Joel E. Spingarn, then NAACP

Former Texas Congressman Barbara Jordan, now a professor in the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin, will be presented the NAACP's Spingarn Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, the NAACP's Executive Director/CEO has announced.

The Award will be presented to Ms. Jordan by Azie Taylor Morton, of Alexandria, Virginia, former United States Treasurer, during the NAACP's Spingarn Award Ceremony on Wednesday, December 9, 1992, at the New York Hilton Hotel and Towers in New York City.

The Co-Chairmen of this year's Dinner are Martin S. Davis, Chairman of the Board and Chief **Executive Officer of Paramount** Communications Inc., formerly Gulf and Western; and Percy E. Sutton, Esquire, General Partner, Apollo Investment Group.

Institutes in 1914 by the late

Chairman, the Medal is presented annually to the man or woman of African descent and American citizenship who make the highest achievement during the preceding year or years in any honorable field of human endeavor. The presentation of the

medal is twofold - first to call attention of the American people to the existence of distinguished merit and achievement among Americans of African descent, and secondly, to serve as a reward for such achievement and as a stimulus to the ambition of youth of African descent.

"Barbara Jordan in every way reflects the high standards of achievement and integrity that have always been applied in selecting the Spingarn Medalist." NAACP Executive Director, Dr. Hooks said.

"Ms. Jordan's service to our nation, especially her outstanding work in the House of Representatives, represents living proof of the heights to which African-Americans can rise if given the opportunity.

As the 77th recipient of the prestigious medal, Ms. Jordan joins a distinguished roster of African-Americans who have received the Award including last year's winner, General Colin L.

Others have included Virginia's Governor L. Douglas Wilder, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Jackie Robinson, Edward Kennedy (Duke) Ellington, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, Bill Cosby and singer Leontyne

Ms. Jordan served as Congresswoman from Texas' 18th District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1972 to

During her tenure she was a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary; the House Committee on Government Operations; and the Steering and Policy Committee of the Democratic Caucus.

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FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Romance Him With Diamonds

(NU) - Often the biggest challenge for a woman during the holidays is finding that special something for the man in her life. For ages, women have been asking themselves the same question: What gifts do men want?

With the resurgence of romance and tradition in the '90s, men are showing a strong preference for symbolic gifts of love. Diamond jewelry is one of the most popular gift items for men, ac-cording to the 1991 National Family Opinion Poll conducted by NW Ayer. More than 75 percent of all men's diamond pieces are purchased as gifts, and 33 percent are bought at Christmas time. Rings are the most popular diamond jewelry items for men, followed by accessories such as tie tacs, and cufflinks and studs.

Bob Kasper, jewelry buyer for Littman Jewelers, a large East Coast retail chain, says that "Men's acces-sories with diamonds traditionally sell well during the holidays. Customers feel that it is the diamond in the piece that sets it apart from other jewelry gifts, making it more special.

Men's diamond jewelry is also an indispensable fashion accessory in a decade when individual expres sion is top priority for men. "Diamond jewelry gives a man's wardrobe a distinctive look for the holidays," says Tom Julian, fashion director of the Men's Fashion Association. "This season's focus on combining diverse textures and tones in men's fashion gives diamond jewelry an ideal niche with both casual and formal clothing.

New diamond shapes for the '90s



offer men a wide variety of options to suit their own tastes. Pieces that are geometric in style, featuring princess cut or baguette diamonds, are current favorites.

The significance of the diamond as a gift of love — and a classic jewelry accessory — applies to men as well as women in the '90s. As holiday shoppi ig becomes increas-ingly selective, diamond jewelry makes a lasting and fashionable gift a man can wear and cherish forever

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Making a Fashionable Statement



Barbara W. DeBaptiste (center), president of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, was recently presented a \$15,000 donation from Maybelline Shades of You color cosmetics. The contribution will help fund the Shades of You Literacy and Life Skills Fund, which is administered by the coalition. The Fund provides literacy and life skills training for at-risk teenagers in four pilot cities. Pictured above are: (1) Carolyn McHenry-Wise of Maybelline and (r) Jennifer Martin, cosmetic consultant.

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