

A portrait of Crystal A. deGregory, a woman with her hair styled in a high bun of braids, smiling. She is wearing a light-colored top. The background is black on the left and white on the right, separated by a diagonal line.

Crystal A. deGregory

HISTORIAN

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WOMEN WHO KNOW HISTORY

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media kit.



about crystal.

Known for her collaborative advocacy and entrepreneurial leadership, critically-acclaimed historian and storyteller Crystal A. deGregory, Ph.D. is a research fellow at the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation. As the founder of HBCUstory, a gifted orator and sought-after commentator, she offers a wide range of expertise on multiple topics including history, culture, education, black fraternity and sorority life, and of course, HBCUs for publications including *TIME*, the *American Historical Review*, and the *New York Times*. Recently, she served as the award-winning inaugural director of the Atwood Institute for Race, Education, and the Democratic Ideal at Kentucky State University.

services.

- Keynote Speaker
- Panel Discussion
- Moderator
- Radio Appearances
- Television Appearances
- Twitter Chat
- Op-Ed Writing
- Project Research
- Program Development

AS SEEN AND HEARD:





speaking topics.

BLACK HISTORY | A professional historian, Dr. deGregory is a widely-published author on historical subjects ranging from the Civil War and Reconstruction to the Civil Rights Movement and Black Lives Matter sharing surprising connections between the peoples, continents, and cultures of the African Diaspora.

MISSION AND VISION OF HBCUs | As a two-time HBCU alumna, with two decades of experience as either a student, professor or administrator, Dr. deGregory has advocated for the HBCU story on stages across America at colleges and in corporate spaces as well as in printed pages ranging from the *New York Times* to *TIME*.

RACE RELATIONS AND ANTI-RACISM | Candid and thoughtful, Dr. deGregory brings her professional training and life experiences to bear in her public commentary and activism. Whether as the founding director of the award-winning Atwood Institute for Race, Education, and the Democratic Ideal or as an author, speaker or trainer, Dr. deGregory is sure to pack a punch.

GIRLS AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT | No conversation relating to girls and women is too great or too small for Dr. deGregory. Her passion for girl-positive messaging and women's empowerment employs historic and contemporary storytelling to make the case for upending sexism.

LEADERSHIP AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT | From students to CEOs, Dr. deGregory uses real world realities to offer life lessons with the most critical character trait of good leadership in mind—courage. It is courage the basis from which all greatness abounds, the value of consistent and persistent goodness—she details how to give it, how to get it and how to cultivate it in others.

testimonials.

The Harry T. Burleigh Society knew Dr. Crystal deGregory to be a selfless truth-teller through rigorous scholarship, which is why we invited her to speak at our conference at Carnegie Hall in March 2019. Her presentation on the unjustly under-recognized soprano composer Ella Sheppard left all listeners spellbound with her clarity, grace, and challenge to the archiving practices of the academy. She makes history personal and inspires others to participate in freedom acts for black people everywhere. The Burleigh Society counts it a privilege to call on her expertise.

- *Marti Slaten, Ph.D.*
Executive Director/Co-founder, Harry T. Burleigh Society

Dr. deGregory is a scholar, deep thinker, and social critic of the highest order. She is also the rare academic who can communicate effectively across multiple mediums to diverse audiences. I've found Crystal to be an excellent researcher, inspiring teacher, and a much-valued colleague and friend.

- *Learotha Williams Jr., Ph.D.*
Founder, North Nashville Heritage Project

crystal a degregory quotables.

"For as many of life's hardships that we hope to have you avoid, there are many others which are unavoidable — unavoidable, no matter what you do, or how good you do it. If you live long enough, you will make mistakes; you will attempt to do something that on balance looks like failure. And trust me when I say, no one can see failure in others more than people who, in fact, have done little, tried virtually nothing, and risked even less. But here's another I know for sure: those who risk nothing, gain nothing."

- *Bishop Michael Eldon School*

"A well-built brand equals more recognition for you and your work. The more people feel like they 'know' your brand the more inclined they are to think of you as an authority in your field. Your brand should be a clear statement of your commitment to service above self. We can get so caught up in the academy that we forget to be relatable and relevant to non-academic and academic audiences alike."

- *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

