



**Humanities Council Little Lecture
to Discuss “Father of Black History” Carter G. Woodson**

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Charleston, WV — The West Virginia Humanities Council’s 2018 Little Lecture Series kicks off at 2:00 p.m. on March 25 at the MacFarland-Hubbard House in Charleston with “Carter G. Woodson: History, the Black Press, and Public Relations” presented by Burnis Morris. Morris is Carter G. Woodson Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University. His Little Lecture has the same title as his new book published by the University Press of Mississippi.

Carter Woodson (1875 – 1950), often called the “Father of Black History,” was one of the leading educators of the 20th century, a publisher, author, and historian. His family moved from Virginia to Huntington in 1893 after Carter had migrated to Fayette County to work in the coal mines. He graduated from Huntington’s Douglass High School in 1896, and returned to serve as a Douglass High School principal from 1900 to 1903. He was the second African American student to receive a Ph.D. in history at Harvard and the first person whose parents were former slaves to earn a doctorate in history from any institution.

Woodson later returned to West Virginia after serving as the dean of liberal arts at Howard University to be the dean of what is now West Virginia State University from 1920 to 1922. In 1926, Woodson proposed and launched the annual February observance of "Negro History Week," which became "Black History Month" in 1976. Woodson often told associates his time in West Virginia was a turning point in his life.

Professor Morris will discuss Woodson's West Virginia background and how he came to be known as the "Father of Black History." Morris is a graduate of the University of Mississippi with a degree in Journalism and also holds a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Dayton. He joined the faculty at Marshall University in 2003.

All Little Lectures are presented on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. at the MacFarland-Hubbard House, 1310 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston. Admission to the lectures is \$10 and includes refreshments after the program. Seating is limited and people interested in attending should confirm that seats are available. For more information visit www.wvhumanities.org or contact program officer Mark Payne at 304-346-8500 or payne@wvhumanities.org.
