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Archives of American Art

Celebrating 175: Jacob Lawrence, Correspondence, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, 1977-1978, 1987

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[[right margin]] Spelman
Sunday, May 16 17
Institute
Wed May 20 [[/right margin]]

Spelman College
350 Spelman Lane SW Atlanta, Georgia 30314-4399 404/681-3643

Mr. Jacob Lawrence
4316 37th Avenue, N. E.
Seattle, Washington 98105

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

It is a great honor for me to write to you on behalf of Spelman College, the oldest historically black, private, liberal arts institution of higher education for women. For over 106 years, the College has prided itself on its commitment to the Fine Arts. Today, our John D. Rockefeller Fine Arts Building houses strong programs in Music, Art, Drama and Dance.

The faculty and trustees of Spelman College have voted unanimously to award you the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in recognition of your outstanding contributions to the world of art. You would bring great honor to Spelman College and to our commitment to the Arts if you would be willing to receive this honorary doctorate from the College on Sunday, May 17, 1987. On that day, we will hold our Commencement exercises in Atlanta's Civic Center at 10:00 a.m.

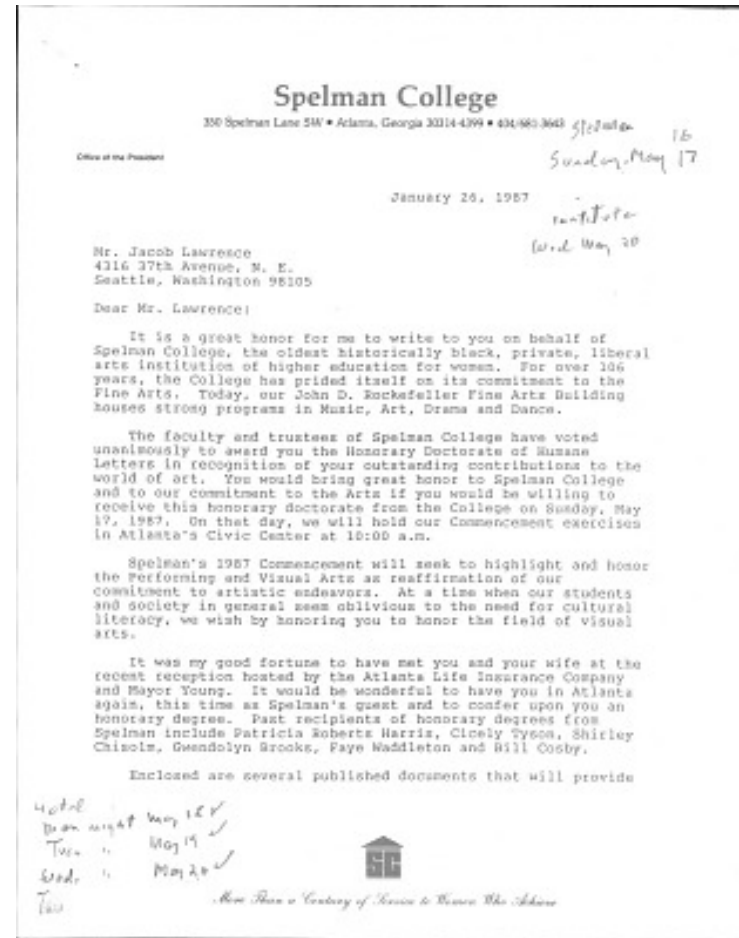
Spelman's 1987 Commencement will seek to highlight and honor the Performing and Visual Arts as reaffirmation of our commitment to artistic endeavors. At a time when our students and society in general seem oblivious to the need for cultural literacy, we wish by honoring you to honor the field of visual arts.

It was my good fortune to have met you and your wife at the recent reception hosted by the Atlanta Life Insurance Company and Mayor Young. It would be wonderful to have you in Atlanta again, this time as Spelman's guest and to confer upon you an honorary degree. Past recipients of honorary degrees from Spelman include Patricia Roberts Harris, Cicely Tyson, Shirley Chisolm [[Chisholm]], Gwendolyn Brooks, Faye Wattleton and Bill Cosby.

Enclosed are several published documents that will provide

[[image]]
More Than a Century of Service to Women Who Achieve

[[left margin]]
Hotel
Mon night May 18
Tues night May 19
Wed. night May 20
Thu [[/left margin]]



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