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**UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY**  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

**(EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1991)**

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**University at Albany Announces  
\$55 Million Capital Campaign**

ALBANY, NY, DEC. 10 -- University at Albany officials today launched a capital campaign that will enable the school to continue to carry out its mission of providing education, research, and service while responding to societal challenges in the next century.

The Campaign for Albany, the first capital drive in the University's 147-year history, seeks a total of \$55 million in private support by the end of 1999. Of that amount, \$25 million will be raised by December 1994 -- the end of the University's Sesquicentennial year.

Announcing the Campaign, President H. Patrick Swygert noted that faculty, students, and staff are grateful to the state's taxpayers and legislators for having made Albany "what it is today: a vibrant, mature public research university with a reputation for academic excellence.

"However," he continued, "we want to build upon the University's excellence, and this campaign will enable us to do so. The Campaign for Albany will allow us to do so by helping us continue to build our educational programs, recruit and retain a distinguished faculty, attract the talented students who will become tomorrow's leaders -- and continue to provide New Yorkers an excellent return on the investment they have already made in quality public higher education. Through their support of the Campaign for Albany, alumni, alumnae, parents, friends, corporations, and foundations will allow the University to build upon its excellence and, in doing so, provide even greater benefits to the citizens of New York."

Gary R. Allen, president and chief executive officer of Key Bank of New York and a 1970 Albany graduate, will chair the campaign. Allen observed that "the same vibrancy, energy, and dedication to excellence that were in evidence over two decades ago are still among Albany's hallmarks. But those qualities cannot be preserved and nurtured without support from each member of the University at Albany family."

Allen urged the 100,000-plus members of "the University family" -- graduates, parents, faculty members, staff, and friends -- to support the Campaign for Albany. He added, "By working together, we are sure to succeed in this major endeavor to ensure that the University at Albany maintains its enviable reputation for excellence and attains the greatness it seeks."

Allen said the \$55 million to be raised through the Campaign for Albany will fund faculty and academic programs, campus cultural and social programs, and buildings and equipment, and will support students through financial aid and enrichment of student life.

Joining President Swygert and Chairman Allen at the announcement was J. Spencer Standish, Chairman/CEO of Albany International Corporation, long-time chairman of the University at Albany Fund, and President of the newly-reorganized University at Albany Foundation.

Standish noted the unique role the University at Albany plays in its community as "educational resource, economic partner, provider of sophisticated and productive employees and source of volunteers and consultants to area governments, businesses and non-profit corporations. "I firmly believe that public institutions must take more initiative in helping themselves. We know that the Campaign for Albany will succeed," Standish said, "because Albany has earned the support and respect of the community it serves."

As of mid-November, the campaign, which has been in the planning stages for two years, had raised \$11.2 million. That figure represents nearly 45 percent of the Phase I goal of \$25 million and more than 20 percent of the overall goal.



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**ALBANY'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST TO HOST  
ARBOR HILL'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST  
FOR KWANZAA CELEBRATION, DEC. 13**

A special celebration of KWANZAA, the African-American holiday observance of family, community, and culture, will be the highlight of a reception for 30 of the best students from the Ida Yarbrough Unit of the Albany Boys and Girls Club Homework Program, (ages 6-14) to be held at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 13, in the second-floor lounge of the Performing Arts Center at the University at Albany.

University at Albany Professor of Africana Studies Vivian V. Gordon will conduct the celebration. Described not as a religious holiday but rather a seven-day (Dec. 26-Jan. 1) elaboration of seven positive principles or values, KWANZAA was developed by African-American scholar Maulana Karenga in 1966. Last year, Essence Magazine said a reader survey indicated that up to 80 per cent of African-American families participate in the celebration each year.

The principles of KWANZAA (in Swahili) are UMOJA (Unity, Dec. 26), KUJICHAGULIA (Self-determination, Dec. 27), UJIMA (Collective work and responsibility, Dec. 28), UJAMAA (Cooperative economics, Dec. 29), NIA (Purpose, Dec. 30), KUUMBA (Creativity, Dec. 31), and IMANI (Faith, Jan. 1).

Attired in a dress from Ghana, Professor Gordon will introduce the students to the symbols of KWANZAA including the IKINARA or mat (tradition and history), KINARI or candleholder (whose seven red(3), black(1) and green(3) candles, lit daily during KWANZAA, represent the seven principles), and MKEKA or corn (children).

The reception for the Albany Boys and Girls Club students is being sponsored by the Presidential Honors Society on campus. Composed of students with a minimum GPA of 3.75, the society was organized this fall and dedicated to community service and academic excellence. The students have already collected some two tons of food for community distribution, met with students from Colonie High School to promote academic college-preparatory programs and adopted families who need help in obtaining special medical apparatus.