

Claudine Brown Remembered, Revered as Advocate, Mentor

By Patricia L. Bartlett Smithsonian Institution

Former Assistant Secretary for Education and Access, Claudine K. Brown, was remembered for her contributions to the Smithsonian. The Smithsonian celebrated her life through music, dance, and art. More than 400 guests attended whose lives were touched by her inspirational leadership and tireless advocacy for education that went beyond the National Mall to communities world-wide.

The celebration opened with Johnnetta Cole, Director of the National Museum of African Art using an African saying --- "as long as a person's name is called, that person never dies." At the suggestion of Claudine's staff and colleagues at the Smithsonian, the Claudine K. Brown Fund for Education was established to help us "call her name." The goal is to endow the Fund that will support education programs and internships at the Smithsonian for generations to come. Ideally, in the future, we would like to support an education chair in her name as well.

Many friends, family, and colleagues who knew Claudine best have made donations to the Fund to reflect their appreciation for her years of work in museum education. If you would like to contribute, please visit go.si.edu/claudine, or if you would like more information about the Fund, please contact Christie Senft at 202-633-4115 or Senft@si.edu.

We will always cherish Claudine's memory.