

Torin Togut, Esq.



Torin Togut was a Cousins Fellow and then an adjunct professor at the University of Georgia School of Law, where he taught special education law and supervised law students in a special education practicum. For more than 25 years, Mr. Togut worked as a public interest attorney with Georgia

Legal Services Program in the area of education, disability and health law. He is now primarily engaged in the private practice of law. Mr. Togut's practice focuses on representation of families of children with disabilities, education law, employment discrimination, civil rights and criminal law. Mr. Togut is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, and the Northern, Middle and Southern District Courts of Georgia, the District Court of Vermont, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Togut is a frequent speaker in the areas of special education and disability law, civil rights, and federal practice at local, regional and national workshops and conferences. He has published a law review article on the School-to-Prison Pipeline and on response to intervention and specific learning disability eligibility and the child find requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. He is the current President of the Arc of Georgia, a state wide organization advocating for the rights of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He is a former President of the ACLU of Georgia. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and his Juris Doctor from the University of Laverne College of Law.

2014 Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center

Interagency Black History Month Celebration

February 26, 2014



Civil Rights in America:

***The State of Civil Rights Today in the
Criminal Justice System,
Education and Voting***

Federal Interagency Sponsors:

ED/OCR ☐ HHS/ORD ☐ HHS/OCR ☐ HHS/CMS ☐ HHS/OIG

HHS/HRSA ☐ DOL

Lift Every Voice and Sing

By James Weldon Johnson

*Lift every voice and sing
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.*

*Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past
has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has
brought us,
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.*



Faya Ora Rose Toure (Sanders), Esq.



Faya Ora Rose Touré (Sanders) is a Harvard-educated civil rights activist and litigation attorney who has worked on some of the highest-profile civil rights cases in the nation. She was one of the lead attorneys on the winning legal team in *Pigford vs. Veneman*, which was the largest civil rights case in history. This case led to the payment of a billion dollars in damages to black farmers by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. She was also the first African-American female judge in Alabama. Touré is the founder of the National Voting Rights Museum in Selma, Alabama, and a founding partner of the prominent civil rights law firm of Chestnut, Sanders, Sanders, Pettaway & Campbell, LLC. Intensely passionate about her activism and legal work and the needs of the black community, Touré has founded learning and cultural centers, political and legal organizations, and community initiatives that have benefited Alabamians for three decades. She uses her many talents to further her message and is a prolific songwriter and playwright, as well as the host of a weekly radio show, *Faya's Fire*.

She founded the Bridge Crossing Jubilee in 1985 to commemorate the Selma-to-Montgomery Civil Rights march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, which reminds all of the importance of the Voting Rights Act that came as a result of the struggle and determination of many people in Selma and surrounding communities. She co-founded the Coalition of Alabamians Reforming Education (C.A.R.E.) in 1993 due to her desire to expose the practice of "tracking" in public schools which is a controversial system that can limit education and career opportunities. Finally, she founded the 21st Century Youth Leadership Movement in 1985. The group educates young people about the political process and encourages their involvement. It has chapters around the United States and in Mali and Senegal, West Africa.

Daryl D. Parks, Esq.



Daryl Parks is the Managing Partner of Parks & Crump, LLC, which is a law firm based in Tallahassee, Florida. His values as a businessman and community servant are shared by the entire staff. Both his vocation as a lawyer and his avocation as a community leader find a symbiotic nexus at Parks & Crump, LLC. He has been recognized for his selfless sharing of his gifts and talents. In 2007, the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce awarded Parks its Leadership Pacesetter Award. Also, Parks & Crump, LLC was named (Tallahassee) Leon County Small Business of the Year. In 2012, Parks received both statewide and national recognition for his advocacy and business success. Parks received the Chairman of the Board Award from the NAACP at its National Leadership Summit, and the Florida Bar recognized him with the Henry Latimer Award. Then, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Law awarded Parks their Advocates Award, and the American Justice Association honored Parks with the Johnnie L. Cochran Soaring Eagle Award.

Most notably, Parks and his firm represented the family of Trayvon Martin, during the Florida case against George Zimmerman. In addition, Parks has an uncommon interest in improving the lives of the people in Africa by making both a personal and financial investment in improving the educational options found on the continent. Parks also partners with other persons of goodwill by sponsoring medical mission trips that include medical providers and supplies. Parks and his law firm are committed to meeting the legal needs of individuals and families who require attorneys who are not intimidated by the affluence or influence of the defendants. The motto of Parks and his law firm is that they stand tall for their clients and are prepared and equipped to provide quality representation for all clients as “repairers of the breach and defenders of the street.” (Isaiah 58:12)

Soloists

Marcus Hopkins-Turner is a graduate of Morehouse College where he studied voice under Dr. Uzee Brown. While attending Morehouse College he was a key member and soloist with the Morehouse College Glee Club. Marcus has performed with The Atlanta Opera Chorus, Peachstate Opera, Capitol City Opera, Next Stage Theatre, Onstage Atlanta, Americolor Opera Alliance and SALAH Arts International. He has been a soloist for the Dekalb Choral Guild, The Atlanta Singers, CCO's Madrigal Singers, Harmony: Atlanta's International Youth Chorus and also many churches around the Atlanta area.

LeReil Ross is a 25-year-old Bass- Baritone here in the city of Atlanta. A native of Camden, New Jersey, Mr. Ross moved to Atlanta to study music. He attended Morehouse College where he majored in vocal performance and studied under Dr. Melvin Foster, at which time he was a part of the Morehouse College Glee Club and the Morehouse College Quartet. Mr. Ross has been fortunate to sing in several places around the world including San Juan Puerto Rico, Canada, Verona Italy, and Ghana. He has sung with many groups in the city of Atlanta including the Atlanta Singers and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and several church choirs. Mr. Ross has been a featured soloist on several recordings and in several staged productions.

Trey Clegg the Director of Music and Principal Organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Southwest Atlanta, and directs the largest choir in the Episcopal denomination in the USA. As a Concert Organist, Trey frequently performs solo recitals all over North America, Europe, and the Caribbean. He is also an Adjunct Instructor of Music at Spelman College, and he sings in The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Chamber Chorus. In 2012, he made his solo debut with The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, singing the role of The High Priest in J.S. Bach's epic work, The St. Matthew Passion, and his performances have been heard on National Public Radio. Trey holds the Bachelor of Music degree, cum laude, from Southwest Baptist University and the Master of Music degree from Emory University.



The Program



*Mistress of Ceremony
Cristal Jones, MSM*

<i>Welcome/Opening Remarks</i>	<i>Michelle Vaughan</i>
<i>“Lift Every Voice and Sing”</i>	<i>Marcus Hopkins-Turner</i>
<i>“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed And Burning”</i>	<i>LeRell Ross</i>
<i>Historical Trivia</i>	<i>Edna Nore’</i>
<i>Introduction of Video Presentation</i>	<i>Brian Gnandt</i>
<i>“There’s A Boat That’s Leaving Soon”</i>	<i>Sean Savage</i>
<i>Introduction of the Speakers</i>	<i>April England-Albright</i>



The Speakers

*Daryl D. Parks, Esq.
“The Trayvon Martin Case & The State of the Criminal
Justice System”*

*Rose Toure (Sanders)
“Major Changes to the Voting Rights Act”*

*Torin Torgut
“The School-to-Prison Pipeline”*

<i>Question & Answer Session</i>	<i>April England-Albright</i>
<i>Closing Remarks</i>	<i>Michelle Vaughan</i>

Refreshments are Served

