

UNTOLD STORIES in  
BLACK and WHITE of the

# ***AFRICAN DIASPORA***

*(1939 - PRESENT)*

FEATURED SPEAKER **DOROTHY DAVIS**  
WITH **RARE** PHOTOGRAPHS BY **GRIFF DAVIS**,  
PIONEER AFRICAN AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHER,  
JOURNALIST AND U.S. DIPLOMAT



**BACKGROUND PHOTO BY  
GRIFF DAVIS:**

Flanked by their wives (Patricia Nixon and Coretta Scott King), U.S. Vice President Richard Nixon and Martin Luther King, Jr. meeting for the first time soon after the Montgomery bus boycott at a reception during Ghana's Independence Day in Accra on March 6, 1957. The photograph was banned from being shown in the U.S. for years due to its potential impact on the U.S. Civil Rights Movement.

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**To Book Speaking Engagements or Presentations, please contact:**

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### **Communicator without borders**

Feature article by Boston University  
College of Communications:

[http://www.bu.edu/comtalk/2017/03/02/  
dorothy-davis-un/](http://www.bu.edu/comtalk/2017/03/02/dorothy-davis-un/)

*BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN  
PEOPLE, CULTURES AND BUSINESS*



# DESIGNING OUR FUTURE:

## TELLING CROSS-GENERATIONAL STORIES OF HOW OUR PAST CREATES OUR PRESENT

Featuring *rare groundbreaking photographs* by *Griff Davis*

### 1939–1943 Growing Up Black in Segregated Atlanta:

Born on *Morehouse College* campus and raised on *Spelman College* campus. Descendant through enslavement on his father's side of U.S. President William Henry Harrison, Signer of US Declaration of Independence, and President Benjamin Harrison. Descendant from Cherokee Nation and Irish-American on Mother's side. Campus Photographer for both colleges, Atlanta University and freelance photographer for *Atlanta Daily World*, the first Black daily newspaper.

### 1944–1946 Capturing the lifestyle of Buffalo Soldiers:

Capturing the lifestyle of **Buffalo Soldiers in 92nd Infantry of US Army during World War II** in **Genoa, Italy** and the Italian Government's usage of Griff Davis' photographs to rebuild the Genoa port.

### 1946–1947 Using Photography as a Statement about the Jim Crow Era and Black Lifestyle in Atlanta:

Using Photography as a Statement about the Jim Crow Era and Black Lifestyle in Atlanta as a student of Morehouse College in the Atlanta University system, freelance photographer for Visiting Professor Langston Hughes and *Atlanta Daily World*.

### 1947–1948 First Roving Editor for Ebony Magazine:

Covering U.S. Civil Rights Movement and Black life and celebrities. Photographed **Chief Counsel of NAACP Legal Defense Fund Thurgood Marshall** and Ebony's Fifth Anniversary Cover Story on **Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie**.

### 1947–1948 The Exeter Academy of the South:

The First Black Boarding School **Palmer Memorial Institute** in Sedalia, North Carolina.

### 1948–1949 The 20 Year Lifespan of a Friendship with Harlem Renaissance Writer Langston Hughes:

The 20 Year Lifespan of a Friendship with Harlem Renaissance Writer **Langston Hughes** as a student, renter in his Harlem home while a student at *Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism*, inspiration for Langston Hughes *Simple* character and connection to Africa.

### 1949–1952 Covering Africa and Europe as a pioneer African American International Freelance Photo Journalist:

Covering Africa and Europe as a pioneer African American International Freelance Photo Journalist with **Black Star Agency for New York Times, Life, Der Spiegel, Time, Ebony** and **Black Press**. Black Star was the first privately owned picture agency in the United States, and introduced numerous new techniques in photography and illustrated journalism. The agency is noted for its contribution to the history of photojournalism in the United States and the founding of Life magazine.

### 1952–1957 Liberia's Global and National Influence on the U.S. Civil Rights Movement:

Founding Member of United Nations, establishment of first U.S. Embassy in Africa leading to appointment of first African-American Ambassador Edward Dudley, and role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in creation of U.S. Agency for International Development through U.S. **President Harry Truman's Point 4** program, birth of development communications and creation of national images on a global scale.

### 1952–1971 Living on the Cutting Edge of Global History:

U.S. Foreign Service Life of a Pioneer African-American Foreign Service Family starting with "*Global Honeymoon*" article in *Ebony Magazine*.

### Jan 1953 Launch of Africa's Independence Movement:

Never before seen photographs of the **Gold Coast's (and Founding Father of Ghana) Kwame Nkrumah's** voyage to Liberia on President William V. S. Tubman's Ship for his first Official Visit to Liberia Four Years before Ghana's Independence.

### Mar 6 1957 Freedom Redefined: Ghana's Independence Day:

Ghana's Independence Day and First Visit of **U.S. Vice President Richard Nixon** and **Patricia Nixon** to Africa (Liberia, Nigeria and Ghana) and First Meeting with **Martin Luther King, Jr.** and **Coretta Scott King** soon after the end of the Montgomery Bus Boycott in Alabama.

### 1957–1962 The use of photography as a development tool in Tunisia:

First generation of American diplomats in post-independence Tunisia under the leadership of **Founding President Habib Bourghuiba**.



Sidney Poitier narrates *Pepperbird Land*, a documentary film about Liberia produced by Griff Davis. **PHOTO:** Griff Davis