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Office of Laura Bush - Chief of Staff

McBride, Anita - Chron Files

Stack:	Row:	Sect.:	Shelf:	Pos.:	FRC ID:	Location or Hollinger ID:	NARA Number:	OA Number:
W	22	12	3	2	7474	20337	8201	8286

Folder Title:

10/11/2007 - Ballou Screening

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Email	FW: - To: Erin O'Connor - From: Anita McBride	4	10/12/2007	P5;
002	Briefing	Screening of Ballou: A Documentary Film	23	10/11/2007	P5; P6/b6;
003	Email	Rough Guest List for the Ballou Event [with attachment] - To: Anita McBride, et al. - From: Sarah Jensen	4	10/03/2007	P5;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Office of Laura Bush - Chief of Staff

SERIES:

McBride, Anita - Chron Files

FOLDER TITLE:

10/11/2007 - Ballou Screening

FRC ID:

7474

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=166&sid=1268099>

Laura Bush

October 15, 2007 - 12:24pm

In the middle of the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s, Mississippi native and activist Fannie Lou Hammer said it best. She said she was "sick and tired of being sick and tired."

I am sick and tired of seeing the Bush White House use the citizens of the nation's capital as a convenient urban backdrop to demonstrate their supposed "compassionate conservatism," while at the same time continue to deny the right to have an elected representative in the U.S. Congress from D.C.

Laura Bush on Thursday hosted a special private screening for the members of the celebrated and highly talented Ballou High School marching band.

This screening took place in the East Room of the White House.

The First Lady lavishly lauded the band. They deserved every word. They were extremely proud and honored to have their work recognized in such an important place.

I'm very happy they were acknowledged and praise was heaped on them.

But this was easy for the Bush White House.

But what does not seem to be All-American and apple pie is to recognize the fact of the hypocrisy of denial of the vote.

Give a reception, but don't ever give the vote.

So Thursday afternoon I decided to do something in my own way to point out this raging and permanent insult.

When Laura Bush finished her gracious remarks, I stood up in the press section and asked the following question: "Mrs. Bush, do you agree with those people who say and believe that the members of the Ballou High School marching band, who you just lauded, should not grow up to be members of the U.S. Congress?"

Mrs. Bush came off the podium. At the start of my question she had a smile on her face. I guess she thought I was going to inquire on whether she liked the color of the Ballou uniforms.

When she realized where the question was going, the smile disappeared.

She walked to the back of the room to sit next to her mother-in-law who was in attendance.

She never responded to the question. Not one single word.

I then saw Josh Bolten, the President's Chief of Staff. Bolten is rumored to actually be a supporter of voting rights.

He told me I was discourteous.

Denying 570,000 residents the right to have a member in the U.S. House of Representatives with a vote. That's just fine, and after walking out of the White House with my colleague Mark Segraves, we were hurriedly approached by Laura Bush's press secretary.

She wanted to make sure we would be leaving the premises. She even facilitated our quick departure by putting her pass in the appropriate slot so we could exit in a timely manner.

See, we the members of the press, were in the immortal words of Brendan Sullivan to act like "potted plants."

Record the wonderful act that Laura Bush had done. Behave and do not bring up any unpleasantness.

The Ballou High School marching band was used as a prop, an extra to further their agenda.

They deserved to be there. They should have been honored. I'm glad they were .

But at the same time, they were being used.

This inviting them to the White House should never be confused with giving them the opportunity to become what every other young person dreams to be - a member of the United States Congress.

Jesse Jackson, years ago, was asked when will the citizens of D.C. Stand up and demand what is rightfully theirs.

He simply and eloquently said, "When it rises to the level of personal insult."

This day has not come!

I wish one of the band members had asked the question of the First Lady.

That would have been far better.

Then the First Lady would have had to answer.

There is no answer. And I think Laura Bush knows that in her heart of hearts.

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O'Connor, Erin M.

From: Irons, A. Kate
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2007 7:07 PM
To: Jensen, Sarah E.; Zantzinger, Amy S.
Cc: Thornton, Dorothy M.; O'Connor, Erin M.; Sterling, Justine M.
Subject: Ballou Screening-Guest List with No Shows
Attachments: 071011 FilmScreeningBallouGuestListw.Responses(FINALwith NO SHOWS).doc

I have the following individuals as "No Shows" for today's events. The updated guest list is also attached. Please let me know if any of these individuals did actually attend.

Thanks!

- NS Miss Tanzania Brooks, Student, Ballou High School
- NS Mr. Darick Brown, Percussion Instructor, Ballou High School
- NS Miss Trayona Cunningham, Student, Ballou High School
- NS Miss Parisia Harris, Student, Ballou High School
- NS Mrs. Anne Ashmore Hudson, Chair, DC Arts and Humanities Commission
- NS Mr. Richard Nyankori, Special Assistant to the Chancellor
- NS Ms. Lakishia Osborne, Flag Choreographer/Coordinator, Ballou High School

- NS Miss Stephanie Stewart, Student, Ballou High School

Kate Irons
Social Office
The White House
Direct: (202) 456-2372
Fax: (202) 456-6583

**FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

THE PRESIDENT and MRS. BUSH

Accept

- A Mrs. Gina F. Adams, Corporate Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, FedEx Corporation, Washington, DC
- A Mr. Hakeem Alston, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Kendra Avery, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Jasmine Bagley, Student, Ballou High School
- A The Honorable (Mr.) William Behrens, Special Assistant to the President, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
- A Mr. Derrick Bell, Jr., Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Reme Bias, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Ashley Blakeney, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Julian Bolden, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Danielle Bradley, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Tamesha Brooks, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Tanzania Brooks, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Darick Brown, Percussion Instructor, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Edwin Buckner, Administrative Assistant to the Principal, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Robert Bullock, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mrs. Barbara Bush, Founder and Chair of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, Houston, TX
- A Mr. Maiko Callister
- A Mrs. Casey Callister
- A Miss Breona Carpenter, Student, Ballou High School

**FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

- A Ms. Tonisia Carter, Assistant to the Auxiliary Director and Finance Manager, Ballou High School
- A Miss Napr'Ea Chapman, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss ShaMeya Chapman, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Deangelo Chappell, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Danie Clark, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Brittany Clarke, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Steven Coleman, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. DeAngelo Copeland, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Trayona Cunningham, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Jim D'Orta, Principal, Consumer Health Services
- A Ms. Danitra Dorsey Daniels, Auxiliary Director, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Jim Dinegar, President, Greater Washington Board of Trade
- A Ms. Tene Dolphin, Chief of Staff to the Mayor, District of Columbia
- A Miss Shannon Donaldson, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Damiya L. Dorsey, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Liz Dubin, Member, President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities (Substitute for: The Honorable Adair Wakefield Margo)
- A Mr. Mark Ein, Principal, Venture House Group
- A Mr. John Falcicchio, Senior Advisor, District of Columbia
- A The Honorable (Mayor) Adrian Fenty, Mayor, District of Columbia, Washington, DC
- A Miss Charity Franklin (Substitute for: Mr. Joseph Smith)
- A Mr. Lewis Franklin, Student, Ballou High School

October 11, 2007 Film Screening Of Ballou Guest List
All Invitees With Response
10/15/2007 10:55:06 AM

**FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

- A Miss ShaQuita Gabriel, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Sarah Gesiriech, Education Advisor to the Office of the First Lady
- A Mr. Christian Gilyard, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mrs. JoAnne Ginsberg, Washington, DC
- A Ms. Deborah Gist, State Superintendent of Schools, District of Columbia
- A Mr. Terence C. Golden, Chairman, Federal City Council, Washington, DC
- A The Honorable (Mrs.) Maggie Grant, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
- A Mr. Vincent C. Gray, Chairman (At Large), Council of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC
- A Ms. Davena Archie, Chief of Staff to Chairman Vincent Gray (Guest)
- A Miss Jasmine Green, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Roderick Hall, Student, Ballou High School
- A The Honorable (Ms.) Cherie Harder, Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and Director of Projects for the First Lady, Mrs. Bush's Office
- A Miss Rhia Hardman, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Parisia Harris, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Joshua Hawkins, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Kaya Henderson, Deputy Chancellor, District of Columbia
- A Mr. Leon Hickson, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Kyia Hill, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Mafara Hobson, Deputy Communications Chair, District of Columbia
- A Ms. Mary Holden, Flag Choreographer/Coordinator, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Kenneth Horne, Student, Ballou High School

**FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

- A Mr. Earle Horton, Partner, Graves and Horton
- A Miss Infiniti Howard, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mrs. Anne Ashmore Hudson, Chair, DC Arts and Humanities Commission
- A Mr. James Hudson
- A Mr. Tyrone Huff, Dance Choreographer/Coordinator, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Anthony Issac, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Mark Jackson, Junior Staff, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Darryl Jenkins, Business Manager, Ballou High School
- A Miss Quintona Jennings, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Sarah Jensen, Presidential Management Fellow, Office of Mrs. Bush
- A Mr. Markus Johnson, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Brandin Jones, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Markita Jones, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Matthew Klein, Akridge
- A Ms. Holly Kuzmich, Chief of Staff Secretary of Education, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, Washington, DC (Substitute for: The Honorable Margaret Spellings)
- A Miss Marquita Lester, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Anthony Lewis, President, Verizon-Washington, D.C.
- A Miss Ieasha Littles, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Tiffany Lucas, Student, Ballou High School
- A The Honorable (Mrs.) Anita McBride, Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady, Office of Mrs. Bush
- A Miss Stacy McCarson, Student, Ballou High School

FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE
October 11, 2007
4:00 PM

- A Miss Tracy D McCarson, Student, Ballou
- A Miss Diamond McCoy, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Mariah Moorer, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Queenteese Morgan-Mcknight, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Ikea Nelson, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Scott Nordheimer, Principal, Midcity Legacy
- A The Honorable (Rep.) Eleanor Holmes Norton, United States of Representative (D/DC)
- A Mr. Richard Nyankori, Special Assistant to the Chancellor
- A Ms. Lakishia Osborne, Flag Choreographer/Coordinator, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Danitra House, Student, Ballou High School (Guest)
- A Mr. George Parker, President, Washington Teachers Union
- A Mr. Michael Patrei
- A Miss Coletta Paylor, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Victor Reinoso, Deputy Mayor for Education, District of Columbia
- A Mr. Wayne R. Reynolds, Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation, McLean, VA
- A Mrs. Catherine B. Reynolds, Benefit Committee Member and Trustee of the Kennedy Center Honors, McLean, VA
- A Ms. Michelle Rhee, Chief Executive Officer, The New Teacher Project, Aurora, CO
- A Miss India Ridley, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Thomas Robinson, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Lisa Marie Ruda, Chief of Staff, District of Columbia
- A Ms. Kelly Scott, Associate Director for Education, Domestic Policy Council
- A Mr. Raymond Shaw, Percussion Instructor/Assistant Director, Ballou High School

**FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

- A Mr. Mitchell Shear, Charles E. Smith Reality
- A Mr. James H. Shelton, Program Director for Education, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Washington, DC
- A Ms. Traci Slater-Rigaud, Program Manager, Coming Up Taller, PCAH, Hyattsville, MD
- A Mr. Khyron Small, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Jamard Smith, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Karen Smith, Principal, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Ben Soto, Principal, Paramount Title
- A Miss Stephanie Stewart, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Dan Tangherlini, Director, District of Columbia Department of Transportation, Washington, DC
- A Mrs. Judith F. Terra, Director, Terra Foundation for the Arts, Washington, DC
- A Mr. Terrell Thomas, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Gary Threadgill, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Elmer Toogood, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Calvin Vaughn, Student, Ballou High School
- A Mr. George Vradenburg, Strategic Advisor, Time Warner, Washington, DC
- A Mr. Bill Walton, Managing Member, Rockpoint Group, LLC, Jacksonville, FL
- A Mr. Tharon P Washington, Assistant Principal, Ballou High School
- A Mr. Darrell Watson, Band Director, Ballou High School
- A Miss Candace Weston, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Teresa Wilkins, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Ashley M. Williams, Student, Ballou High School

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ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

- A Mr. Andre Wingate, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Oralia Woods, Student, Ballou High School
- A Miss Symone Wrice, Student, Ballou High School
- A Ms. Tracy Young, Special Assistant, Office of Public Liaison
- A The Honorable (Mr.) Karl Zinsmeister, Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy,
Domestic Policy Council

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October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

No Shows

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- NS Miss Trayona Cunningham, Student, Ballou High School
- NS Miss Parisia Harris, Student, Ballou High School
- NS Mrs. Anne Ashmore Hudson, Chair, DC Arts and Humanities Commission
- NS Mr. Richard Nyankori, Special Assistant to the Chancellor
- NS Ms. Lakishia Osborne, Flag Choreographer/Coordinator, Ballou High School
- NS Miss Stephanie Stewart, Student, Ballou High School

No Response

Regrets

- R The Honorable (Ms.) Julie Elizabeth Cram, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Public Liaison, Office of Public Liaison
- R The Honorable (Mr.) David L. Dunn, Chief of Staff, Department of Education, Washington, DC
- R The Honorable (Senator) Mike Enzi, United States Senator (R/Wyoming)
- R Mrs. Diana Enzi, Spouse of United States Senator (R/Wyoming), Washington, DC
- R The Honorable (Senator) Ted Kennedy, United States Senator (D/Massachusetts)
- R Mrs. Victoria Kennedy, United States Senate Spouse (D/Massachusetts) and President, Common Sense About Kids and Guns, Washington, DC
- R The Honorable (Mrs.) Adair Wakefield Margo, Chairman, President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, El Paso, TX
- Substitute: Ms. Liz Dubin, Member, President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities

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ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE
October 11, 2007
4:00 PM

- R The Honorable (Rep) Howard P. McKeon, United States Representative (R/California)
R Mrs. Patricia McKeon, Spouse of United States Representative (R/California),
Alexandria, VA
- R The Honorable (Rep.) George Miller, United States Representative (D/California)
R Mrs. Cynthia Miller, Spouse of United States Representative (D/California)
- R Mr. Raymond Simon, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education, Arlington, VA
- R Mr. Joseph Smith, Student, Ballou High School
Substitute: Miss Charity Franklin
- R The Honorable (Secretary) Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education, Department of
Education
Substitute: Ms. Holly Kuzmich, Chief of Staff Secretary of Education, Office of
Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, Washington, DC

**FILM SCREENING OF BALLOU GUEST LIST
ALL INVITEES WITH RESPONSE**

October 11, 2007

4:00 PM

INVITATION STATISTICS:

INVITES

146

ACCEPTS

132

REGRETS

14

NO RESPONSES

0

UNKNOWN GUEST(S)

0

NO SHOW

8

TOTAL POSSIBLE

132

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

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**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
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10/11/2007 - Ballou Screening

FRC ID:

7474

OA Num.:

8286

NARA Num.:

8201

FOIA ID and Segment:

2015-0140-F

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Background for "Ballou" Screening

Statements from "Ballou" Director (<http://www.balloumovie.com>)

"Although the Ballou Documentary focuses on one of the positive aspects of DCPS it is important not to forget the reality of these schools. They suffer from innumerable challenges and neglect. The *Washington Post* reports almost daily on these transgressions, yet little is done for our children in these schools. Ballou Senior High School, among other public schools in DC have to deal with these problems while being within 3 miles of the United States Capitol and the U.S. Department of Education Building, (with its front entrance that reads "No Child Left Behind".) We have an obligation to ask ourselves the tough questions. How can a wealthy and powerful city such as Washington DC continue to have public schools in such poor conditions? What are the real reasons for such neglect? Along with asking these questions, we must then actually do something about it."

Ballou High School Performance Indicators (From DC School Report Card)

- In 2007, only 10% of Ballou students reached reading proficiency and only 7% reached proficiency in mathematics.
- Ballou did not meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in reading, math, or graduation rates for 2007. It is currently in its first year of restructuring under NCLB.

Federal Support for Education in DC (from OMB and ED)

- The 2008 President's Budget provides nearly \$900 million for the District's education system—51 percent more than when President Bush took office.
- The Federal Government also provides an additional \$76 million (bringing the annual total close to a billion dollars) for special funding to public schools, charter schools, and a unique program that provides scholarships so low-income students can attend private schools of their choice (D.C. Opportunity Scholarships).
- This scholarship program, initiated by President Bush, offers D.C. children escape routes unavailable to children in almost any other place. This year, 1,900 students are attending 54 private schools in the District on these scholarships, and parents express very high levels of satisfaction with the program.
- Another Federally funded education program that is unique to the District and enjoyed by no other state is the D.C. Resident Tuition Assistance program, which pays for District students to attend colleges in the District or out of state. In the latest year, it was funded at approximately \$27 million.
- Some details on the President's FY08 Budget for D.C. education:
 - Increases Special Education Grants for D.C. to \$17 million— a 63% increase over 2001 levels.
 - Provides \$46 million in Federal Pell Grants to help ensure a college education for D.C. students.
 - Provides \$13 million to attract and retain highly qualified teachers in D.C.'s classrooms.

- Provides \$3 million for annual assessments so every mom and dad in the District of Columbia will know how well their children are learning and where they need improvement.

Has NCLB narrowed the curriculum and forced schools to drop art and music classes?

- Many schools across the country have shown that NCLB's primary focus on reading and math need not conflict with arts and music instruction.
- There is evidence that schools are adding time to the school day to focus on reading and math, not cutting time from other subjects.
- As students strengthen their skills in reading and math, their ability to do well in other subject areas flourishes.

DC Voting Rights

- The Administration issued a veto threat on the D.C. House Voting Rights Act of 2007 because it "violates the Constitution's provisions governing the composition and election of the United States Congress."
- The bill violates the Constitution's provisions that expressly limit representation in the U.S. House of Representatives to representatives of States.
- Congressional representation for the District of Columbia would require a constitutional amendment, as Federal Courts, the Congressional Research Service, and many advocates acknowledge.
- Granting congressional representation to the District would call into question the validity of all legislation passed by the House of Representatives after the District's member is included in the House (by subjecting all such laws to Constitutional challenge in the courts).
- The President took an oath to uphold the Constitution and believes this bill is unconstitutional.

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Briefing	Screening of Ballou: A Documentary Film	23	10/11/2007	P5; P6/b6;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Office of Laura Bush - Chief of Staff

SERIES:

McBride, Anita - Chron Files

FOLDER TITLE:

10/11/2007 - Ballou Screening

FRC ID:

7474

OA Num.:

8286

NARA Num.:

8201

FOIA ID and Segment:

2015-0140-F

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	Rough Guest List for the Ballou Event [with attachment] - To: Anita McBride, et al. - From: Sarah Jensen	4	10/03/2007	P5;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Office of Laura Bush - Chief of Staff

SERIES:

McBride, Anita - Chron Files

FOLDER TITLE:

10/11/2007 - Ballou Screening

FRC ID:

7474

OA Num.:

8286

NARA Num.:

8201

FOIA ID and Segment:

2015-0140-F

RESTRICTION CODES**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

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Records Not Subject to FOIA

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Please make
green folder:

BalloU (italics)
screening

Oct 11

Ballou

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TODAY'S DATE: 09/27/07

TO: Melissa S. Bennett
Deputy Assistant to the President for
Appointments and Scheduling

FROM: Anita McBride *AMcB*
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to Mrs. Bush

REQUEST: Drop-by a Screening of the documentary film, *Ballou*, with Ballou High School (Southeast Washington, D.C.) Marching Band members and staff in the East Room.

PURPOSE: To highlight the central message of the *Helping America's Youth* initiative by viewing a documentary that tells the story of the caring adults at Ballou High School that—through the Ballou High School Marching Band—create a sense of family and purpose for students from inner-city DC. Through their participation, band members learn how to play musical instruments but, more importantly, they learn crucial life lessons.

BACKGROUND: Ballou High School (Southeast Washington, D.C.)
Ballou High School in Southeast Washington, DC, is often used to illustrate the urban education crisis. In 2006, only 10% of Ballou students tested scored proficient in reading on DC's standardized assessment and only 7% were proficient in math. A mere five percent of students go on after high school to graduate from college. Ballou's student population is 99% African American and 93% of its students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

{ The quality of education offered at Ballou High School has been compromised by an often unsafe learning environment. In 2004, one student shot and killed another inside the school and in 2003, a student-led mercury spill contaminated the building and forced the school to temporarily close.

Ballou High School Marching Band
Under the direction of Mr. Darrell Watson, along with help from his all-volunteer staff, the Ballou High School Marching Band has won several national awards. More importantly, students who join the band not only learn to play instruments but receive support and guidance in their academic pursuits and personal lives. Mr. Watson, a graduate of Ballou High School himself, teaches "life lessons" as well as music so that students have the tools they need to succeed. The band's accomplishments have been featured as a positive story amidst all of the negative press that the high school receives.

Ballou: A Documentary Film

This documentary follows the Ballou High School Marching Band on a journey from band camp to the National High Stepping Marching Band Competition in Birmingham, AL. It features the personal lives of the band members and the relationships they forge with Mr. Watson and fellow band members. D.C. Public Schools Chancellor Michelle Rhee attended a special screening of *Ballou* on August 7, 2007 and commented that "watching this movie makes me understand why I am doing what I am doing. I thought it was amazing."

During the filming of this documentary, 58 violent crimes occurred within 1,500 feet of the school and the producer of the documentary was robbed at knife point and beaten on the doorstep of another DC public school.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

The Ballou High School Marching Band marched in the President's 2005 Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C. on January 20, 2005.

Mrs. Bush heard the Ballou High School Choir sing when she spoke at the National Summit on America's Silent Epidemic (high school dropout) in Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2007.

DATE AND TIME:

Thursday, October 11 during the afternoon (around 4:00 pm)

DURATION:

1 hour, 50 minutes (the film is 1 hour, 30 minutes)

BRIEFING TIME:

5 Minutes

LOCATION:

East Room, White House, Washington, D.C.

PARTICIPANTS:

Approximately 80 members of the Ballou High School Marching Band, 5-15 band staff and sponsors, teachers, school administrators, the principal of Ballou High School and Chancellor of DC Public Schools, Michelle Rhee, Mayor Adrian Fenty, and Secretary Margaret Spellings.

OUTLINE OF EVENT:

THE PRESIDENT will drop-by the event and make brief remarks before the film begins. MRS. BUSH will greet, deliver remarks, view the documentary, stop by a reception following the screening and depart.

REMARKS REQUIRED:

Informal remarks, 3-5 minutes

MEDIA COVERAGE:

TBD

FIRST LADY'S ATTENDANCE:

Confirmed