

January 2019

Dear _____

I am a financial supporter of Bennett College, an esteemed HBCU in Greensboro, North Carolina, that was founded in 1873 and became a college for women in 1926.

It has been easy to lend support to Bennett because of its rich legacy of producing outstanding African-American women who become leaders in various fields throughout the state, the nation and the world. For example, the Deputy Minority Leader in the North Carolina Legislature is a Bennett graduate. So are Greensboro's first African-American mayor, the first woman and first African-American to serve as director of the U.S. Peace Corps, the first African-American District Attorney in North Carolina and the first African-American woman licensed surgeon in the south. In addition, the first African-American woman to become president of a four-year institution was Bennett's own Dr. Willa B. Player, who served as President from 1955 to 1966.

As you are likely aware from recent press accounts, Bennett College is in jeopardy of closing its doors if administrators don't raise a minimum of \$5 million by Feb. 1, 2019. The money is needed to demonstrate to officials with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) that Bennett is financially solvent. Let me be blunt: We cannot let Bennett College, a historic, 146-year-old institution, close. We cannot tell hundreds of young women who desire to earn Bennett degrees that they must choose another school from which to graduate. I will do what I can to ensure Bennett's future. Here's the question: Will you, your business or your organization join me?

There are several ways you can donate to Bennett:

- Go to www.bennett.edu/donate and give online
- Text the word Belles to the number 444999 and follow the instructions
- Mail a check to Bennett College (addressed to The Office of Institutional Advancement or to The President's Office) 900 East Washington St., Greensboro, N.C. 27401

Bennett has just a few more weeks to raise a minimum of \$5 million. Please join me in investing in Bennett to preserve her legacy and ensure she continues serving as a beacon of hope for young women for generations and generations to come. Please join me now in financial support of Bennett!

If you have any questions, please contact Bennett's Office of Institutional Advancement at 336.517.2248. Please #StandwithBennett. Bennett needs your financial contributions – as well as your good thoughts and positive messages on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram – now more than ever. Bennett needs YOU!

Sincerely,

_____, a Bennett College supporter

Cc: Phyllis Worthy Dawkins, Ph.D., President
LaDaniel Gatling, II, Vice President for Institutional Advancement