

DEDICATION OF THE PORTRAIT OF JUDGE HARRY A. COLE Court of Appeals of Maryland 1977-1990

June 3, 1999
3:00 P.M.
Court of Appeals Courtroom
Court of Appeals
Annapolis, Maryland

SERMON'S WE SEE*

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way. The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear, Finds counsel is confusing, but examples always clear: And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds, For to see good put in action is what everybody needs. I soon can learn to do it if you'll let me see it done; I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run. And the lecture you deliver may be very wise and true, But I'd rather get my lessons by observing what you do: For I might misunderstand you and the high advise you give, But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live. When I see a deed of kindness, I am eager to be kind. When a weaker brother stumbles and a strong man stays behind Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me to become as big and thoughtful as I know that friend to be. And all travelers can witness that the best of guides today Is not the one who tells them, but the one who shows the way. One good man teaches many, men believe what they behold; One deed of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told. Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear. For right living speaks a language which to every one is clear. Though an able speaker charms me with his eloquence, I say, I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one, any day.

THE HONORABLE HARRY A. COLE

The Honorable Harry Augustus Cole was a remarkable traliblazer.

A graduate of Frederick Douglas High School (class of 1938), he earned a full scholarship to attend Morgan State College. There, he excelled, serving as founding Editor-in-Chief of the campus newsletter, was inducted into Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society; served as President of the Debating Team and the Student Council; and graduated Magna Cum Laude as Class Valedictorian (class of 1943).

Judge Cole served honorably in the military and was discharged in 1946 as a first lieutenant. On returning to Baltimore, he enrolled in the University of Maryland School of Law and graduated in 1949. He opened his law practice, and quickly developed a reputation as a champion of civil rights, frequently serving the indigent and the less fortunate. In 1953, Judge Cole became the first African American Assistant Attorney General in Baltimore City. One year later, he was the first African American elected to the Maryland State Senate. On leaving the Senate in 1958, Judge Cole conducted his law practice, wrote a regular newspaper column, and was an unstinting leader in the quest for equal justice.

Judge Cole began his judicial career in 1967 by being appointed to the Municipal Court of Baltimore City. In 1968, he was appointed to the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City (now known as the Circuit Court for Baltimore City).

Judge Cole's legal acumen and stature as a champion of equal justice resulted in his elevation to the Court of Appeals of Maryland, in 1977, becoming the first African American appointed to the state's highest court. When his beliefs did not coincide with those of his fellow jurists, he wrote forceful dissents in which he eloquently articulated his views. He retired in 1990 and accepted the Chairmanship of the Charter Revision Commission for the City of Baltimore. Judge Cole later became the first Alumnus to serve as Chair of the Board of Regents of Morgan State University.

Judge Cole married Doris Freeland Cole with whom he had three daughters, Susan Cole Hill, Harriette Cole Chinsee, and Stephanie Cole Hill.

Judge Cole was a superb jurist and, equally important, a person of strong moral character and principles. His portrait, which is being unveiled in today's ceremony, will serve as a vivid reminder of his warm demeanor, graciousness, and stellar career.

Program

Welcome and Introductions
The Honorable Robert M. Bell
Chief Judge, Court of Appeals of Maryland

The Occasion Gloria Wilson Shelton Assistant Attorney General State of Maryland

Tributes to Judge Cole Kevin L. Shepherd, Esquire Venable, Baetjer and Howard, LLP

Mark T. Holtschneider, Esquire The St. Paul Companies, Inc.

Presentation of Portrait to the Maryland State Archives Brian S. Jablon, Esquire Prem, Saltzman & Jablon, LLC

Accetance of Portrait for the State of Maryland Matthew P. Lalumina, Esquire Chairman, Maryland Commission on Artistic Property

Unveiling of Portrait
Former Law Clerks and Cole Family

Remarks
Harriette Cole Chinsee

Special Presentation Gloria Wilson Shelton Kevin L. Shepherd

RECEPTION
4th Floor Atrium Lobby

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JUDGE HARRY A. COLE PORTRAIT FUND

The Harry A. Cole Portrait Committee would like to express its sincere appreciation to the generous contributions made by the following:

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About the Artist

SIMMIE KNOX

A graduate of Tyler School of Art at Temple University (B.F.A., Magna Cum Laude, M.F.A.) in Philadelphia, Simmie Knox, as an artist, has specialized in oil portraiture since 1981. Before that, he taught at various colleges, universities, and public schools in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. During the 1970's, Simmie exhibited as an abstract artist and worked for the Museum of African Art in Washington, D.C., In 1971, he participated in the *Thirty-Second Biennial of Contemporary American Painting* at the Corcotan Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. with his abstract art

Simmle has been commissioned by private individuals, organizations, and institutions and has painted official portraits of a U.S. Supreme Court Justice, a U.S. cabinet member, U.S. Congressman and State Senators, a Mayor of New York City, respected civic leaders, sports figures, entertainment celebrities, educators, judges, religious leaders, military officers, and businessman as well as personal portraits of private individuals. He became the first African American artist recognized by the Maryland Commission on Artistic Property

HARRY A COLE PORTRAIT COMMITTEE

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SPECIAL acknowledgments

The Committee would like to extend special thanks to the following individuals for their assistance in the planning and development of this program.

"Annapolis After Five" Catering
Ms Carol Borchert, Maryland Commission on Artistic Property
Ms Doris Freeland Cole and Family
Mr. Alexander Cummings, Clerk, Court of Appeals of Maryland
Summe L. Knox, Artist

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