



ENGLAND WASHINGTON D.C. SERIES
JERRY DRENDEL • PHOTOGRAPHY



The Essay Writing Competition:

Trip to Washington DC/USA Black History Month/February 2010



Hidden Histories: Essay Writing Competition Prize

- All expenses paid one week trip to Washington D.C, USA : **February 2010**
- America's Black History Month (1 student from every Islington school)
- Tour of the White House
- A tour and student hosted talk at Howard University
- Visits to arts and cultural institutions and places of historic interests (African Art museum, Black Civil War Museum, Kennedy Centre for performing arts)
- A visit to a famous Black Baptist church– African-American Sunday lunch
- A meeting with a well-known African-American media icon or TV show
- An evening with African-American peers and a day in their High school
- Visits to poor versus rich African-American neighbourhoods
- A visit to a black owned/themed restaurant – Ben's Chillies Bowl/Bee Smith

BHM 2009: ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF ENTRANTS

- Competition ran from: July 2009 and October 2009
- Just under 100 entries – Year 10/11/12/13 (14-18-yrs old)
- 30 Finalists (28 Interviewed)
- 3 Judges: 2 men (sponsors Kier/US Embassy) 1 woman
- Islington schools gender profile: 5 single sex schools (3 girls/2 boys) and 5 mixed (2 academies)
- 18 girls and 10 boys (+ 2 boys disqualified)
- 10 winners were 6 girls and 4 boys

BHM 2009: ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION Visit To the US Embassy In Governor Square



- Runners up (finalists): two prize giving ceremonies @ The American Embassy and Cambridge Education HQ.....lots of lovely prizes. 10 winners attended a private audience with the then US Ambassador to the UK at the former American Embassy Chancery at **1 Grosvenor Square**,

BHM 2009: ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION OVERVIEW OF TEN WINNERS

- Six girls: Layla, Care, Shenece Liburd, Ann Kirabo, Sahar, Nanah Colly
- Four boys: Malcolm, Abdulhakim, Degol, Curtly
- 3 Adults + 1 special guest
- Year 10 (6 students)
- Year 11 (3 students)
- Year 12 (1 student)
- Somali(2), Turkey, Montserrat, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Ghana, Eritrea, Trinidad, Sudan-Egypt-Greece

BHM 2009: ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Visit To Washington DC - Departure Day - Saturday



- Ten winners and teachers at Heathrow airport awaiting Virgin Atlantic flight to Washington Dulles airport
- Setting The Scene: Historic Snowstorms hit the Washington Dc area: We arrive at the tail-end of '52' inches of snow and 40mph blizzards, that closes DC down for over a week

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip

Seven Days of Discovery (Day 1/Part 1) Sunday



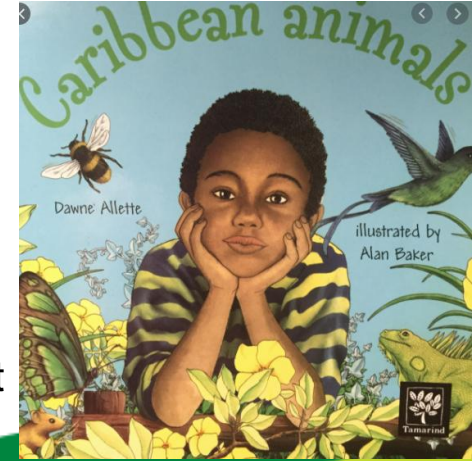
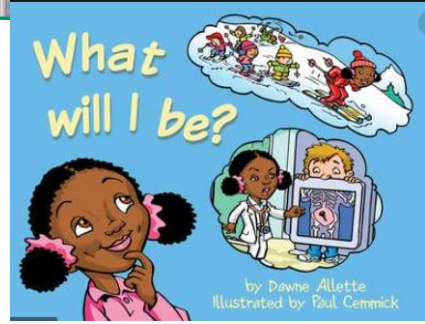
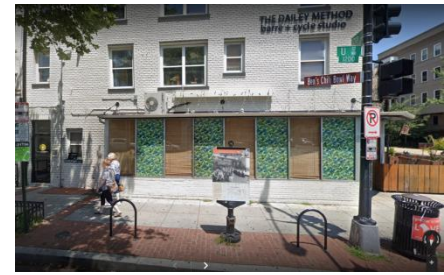
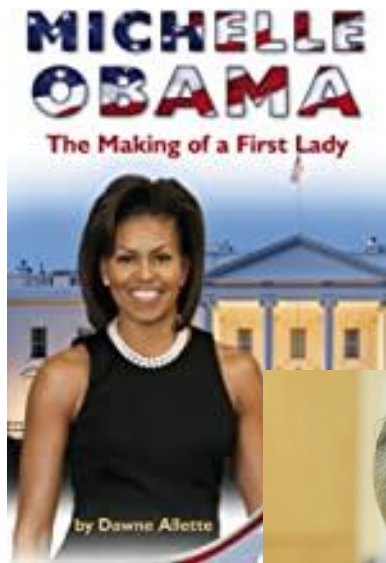
Breakfast at the 5*Star Madison Loews Hotel



19th Street Baptist Church
Valentine's Day sermon
and fellowship lunch



BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 1/Part 2) Sunday



- Valentine evening supper at The Islander Caribbean Restaurant
- A private audience with author: Dawn Allette



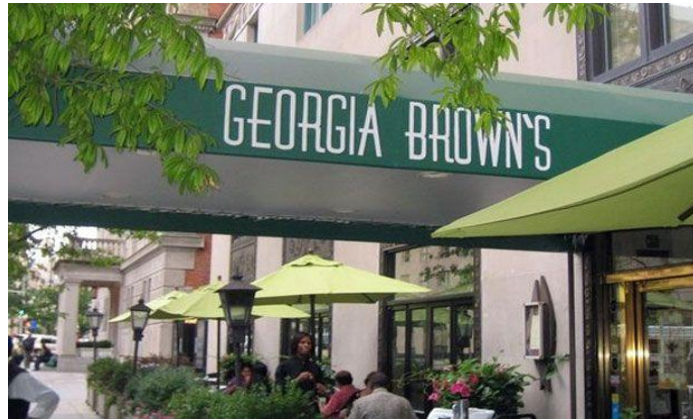
BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 2) Monday



- President's Day (Bank holiday) – Rehearsals for the White House
- National Museum of African Art (Smithsonian)



BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 2) Monday **EVENING**



- Sumptuous supper at the legendary Georgia Brown restaurant, famous for it's Soul Food.



BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 3) Tuesday



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HOWARD
UNIVERSITY



We prepare diverse, talented and ambitious students to learn, lead and embody excellence in truth and service.

Explore Our Programs

Schedule A Tour



Howard University – our students visited one of America’s most famous ‘historically Black’ universities. They met with students, attended a lecture on the history of the university and the African-American community.

Past alumni have included: Chadwick Boseman, Toni Morrison, Phylicia Rashad, Sean Combs (Puff Daddy) Taraji P. Henson, Isaiah Washington, Stokely Carmichael, Cheddi Jagan <https://www.thefamouspeople.com/howard-university.php>



BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 3) Tuesday



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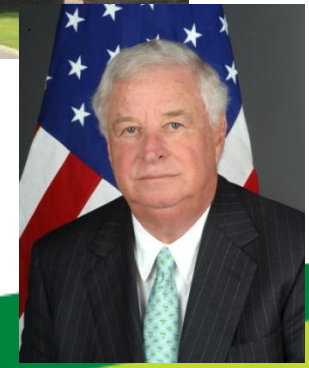
BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 4/Part 1)Wednesday



- Bell Multi-Cultural High School – A Day In The Life of a US High School Student

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip

Seven Days of Discovery (Day 4/Part 2) Wednesday



- An Invitation To Tea: The students were invited to join the then UK Ambassador to America Louis Susman at his official residency in Washington DC



BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 5/Part 1) Thursday



The Trip To The White House (Finally Meeting The First Lady) *First Lady Michelle Obama met with students from schools across the London borough of Islington on 18 February 2010. The students were rewarded with a trip to the United States sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in London for winning a school History themed essay-writing competition*
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ukinusa/sets/72157623461453258>

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 5/Part 2) Thursday



Potomac Mills is a shopping mall in Virginia in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. The shopping centre has over 225 shops and over 20 cinemas.

- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/8523068.stm>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZtR2qz12Qc>
- Unprecedented media attention – The telegraph, the Daily mail, The Sun, Sky, BBC, The Guardian, The Mirror, The Huffington Post, etc, all major news outlets
- Shopping in Potomac Mills Outlet Mall

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 6/Part 1)Friday



- Special Talk and Tour at The Natural Museum of American History



BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 6/Part 2) Friday



Duke Ellington School of the Performing Arts is a performing arts space dedicated to the late great African-American Jazz musician, Duke Ellington. Our students met and hung out with a range of students. We discovered that following traditional academic based classes in the morning, up to 6 hours of an afternoon/evening, was spent honing a range of performing arts disciplines from music composition, acting, ballet/Jazz/contemporary dance, to choir and a instrumental music lessons. Their state of the art theatre is breath taking.

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 6/Part 2) Friday



In the evening, the children were taken to the local Verizon Centre Cinema – to watch the latest blockbuster movie. It was the Greek mythology inspired children's book – now a film - Percy Jackson (The Olympians) and The Lightning Thief)

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 7) Last Morning



- African American Civil War Memorial and Museum

BHM 2009: Washington DC Trip Seven Days of Discovery (Day 7) Saturday



Back To Dulles Airport to catch the 7pm Virgin Atlantic flight to London Heathrow – arriving 7am (2am Washington DC time)



- BBC Politics Show (12pm) Is Black History Month relevant?