

**CONTACT:** Daphne Thomas, PR & Marketing Director daphne thomas@loc.edu

(901) 435-1539 (901) 220-3098 (cell)

## Political Strategist and Commentator Deborah Brazile to Deliver Address at LeMoyne-Owen College's 145<sup>th</sup> Commencement Exercises

LOC alumni to gather for annual reunion May 8-10.

Memphis, TN (May 5, 2014) – Donna Brazile is known across the nation as one of the most important political strategists in the Democratic Party. Brazile has accepted an invitation to address the 2015 graduating class of LeMoyne-Owen College **May 9, 2015, at 10 a.m.** at Temple of Deliverance, 369 GE Patterson Ave, Memphis, Tennessee.

Brazile also is an adjunct professor, author, syndicated columnist, television political commentator. She has held three major posts with the Democratic National Committee—Vice Chair of Voter Registration and Participation at the Democratic National Committee (her current position), former interim national chair, and former chair of the DNC's Voting Rights Institute.

Aside from working for the full recovery of her beloved New Orleans, Brazile's passion is encouraging young people to vote, to work within the system to strengthen it, and to run for public office. Since 2000, Brazile has lectured at over 125 colleges and universities across the country on such topics as "Inspiring Civility in American Politics," "Race Relations in the Age of Obama", "Why Diversity Matters", and "Women in American Politics: Are We There Yet?".

She first got involved in politics at the age of nine when she worked to elect a City Council candidate who had promised to build a playground in her neighborhood. The candidate won, the swing set was installed, and a lifelong passion for political progress was ignited. Ms. Brazile worked on every presidential campaign from 1976 through 2000, when she became the first African-American to manage a presidential campaign.

LOC alumni also will gather for their annual reunion, May 8 – 10. Alumni should call (901) 435-1530 for more information about the reunion. Others may call (901) 435-1749 for more information on commencement activities.

###

