



HARVARD BLACK STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Harvard BSA hosts Soledad O'Brien at the 4th Annual Crimson and Black Banquet

Cambridge, MA 1/28/09 – On February 6th, 2009 Harvard's Black Students Association honors CNN journalist Soledad O'Brien at its 4th Annual Crimson and Black Banquet. Ms. O'Brien is the recipient of the 2009 Crimson and Black Leadership Award for her contribution to the black community through journalism. Past award recipients include actress Gabrielle Union, President & CEO of the National Urban League Marc H. Morial, and the first black Editor of a major American news publication *Newsweek* Mark Whittaker.

The Banquet will be held on Harvard's campus in Kirkland House at 6 o'clock in the evening. O'Brien will be the keynote speaker of the banquet, the theme of which is "The Good Fight: Champions and Political Change."

Soleadad O'Brien, a graduate of Harvard, joined CNN in 2003. O'Brien has reported breaking news from around the globe and has produced award-winning and record-breaking documentaries on the most important stories facing the world today. O'Brien's most recent projects include CNN Presents: Black in America, a groundbreaking initiative that focused on the state of Black America 40 years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She reported and anchored a CNN documentary featuring a never-before-seen look at King's private writings and notes in *Words That Changed a Nation* and investigated his assassination in *Eyewitness to Murder: The King Assassination*.

The Harvard Black Students Association (BSA) was founded in 1977 to maintain the strength and unity of the Harvard black community and ensure that future black students had a meaningful voice on Harvard's campus. It is the mission of the BSA to promote community interaction among African, African-American, and African-Caribbean students at Harvard University, as well as facilitate dialogue between black students and the general Harvard community. Today, the BSA provides a forum for the open expression of the political, social, and cultural views of over 300 black students at Harvard, and 3,000 alumni worldwide.

Visit www.harvardbsa.com for more information on the Harvard BSA and the Banquet or email ajames@fas.harvard.edu.