

The Beverly Hills Hotel
and Bungalows

DORCHESTER COLLECTION

PRESS RELEASE

THE BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL HOSTS INAUGURAL
FUNDRAISING GALA FOR THE PAUL R. WILLIAMS
SCHOLARSHIP & EDUCATION FUND



Beverly Hills, August, 2023 – In celebration of 75 years since Paul Revere Williams redesigned The Beverly Hills Hotel and 100 years since he became the first African American member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), The Beverly Hills Hotel will host the inaugural fundraising event for The Paul R. Williams Scholarship & Education Fund on October 11, 2023 in the Crystal Ballroom.

With the goal of inspiring future generations through the legacy of Mr. Williams and other trailblazing figures within the field, the Fund will introduce K-12 students to career paths within the field of architecture. The Fund will also provide financial support and mentoring to students of color on their journey to professional licensing, with scholarships for fourth and fifth-year architecture students attending one of the seven Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) offering an accredited architecture program, as well as at the University of Southern California, Mr. Williams' alma mater.

A note from Karen E. Hudson, Executive Director of the Fund, "I'm often asked, 'Why now?' Black licensed architects represent only 2% of the total membership of the American Institute of Architects. One hundred years after my grandfather became the first Black member of the AIA, he would be heartbroken by this fact. As caretakers of our grandfather's estate, we have always tried to make decisions that he would make. This effort is more than a tribute to my grandfather and other trailblazers in the field - it is a call to action."

The Beverly Hills Hotel that everyone enjoys today is the hotel Paul R. Williams designed. He designed The Beverly Hills Hotel's Crescent Wing, introduced its grand entrance, poolside cabanas, Crystal Ballroom, as well as redesigning the Polo Lounge, Fountain Coffee Room and lobby, introducing their timeless pink and green signature look. In the 1950s, he also created the now famous hotel script on the Crescent building and front signage.

"At The Beverly Hills Hotel, we recognize the profound significance of Paul Revere Williams' legacy, an architect whose visionary designs shaped the very essence of our city. As stewards of heritage and culture, we are honoured to champion a cause that celebrates his remarkable contributions and provides hope for the future generation. Supporting The Paul R. Williams Scholarship & Education Fund not only preserves his architectural brilliance but also ensures that his inspirational journey continues to inspire generations to come." said John Scanlon, General Manager of The Beverly Hills Hotel.

To purchase tickets to attend the event, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paul-r-williams-scholarship-education-fund-inaugural-fundraising-gala-tickets-689696108627?aff=oddtcreator>. For more information on The Paul R. Williams Scholarship & Education Fund and for sponsorship opportunities, please visit thepaulwilliamscollection.com or email karen@thepaulwilliamscollection.com.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

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THE BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL

For over a century The Beverly Hills Hotel has been the spot for Hollywood's brightest lights. She greets you like a movie star from the moment you step onto the red carpet and enter the grand lobby. Welcome to the legacy.

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