



Congratulations

University of the District of Columbia 175th Anniversary

September 18, 2025

As Mayor of Washington, DC, I am pleased to extend congratulations to the University of the District of Columbia on the milestone occasion of your 175th—or dodransbicentennial—anniversary!



The Firebird represents rebirth, resilience, and legacy, aligning perfectly with the distinct history of transformation and progress unique to the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). Founded in 1851 by Myrtilla Miner, specifically for the education of young Black women, Miner Teachers College served as a catalyst for public higher education in Washington, DC. In 1955, following *Brown v. Board of Education* and the desegregation of schools, Miner and its all-white peer institution Wilson Teachers College, merged and became the District of Columbia Teachers College (DCTC). In 1976, thanks to the advocacy of DC residents who wanted more diverse training options from our public education institutions, the Council of the District of Columbia authorized the consolidation of DCTC, the Federal City College, and Washington Technical Institute into what we now know and love—the University of the District of Columbia.



UDC offers over 81 undergraduate and graduate academic degree programs, and for 175 years, has been a consistent resource for all residents in pursuit of higher education. Steadfast in its mission as a public historically Black university, UDC remains dedicated to serving the needs of the DC community and continues to transform to meet the changing needs of its students. To President Maurice D. Edington, the dedicated Board of Trustees, students, faculty, administrators, and alumnus, I am deeply grateful for all you do to make Washington, DC world renowned in public higher education today and for generations to come.

Once again, on behalf of the more than 700,000 residents of Washington, DC, congratulations to the University of the District of Columbia on your 175-year legacy of turning potential into power. Go Firebirds!



Muriel Bowser
Mayor