Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole was appointed the Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art in March, 2009. The museum's collection of over 10,000 objects represents nearly every area of the continent of Africa and contains a variety of media and art forms. She currently serves on the Scholarly Advisory Board for the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, the construction of which will be completed on the National Mall by 2015.

Dr. Cole served as president of Spelman College and Bennett College for Women. She is the only person to have served as president of these two historically black colleges for women in the United States. She is also Professor Emerita of Emory University from which she retired as Presidential Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, Women's Studies, and African American Studies. Johnnetta Cole has been awarded 55 honorary degrees and she is the recipient of numerous awards, including *Ebony Magazine*'s most influential 100 in 2010; George Washington Carver Award, 2011; Benjamin Franklin Creativity Laureate Award; and *The Washingtonian Magazine*'s 100 most powerful women, 2011.

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This lecture is part of Unity in Diversity, a series of spring events commemorating the 50th Anniversary of desegregation at the University of Miami.