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**AIDS Advocate and Author Getrude Matshe Speaks  
at Cambridge College**

**CAMBRIDGE, MA**— At a young age Getrude Matshe learned to follow her dreams no matter what it took. “All you need to do is dream, and to dream big,” she said her father told her. “Everything you want can become a reality.” On Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> the AIDS advocate, author and entrepreneur shared her inspiring story of success with a crowd of nearly 100 Cambridge College students and guests on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at the College.

“I am here to tell you how people can change the world,” said Matshe, who is trying to create change through her book, [Born on the Continent](#), and her Africa Alive Education Foundation. A native of Zimbabwe, Matshe is trying to raise funds to support the 17 million children, an entire generation of AIDS orphaned children, born in Africa. “Poverty is a mindset. It becomes a way of thinking when you are stuck in it generation after generation. The cycle will not break until people learn what it means. Education unlocks minds—it is the only way,” she added. Matshe knows the value of education firsthand; her mother believed that a good education would help her children escape poverty. Matshe and her four siblings are all college graduates.

Matshe and her colleagues are trying to break the cycle of poverty in Zimbabwe by teaching the natives how to help themselves. “When you teach people to help themselves, it gives them back their dignity,” she said. And according to Matshe, salvation isn’t impossible. “It’s not going to take much; just a few people to step up in each community.”

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This event was part of the Strategies for Success class in the Cambridge College undergraduate program.

Founded in 1971, Cambridge College is a private, non-profit institution dedicated to providing academically excellent, time-efficient, and cost-effective higher education for a diverse population of working adults for whom those opportunities may have been limited or denied. Cambridge College has sites in Cambridge, Springfield, and Lawrence, MA; Memphis, TN, Chesapeake, VA; Augusta, GA; Ontario, CA; and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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