



*Induction of the Forty Under 40  
2021 Class*

Sunday, September 26, 2021 • 4:00 p.m.





# FORTY UNDER 40 GALA PROGRAM

*Induction of the Forty Under 40 Class*

WELCOME

*Anthony Jones '07*

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

*Valonda Calloway '94*

GREETINGS

*Elwood L. Robinson, Ph.D.  
Chancellor, Winston-Salem State University*

*C. Regina Cason '90  
President, National Alumni Association*

*Javondre Cole '22  
WSSU SGA Vice President*

INVOCATION

*Rev. James DuBose  
Senior Associate AD for Development and Athletic Administration*

## DINNER

SPEAKERS

*Marques Johnson '04  
Jonathan Murray '04  
Young Alumni Council Founders*

PRESENTATION OF THE 2021  
FORTY UNDER 40 HONOREES

*Young Alumni Council Scholarship Recipients*

CLOSING REMARKS

*Dr. LaTanya Afolayan  
Vice Chancellor of University Advancement*

*Ladia Rutledge '07  
Deidra Phyll Artis '05  
Young Alumni Council Co-Chairs*

ALMA MATER

## MIX AND MINGLE

ELWOOD L. ROBINSON, Ph.D.



CHANCELLOR

Greetings:

Welcome to the 2021 "Forty Under 40" Awards Gala, where we celebrate forty outstanding young alumni for their contributions to their professional fields and their communities.

It is my sincere pleasure to extend my congratulations to this year's cohort of "Forty Under 40" awardees. We take this opportunity today to honor you for your commitment to excellence in your work, your passion for volunteerism, and your spirit of philanthropy.

The French novelist Anatole France once said: "To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe." This amazing group of alumni illustrates the truth of this statement. The "Forty Under 40" class demonstrates its belief in the endless possibilities of the world by harnessing the knowledge, support, strength, and compassion that stems from their days at WSSU.

I know you will join me in congratulating the entire 2021 class of "Forty Under 40" honorees. They all serve as inspiration by truly living out the Winston-Salem State University motto of "Enter to Learn. Depart to Serve."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elwood L. Robinson".

Elwood L. Robinson, Ph. D.

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY  
200 BLAIR HALL • WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA • 27110  
PHONE: 336-750-2041 • FAX: 336-750-2049 • E-MAIL: robinsonel@wssu.edu

*Winston-Salem State University is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina  
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LaTanya D. Afolayan Ed. D.



VICE CHANCELLOR FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT  
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WSSU FOUNDATION

September 26, 2021

To the Members of the 2021 Cohort:

Congratulations on your selection as a recipient of the Young Alumni Council's 40 Under 40 Award.

We are extremely pleased to learn of your professional accomplishments, your dedication to family and your community, all coupled with your enthusiasm and support for Winston-Salem State University!

Thank you for embracing the university's motto, "Enter to Learn and Depart to Serve." Please continue to share your WSSU experiences and assist us as advocates for the university. I hope that you will also take advantage of volunteer opportunities on campus, support the university's recruiting efforts, and help us to expand our engagement and outreach activities. Finally, I enlist your support for younger Rams with your annual contributions! Our students need and deserve access to adequate financial resources in order to thrive and excel at WSSU.

Finally, I want to remind you that we are here to support your dreams and aspirations. Let us know how we can help you continue to excel! Your Family stands ready to assist at any time.

We are delighted to join you in the celebrations this weekend!

Warm Regards,

LaTanya D. Afolayan

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

311 BLAIR HALL • WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27110

PHONE: 336-750-2184 • FAX: 336-750-2008 • E-MAIL: [afolayanld@wssu.edu](mailto:afolayanld@wssu.edu)

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*"Linked together in unity.*



*Serving together with purpose."*

Heartfelt Congratulations Honorees!

"As we go forth from Old State U., Good leaders we will always be And stand for all humanity as you have taught us State University." On behalf of the Winston-Salem State University National Alumni Association, Inc. (WSSUNAA) I greet you with sincere gratitude on your accomplishment of being selected as a 2021 WSSU Forty Under 40 Honoree. Your dedication and hard work have certainly made a memorable impression which spans well beyond your respective communities, impacting both national and global stages. Your individual successes exemplify the vast myriad of tenacity and dedication that are representative of our WSSU alumni. Your highlighted achievements are recognized through your contributions in your respective fields yet opens the door of opportunity to do so much more. Dedication to service begins the journey to leadership in which it is important to gather knowledge and utilize resources to become Change Agents. A Change agent serves as a catalyst for recognition, development and bringing change. The need to empower and equip others allows WSSU alums the ability to utilize stellar talents and qualities to become key influencers and world-class leaders. As a Forty Under 40 Honoree, you have exemplified these traits through your personal mission, personal values, and personal beliefs that impact society in a positive way. By awareness, use of resources, and motivation to impact change, you have influenced relations regarding culture, social, and human change. As you have "Entered to Learn," continue to "Depart to Serve" in whatever capacity that supports your greatest desires. Please know that you have the love and support from the WSSUNAA as you continue to strive in your many endeavors.

Warm Regards,

C. Regina Cason  
WSSUNAA President

**S.G. Atkins House, Winston-Salem, NC 27110  
336-750-2122 or 1-888-565-3870**



# WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

## *Young Alumni Council*

September 26, 2021

Welcome to the 2021 Winston-Salem State University Forty Under 40 Awards Gala. Today, we gather to spotlight and honor young alumni excellence. Our honorees represent some of our institutions best and brightest and serve as constant reminders of the depth and breadth of our alumni endeavors. We congratulate each of you and thank you for your presence here this evening.

Your Young Alumni Council (YAC) continues to work in collaboration with the Office of Alumni Engagement to engage our generation of alums in new and exciting ways to support WSSU. As you reflect on the vast accomplishments of tonight's honorees, let their example be reminders of why we must step up and support our beloved 'SU in new ways. We are calling on each of you, to renew your commitment to support our Alma Mater through your time, talents, and financial investment.

We also thank all of you who are joining us to celebrate this evening's momentous occasion. To all those who have served as patrons to our honorees, we say a collective THANK YOU. Your investment means we can continue to provide access and support to some of the nation's most promising students to matriculate at WSSU.

We say a special thanks to the following members of the YAC Fundraising/Event Planning committee, 40 Under 40 Selection Committee and our event volunteers for your efforts in planning and supporting this year's event. Your efforts truly exemplify our motto "Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve."

Marcus Johnson      Brenda Miller      Anthony Jones      Andrew Jones

Finally, YAC is grateful for the support of the Office of Alumni Engagement, the Office of University Events, NBCC Foundation and all our event patrons for your investment into this evening's event and the success of WSSU. We are humbled by your efforts and generosity.

In RAM Service,

Ladia Rutledge '07  
2019-2021 Young Alumni Council Co-Chair

Deidra Artis Phyll, '05  
2019-2021 Young Alumni Council Co-Chair







*Induction of the Forty Under 40 2021 Class*



## **KEON M. ARTIS, MBA** | CLASS OF 2015

Keon Artis earned his B.S. in Management with a concentration in Human Resources from Winston-Salem State University. He earned his MBA from East Carolina University. Currently, Keon works as a Talent Management Analyst for Insight Global where he helps establish employee recruiting and retention strategies. Previously Keon served on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Council where he built relationships with the Thurgood Marshall College Fund to create a pipeline of top talent from HBCUs.

He and his family created The Flood Family: We Are Ramily! Scholarship. This need-based scholarship is awarded to students who are residents of select counties in northeastern NC and have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. He wrote an internationally-published scholarly article, "Motivations of Federal Workers to Volunteer in Public Sector Special Events."

He is an active member of the WSSU DC Metro Rams Alumni Chapter, Scholarship/Recruitment Team member, and participates in "Alumni Return to Serve." Keon helps to enrich the lives of those around him. It brings him great joy to lose himself in the service of others!



## **CHANTELLE BETHEA** | CLASS OF 2011

Chantelle Bethea developed a passion for health and wellness at a young age, primarily through her participation in sports. Learning more about all of the dimensions of wellness ignited her passion to guide others to a healthier lifestyle.

Chantelle was a top student-athlete who excelled in Women's Track & Field and graduated from Winston-Salem State University with her B.S. in 2011. She obtained a Master's of Education in Coaching, Sport, Recreation, and Fitness Administration from Angelo State University in 2013. She has since started her own fitness business, CWB Fitness, LLC (in 2015) and clothing brand, WELLFYSH, LLC (in 2020).

Through CWB Fitness she provides workshops, seminars, and classes about nutritional choices, optimizing physical activity, managing stressors, and improving quality of life. The care and guidance WSSU's athletics department staff and her professors provided to her greatly impacted her passion to serve her community. She credits her family and her faith as being her backbone of support over the years.



## **CHARLIE BOWERS** | CLASS OF 2007

Charlie Bowers earned his B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in marketing from Winston-Salem State University. He was a music scholarship recipient and a proud member of the Red Sea of Sound marching and jazz band. Currently, he serves as a Senior Talent Acquisition Manager - Affirm, in Charlotte, NC.

An advocate for the advancement of underrepresented minorities in technology with a passion for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Charlie leads several Employee Resource Groups and participates in corporate networks designed to help strengthen and advance representation for underrepresented minorities in corporate workplaces. He is committed to helping people achieve self-sufficiency through transitioning careers in technology through co-facilitating community workshops, service campaigns, and building support groups for STEM. Inspired by his humble beginnings as an adolescent and being raised by his grandmother, he is forever grateful for the college experience at WSSU for so many invaluable experiences/lessons. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.



## VICKI BRADLEY | CLASS OF 2007

Vicki Bradley is a news leader with more than a decade of experience in newsrooms in North Carolina, Georgia, Texas, and Florida. She graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a BA in communications and earned her M.S. in communications from Syracuse University. She is the news director for WTXL ABC 27 in Tallahassee, Florida. Vicki began her journalism career as a producer at WECT News in Wilmington and FOX8 News in High Point. She transitioned to the Weather Channel in covering major weather events across the globe. In 2015, Vicki became an executive producer at WFMY and oversaw the station’s Emmy-nominated 11pm newscast and was later promoted to assistant news director. Since 2019, Vicki has led the WTXL ABC 27 newsroom in telling stories that impact communities in North Florida and South Georgia. Her work includes coverage of elections, social justice movements and the coronavirus pandemic. Her professional affiliations include the National Association of Black Journalists and the Radio Television Digital News Association. She mentors aspiring journalists, serves as an executive board member for Capital City Youth Services, and is a member of the Junior League of Tallahassee.



## LEZLIE CHANNAN BRIGGS | CLASS OF 2009

Ms. Briggs earned her B.S. in Rehabilitation Studies from Winston-Salem State University where she was a Ram Ambassador and a member of Women for Change. Upon graduating she began her career in the nonprofit sector. In 2013, she moved to Charlotte, NC to start her career in the public sector. She currently works for The City of Charlotte Community Relations Department as a Community Relations Specialist for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). She is also the Co-Partner of Max & Lola 1501 South Mint, a black-owned restaurant located in downtown Charlotte. She and her twin brother Justin co-created BriGGsing, a social group that encourages people of color to explore and experience new adventures. She has served on boards for EmpowHERment, Cops and Barbers Worldwide, and Heal Charlotte. In 2014, she received the President Award from the Southern Piedmont Chapter of the National Forum of Black Public Administrators for outstanding leadership. She also served as a member of the Annual Gray Holiday Party Finance Committee which raises money for the Harvey B. Gantt Center. She credits her family, especially her Virginia grandparents, for instilling in her the importance of hard work and giving back.



## YOLANDA DAVIS BRISCO, ESQ. | CLASS OF 2006

Yolanda Davis Brisco earned a B.S. in Biology and minor in Chemistry from Winston-Salem State University. She obtained an M.S. degree in Accountancy from Wake Forest University’s School of Business and began working for a “Big 4” public accounting firm as a Business Assurance and Advisory Services professional. Thereafter, she obtained a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management from the UNC Charlotte and received her J.D. from Campbell University, Norman A. Wiggins School of Law.

Before joining North Carolina Bar, Yolanda spent more than a decade in the accounting and nonprofit industries as the principal consultant and founder of Purposed Strategy, a virtual accounting and strategy firm. After law school, she joined Nexsen Pruet, PLLC as an associate attorney in their Corporate and Tax Practice Group where she supports corporate clients in economic development and transactional matters with emphasis on small businesses and nonprofit and exempt organizations.

Yolanda was selected for inclusion into the National Black Lawyers Association Top 40 Under 40 Black Lawyers in North Carolina, recognizing her superior talent, commitment to clients, and leadership skills. Yolanda co-founded and currently chairs the board of Davis Academy, a nonprofit focused on education, restorative practices, and community schools. Yolanda contributes her desire to serve both her community and clients in excellence to the foundation that was built during her time at WSSU.



## **DWAYNE BRYANT, PH.D.** | CLASS OF 2012

Dr. Dwayne M. Bryant attended Winston-Salem State University as a first-generation college student earning his B.S. in rehabilitation studies. He received the TL McClellan Scholarship which is given to an undergraduate student that embodies academic excellence and service to their community. As a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, he held positions of Vice President of the PanHellenic Council, Director of Educational Programming, and District Representative and was awarded the Frank Gilbert Service Award.

Dr. Bryant founded Bryant Consulting Company and is a nationally certified school psychologist. He has worked with the American Psychological Association, Educational Testing Service, and the National Association of School Psychologists. He has a passion for advocacy and fairness for all people and strives to create a balanced and positive narrative of black men in society.

Dr. Bryant created visual projects that highlight self-discovery in psychology and has authored four children’s books and a self-help and motivational book for adults entitled Healing Over Time: Accept Identity, and Release. Over the last two years, he created and awarded the “My Degree & Me” scholarship to four WSSU students.



## **SHONDALE CLARK** | CLASS OF 2013

Shondale Clark has always been a self-motivated, goal oriented, educator who gets the job done under any circumstance. She earned her B.A. in Mass Communications from Winston-Salem State University. In 2017, she graduated from High Point University, The Nido R. Qubein School of Communications with her M.A. While in graduate school, she founded what is now Clark Manage PR which provides public relations counsel and strategic communications services, that enable clients to build strong relationships, and to influence attitudes and behavior in a complex world. Her company has worked on projects with Empowered Girls of North Carolina and the Art of Cool Festival in Durham, NC. Clark is an Information Technology Specialist at Quality Education Academy where she manages computers, hardware, software, printers, tablets, and networks within the organization. She is a member of the Young Alumni Council, Black Women in Technology, Black Women in Media, Media Women Connect, and Empowered Girls of NC. In her free time, she enjoys working out, traveling with family and friends, and volunteering at her church in the youth ministry.



## **MELISSA DAVIS, M.A., LRT/CTRS** | CLASS OF 2013

Melissa Davis is passionate about helping individuals with disabilities and sought to pursue her B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation at Winston-Salem State University. Melissa was empowered by the WSSU motto immersing herself into community organizations like Black Woman for Change, North Carolina Recreation Therapy Association, and serving as the President of Therapeutic Recreation Majors Club. After graduating, Melissa received her M.A. in Recreation Administration and was nominated to join the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) Board of Directors. Melissa served on the board for two years and recently became the youngest and first African-American Chair. She hopes to inspire minority professionals to get involved in their respective professions and instill the mindset of service to the community. Currently, she is a Recreation Therapist working with wounded, ill, and injured service members at the Center for the Intrepid on Fort Sam Houston military base in San Antonio, Texas. Founder of the iWill Wallet, LLC., Melissa dedicates this nomination to God, family, WSSU, and thanks, supportive friends, and colleagues.



## MELONIE DAVIS | CLASS OF 2006

Melonie earned her bachelor's degree in recreation therapy, with a concentration in psychology, from Winston-Salem State University. She earned her master's degree from Wake Forest University in clinical mental health counseling and is currently a licensed therapist and Nationally Certified Counselor. She holds the position of Professional Development Coordinator at the National Board for Certified Counselors Foundation, where she works with master's and doctoral level counseling students in the Minority Fellowship Program who receive between 10-20k in funding in exchange for providing counseling services to underserved, never served, marginalized and minority populations. She was a RAM Ambassador, registered voters during Barack Obama's first race for presidency, and volunteered with local community agencies. Melonie organized fundraisers and programs to address issues in her local community including a free lunch crowdfunding effort, distributing 200 "Blessing Bags" filled with personal care items, and volunteering at Open Arms Therapy providing counseling services to teens with substance use disorder. She created Pushing Black Girls Forward (PBGF) LLC which is a service and mentorship program that pairs high school aged girls with professional women. "It is a celebration of Black women and girls that provides a space where we are understood and do not have to justify ourselves. PBGF provides the counter space that is necessary in a society that is dense with both explicit and subliminal messages that silence Black women's voices trivialize our narratives and diminish our presence." WSSU prepared her from the inside out. Melonie can attest to the remarkable ways that professors, classmates, cafeteria workers, and waiting in a financial aid line turned into mentors, family, and invaluable memories that she will cherish all my life.



## SHANNON DAVIS | CLASS OF 2006

Shannon Davis cultivated a passion for life at a young age. God blessed her with the opportunity to attend Winston-Salem State University, play softball alongside her sister and earn dual B.S. degrees in business management and sport management. As a student she served on executive boards for three departments: business, sports management, and athletics. In 2004 she was named WSSU's Student-Athlete of the Year and NCAA Woman of the Year for The State of North Carolina.

Shannon has served in corporate marketing for the Detroit Pistons, financial advising, softball coaching, finance officer, and executive sales. She is now an influencer, life/business coach, public speaker, and event coordinator. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Beta Gamma Sigma National Business Honor Society, NCAA Circle of Female Athletes, and the Clarence E. "Big House" Gaines Hall of Fame. Shannon volunteers at churches, non-profits, community-based programs, and small businesses to uplift and heal her community. For each opportunity, connection, lesson, achievement, and accolade she gives all honor to God, being the head of her life, her maturing faith, and unwavering love and support of her loved ones.



## CHANELLE DAWKINS | CLASS OF 2005

Chanelle Dawkins attended Winston-Salem State University with the goal of becoming a nurse, a dream once held by her mother. While a student, Chanelle she served as a Campus Pal and became a member of Chi Eta Phi Sorority. After obtaining her B.S. in Nursing she began her career as an intensive care nurse. It was during this time, she recognized the value of community service and professional development, a concept cultivated by her great Alma Mater. In 2009, Chanelle married her husband Omar, whom she met at WSSU. They have two beautiful daughters Corinne and Camille. Chanelle attributes her family as the inspiration for volunteering with organizations such as Girls on the Run and Girl Scouts of America. With a master's degree in Healthcare Administration obtained in 2014, Chanelle serves as one of the Senior Inpatient Care Managers for United Healthcare. She is engaged in committees that support organizational best practices and standards to provide the best care for their members. She is a part of the company's Cultural Ambassador and Innovation Advocate programs. Recently, Chanelle was awarded the opportunity to join the organization's nationwide Emerging Leaders Program for the class of 2020 session.



## **ROLANDA PATRICK FOREHAND** | CLASS OF 2003

Rolanda Patrick Forehand was a Chancellor's Scholar who earned her B.S. in Molecular Biology and minor in Chemistry. She sang with the Inspirational Voices and was also Miss Kappa Alpha Psi, Miss Student Affairs, a Campus PAL, a Ram Ambassador, SGA Executive Secretary, Junior Class President; was appointed to serve on the Chancellor Search Committee and elected Miss WSSU 2002-2003.

She earned her Master's in Public Health from UNCG in 2006. Currently, she is the Employee Relations and Training Manager and a Program Advisor at the Cabarrus Health Alliance. Rolanda has managed \$6.7 million dollars in federally-funded programs in areas such as minority youth violence, teen pregnancy prevention and diabetes prevention leaving a lasting impact on improving individuals, families, and communities. Rolanda received the Glaxo Smith Kline Public Health Staff Recognition Award in 2016 and the John Bowdish Community Award in 2020 from the NC Diabetes Advisory Council for outstanding prevention work. The 2018 Leadership Cabarrus graduate is a proud member of the Salisbury Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. where she serves as the Physical and Mental Health Committee Chair. Rolanda supports various community initiatives and volunteers with the Kannapolis City School System. She's forever indebted to WSSU for equipping her with the tools to pursue, lead and serve. She hopes her experience as a first-generation graduate inspires others to fulfill their purpose with a spirit of service.



## **KENNETH FRENCH, ESQ.** | CLASS OF 2006

Kenneth French serves as Vice President and Legal Counsel at BlackRock, Inc. in Atlanta, GA. He is responsible for negotiating agreements, providing legal advice, and resolving regulatory issues related to the firm's Separately Managed Accounts unit, which accounts for over \$100 billion of the firm's assets under management. Before joining BlackRock, he was Vice President and Legal Counsel at T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. in Baltimore, MD. Prior to that, Mr. French was a Compliance Manager at Invesco Advisers, Inc. in Atlanta, GA. Earlier in his career, Mr. French held roles as a Mutual Fund Specialist, Trader, and a Compliance Analyst at LPL Financial in Charlotte, NC. He earned a B.S. in Business Administration from Winston-Salem State University, an MBA from Gardner-Webb University, and a J.D. from John Marshall Law School. He holds FINRA 7, 24, 53, and 66 licenses and is licensed to practice law in the state of Georgia. When not practicing law, Mr. French dedicates much of his time to serving the needs of the community through his membership in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., a committee member at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law's Diversity Scholars Program (an organization created to address the lack of diversity in the legal profession by providing financial and career support to cohorts of high-achieving students from diverse backgrounds), and mentoring young people from underserved communities.



## **CHRISTOPHER C. GRAHAM** | CLASS OF 2012

Christopher Graham currently serves as Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Florida State University and President, Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors. After earning his bachelor's from Winston-Salem State University, he went on to University of North Carolina at Greensboro to earn a master's degree college counseling/student development in higher education. He has experience in admissions, career services, and fraternity and sorority life. He is passionate about student learning and development and employs mentoring strategies and counseling skills to affect educational outcomes for underrepresented students. His scholarly interests include the role and impact of fraternity and sorority on student development, Black men in higher education, and issues related to minority students' access, persistence, and college student success.

Christopher's experiences at Florida State have made him a sought-after thought leader on campus crisis, diversity and inclusion, community change, capacity building, and student engagement.

He is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.



## **DARVIS HOLLEY** | CLASS OF 2007

Darvis Holley was born, raised, and educated through the public school system, in Willingboro, New Jersey. He earned his bachelor’s degree in special education from Winston-Salem State University. As an undergraduate, Darvis was a member of the Student Government Association and a volunteer mentor at the YMCA. After graduating, he returned home to begin a career as a teacher in Hamilton Township, NJ, educating at both the middle and high school levels. As the well-being of children is paramount to Darvis, he went on to earn a master’s degree in Education Leadership at Wilmington University. In 2014, he was appointed Vice-Principal at Helen A. Fort/Newcomb Middle School in Pemberton, New Jersey.

Darvis has served as Treasurer and Vice President of the Willingboro Chapter of the NAACP. He was appointed to the local Zoning Board, and the Municipal Utility Authority, where he served as a Board member and Commissioner, until his appointment and subsequent election in 2014, by a landslide victory, to the Willingboro Township Council. In 2017 and 2018, Darvis served as Mayor of Willingboro Township. Under Darvis’ leadership, Willingboro reached a thirty-year low in crime.



## **JOI HOLLIDAY-SPARROW** | CLASS OF 2013

Joi Holliday-Sparrow earned her B.A. in Mass Communications from Winston-Salem State University, completed her M.Ed. in Higher Education and Policy from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and is on her third year of pursuing her Ph.D. in Public Affairs also at UNLV. In 2020, Nevada Governor Sisolak appointed Joi to serve in his office as the Director of Legislative and Internal Affairs where she leads his state policy and budget priorities. Prior to that she served as the Sr. Policy Analyst for the Nevada System of Higher Education, and a Policy Analyst for the Vegas Chamber of Commerce. As a longtime policy analyst with extensive legislative experience both on the federal and state level, Joi continues to engage with state elected officials and the Nevada federal delegation and works to advance conscious policies to address issues pertinent to Nevada. Throughout her career, Joi has remained devoted to her community serving as a Board Member of Democracy Preparatory Academy at Agassi Campus, an active member of the Las Vegas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and volunteers her time with Young Adult Ministry, Clean the World, the Las Vegas Rescue Mission, and the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Joi is a member of the 2018 Leadership Advanced Class of Las Vegas and holds a certificate in Non-Profit Management. Joi’s greatest honor is cherishing her parents, two siblings, her aunts, uncles, and cousins, but most affectionately her devoted husband Ryan whom she met at WSSU.



## **KIMBERLEY HOLLOWAY** | CLASS OF 2003

Kim Holloway graduated from WSSU with a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems. After spending six years in the Healthcare Technology field, Kim decided to return to school to obtain her MBA in Marketing & Ecommerce from University of Rochester in Rochester NY. Over the last decade she has worked as a Product Manager for multiple Fortune 500 companies, with her most recent role as a Senior Product Manager at Amazon.

Outside of work Kim has been involved with Inroads Alumni, National Black MBA Association (SF Chapter), Black Girls Code and Junior Achievement. She is also a member of the Hayward Tri-City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta where she serves on programs dedicated to young girls. “Without WSSU I would not have been exposed to every beautiful aspect of my blackness and how to walk confidently in it. With its motto, ‘Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve’ has held true in my career as well as in my passion to help others succeed.”



## **TIFFANI MILLS JACKSON** | CLASS OF 2003

Tiffani Mills Jackson earned her B.S. in Business Administration from Winston-Salem State University. Tiffani discovered a passion for retail early, starting her career as a cashier at Wal-Mart then quickly moving up to Assistant Store Manager. This led to 15+ years of implementing sales and profit-driving strategies for Macy's and Belk department stores, moving through the ranks from Executive Trainee up to Sr. Buyer.

As Director of Assortment Planning for Lowe's Tiffani leads a team of 35 in developing and implementing sales-driving strategies. She mentors young African American females entering into professional retail careers, offering guidance and advice for overcoming career obstacles.. She has served as the lead on numerous ERGs for women and minorities continuing to ensure both groups are acknowledged within the workplace. She credits her family, husband, Mr. Willie L. Jackson, Jr, and daughter, Ms. Morgan Y. Jackson, as being her backbone of support as she has embarked on her journey over the years.



## **COURTNEY JENKINS-NORMAN** | CLASS OF 2004

Courtney Jenkins-Norman earned her B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation from Winston-Salem State University in 2004 and M.S.W. from North Carolina Central University in 2011. While at WSSU, she won the Women's Tennis Team MVP two consecutive years, Student Volunteer of the Year, Ms. Resident Assistant on the homecoming court, and she served as Historian for the Gamma Phi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Certified Case Manager, Certified Clinical Transplant Social Worker, with seventeen years of experience. Courtney worked at Duke University Hospital in inpatient psychiatry as a Recreational Therapist and as an LCSW serving transplant patients for twelve years. Prior to April 2021, she was employed with the Department of Veteran Affairs as a Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) Social Worker. She was promoted in April to PACT Social Work Supervisor for the Fayetteville, VA Coastal Health Care System. Courtney currently manages twenty employees at two Healthcare Centers and six Community Based Outpatient Clinics. She received a Performance Award from the VA for exceptional service. She is grateful for being allowed to help, encourage, and provide hope to others just as WSSU inspired her.



## **AMBER JOHNSON, PH.D.** | CLASS OF 2006

Dr. Amber Johnson graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a BA in Psychology and a minor in Sociology. She completed her M.Phil. and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro while earning a Certificate in Field Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Dr. Johnson is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Science at California State University at Long Beach where she provides student-centered teaching, high impact research, and service to the community. She is dedicated to increasing the number of underrepresented students who pursue a Ph.D. This has motivated her to serve as a research mentor, graduate thesis advisor, and leader in research training programs such as the Ronald E. McNair Training Program. She bridges her research and service to address health disparities among Black Americans. Dr. Johnson has worked in Black communities conducting community health assessment and outreach, community-based participatory research projects, HIV prevention, CVD risk and prevention research. Dr. Johnson serves as the Coordinator for the City of Long Beach's Black Equity Fund to address COVID-19 disparities among Black Long Beach residents. She attributes her success to her family, friends, and mentors who have always believed in her and her attendance at WSSU where she gained the confidence to live up to her fullest potential.





## **AARON ONEAL LIDE, JR., OTRL/L** | CLASS OF 2014

Aaron Oneal Lide Jr. graduated from Winston-Salem State University with his bachelor's in exercise science. In 2014, he completed his master's in occupational therapy also from Winston-Salem State University.

As an undergraduate, he was elected Student Government Association Mr. Sophomore, Junior Class President, and Vice President of Internal Affairs. Progressing professionally, Mr. Lide attended the Thurgood Marshall Institute conference 2011, earning an internship with The Department of Defense.

Pursuing a career in allied health, he received a full scholarship at WSSU's master's in occupational therapy program. As he nears his sixth year as an occupational therapist, his primary clinical focus is upper extremity orthopedic and neurological injury recovery. Mr. Lide is also the CEO of Black Fly on the Wall Productions LLC, which produces a show entitled "Black Fly on the Wall" that provides black men with a safe space to communicate about topics that affect black men and the black community. He is also a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.



## **JESSICA L. MARTIN, PH.D.** | CLASS OF 2008

Dr. Jessica Martin is a native of Winston-Salem, NC and earned her master's degree in 2008 in rehabilitation counseling from Winston-Salem State University. She earned her B.S. in applied sociology from East Carolina University, and a Ph.D. in counselor education from the University of Central Florida.

Currently, she is a clinical assistant professor of clinical mental health counseling in the online program at the College of William & Mary. Her research focuses on empirical interventions for counseling with Black women and youth. She is also the co-creator of the Rams Employment and Community Health Equity (REACHE) program at WSSU, which focuses on supporting youth with disabilities learn about post-secondary entrepreneurial career opportunities. Dr. Martin has presented and published her research nationally and internationally and has been recognized by the Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision and the American Educational Research Association as an Emerging Leader Fellow. She credits the faculty of the rehabilitation counseling program at Winston-Salem State University with igniting, growing, and supporting her passion for mental health in the Black community and for the continued opportunities to mentor the next generation of future counselors.



## **WHITNEY N. MCCOY, PH.D.** | CLASS OF 2010

Dr. Whitney McCoy is a Postdoctoral Research Associate in STEM Education at the University of Virginia. McCoy's research explores identity development for Black girls in educational settings. She draws upon Critical Race Theory, racial identity, and self-efficacy to understand their experiences in engineering programs. Whitney strives to transform STEM communities and provide equitable access for Black girls. Whitney received her B.S. in Biology from Winston-Salem State University where she was a STEM Scholar, Student Government Association President, charter member of Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She joined Teach for America and earned her Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her doctorate is from North Carolina State University in Teacher Education and Learning Sciences with a concentration in Educational Psychology. Her dissertation was awarded Outstanding Dissertation of the Year in the Department of Teacher Education and Learning Sciences at North Carolina State University. While at NC State, she served as the Black Graduate Student Association President, member of the Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Student Leadership Committee, and Assistant Day Camp Coordinator for The Engineering Place. She was a Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholar and a recipient of the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.



## **NATASHA MOSS** | CLASS OF 2003

Major Natasha Moss earned her B.S. in Accounting and Management Information Systems from Winston-Salem State University. As a student, she was a member of Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society, National Association for Black Accountants, Association of Information Technology Professionals, 2001 CIAA softball championship team, bowling team and treasurer of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. 2002-2003.

She served as a mathematics teacher at RJ Reynolds High School as well as the assistant swim coach, assistant athletic trainer and co-advisor to the girls' club. There was a higher calling as she decided to join the Armed Forces and commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corp in 2008.

Major Moss served active duty for eight years and currently as a reservist. She deployed to Afghanistan and Qatar in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 2014–2015 and Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield 2020 – 2021. Natasha continued her education by earning her B.S.N. in 2017 and works as a Cardiac Registered Nurse.

While Major Moss has served our alma mater and country with pride her truest joy comes from being a devoted wife and SUPERMOM of three.



## **KHRYSTAL MCGRANT, MS** | CLASS OF 2007

Khrystal McGrant is an alumna of Winston-Salem State University and North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. She first began her research studying a health disparity which is prevalent among African-American women, Triple Negative Breast Cancer. Khrystal continued to do research at University of Maryland at Baltimore at the Institute of Human Virology in search for finding a way to decrease the viral load of HIV/AIDS and inhibit the transmission. Presently, she works as a hematopathology specialist.

Khrystal volunteers as a special interest speaker educating children and adults on various topics such as reading/literacy, personal healthcare, and care partners. She is an advocate for those who suffer with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other medical conditions.



## **LATOYA SIMMONS MURRAY, MBA, CBCI** | CLASS OF 2005

Latoya Simmons Murray earned her bachelor's degree in Accounting and Management Information Systems from Winston-Salem State University. She earned her MBA from Strayer University in 2011. After completing an internship with Lowe's Corporation, she accepted a full-time position with the company, working her way up to senior level management.

Currently, she is a Senior Business Continuity Consultant at Bank of America. Latoya played a critical role in developing the company's COVID-19 protocols, ensuring customer and client services continued successfully throughout the pandemic. She is a certified member of the Business Continuity Institute which holds a highly-valued and globally-recognized certification in Business Continuity and Resilience.

Her philanthropic work with Dress for Success, Classroom Central, Crisis Assistance Ministry, and other civic projects through her job. Latoya co-leads a network group dedicated to promoting female talent in the field of Information Technology.

In 2020, Latoya launched J&L Designs, LLC, an event decorating service which provides her with a creative outlet to reimagine how her clientele and their guests engage with their celebratory experience, helping them achieve memories that will last a lifetime.



## **DAWN PAYNE** | CLASS OF 2007

Dawn Payne earned her BA in sociology from Winston-Salem State University in 2007. She received her master's degree from UNCG and the NC A&T Joint Master of Social Worker program in 2009. As a freshman she was called to active duty for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dawn is highly decorated and has received numerous Marine Corps Awards. After serving her time in the reserves, she pursued a career in mental health and became a licensed psychotherapist for the US Department of Veterans Affairs where she is currently employed.

Dawn's military connections placed her in the world of beauty and on the set of movies as a makeup artist. Dawn owns a vegan cosmetic line Dusk to Dawn Cosmetics with a studio located in Greensboro. She is a celebrated New York Fashion Week makeup artist with many features and publications.

In addition to her community work with the Marine Corps League, Dawn stays active in professional organizations and provides free psychotherapy groups to underserved communities of color. Dawn is active with many Veterans service organizations most notably the National Veterans Justice network. Her passion for beautifying people both inside and out always shines through.



## **DARRELL JAMES POTTS, ED.D.** | CLASS OF 2008

Dr. Darrell Potts graduated from Winston-Salem State University in 2008 with his B.A. in History and minor in coaching. He joined the Red Sea of Sound as a percussionist, went on to be named head drum major, and led the marching band to their first major Honda Battle of the Bands competition in 2008. He also joined Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Inc.

After graduating, he taught high school social studies for six years. Dr. Potts earned his Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Master of Arts in Executive Leadership Studies from Gardner-Webb University. He continued his successes as a teacher, coaching girls' basketball, being recognized as WMHS Teacher of the Year (TOY), and he went on to become the West Learning Community (WLC) TOY in 2014. Dr. Potts has been promoted to Principal of Anson Middle School. In June 2016, he married Courtney Kemp from San Dimas, CA. His family resides in Concord, NC. In fall 2020, Darrell earned his doctoral degree in Educational Leadership at Gardner-Webb University.



## **TIMOTHY KENT RICHARDSON** | CLASS OF 2012

Timothy Richardson obtained his B.S. in Healthcare Management from Winston-Salem State University and his M.S. in Project Management from Strayer University in 2016. He is now a mid-level analyst at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service where he serves as a project manager for both acquisitions and agreements, communications, and employee outreach.

In 2010, his career began as an intern or personal assistant for the Mayor of the District of Columbia and soon he transitioned to the federal government as a summer intern, where he reorganized filing systems for tax law professionals. Next, Timothy became a program management analyst for a health insurance/tax credit program. Most notably, when legislation terminated, Timothy was commended the Division Commissioner's Award, or the second highest honor within the agency, for his leadership of closeout activities. Then, led the annual production of 17 policy manuals used by 30k employees. Timothy received both departmental and agency honors for his leadership of charitable fundraising.

In April 2020, Timothy established Richardson Genealogy Service (RGS), which emphasizes preservation, research, publishing, and training for NC African-American History.



## **QUIANA (REID) ROBINSON, DDS** | CLASS OF 2004

Dr. Quiana Robinson graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a degree in Biology with a concentration in Chemistry. During her time at WSSU, she was a member of the women’s softball team and President of Project Strengthen. She continued her education at Hampton University and then Meharry Medical College, School of Dentistry where she obtained a Master of Medical Science and Doctor of Dental Surgery degree.

She returned home to Charlotte, NC to uphold the motto, “Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve.” Dr. Robinson has treated numerous patients, but ultimately serving the community on a broad spectrum was at the core. She is currently the Dental Director at Charlotte Community Health Clinic where she serves unrepresented communities with their oral care. Leading a Public Health Oral Program tackles issues that are plaguing communities as a whole and how to decrease these issues using evidence-based research. Along with leading her team, Dr. Robinson is participating in the UNC-Chapel Hill NC Dental Public Health Leadership Institute.

Dr. Robinson loves to spend time and travel with her husband, Winston Robinson, and their son, Blake. Her community service includes Colgate Dental Van and serving meals at the Battered Women Shelter. She is a member of Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is also a health and wellness enthusiast and loves to help individuals obtaining a healthy lifestyle.



## **JOKYRA BULLOCK SCOTT** | CLASS OF 2003

Jokyra Scott earned her B.S. in biology from Winston-Salem State University. She went on to teach at Hillside High School and then obtained her teaching certification from North Carolina Central University. In 2015, she received her master’s degree in educational leadership from Concordia University.

In 2015, she was named Teacher of the Year for HHS and was a semifinalist for Teacher of the Year for Durham Public Schools. In 2016, North Carolina Central University College of Behavioral & Social Sciences presented her with their Outstanding Teacher Award. After 15 years of teaching and coaching soccer she remained at Hillside as the Special Populations Coordinator.

Jokyra credits WSSU for bringing her attention to the importance of education and service to others. She participated in and organized many service projects, but the one that remains dear to her heart is working with Piedmont Health Services and Sick Cell Agency’s Sick Cell Summer Enrichment Camp. She devotes one week of each summer, since 2003, to stay at a residential camp for kids with Sick Cell Disease and also plans fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for the camp.



## **LESHERL R. STOUDERMIRE** | CLASS OF 2004

As an advocate of the underserved population, LeSherl Stoudermire has a passion to continuously serve, as founded by her family and WSSU. She holds a B.S. both in Biology and Nursing from Winston-Salem State University, and a Master of Science in Medical Science from Hampton University. Currently, she works as a Global Clinical Research Study Startup Manager at IQVIA Biotech, providing oversight of startup and monitoring of clinical trials.

She is a career panelist for the STEM program at Central Piedmont and Davidson Community Colleges, introducing the career of Clinical Research to students. She received the Bronze IQVIA Impact Award for her commitment in the study startup of COVID-19 clinical trials. She has also been recognized by the Ebonettes’ Service Club, in Durham, NC, for her impact in the community.

Leshlerl is a member of the Alpha Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, where she serves as Co-Chair of the Educational Advancement Foundation; and a member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Queen City Metropolitan Chapter, serving as co-chair of the Education Committee, focusing on the promotion of HBCUs and STEM.



## COURTNEY S. TATE | CLASS OF 2008

Courtney Tate earned her B.A. in Elementary Education with a concentration in mathematics, from Winston-Salem State University. She completed her M.A. in Executive Leadership, from Gardner-Webb University. While attending WSSU, Courtney was a member of the University Choir and spent time volunteering in classrooms at local elementary schools in Winston-Salem.

Over the past 13 years, Courtney has supported students, teachers, and teacher leaders in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools as a teacher, facilitator, and school improvement specialist. She’s had opportunities to lead professional development, coach teachers and leaders around curriculum, instruction, and school improvement planning. Currently, Courtney is a Senior Professional Development Specialist at Curriculum Associates serving schools and districts throughout North Carolina.

One of her most memorable moments was participating in the Global Service-Learning Project (GSLP) through the YMCA Charlotte, wherein she traveled with a team to Senegal to see first-hand their literacy and education initiatives for young children and adults. Courtney was also selected to participate in the Harvard Urban Leadership Institute, served within the QC Rams Alumni Chapter as Vice President and Scholarship chair, created sessions to educate over 200 parents within the community, and currently serves the Gaston County community as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Courtney strives to live by our motto “Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve” in everything she does.



## TIERRA RUDD TERRY | CLASS OF 2008

Tierra Terry was a psychology major, sociology minor who graduated from Winston-Salem State University in 2008. While at WSSU she was a MARC U\*STAR Scholar. She now works at Virginia Union University as the Head Women’s Basketball Coach.

Her volunteer work includes Blue Ridge Estates Pass the Class Initiative, ARC 5K, ARC Basketball Clinic, Sylva Soup Kitchen, member of Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity, Boys and Girls Club, Cullowhee Valley Festival, Joy Prom, Latin Flavor Ent, and Upward Basketball.

WSSU afforded Tierra with opportunities to attend a Master of Psychology program at the University of West Florida, to be mentored by Dr. David Mount of the Maya Angelou Institute, and to get a jump start in coaching college basketball. WSSU also allowed her to meet her husband, her greatest gift of all. She says, “I owe a lot to WSSU. As a young Ram I entered to learn and as a seasoned Ram I departed to serve. Thank you for the opportunity and thank you for teaching me the true meaning of serving others.”



## JUSTIN THOMAS | CLASS OF 2012

Justin Thomas loved music and education from a young age; he earned a bachelor’s degree from Winston-Salem State University in Music Education. As an undergraduate he was a member of the Red Sea of Sound and an initiate of the Kappa Lambda chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi.

He is in his tenth year with Guilford County Schools serving as the Director of Bands at Western Guilford Middle School. During his time in the school system, Justin has created and led various choirs, step teams, dance teams. Currently, he coaches track and advises the student leadership team. Justin has been voted as the school-based Teacher of the Year four times during his time in the district.

Justin is working on his doctorate in Educational Leadership Studies. In his spare time, he works with the band program at Dudley High School as the Woodwind Instructor. He also drives the bus for GCS band programs and the YMCA and volunteers for local track meets in the area. Justin is always reminded that he is blessed to be a blessing. Keeping in line with the university motto of “Entering to Learn and Departing to SERVE”.



## **WYNDELL WRIGHT WALDON** | CLASS OF 2007

Wyndell Waldon graduated from Winston-Salem State University in 2007 with a degree in Sports Management.

Wyndell has been a Scouting Professional for over twelve years. In 2008, he took a position as the Scoutreach District Executive with the Indian Waters Council Boy Scouts of America in Columbia, SC. In 2019, he became District Director with the Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America in Providence, RI. In his new role, he serves Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts communities. The role includes fundraising, membership (recruiting/retention), programs and unit service. He has earned the President's Award for Multicultural Markets and was recognized for leading the nation in recruiting and 2019 achieving the Professional Circle Award.

Wyndell established Navigator School Clothing, which was established in 2017, which promotes Strategic Thinking, Analytical Thought and Root Knowledge through the clothing. He is interested in reading, traveling, canoeing, hiking, and rock climbing.



## **JOHN HAROLD WATSON JR., DPT** | CLASS OF 2008

Dr. John Harold Watson Jr. is a Physical Therapist (Level 4 Clinician) at VCU Community Memorial Hospital. He graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science and returned to earn his Master of Physical Therapy. Dr. Watson then attended Chatham University and received his Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

He works with patients who have neurological conditions: stroke, spinal cord injuries and multiple sclerosis are amongst many of those conditions. Dr. Watson attended the Neuro-Recovery Training Institute and received a second Doctorate degree in Physical Therapy with a focus on neurological recovery. He also earned a Certificate in Neurological Clinical Practice from the Neuro-Recovery Training Institute.

Dr. Watson developed interest in stroke recovery and received certification as a Stroke Rehab Specialist. His purpose is assisting others with achieving their goals. He enjoys teaching and often accepts WSSU students for clinicals. Also, he enjoys educating the community on stroke prevention and mentoring high school students.

Dr. Watson was VCU-CMH Team Member of the Month. As a WSSU PT student, he received the Eddie Hardin Memorial Award and was recognized for assisting with developing WSSU first Physical Therapy Club. He expresses WSSU taught him "Enter to Learn and Depart to Serve," which influenced his teaching beliefs of never looking back at your past unless you're reaching to pull someone forward.



## **LYNETTE INGRAMS WILLIAMS** | CLASS OF 2011

Lynette Williams graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a B.A. in Sociology and a minor in psychology. She earned her M.S. in Psychology from Grand Canyon University. She has worked in the field of education as a teacher for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and the nonprofit Right Moves for Youth. Currently, Lynette is the Student Career Advisor at Johnson and Wales University. She serves the community through her membership with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., her church, and other organizations. She created and facilitated the "I AM" workshop for youths.

Lynette and her husband Tayron have three children. In February 2020, their youngest daughter, Taylyn Kate, became an angel. The couple created a non-profit organization called Taylyn Kate Babies' Breath Foundation. The foundation empowers them to provide resources and information to families of infants with critical respiratory illnesses.



## TRACE YOUNG | CLASS OF 2008

Trace Young earned her B.A. in Elementary Education from Winston-Salem State University. She is a second-generation WSSU alumnus. Currently, she is a fourth-grade teacher at George C. Simkins Jr. Elementary with Guilford County Schools.

As a former employee of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, she vowed to dedicate her career to empowering colleagues, students, and the community. Trace was the 2019-2020 Teacher of Year and was named a finalist for CMS' Northeast Learning Community Teacher of the Year. She helped establish the Cabarrus-Stanley County WSSU Alumni Chapter. Now she is a member of the WSSU Piedmont-Triad Alumni Chapter.

Trace has held leadership positions including hosting student teachers, mentoring beginning teachers, leading professional development for the school district, and being a grade level team leader for several years. As a mentor for the youth at her last school, she was able to establish a cheerleading program, and a basketball league among ten elementary schools to help build relationships with various schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Her cheerleading squad became the first elementary team to compete at a national cheerleading competition and actually win.

Trace credits her family, close friends, faith and WSSU as being her backbone and motivation to continue to "Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve."



### SPECIAL *Thank You* TO OUR **FORTY UNDER 40** COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ladia Rutledge '07

Deidra Artis Phyll '06

Anthony Jones '07

Brenda Kittles Miller '00

Marques Johnson '04

Andrew Z. Jones '08

# SPECIAL *Thank You* TO OUR FORTY UNDER 40 PATRONS

**KEON M. ARTIS '15**  
 Jarrard D. Todd  
 Tonya R. Johnson  
 Cynthia D. Snooks-Key  
 Dena S. Cross  
 Zuogwi E. Reeves  
 Johnny L. Weaver  
 Quiana Harris  
 Deion Q. Warren  
 Janel D. Saunders  
 Andre L. Rowe  
 Julia Quinlity  
 Joy D. Saunders  
 Linda Byrd  
 Joy F. Green  
 Tracy L. Ward  
 Whyvette N. Bonhom  
 Amber R. Raiford  
 D'juan M. Jones  
 Melissa Barbour  
 Jennifer Smythe  
 Bakari Powell  
 Kenneth Cason  
 Keon M. Artis

**CHANTELLE W. BETHEA '11**  
 Ladia J. Rutledge  
 Ladia J. Rutledge  
 Jean C. Moses-Petree  
 Charlie W. Bethea  
 Regina Craven  
 Charlie W. Bethea  
 Shanbrya T. Burns  
 Stephen D. Hunter  
 Jacqueline L. Bethea  
 Patrice M. Bethea  
 Malliron L. Hodge  
 J. F. Smith  
 Sarah E. Smith  
 Brandon M. Bethea  
 Geneva S. Bethea  
 Tiffany D. Williams  
 Tony M. Padgett  
 Schrylle D. Bethea  
 Robert A. Broadie  
 Eugene Koonce  
 Charlie W. Bethea  
 Joseph Q. Lewis  
 Curtis E. Reid

**CHARLIE L. BOWERS JR '07**  
 Ladia J. Rutledge  
 Tiffany V. Richmond  
 Yolanda Richmond  
 Charlie L. Bowers Jr

**VICKI S. BRADLEY '07**  
 James R. McGowan  
 Shamika M. Ageviade  
 Jovan D. McLean  
 Tai Lassiter  
 Devetta E. Blount  
 Sandra J. Smith  
 Linda Johnson  
 Tim Smith  
 Sheena R. Cooper  
 Vicki S. Bradley

**LEZLIE C. BRIGGS '09**  
 Lezlie C. Briggs  
 Chevonna L. Nimmons

**DWAYNE M. BRYANT '12**  
 Tannetta N. Council  
 Markela M. Batts  
 Stephanie A. Brown  
 Dwayne M. Bryant  
 Janicia U. Dugas  
 Zuogwi E. Reeves  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Gracie Alvarez  
 Jason S. Seabrooks  
 Charmaine Shuford  
 Justin Hudgins  
 Erica Waller  
 Alex J. Newland

**SHONDALE C. CLARK '13**  
 Kennette J. Burgess  
 Stanley L. Benjamin  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Shenequa R. Thomas-Corbett  
 Aissia N. Bedell  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Darius J. Williams  
 George H. Jagers  
 Trina C. Holiness  
 Julius O. Webb  
 Shekera S. Barnes  
 Kimberly D. Bracy  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Jamika M. Baltrop  
 Robert C. Rawls

Antoine L. Clark  
 Kyenna B. Judkins  
 Daffaney C. Williams  
 Brandon E. Browne  
 Regina Jones  
 Quintin R. Jones  
 Mesa Brown  
 Monica M. Simmons  
 Antonio L. Stevenson  
 Donald Sweeper  
 Dwayne M. Bryant  
 Rosy C. McClenny  
 Ashley D. Fraser  
 Amber L. Greene  
 Helen Clark  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Shondale C. Clark  
 Bernice Roberts  
 Donald Sweeper  
 Tiffany V. Richmond  
 Demetrius Deloatch  
 Mark T. Macon  
 Demetria A. Stewart  
 Etienne M. Thomas  
 Bridgett Y. Williams  
 La'Trice Clark  
 Sharrod A. Patterson  
 Shannon Campbell  
 Stanley L. Benjamin  
 Johnene McBeth  
 Shondale C. Clark

**MELISSA A. DAVIS '13**  
 Shayla P. Stevens  
 Shayla P. Stevens  
 Alfreida J. Stevens  
 Malachi J. Davis  
 Trilma S. Davis  
 Amaxing Rec Therapy LLC  
 Cierra M. Link  
 Leiloni S. Mulligan  
 Juante S. Randleman  
 Beverly W. Acors  
 Leti A. Gonzalez  
 Vivian D. Utley  
 Marion Davis  
 Trilma S. Davis  
 Trilma S. Davis  
 Shawn M. Stevens  
 Lilly C. Stevens  
 Kristie D. Collins

**MELONIE D. DAVIS '06**  
 Ashleigh M. Greene  
 Jenn B. Harris  
 Erik L. Jones  
 Felisha D. Davis  
 Tammie G. Campbell  
 Daphne A. Ellis  
 Walter L. Davis  
 Carolyn D. Elliis  
 Shana S. Johnson-Variste  
 Tami L. McKinnon  
 Metchie L. Davis  
 Isabel G. Gomez  
 Mia J. Jackson  
 Renee D. Brown  
 Walter H. Hudson  
 Walter H. Hudson  
 Nikki Haynes  
 Darrell A. Davis  
 Duke E. Davis  
 Saleem A. Davis  
 Lekeshia R. Hudson  
 Loren C. Shipman  
 Alvin Davis  
 Ashauntae P. Shaw  
 Marques E. Johnson  
 Laura M. Davis  
 Darius L. Mims  
 Jasmine G. White  
 Nathan C. White  
 Minerva J. Mims  
 Tish F. Guerin  
 Alexis N. Devone  
 Durell L. Giles  
 Carla A. Ferguson  
 Kena L. Sanderlin  
 Nakisha B. Brock  
 Samantha L. Huffman  
 Nichole A. Clayton  
 Welton Spencer  
 Jeremy M. Gilyard  
 Camille J. Williams  
 Carlissa A. Shaw  
 Zack T. James  
 Naomi R. Williams  
 Tawanna S. Ojo  
 Desmond D. Alston  
 Ebony Haskins  
 Tia H. Price  
 Tiffany V. Richmond  
 Siobahn D. Grady  
 Deanna E. Green

**SHANNON G. DAVIS '06**  
 Keisha M. Lewis  
 Brenda J. Scott  
 Gloria R. Weeks  
 Telena N. Weeks  
 Robert Weeks  
 Robert L. Weeks  
 Robert L. Weeks  
 Kimberly P. Erinkitola  
 Gaines Famij  
 Margaret A. Davis  
 Courtney N. Grant Jenkins  
 Heather J. Davis  
 Darsell L. Lewis  
 Emma R. Cooper  
 Jazmin S. Everett  
 Ashley C. Martin  
 Zion P. Coklow  
 Nashanda S. Moore  
 Dibrie D. Guerrero  
 Amber N. Atkins  
 Angela R. Murray  
 Roy Moss  
 Lisa D. Card  
 Loren C. Shipman  
 Shaundraya E. Pearson  
 Samantha L. Huffman  
 Lataya H. Gray  
 Kirk D. Kelsey  
 Tyrone L. Moore

**YOLANDA N. DAVIS '06**  
 Yolanda D. Brisco  
 Ashleigh M. Greene  
 Brandon M. Brisco  
 Eula D. Davis  
 Angelia E. Miller  
 Shamaine A. Howard  
 Timothy R. Pulliam  
 Kim N. Spence  
 Nichols Rodger  
 Bobby L. Robinson  
 Chet E. Davis  
 Darryll Ramsey  
 Jada C. Miller  
 Angela T. O'Neal  
 Shaina Y. Hall  
 Terry M. Wilson  
 Robert T. Reives  
 Angela B. Brown

**CHANELLE DAWKINS '05**  
 Chanelle Dawkins  
 United Health Group  
 Marketa Taylor  
 United Health Group  
 Chanelle Dawkins  
 Scott C. Tallman  
 Ladia J. Rutledge  
 Chanelle T. Dawkins  
 Rayetta R. Simpson  
 Deidre B. Baker  
 Candace M. Clark  
 Lynell T. Lee  
 Candace M. Ridley  
 Tiffany S. Austin  
 Melanie D. Sellers  
 Monique R. Wylie  
 Sallie H. Stroud  
 Tameka L. Beavers  
 Carol A. Tallman  
 Sonya J. McCrea  
 Leslie A. Brim  
 Derrick L. Redd  
 Ebonie A. Tallman  
 Josina Meade  
 Les B. Mosley  
 Tina M. Brumfield  
 Hunter J. Ore  
 Lakeisha S. Braxton  
 Shannon L. Harris  
 Tina D. Vince  
 Kristen D. Talley-Riley  
 Jennifer O. Bibb  
 Faith Andrews  
 Brooke B. Murray  
 Marketa K. Taylor  
 Scott C. Tallman  
 Melissa D. Eddie  
 Ebonie A. Tallman  
 Janice Tallman  
 Omar Dawkins

**ROLANDA P. FOREHAND '03**  
 Beverly A. Payne  
 Janie M. Hardman  
 Bethel J. Burton  
 Elaine B. Atkinson  
 Sheila R. Smallwood  
 Tisha R. Warren  
 Lashonda H. Greyer  
 Ladia J. Rutledge  
 Tyese L. Gabriel  
 Ladia J. Rutledge  
 Maxine B. Cubit

Maxine B. Cubit  
 Riquita Q. McNeil  
 Cassandra D. Mason  
 Keenya L. Little  
 April R. Morman  
 Tameka M. Cuthbertson  
 Melvin L. Norman  
 PT Meraki  
 Kimberly J. Brockman  
 William M. Stanfield  
 Kandice L. Pringle  
 Rodney L. Coleman  
 Sharon L. Gunter  
 Darell B. Fitchett  
 Veronica M. Canaday  
 Latasha S. Reese  
 Donna McKoy  
 Donna McKoy  
 Alonza L. Godwin  
 Tiffany Mack  
 Alisha Clark  
 Tameka Brown  
 Cassandra Brown  
 Rosalind Lindsay  
 Catherine Rivens  
 LaSheka L. White  
 Felicia A. Walker  
 Kim S. Adams  
 Alisha N. Byrd-Clark  
 Rosalyn J. Brown  
 Kimberly D. Nesbitt  
 Crystal J. Brown  
 Crystal M. Pompey  
 Christopher W. Pratt  
 Lakiesha J. Squirewell  
 Renee J. Rogers  
 Chiniqieia M. Kenner  
 Randy J. Willis  
 Bonnie S. Coyle  
 Sue K. Yates  
 Keya Cherry  
 Pamela W. Bradsher  
 Lorrie Grant  
 Sharon D. Little  
 Latoya G. Lindsey  
 Renisha H. Lyon  
 Markela M. Batts  
 Montrisha K. Bethea  
 Courtney D. Barfield  
 Chanelle B. Broughton  
 Denise N. Barnes  
 Antoine L. Jones  
 Devin M. Barnes  
 Jeremy M. Gilyard  
 Kita L. Battle  
 Karen M. Wilson  
 Yasmyn R. Southerland  
 Glenda C. Wilson  
 Lisa B. Johnson  
 Shenequa R. Thomas-Corbett  
 Johnny T. Jenkins  
 Michael D. Hooks  
 Catherine P. Hart  
 Katie M. Ferraioli  
 William S. Horton  
 Stephen M. Cathcart  
 Chantell L. Berry  
 Malinda K. Kemp  
 Marcella A. Beam  
 Kristin M. Boatright  
 Rudolph C. Baron  
 Timothy K. Johnson  
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