



Congratulations to the Class of 2000



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THE COMPASS

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Dennis Kimbro, Ph.D, Commencement Speaker



Kimbro Group

Dennis Kimbro, 130th Commencement
Speaker

By Artelia Covington
Editor

Since 1985, Dennis Kimbro has combed the country interviewing many of Black America's most notable achievers. Dr. Kimbro, 49, is a New Jersey native who has lived in Atlanta for the past 17 years. He received his doctorate from Northwestern University where he studied wealth and poverty among underdeveloped countries.

In 1984, Dr. Kimbro began his examination of poverty and how people deal with and escape it, in particular African-Americans. Eventually his speculations led him to this question: How can impoverished black Americans pull themselves out of their poverty and reach their full potential?

To broaden and enhance his work, Dr. Kimbro studied the research methods of Napoleon Hill, author of the phenomenal best seller "Think and Grow Rich." Using this as a reference, Dr. Kimbro decided to do what Hill had done in the 1930's. He developed a survey to use among peak performing black Americans.

Two years later, Kimbro learned from the Hill Foundation that Hill himself had drafted a book in 1970 that explored the same topic. After a personal meeting with W. Clement Stone, president of the Napoleon Hill Foundation, Dr. Kimbro was commissioned to update and com-

plete Hill's original manuscript. "Think and Grow Rich: A Black Choice," are the results of Dr. Kimbro's and Hill's efforts.

The work distills the secrets of success contained in the lives of scores of black Americans, and reveals how the reader can use them to make his or her dreams come true.

Dr. Kimbro's writings have influenced readers from as far as Melbourne, Australia and Johannesburg, South Africa, to the boardrooms of General Motors, Walt Disney Corp., and LaFace Records. He has appeared on the Today Show, Larry King Live!, CNN, and has been featured in such magazines as Success, Black Enterprise, Ebony, Essence, as well as the New York Times and USA Today on many occasions to share the keys of success and achievement.

One of Dr. Kimbro's highest honors occurred when he was request-

ed to keynote "An American Classic: Grambling State University's Coach Eddie Robinson's farewell tribute." Other works Dr. Kimbro have to his credit are: "Daily Motivations for African American Success," and his most recent book, "What Makes the Great Great: Strategies for Extraordinary Achievement," a best seller.

Dr. Kimbro resides in Decatur, Georgia, with his wife Patricia and their three daughters. His honors include various awards bestowed by the business community, Who's Who in Black America, as well as the Dale Carnegie "Personal Achievement" award. As one of the few certified Napoleon Hill Science of Success trainers, Dr. Kimbro has served as a national judge for the prestigious Ernst & Young USA Today Entrepreneur of the Year conference held annually in Palm Springs, California.

Emerge Magazine Editor Makes History

By Artelia Covington
Editor

George E. Curry, editor-in-chief of *Emerge* magazine, made history recently on May 2 when he became president of the American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME). Curry is the first African-American and non-New York editor to hold the association's top position.

The American Society of Magazine Editors was organized in 1963 as the successor to the editorial committee of the Magazine Publishers of America (MPA). It has more than 900 members, all holding top positions at consumer and business magazines edited, published and sold in the United States.

In addition to putting on the National Magazine Awards, it co-sponsors the annual American Magazine Conference with the Magazine Publishers Association, operates an internship program for college students with member magazines, and sponsors seminars and lunch programs for its membership.

As Curry prepares to assume leadership of the prestigious organization, he has outlined an agenda to help ensure that the world of magazine publishing continues to thrive, while striving to be more inclusive and aware of the need for diversity in newspapers.

"In 1970, I could get a job with Sports Illustrated, the largest sports

magazine in the world, but I couldn't get a job at my hometown newspaper in Tuscaloosa, Alabama," Curry recalls. "Now 30 years later, I've been elected president of the American Society of Magazine Editors. We've come a long way in 30 years, but we still have a long way to go."

"The complexion of our nation is rapidly changing," said Curry. "If the magazine publishing world wishes to continue to flourish, it is of paramount importance that newsrooms accurately reflect the communities that they serve."

Curry also plans on working to develop a closer relationship between

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Emerge Magazine

George Curry, *Emerge* Magazine
Editor-in-chief