 'there is a spirit and a need and a man at the beginning of every great human advance. Every one of these must be right for that particular moment in history or nothing happens.' The election of President-elect Obama as the 44th president is that moment. Yes we can now move forward to advance the unfinished work of my father and mother.*

**Bernice A. King**



How could I ever find the right words to express how I feel about President-elect Obama? He has shown America and the world that there are smart, articulate black men out there who love their wives and children. He has proven that black men can be cool, yet take care of business. He has inspired people of all ages, races and genders around the world. He's proven that you can disagree without being disagreeable ... a lesson from which we can all learn.

**Cheryl Green**

*One more myth has been shattered, one more barrier has been overcome and, ironically, a man named Barack Hussein Obama has been elected the 44th President of the United States. Words cannot begin to describe the joy, hope and pride I feel in this gifted, talented man becoming the leader of this nation. His "audacity of hope" makes each of us stand taller, prouder and committed to facing down the challenges ahead. And, as African Americans, we can tell our children with certainty, "yes, you can be president."*

**Sybil Freeman**



**YES! WE! CAN!** These three words carry a tremendous amount of weight and purpose. These three words are about standing on the shoulders of our ancestors who made it all possible. Yes We Can make a difference; Yes We Can advocate for those individuals who are unable to fight for their rights; Yes We Can stand together as a people regardless of race, creed, color, nationality, political standings or personal background. We can do all things through Christ who gives us strength. Impossibilities no longer exist ... there are only possibilities! Yes We Will!

**Gloria Ellison**

As I stared at the television screen and watched the phenomenal numbers of people standing in line all around the country to vote, I was taken back to a time four years ago. My father fretted about getting to the polls to cast his vote. It was after 6:30 p.m. and his knees, riddled with arthritis were not cooperating. He drove every where he wanted to go and found himself too proud to let any of his children know that he had not been to the polls. When my sister, who stopped by his home practically every day, realized he had not voted, she urged him to get dressed and take the short ride around the corner to the polls. She called ahead and discovered that a voter registrant would bring his ballot to the car. Daddy cast his vote that day and with tears in his eyes, remembered a time when trying to vote may have cost him his life! He never missed an opportunity to exercise his right to vote. Now a short time after his death, we have reached the ultimate dream, the ability to vote for the first black president, a man whom we respect and call our leader, not because of his skin color, but because of his abilities, charisma and oh yes, because we are oh so proud to see blacks and white unite to pick the best of the best! My father would have been so proud at how far we have come as a nation.

**Joyce Allen**

*The incredible victory of President Barack Obama is a reminder that all things are possible when you have the faith to believe, persevere, and remain focused on your vision. Don't spend time becoming bitter over what others say; instead, let your actions and passionate pursuit of your goals lead you to the successes you desire.*

**Nancy J. Lewis**



*The election of Senator Obama is a defining moment in our nation's history. It warms my heart that every child in Atlanta has evidence that nothing is out of their reach. As President-Elect Obama so eloquently noted, the fact that Ms. Ann Nixon Cooper, a 106-year-old Atlantan, had the opportunity to vote for an African American for president in her lifetime is affirmation of the promise of America. One remarkable journey has come to an*

*end. But for our young boys, girls, men and women who are now also energized and fueled with the audacity of hope, the real journey has just begun.*

**Senator Kasim Reed**

*A great leader, makes an even greater follower; a wise leader is considered wiser when he can learn from the humblest of all; a progressive leader is a leader who carefully and continually builds on a solid foundation that has already been laid; a meek and humble leader is one who remembers from whence he came and how quickly he may return. A successful leader always seeks divine counseling, watches as well as prays, and trusts in a power that is higher than he. An understanding leader understands that promotion comes neither from the north, nor from the south, but from God.*

**Merry J. Ford**

*Good men do well in life and are remembered by close ones. Great men are successful in life and are remembered by many. But extraordinary men's lives are appreciated and remembered by all. Barack Obama is an extraordinary man and his race for the presidency was very inspirational. As a 27-year-old black man, I'm very glad to be alive to witness this moment in America's history.*

**Joseph Michael Lindsay**

*People often ask, "Did you think this would happen in your lifetime?" My answer is, "Yes, I did." Having grown up in Birmingham, Ala., in the '50s and '60s, I attended civil rights meetings with my mother. I knew the families of the little girls who were killed in the 16th Street Church bombing. As a young adult, I attended the University of Alabama not long after George Wallace stood in the schoolhouse doorway. As a professional, I saw the intentions of the nation's corporations evolve each decade from integration to EEOC and Affirmative Action, to making the business case for diversity and inclusion. All of these efforts were inspired by the deep belief of a people. "YES, WE CAN!"*

**Verna Ford**

*I am overjoyed with the election of Barack Obama as the next President of United States of America and am now a believer. For God to intervene in the American politics at this time has made a believer that America is truly "God's Own Country."*

**Henry OnBiko**