

Homer G. Phillips and the Legacy of Public Hospitals in St. Louis

In 1905 Dr. John Green, President of the St. Louis Medical Society, with a keen understanding of the plight of public hospitals in other cities issued this charge to St. Louis physicians on the eve of opening a new City Hospital:

"Will it vouchsafe to the pauper a medical care equivalent to that which his pecuniarily more fortunate fellow citizens receive? Will it fulfill to the utmost its function of providing instruction in practical medicine to the undergraduate student? And will our hospital be thoroughly in accord with the spirit of medical enlightenment?"

*Presidential Report, St. Louis Medical Review
January 14, 1905*

A succession of public hospitals failed in that charge -- City Hospital No. 1 (Max C. Starkloff), City Hospital No. 2, and St. Louis County Hospital, despite their professed missions, opened as segregated facilities. Only under duress, and toward the twilight of their existence, did they admit and treat irrespective of race, creed or color. There is one bright exception, the Homer G. Phillips Hospital. It opened its doors as a truly "public" facility in 1937, still shrouded in intrigue after the mysterious assassination of its main advocate and benefactor, attorney Homer Gilliam Phillips. At a time in American society when people of color were restricted from most medical training programs, the Homer G. Phillips Hospital became the premier training ground for African American medical professionals -- many of whom remained to deliver high quality health care in the St. Louis area and who later assumed prestigious positions throughout the nation. The successes of its subsequent years of operation (as well as the complex issues surrounding its closure) became legendary in the annals of public hospitals. It closed its doors on August 17, 1979, followed by St. Louis City No. 1 in 1985, St. Louis County Hospital in 1987, and St. Louis Regional Hospital in 1997. While we cannot now walk the halls of Homer G. Phillips Hospital, we can learn much from its history, presented by the very people who strived diligently to provide culturally sensitive care to the patients who so deeply trusted and loved them and their hospital. This lecture series is named in honor of the historic Homer G. Phillips Hospital in St. Louis.

THE HOMER G. PHILLIPS PUBLIC HEALTH LECTURE SERIES

Film Showing followed by Panel Discussion:

***The Color of Medicine:
The Story of Homer G. Phillips Hospital***

*A film by Joyce Marie Fitzpatrick & Brian Shackelford
Flatcat Productions & Tunnel Vizion Entertainment*

Friday, October 12, 2018

Washington University School of Medicine

Eric P. Newman Education Center (EPNEC)

320 South Euclid Avenue

Saint Louis, Missouri 63110

5:30 p.m.

Cocktails
Atirum

6:00 p.m.

Film Showing
Auditorium

7:30 p.m.

Dinner and
Panel Discussion
Great Rooms

Joyce Marie Fitzpatrick, Executive Producer and Co-Director. Joyce, a native of Indianapolis, Indiana is an award-winning Producer/Writer/Director who enjoys a career in television production, film and promotion in Los Angeles, California. She graduated with honors from California State University of Los Angeles with a Bachelor's Degree in Telecommunications and Film, and has worked for ABC, NBC, CW, UPN network, PBS, E! Entertainment, and Black Entertainment Television (BET). Her producing and writing career began at PBS when she produced and wrote over 60 on-air promos and original programming for PBS including the show Bill Moyers - "Moyers on Addition: Close To Home in LA." Joyce also worked as a Managing Coordinator for (BET) Black Entertainment Television. She has worked as a producer, writer and copy editor for E! Entertainment Television's, E! News and E! Online. In 2001, Joyce launched her film production company, Flatcat Productions, LLC, in the city of Los Angeles. Fitzpatrick has been a producer and writer of comedy sketches with the CW/UPN network show "The NEWZ" and the award-winning comedy "Animal Control TV."

Brian Shackelford, Co-Producer and Co-Director. Brian's post production background includes over 600 hours of original, non-fiction programming for the following companies: 20th Century Fox, VH1, MTV, 51 Minds Entertainment, 44 Blue, Ryan Seacrest Productions, World of Wonder, T Group Productions, Electus, Scott Sternberg Productions, and Down In Front Entertainment. In 2008, Shackelford created Tunnel Vizion Entertainment, a production and postproduction company specializing in giving lower budgeted projects the look and feel of high-end productions.

Rebecca Robinson, Co-Producer. Rebecca studied fashion design in Atlanta, Ga. and continued her education at North Carolina Central University where she majored in Visual Communications. Her background also includes art history, print-making, photography, graphic design and creative marketing. Rebecca is mostly known for her fashion design company psnob.com, which launched in 2001. In 2016, Rebecca started her new venture "Black ART Matters." Rebecca's artwork has been featured in dozens of media outlets including; Jezebel Magazine, Pattern Magazine, New York Examiner, Points North Magazine, The National Endowment of the Arts and most recently, exhibited her artwork at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. Rebecca is also a self-published author of the book "Arts Honor".

Program

Welcome and	
Introduction of Film	Will Ross, M.D., M.P.H. Associate Dean for Diversity Office of Diversity Programs
Film Showing <i>The Color of Medicine</i>	
Award Acceptance Joyce Fitzpatrick Executive Producer and Co-Director	
Brian Shackelford Co-Director and Co-Producer	
Rebecca Robinson Co-Producer	
Panel Discussion..... Joyce Fitzpatrick Executive Producer and Co-Director	
Jobena Foster President of the Nursing Alumni Homer G. Phillips Hospital	
Nathaniel Murdock Obstetrician, formerly with Homer G. Phillips Hospital	
Candace O'Connor Co-Author of Upcoming Book on the Homer G. Phillips Hospital	
Questions.....	Audience

This program was sponsored by William H. Gondring, III, MD,
Class of 1962, in honor of his classmate, James Sweatt, MD