

THE  
*Legacy*  
EDITION

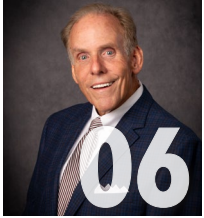


**RECORD BREAKING GROWTH  
IN ENROLLMENT** *pg. 2*

# INSIDE THIS EDITION



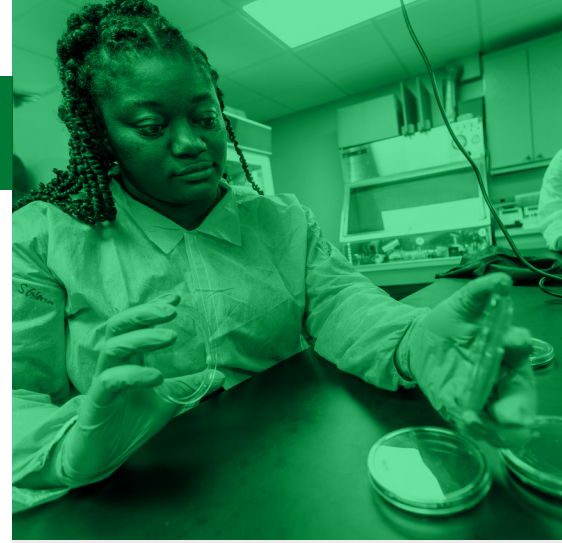
- 1 From the Executive Director | A look back at 2024
- 2 Record Breaking Growth | In enrollment
- 4 E.L.C. 2025 | Embarks on a leadership journey
- 6 Business Spotlight | Meyer & Rosenbaum
- 8 President's Roundtable and Community Members
- 10 MCC Foundation | Applauds donors and honors leaders
- 12 Lifetime Giving Recognition



- 14 MCC Alum Brian Driskill | From Tuition Guarantee to leading hospitality at Mississippi's oldest restaurant
- 16 Foundation Travel | Barcelona and Mediterranean cruise
- 17 MCC Foundation Travel Prepares for Dream Trip to Canada



- 18 Dick and Wanda Dixon | A lifetime of love, learning, and giving back to MCC
- 19 Scholarship Revived | To honor MCC Radiologic Technology Program coordinator and instructor
- 20 Foundation Scholarships | Fall 2024 recipients



## MCC FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Russell Thompson, president  
Hampton D. Thames, vice president  
Pam Harrison, treasurer  
Dr. Leia Agnew Hill, secretary  
C.D. Smith, past president  
Drew Edwards, advisor  
John G. Anderson  
BB Archer  
Steven Cooksey  
Dr. Ray Denton  
Doug Deweese  
Tommy Dulaney  
Hardy P. Graham, Jr.  
Tim Hogan  
Bob Huff  
Barbara Jones  
Larkin Kennedy  
Dr. Tommy McDonald  
Mark McPhail  
Donnie Massey  
Chris Phillips  
Tony Pompelia  
Gerry Purvis  
Dr. Tom Sikes  
Greg Slay  
Donnie Smith  
R. Jeffrey Smith  
Robert Smith  
Henry (Buster) Thomas  
Tyler Walton  
ML Waters  
Alex Weddington  
Hon. Veldore Young Graham

## MCC ADMINISTRATION

**Thomas M. Huebner, Jr., Ph.D.**  
President

**Laureta Chislom**  
Executive assistant to the president

**Drew Edwards, CPA**  
Vice president for financial services and chief financial officer

**Cedric Gathings, Ed.D.**  
Vice president for student affairs and dean of students

**Leia Agnew Hill, Ed.D.**  
Vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the MCC Foundation

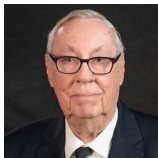
**Joseph Knight**  
Vice president for workforce solutions

**Michael Thompson**  
Vice president for academic affairs

## MCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**Jamie Cater**



**Tommy Dulaney**



**Rev. LaBaron Hedgemon**



**C.D. Smith**



**Alex Weddington**

## MCC FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

Meridian Community College Foundation attracts private investment to the College by fostering individual and corporate philanthropy so the College can strengthen its commitment to excellence.

► NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# A LOOK BACK AT 2024

## CELEBRATING GROWTH, GRATITUDE, AND THE POWER OF COMMUNITY AT MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Dr. Leia Agnew Hill

It doesn't seem like the start of 2024 was that long ago! Like most years, 2024 carried with it some very special moments and times of struggle. Regardless, the start of a new year always allows us to reflect on where we've been and energizes us as we think about our future.

2024 was a year of enrollment growth at Meridian Community College, which brought excitement to campus. We saw record levels of giving among our faculty and staff, and we have been blessed by so many who have given generously to help this institution make a difference in the lives of so many. I encourage you to visit campus! You will feel the changes and want to become part of our vision to impact our community.

At the heart of our college's growth and success are the generous donors—people like you—who embrace our mission, support our students, and believe that Meridian Community College is important. Your contributions have a profound impact on people and our community. They enable us to provide scholarships, enhance our facilities, and offer innovative programs that prepare our students for the future. Each gift,

no matter the amount, is crucial in shaping our students' educational experiences and opportunities. As we often say, when a student's life changes, it impacts the family and our community.

The stories of our students are a testament to the power of your generosity. From first-generation college students achieving their dreams to community members gaining new skills for better employment opportunities, your support makes a tangible difference. You are not just donors but partners in our mission to educate, inspire, and transform.

**You are not just donors but partners in our mission to educate, inspire, and transform.**

As we step into this new year, we carry with us a sense of gratitude and a commitment to continue building a brighter future for our students and community. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Together, we can achieve great things and make 2025 a year of remarkable progress and success.

Dr. Leia Agnew Hill  
 Vice President for Advancement  
 Executive Director of the MCC Foundation



# MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE RECORDS ENROLLMENT INCREASE, STRENGTHENING REGIONAL IMPACT



Meridian Community College has seen notable growth this past fall, with a 7.3 percent increase in student enrollment compared to fall 2023, according to the Mississippi Community College Board's official 10th Day Report.

This marks a significant achievement for the College, as MCC also recorded a 7.2 percent rise in credit hours, positioning it as the second-highest percentage growth in credit hours among Mississippi's 15 community colleges.



**"We're committed to providing a strong education and helping students succeed, and it's encouraging to see those efforts making a real difference in our community," said MCC President Dr. Tom Huebner.**

Dr. Huebner noted that the report reflected the hard work that MCC faculty and staff put into creating a welcoming environment and offering programs that truly benefit our students.



This trend underscores MCC's commitment to offering accessible, relevant educational programs that draw students from across the region. With options ranging from career and technical education to university transfer programs, MCC provides pathways tailored to a broad and diverse student base.

## MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MCC's steady growth reinforces its role as a key institution, providing opportunities that meet local and state-wide workforce needs.

## CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE



If you would like to contribute to the MCC Foundation in support of the Tuition Guarantee program, please contact the Meridian Community College Foundation at 601.484.8688 or visit [meridiancc.edu/guarantee](http://meridiancc.edu/guarantee).



SCAN HERE



# SPREADING THEIR WINGS

## E.L.C. 2025 EMBARKS ON A LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

As Meridian Community College's Eagles Leadership Convocation (E.L.C.) Class of 2025 reaches its midway mark, this cohort of faculty and staff members continues to build leadership skills and deepen their impact on campus and the community.

Supported by the MCC Foundation, E.L.C. offers in-house professional development focused on communication, leadership, and team-building skills that strengthen MCC and foster personal growth and success.

The Class of 2025 includes:

**Darren Bane**

Director of Workforce Development



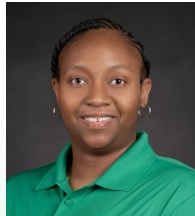
**Matthew Milner**

Director of Videography and Sports Information



**Jaterra Hurst**

Women's Basketball Assistant Coach



**Jim Price**

Director of Facilities Management



**William Davidson**

Associate Dean for Institutional Research



**Flora Sumrall**

Coordinator and Instructor of Business Office Management Technology and Accounting Technology Programs



**Casey Holladay**

Director of Social Media and Events Specialist



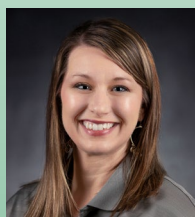
**Crystal Webster**

Director of Student Accounts



**Phyllis Holladay**

Eagles Scholars Program Coordinator and Mathematics Instructor

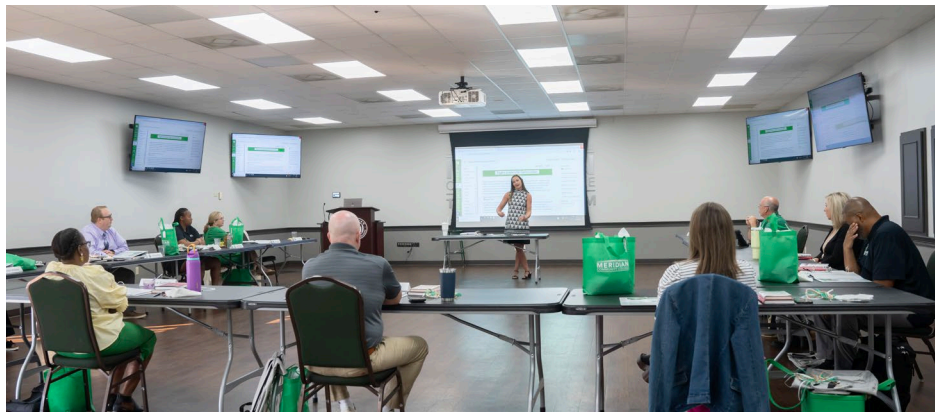


**Marion Whiting**

Director of Housing and Student Activities



MCC President Dr. Tom Huebner and Dr. Leia Agnew Hill, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the MCC Foundation, serve as the program’s facilitators, while Jaycee Butler, Lifetime Quest and MCC Foundation events coordinator, supports the program as assistant.



Meeting monthly on campus through May, this E.L.C. cohort is delving into topics, including diversity and inclusion, legal issues, human resources, crisis and meeting management, and team-building. By the end of the academic year, they’ll present a group project to the College’s vice presidents and to Dr. Huebner to address a specific College need.

E.L.C. participants will each receive a \$500 stipend upon completing the nine-month program, adding an incentive to the experience of learning and contributing to MCC’s future.

After starting their journey with an orientation, the group is enthusiastic about the program’s possibilities.

“I’m excited about all the opportunities,” said Hurst, who joined MCC in 2023 and looks forward to gaining insight into MCC’s operations and exploring potential improvements.

Whiting, with a background in servant leadership, shared, “I’m eager to see how my strengths have evolved and to explore new areas for growth.”

Dr. Hill, reflecting on the diverse group, said, “I’m looking forward to learning from each of you. We’re in this together to grow and support each other.”



Crystal Webster, Dr. Leia Agnew Hill, Jatterra Hurst, Flora Sumrall, Casey Holladay, Phyllis Holladay, Matthew Milner, Jim Price, William Davidson, Darren Bane, Marion Whiting, and Jaycee Butler

# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



**meyer** |  
established 1932 & **rosenbaum**  
| your insurance leader

When a business and college build a strong relationship, they create opportunities for workforce development, innovation, and economic growth, ultimately enriching the entire community.

That describes the partnership between Meridian Community College and Meyer & Rosenbaum, which has grown over the years, building and reflecting on a strong foundation of collaboration. "MCC has been instrumental in helping people of all ages advance their education," said Bruce Martin, president of the Meridian-based independent insurance agency. "Many of these individuals have gone on to become business owners who now need insurance services," he added.

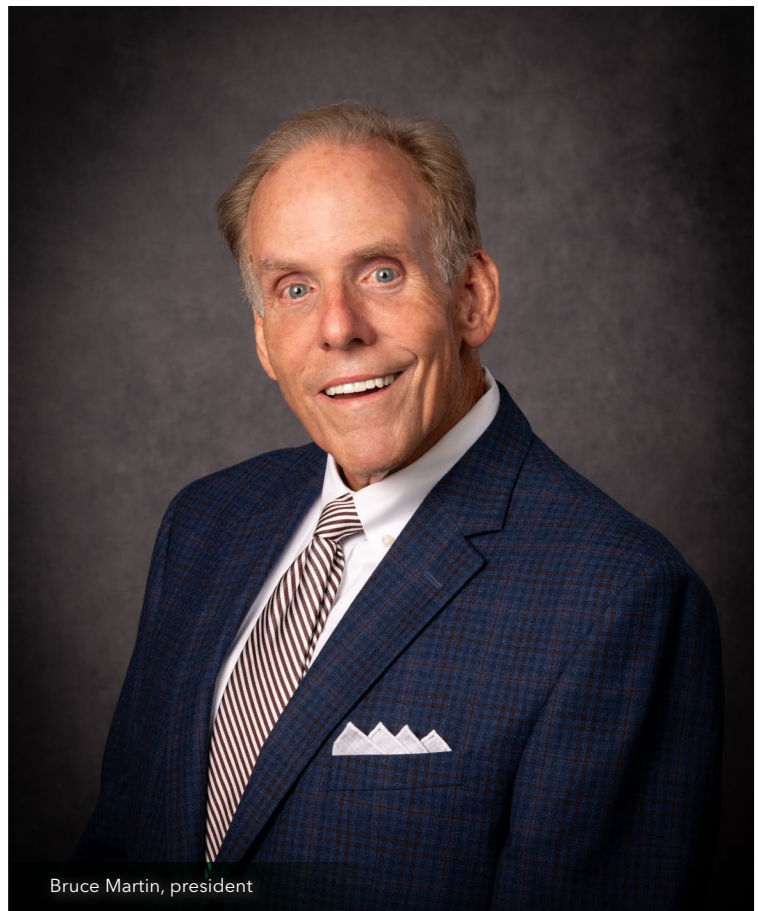
Founded in 1932, Meyer & Rosenbaum provides a full range of insurance offerings, including personal and commercial policies, life and health coverage, and employee benefits. The agency's team brings a combined 300 years of experience to its clients.





Meyer & Rosenbaum staff members care deeply about the community of Meridian and East Mississippi.

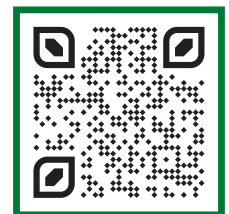
**“We are deeply committed to our community,” said Martin, who started his career with Meyer & Rosenbaum after earning a bachelor’s degree in finance and insurance from Mississippi State University. Martin became a partner and co-owner in 1985.**



Bruce Martin, president

“At Meyer & Rosenbaum, we embrace our responsibility as a community leader,” Martin said. “We take an active interest in the community where we work and live. Supporting and engaging with the community is a core value that guides our decisions and actions.”

Meyer & Rosenbaum is located at 1901 Front Street, Suite A, Meridian.



**SCAN HERE**



Meyer & Rosenbaum, located adjacent to Meridian's Union Station, is a one-stop shop for commercial, personal, group, and individual life, group health, vision, and dental insurance.

# 2023-2024 President's Roundtable & Community Members

## Legacy Member

Bill and Leslie Carruth  
Citizens National Bank  
Gene Haas Foundation  
Tim and Jacqueline Hogan  
Wendy Lerner  
Helen Meyer  
Mississippi Board of Nursing  
The Paul & Sherry Broadhead Foundation  
The Phil Hardin Foundation  
Gerry and Betty Purvis  
Structural Steel Services  
Chip and Lisa Taylor and Family  
Randy and Marcia Sanders West  
The White Family Foundation

## President's Circle

Anderson Regional Medical Center  
The Bower Foundation

## Trustee's Circle

Community Bank - Meridian  
The G. V. "Sonny" Montgomey Foundation  
Great Southern Bank  
National Board for Respiratory Care  
Women's Foundation of Mississippi

## Partner

Jimmy and Ann Alexander  
Atlas Roofing Corporate Office  
Charles L. Young, Sr. Foundation  
Marty and Linda Davidson  
Richard A. Dixon  
Enterprise Holdings Foundation  
Gipson Steel, Inc.  
Hardy and Monica Graham  
Clay and Laura Holladay  
Howard Sanderford  
Tom and Mindy Huebner  
KTS Holdings, LLC  
Lockheed Martin Aeronautics  
Larry and Lisa Love  
Magnolia Steel, Inc.  
Meridian Coca-Cola Bottling Company  
Meridian Lions Club  
Meridian Star  
Mid-South Welding Supply  
Mississippi Power Company  
Mississippi Power Foundation  
Mississippi Space Grant Consortium  
Kathy and Gary Moore  
Nick & Al's New York Style Pizzeria  
Ochsner Rush Health  
Patrick Allen Companies  
Fred O. Poitevent  
Regions Bank  
Sara Boureau Scaggs  
Gina A. Sharman  
Slay Steel, Inc.  
Trustmark  
WTOK TV

## Grand Benefactor

1st Mississippi Federal Credit Union  
AT&T  
Sarah Abernathy  
Richmond and Haley Alexander

Anderson Support & Development Foundation, Inc.  
Archer Architecture, PLLC  
Avis Fay Aycock  
BankPlus  
Benefits Management Group  
Bo Haarala Auto Plex  
Rebecca Borne  
Norma S. Bourdeaux  
Burns & Burns, Inc.  
Stan and Sheree Burton  
Thomas B. Calvit  
Quinn and Mary Carlisle  
Cater's Market  
Clearspan Components, Inc.  
Leonard B. Cobb, Attorney  
Sidney and Jamila Brown Coleman  
Community Foundation of East Mississippi  
Construction Services, Inc.  
Steven and Tracy Cooksey  
The Cross Agency  
D & E Construction Company, Inc.  
Jay and Sheryl Davidson  
Martin Sherrill Davidson  
Charles R. Davis  
Mike and Kathryn Dawkins  
Carol Dean  
Robert and Diane Delk  
Thomas and Wanda DeVaney  
Deweese Libations, LLC  
Doug and Bet Deweese  
Anne S. Dowdle  
Downtown Optimist Club, Inc.  
East Mississippi Electric Power Association  
Engineering Plus  
Don and Donia Evans  
Jimmie Evans  
First Apostolic Church  
First State Bank  
Martin and Debby Francis  
Joyce H. Frank  
Fruge' Oil Company  
General Supply & Machine Co, Inc.  
Glass, Inc.  
Sherry W. Gunn  
Maurice and Cathy Hall  
The Hardy Poindexter Graham Foundation  
Joel and Pam Harrison  
Alan R. Hart  
Wallace and Janet Heggie  
Henderson Steel Corporation  
Tommy and Vicki Hester  
Honda of Meridian  
Leonard Hopkins  
Hotel & Restaurant Supply  
Howard Industries, Inc.  
Tommy and Mandy Hurtt  
Hyundai of Meridian  
Insurance Advisory Group, LLC  
Insurance Solutions of Mississippi, Inc.  
Auzlia Ishee  
Johnson Dodge Chrysler Jeep  
Lucy Kahlmus  
Alan and Lou Ann Lamar  
Shannon L. Lang  
Leading Edges  
Anne W. Malone  
J. Robert and Gloria Malone  
Bo and Jodie Marsalis  
Bruce and Julie Martin  
McDonald and Hill, Inc.  
Tommy and Pam McDonald  
McGinnis Lumber Company, Inc.  
Brian McMillan  
Mark and Wanda McPhail  
Meridian Area Dental Society  
Meridian Mutual Federal Credit Union  
Anne Z. Meyer  
MHS Class of 1978  
Michael W. Hansen, Attorney at Law  
Ronnie and Judie Miller  
Scott and Susie Morgan  
Adrian Tureaud Mosley  
MUNA Federal Credit Union

Nathan E. Daniels Roofing Company, Inc.  
National Philanthropic Trust  
New South Ford  
Norman Enterprises, Inc.  
Peggy Palmer  
Bill and Beverly Pennington  
Gail M. Price  
The Progress Foundation Trust  
Purvis Business Machines, Inc.  
Quality Logistics Systems  
Queen City Race for Life and Street Strut  
RDT Metal Works, LLC  
Rea, Shaw, Giffin & Stuart  
Bob and Karen Rea  
The Riley Foundation  
Robert Barham Family Funeral Home  
Hilda C. Roberts  
Bill and Anita Jo Ross  
Southern Cast Products  
Southern Pipe and Supply Company, Inc.  
W. Kenneth and Virginia Stevens  
Christy Strickland  
Swain, Collins & Napp, PA  
Terral Insurance, LLC  
Thomas Refrigeration of Meridian, LLC  
Glennis D. Thompson  
Michael and Pam Thompson  
Thyra Thompson  
Mina Beth M. Tonini  
Richard and Amy Touchstone  
Toyota of Meridian  
Leslie Usher  
Van Zyverden, Inc.  
Waters International Trucks  
Peggy F. Watz  
Fred and Sissie Wile  
Angela Williams  
Terry G. Winstead  
Witherspoon & Compton  
Betty A. Young-Cryer

## Benefactor

A & B Communications, Inc.  
Melody W. Allen  
Allred Investments, LLC  
Jeff and Lynne Anderson  
BCI LLC / eBen Consultants  
Rodney Bell  
Bowers Auto, Inc.  
Ben and Bess Box  
Cedric and Angela Bradley  
Nedra L. Bradley  
Briarwood Golf  
Melody Burrage  
Coastal Television of Meridian, LLC  
Commercial Bank  
Cotton Press Warehouse, LLC  
CUI Systems, Inc.  
D & H Construction & Cabinetry, Inc.  
Wilhelmine Damon  
Lindy Deen  
Elite Flooring, Inc.  
Scott and Claudia Elliott  
Connie Davis Flory  
Helen Funk  
David Garner  
Shirley Nell Goodman  
Chad and Chelsea Graham  
Krystie Gray  
Marilyn Greene  
Harry Mayer, Inc.  
Adrian and Leia Hill  
Faye Hollingsworth  
Bob Huff  
Alice James  
Barbara R. Jones  
Richard Joyner  
Ronald Wayne Key  
Joseph Knight  
Lauderdale County School District  
Jimmy and Chris Lauderdale  
Darryl and Donna Lewis  
Vicki Lockhart

Melissa Love  
Lisa Matlock  
Paula McCalister  
Rhianna McClellan  
Dan McClung  
Marie McKinney  
Meridian Animal Care Center  
Meridian Cycles, Inc.  
Meridian Media Group, LLC  
Jim Miles  
MarLynne G. Moore  
Morgan Tile Carpet One  
M'Prints Promotional Products  
John and Sarah Mutziger  
Vivian Naylor  
Mamie Nobles  
Jo Lynn Polk Bridges  
Pretty Presentations Catering, Inc.  
James E. Price  
Anna Roberts  
Rotary Club of Meridian  
Robert and Linda Sanford  
Cindy Kane Schrock  
Bill and Harriet Simmons  
C.D. Smith  
Southern Business Supply  
Southern Craftsmen, Inc.  
Michelle G. Stokley  
Wallace Strickland  
Diane R. Surla  
Karsten Taylor  
John Tettleton  
Transmission Service, Inc.  
Truckers' Supply, Inc.  
Jennifer D. Whitlock  
Gary and Sally Wilkinson  
Mark and Gay Williams  
Pete and Jean Willis  
Womack Paint Contractor

## Grand Patron

Al's Garden & Gift  
Animal Medical Supply  
Sheila DeAnn Johnson  
Earl and Jill Aycock  
Berneice Barham  
David and Ava Barr  
Benton Education Services, LLC  
David and Valerie Bishop  
Kelli Bounds  
Mitch and Christi Brantley  
Carter Miller Sansing, Ltd.  
Deandra Carter-Hosey  
Chapman Plumbing Company, Inc.  
Charles Ledbetter Forestry Consultant, Inc.  
Laureta Chisolm  
Jeff and Lara Collum  
Corrigan Travel Agency  
Holly Crane  
Edwin and Betty Maude Downer  
Robert M. Dreyfus, PLLC  
Ellis Optical Shoppe  
Samantha Gellatly  
Barry Germany  
Gil and Kris Gilson  
Kelley Gonzales  
Tom and Joy Greer  
Eric Griffin  
Lorrie Gunn  
Ronny Hampton  
Tammy Henderson  
Wesley and Debra Herring  
Tooney and Brandy Hill  
Frances Hinton  
Allan and Theresa Hogan  
Krys Holifield  
Stephanie Holifield  
Jason and Phyllis Holladay  
Scott and Rose Hudson  
Kevin Kennedy  
L J Candy Company  
Lucy Lamberth  
Sam and Frances Long  
David and Jean Makey  
Jeff McCoy  
John and Sylvia McEachin

Casey McElhenney  
Meridian Coach & Travel, Inc.  
Missionscape  
Jeannette W. Murphey  
Pleasant Grove Church of the Shucktown Community  
Julia Reece  
Christine Riley  
Bobby and Angie Sherrill  
Hank and Stephanie Singley  
Donnie and Betty Smith  
Elesha Smith  
Rhonda O. Smith  
Susan M. Swink  
George and Glenda Thomas  
Till-Newell Animal Hospital  
Triple Thread Designs, LLC  
Kristi Watson  
Ronnie and Diane Wells  
Ralph and Martha Young

## Patron

James and Wendie Alsobrooks  
Nidra Bailey  
Robert and Missy Bailey  
Ron and Linda Barham  
Kathy H. Baxter  
Ray and Marsha Beasley  
Stanley Bishop  
Bishop's Body Shop, LLC  
Tony Boutwell  
Susan Brossette  
Ruby Brown  
Johnny Burge  
Von and Cindy Burt  
W.G. and Phyllis Campbell  
Tommie Cardin  
Chris Charnes  
Collinsville Drugs, Inc.  
Robert and Rosemary Connor  
Crooked Letter  
Douglas Orthodontics  
East Mississippi Business Development Corporation  
Christopher Drew Edwards  
Patrick Floyd  
H. Larry Fortenberry  
Tony and Dee Dee Fouts  
Cedric Gathings  
Eddie and Suzie Gibson  
Mattie Gordon  
Otis and Dorothy Gowdy  
Jaime Grammer  
Deanna Gray  
Brad Grinstead  
Robin Gunn  
Daniel Hartzler  
Elizabeth Hedaya  
AnHoward Hill  
Sherrod Hines  
Phillip and Bernice Holmes  
Chastity Homra  
Jeanette Howell  
Angela Hollingsworth James  
Jones Cleaners  
Imogene Joyner  
Penny Kemp  
Kingdom InfluenceHER Foundation  
Kathryn Knight  
Sherry Leggett  
Frederick and Victoria Liddell  
David and Sandra Little  
Robert and Lee Loeb  
Todd and Debbie Mathis  
Phillip McCalister  
Mary McLendon  
Courtney McMahon  
MDR Construction, Inc.  
Lee and Karen Meyer  
Mississippi Polymers, Inc.  
Charlene Mitchell  
Chase Moore  
Bill and Meryl Lee Nunnery  
Piggly Wiggly of Collinsville  
Courtney Pitts  
Ponta School Reunion  
Prospect Presbyterian Church  
Jim and Sherry Purdy

Lou Rawson  
Laura M. Reinstatler  
L.N. and Charlotte Rhodes  
Stephen Rice  
Sonny Ruff  
Schwab Charitable  
Tom and Page Sikes  
Ashley Sisson  
Deanna Smith  
Janis Smith  
Suzette Sullivan  
Flora Sumrall  
TDL Contractors, Inc.  
The Rustler, Inc.  
Debbie G. Tucker  
William and Lee Ann Vicars  
Robert and Candy Ward  
Billy Warren  
Eric Washington  
Wayne Raley Construction  
Weidmann's  
Faith H. Westby  
Brian Wilkinson  
Terrell Williams  
Tommy Winston  
Rufus and Dawn Wright  
Wayne and Beth Wuestefeld

Associate

Bobby and Andi Adams  
Gloria Adams  
Advanced Appraisal Services  
Memphis  
Johnnie Nell Alexander  
Heather Ammon  
Stacy Rae Andreacchio  
George W. Arinder  
Bagley College of Engineering  
Bobby and Natalie Bailess  
Darren Bane  
Jim and Carol Bass  
Jessi Beckman  
Cindy Belcher - State Farm  
Nancy Boswell  
Amy Bott  
Constance Bradley PhD, APRN,  
PMHNP-BC  
Cyndy Bratu  
Bennett and Carol Britt  
Broadmoor Development  
Company, LLC  
Tommy Brooks  
Alan and Marilyn Brown  
Anna Clay  
Norris and Barbara Burnside  
Rhonda Burrage  
C & E Construction, Inc  
Stephanie Carothers  
Jackie Charnes  
Sandy H. Clark  
Beth Clay  
Delbert and Ann Coker  
Timothy and Margarette Cole  
Mike Coleman  
Patsy Corey  
Rickey and Leisa Creel  
Culpepper Dental Clinic, PLLC  
Anthony D'Angelo  
Brenda Davenport  
Regina L. Davis  
Marjorie Dean  
George DeMarines  
Brandon D. Dewease  
Dayna Dewitt  
Fanny Dotson  
Scott Dotson  
Fred and Melissa Duggan  
Heather Edmondson  
Esthetics Unlimited  
Daniel C. Ethridge  
Kristy Ethridge  
Eye Care Associates, P.A.  
Fare on Eighth  
Deborah DeNay Farrar  
Douglas Faulkner  
Marmion L. Francis  
Future Scholars Learning Center, Inc.  
Katrina Garrett  
Chip Gayden

The George R. Rea, Jr.  
Revocable Trust  
Jim and Patti George  
Larry Goodman  
Ed and Kay Gough  
Tina Gray  
Greater Meridian Health Clinic  
Kathy Gressett  
Mason Griffin  
Michael Gunn  
Ann Haas  
Donna Hacker  
John and Martha Halbrook  
Hampton Shell-North Hills Shell  
Christopher Haralson  
Mallory Hardy  
David Hartzler  
Lily Hatampa-Fleming  
Brian and Melissa Hester  
Becky Higginbotham  
Ida M. Holliday  
Judy Hopkins  
Barry Hudson  
Josephine Hughes  
Barbara Hull  
The Insurance Center  
David and Barbara Ivy  
Donald and Kathy Jackson  
Marilyn Jackson  
William Jacobs  
Jeffery Wilson State Farm Agency, Inc.  
Lisa A. Jenkins  
Jerry Ward Autoplex  
Donna Jill Johnson  
Kayla Johnson  
Deborah Joiner  
Melanie J. Jones  
Jaquita Jordan  
Wanda Kennedy  
Kimbrell ARK Properties, LLC  
James Kitchens  
Scott and Julie Klavans  
Jessica Kuhr  
Mary Beth Kynerd  
Cindy Lang  
Laura Nichole Lewis  
Beverly Litchfield  
Long Cleaning Solutions, LLC  
Lotta Burger  
Wendie Mangum  
Lowell Martin  
Paul and Betty Lou Martin  
Sybil Mason  
Joann Matthews  
Charles Maxwell  
Kristin Mayatt  
Harry and Joyce Mayer  
MCC Division Chairs  
Barbara McDonald  
Joe and Joann McFaden  
Jill McKinion  
Meridian Air National Guard  
Gene and Tammy Miles  
Kelly and Karen Miller  
Matthew Milner  
Manny Mitchell  
Christina M. Mobley  
Cotton and Frances Moffett  
Jerome and Amy Moore  
Amber Morgan  
Sherry Morgan  
Robin Morland  
Deanne Mosley  
Joan Moulds  
Charles and Linda Munoz  
Jan L. Murphy  
Dinah Neal  
Linda Neal  
Samuel Neal  
Deborah Nelson  
Deborah Nettles  
Vanessa Norman, DNP, APRN  
Optimal Performance Physical  
Therapy, LLC  
Jimmie and Ann Orr  
Steve and Elna Owen  
Dianne Panek  
Glenn and Cathy Parker  
Jarrod Parks  
Rachel Parks

Janet Farrow Parrett  
K.T. Pearson  
Paige Pennington  
Joel Petit  
Angela Pickard  
Brandi C. Pickett  
Pigford & Corey Realtors  
Milbur Posey  
Quitman Family Dental, PLLC  
Teresa Radcliffe  
Stanley and Debra Rawson  
Chuck and Bobbie Rae  
Red Bud Supply, Inc  
Robert and Shirley Reece  
Meredith Rice  
Erin Richardson  
Jimmy and Katherine Rigdon  
Gail Riley  
Janice Rivers  
Ralph and Betty Roberts  
Carolyn Rogers  
Kris Rouse  
Brittany Rushing  
Tiffanie Russell  
San Marcos Mexican Restaurant  
M.O. Scarborough  
Cheryl Shannon  
Tyler Sherwood  
Maryjane Shurlds  
James G. Sims  
Genia Smith  
Linda G. Smith  
Rob and Lori Smith  
Southeast ACE, LLC  
Jerri Lynn Spears  
Christy Stacy  
Crystal Sterling  
Derrick and Whitney Stevens  
Reggie Sykes  
Joshua and Cynthia Taylor  
Terrell Taylor  
Sandra Thomas  
William and Sheri Thornton  
Regina Vail  
Lee and Helen Valentine  
Donald and Becky Vance  
VonDran's Mechanic Shop  
Sonny and Jan Warren  
Woody and Cathy Webb  
Harry and Cathy Wheat  
Paula Whitlock  
Wilhemine Williams  
Michael Wilson  
Louise Williamson  
Jack and Jeanette Winstead  
Margaret Womble  
William Woods III, DMD  
World of Flowers  
Denise Wright

Member

Virginia Adkins  
Johnna S. Agent  
Sander Atkinson  
BCP I, LLC  
Curtis Beckman  
Caleb Benson  
Austin and Barbara Bishop  
Debi L. Blocker  
Daniel Boles  
Glen and Morgan Boothe  
Ben Box  
Bethany Bratu  
Paula Brubaker  
Rex Buffington  
Barbara Burnett  
Joseph and Annie Burns  
Jonathan Burns  
Stacey L. Carlisle  
Cathy D. Carpenter  
Jonathan and Angie Carraway  
TJ Carter  
Ashley Casey  
Tanisha Clark  
Mike Clymer  
Robert Coffin  
Christy N. Cole

Monica Cole  
Mariah Collins  
Tara Coody  
Bettye Couch  
Linda Davenport  
David M Compton, CPA & Company  
Esta N. Davis  
Ann Dennis  
Kristy Dickerson  
Larry and Dottie Dudley  
Dunn Roadbuilders, LLC  
Kathleen Edwards  
Cathy Feinstein  
Bethany Files  
Alla Finlay  
Dennis Foster  
Veronica B. Fox  
David and Connie Friday  
Amy Gentry  
David and Mary Gilmore  
Cory Grace  
James Green  
Angela C. Guimaray  
Mitzi Hardy  
Cole Harris  
Valerie Harris  
Wade and Erica Heggie  
Jeff and Donna Hemphill  
Highland Baptist Church  
Casey Holladay  
Wade Hollingsworth  
JaWanda P. Huggins  
Regina Hughes  
Jaterra Hurst  
Laura Hyche  
Susie McEachin Johnson  
Christi Jones  
Phyllis T. Jones  
Kate Kirkland  
Earl and Cornelia Laird  
Samantha Lay  
Desi Leeper  
Jazlyn Martin  
Heather Mayatt  
Melissa McClure  
Donna McDonald  
Austin McFarland  
Cathy A. McFerrin  
Jocelyn McGilberry  
Anthony McOlgan  
Ron and Karen McPherson  
Lori McPheters  
Annah McRae  
Glenn Miller  
Amy Miller  
Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame  
& Museum  
Margie Moore  
Trent Nethery  
Northwood Country Club  
Matt Pare  
Bobby and Gale Parker  
Jade Parkes  
Holley Purvis  
Queen City Duplicate Bridge Club  
Wayne and Candace Rainer  
Baleigh Riddle  
Annette Rigby  
Laurel Rigdon  
Brittany Risher  
Ronny and Missy Roberts  
James Runnels  
Sonya Sanderson  
Steven R. Satterfield  
Henry Swann, Jr  
Jet Scarbrough  
Richadene Shaw  
Sherry Shaw  
Samantha Shelby  
Myke Shirley  
James and Win Shumate  
Joy Smith  
Mike Smith  
Monica Smith  
Randy Spears  
Jimmy and Tracy Stockton  
Lauren Stokes  
Lauren Storey  
Lance Strickland

Dillon Sudduth  
David M. Temple  
Jerry Thigpen  
Allison Thomas  
Michelle Thompson  
Marlo Turner  
Helen Valentine  
Martha Walker  
Oriona Walker  
Janet Wallace  
Kelli Wallace  
Ann M. Watts  
Jennifer Webb  
Crystal L. Webster  
Marion Whiting  
Christopher Williams  
Kimberly Williams  
Salome Williams  
Mary Faye Wilson

Donor

Charlene Anderson  
George and Nancy Arrington  
Stephanie Blount  
Christena Brown-Bradley  
Debra Brown  
Tonda Burks  
Joel and Gayle Callahan  
Brooke Campbell  
Chandler Chance  
Terry Childers  
Shannon Coleman  
Latonia Conner-Bonner  
Kim Coward  
Kim Crawford  
Tonya L. Crenshaw  
William M. Davidson, III  
Brandon and Erin Davis  
Dionna Edwards  
Carol H. Falconer  
Mykaila Florence  
Nathaniel Gibson  
Hannah Gildon  
Butch Harris  
Cindy Herrington  
Denise Huntley  
Betty J. Johnson  
Katie Johnson  
Tasha Keys  
Jerome Kittrell  
The Koerber Company, P.A.  
Deirdre Leggett  
Christopher Linton  
Michelle Martin  
Kelly McKee  
Nell McMullen  
Derek Mosley  
Tamar Mosley  
Callie Penson  
Marsha Price  
John A. Reeves  
Jana Sanders  
Jessica Simpson  
Renee Snowden  
Taylor Stokes  
Wendy Templeman  
Brian S. Warren  
Clint Wilkerson  
Tanya Wright

# MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



Guests from Lockheed Martin Aeronautics



Alice James and Dr. Thomas Huebner



Carol Dean and Adrian Tureaud Mosley

## FOUNDATION APPLAUDS DONORS, HONORS LEADERS AT MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION

The Meridian Community College Foundation welcomed new members into its distinguished donor circles during the 2024 Annual Membership Celebration.

The Foundation works to bring in private donations to support Meridian Community College's goal of providing high-quality education.

This year's event at Northwood Country Club marked the third year that individuals and groups were recognized for their ongoing support. Lifetime giving levels are grouped in categories: Emerald Circle, \$1 million-plus; 1937 Society Platinum Wings, \$250,000-\$999,999; 1937 Society Gold Wings, \$100,000 to \$249,999; 1937 Society Silver Wings, \$50,000-\$99,999; and 1937 Society Bronze Wings, \$25,000-\$49,999.

BankPlus, Wendy Lerner, Meyer & Rosenbaum Inc., and WTOK TV were inducted into the Gold Wings. Silver Wings inductees were Allie Cat Run & Festival Fund, Alice and Austin James, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Hilda and Clarence Roberts, Randy and Marcia Sanders West, and The White Family Foundation, while Bronze Wings inductees were Burns & Burns Inc., Construction Services Inc., Richard Dixon, Downtown Optimist Club Inc., and Tom and Mindy Huebner.

Foundation Board members with long-time service were also acknowledged. Tim Hogan was honored for his two decades of service, and the late Jerry Greene was remembered for his 31 years on the board.

**"Many board members have served the MCC Foundation for 20 years or more," said Dr. Leia Agnew Hill, vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the MCC Foundation.**

Dr. Hill also serves as the secretary for the MCC Foundation Board.

She explained the Foundation, which started in 1970, has been guided by the wisdom and leadership of its members. She noted that board members have given their time and resources and invested in the lives of MCC students who, in turn, make a difference in their communities.

Also spotlighted were Alan Lamar, who was an MCC Foundation board member for 19 years and was also treasurer for the board during his tenure, and C.D. Smith, who is outgoing president.

New Foundation officers were applauded: Russell Thompson, president; Hampton Thames, vice president, and Pam Harrison, treasurer.

Guests enjoyed music from the re-organized MCC Jazz Band, making its public debut. The band is led by Chris King, director of bands at the College.

**For more information, visit [meridiancc.edu/foundation](http://meridiancc.edu/foundation).**



Bill Carruth, Dr. Thomas Huebner, and Leslie Carruth



Members of the MCC Jazz Band



Marilyn Greene and Christine Riley



Dr. Leia Agnew Hill and Tim Hogan



Page and Tom Sikes



Richard Dixon and Dr. Thomas Huebner



Dr. Leia Agnew Hill and the Hon. Veldore Young Graham



Betty and Gerry Purvis



Mindy and Dr. Thomas Huebner



Rebecca and Tommy Dulaney



# LIFETIME GIVING RECOGNITION

## EMERALD CIRCLE

Anderson Regional Health System  
 Ochsner Rush Health  
 David Quave  
 The Phil Hardin Foundation  
 The Riley Foundation  
 Structural Steel Services

## PLATINUM WINGS

Marty and Linda Davidson  
 Earnest Workers Circle King's Daughters & Sons Rest Home Foundation  
 Gene Haas Foundation  
 Kim Gianakos  
 Hardy Graham, Sr.  
 Ann and Eddie Holladay  
 Clay and Laura Holladay  
 J. Robert and Gloria Malone  
 Dudley Maples/ Maples Gas Company, Inc.  
 The Emma McCain Trust  
 The Paul & Sherry Broadhead Foundation

## GOLD WINGS

A T & T  
 Ann and Jimmy Alexander  
 Anderson Support & Development Foundation, Inc.  
 Atlas Roofing  
**BankPlus**  
 Citizens National Bank  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Covington  
 Dart Foundation  
 Glen and Janice Deweese Family  
 Estate of Betsy Barrell Weems  
 Estate of George Pugh  
 Estate of Jean Ellen Winright  
 Estate of Lemann H. and Wilma S. Bounds  
 Fred Gray  
 Great Southern Bank

G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Foundation  
 Kahlmus Family  
 KTS Holdings LLC

### Wendy Lerner

James E. McGinnis, Jr.  
 Meridian Coca-Cola Bottling Company  
 Mabel and Carl Merritt

### Meyer & Rosenbaum, Inc.

Mid-South Welding Supply  
 Mississippi Board of Nursing  
 Premier Outdoor Advertising  
 Betty and Gerry Purvis  
 Regions Bank  
 Barbaree and S.A. Rosenbaum  
 Slay Steel, Inc.  
 T H & Allie R Hobgood Educational Trust  
 Chip and Lisa Taylor  
 The Meridian Star  
 Valley Services, Inc.  
 Vital Care, Inc.

Waters International Trucks  
 Norma Webb  
 Frank Charles Winstead

### WTK

## SILVER WINGS

### Allie Cat Run & Festival Fund

Ann and Howard Barnett  
 George Wade Bates  
 Greg Cartmell  
 Charles L. Young Sr. Foundation  
 Community Bank - Meridian  
 Community Foundation of East Mississippi  
 Country Meat Packers, Inc.  
 Saramel and W.B. Crooks  
 D & E Construction Company, Inc.  
 Corey and Beth Anne Dickerson  
 The Ernestine L. Lenoir Charitable Trust  
 The Estate of Lou Weddington Hart

Donia and Don Evans  
 Jimmie Evans  
 Harry Freeman  
 Gipson Steel, Inc.  
 Maurice Hall  
 Henderson Steel Corporation  
 Hotel & Restaurant Supply / Jerry and Marilyn Greene

**Alice and Austin James**

Kemp Williams Steverson & Bernard, P.A.  
 Leading Edges  
 Clifton Lee  
 Lisi, Inc. DBA Nick & Al's New York Style Pizzeria

**Lockheed Martin Aeronautics**

Larry and Lisa Love  
 Sara Jo and Jack Malone  
 MCC Faculty/Staff Association  
 Meridian Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Meridian Kiwanis Club  
 Helen and Harold Meyer  
 Arthur Nelson

Joseph Price  
 Michael Reed and Family  
 Mary Ann and Richard Riley

**Hilda and Clarence Roberts**

I.A. Rosenbaum  
 Sara and William Scaggs  
 Rebekah Toney  
 Van Zyverden, Inc.  
 The Weddington Family

**Randy and Marcia Sanders West**

**The White Family Foundation**

Joe and Mary Ann Wilkerson

**BRONZE WINGS**

1st Mississippi Federal Credit Union  
 A & B Communications, Inc.  
 A & B Electric, Inc.  
 Archer Architecture, PLLC  
 Arjen Lagendijk Architect, PLLC  
 Laura and E.B. Bass  
 Billy Beal

Renee and Greg Boggan  
 Bonita Properties, Inc.  
 Norma and Tom Bourdeaux  
 Margene and Robert Bullock

**Burns & Burns, Inc.**

Fran Byrd  
 CEFCO Convenience Stores  
 Clearspan Components, Inc.  
 Betsy and Leonard Cobb

**Construction Services, Inc.**

Lurline Cook  
 Daniels Roofing Company, Inc.  
 Jay and Sheryl Davidson

**Richard Dixon**

**Downtown Optimist Club, Inc.**

Scott Elliott  
 Engineering Plus

William Entrekin  
 Estate of Margaret F. Butler  
 Estate of Sara and Sam Niemetz  
 Joyce and Myles Frank  
 Fruge' Oil Company  
 Glass, Inc.  
 H & H Specialties, Inc.  
 Pamela and Joel Harrison  
 Barbaree Heaster  
 Janet and Wallace Heggie  
 Thomas and Vickie Hester  
 Howard Industries, Inc.  
 Mathilde and George Howell

**Tom and Mindy Huebner**

Insurance Advisory Group, LLC  
 John O'Neil Johnson Toyota  
 John and Ann Johnson  
 Ronald Key  
 Ken and Dixie LaBruyere  
 Edward Lafferty  
 Magnolia Steel Company, Inc.  
 Anne and Howard Malone  
 Sula and L.W. Marsalis  
 Massey Super Mart Auto Sales  
 Tommy McDonald  
 Anne and Richard Meyer  
 Mississippi Community College Foundation  
 Mitchell Companies  
 MarLynne Moore  
 Scott and Susie Morgan  
 New South Ford  
 Nell and Rhen Pierce  
 Pigford & Corey Realtors  
 Fred Poitevent  
 Quality Logistics Systems  
 Rea Shaw Giffin & Stuart  
 Riley Hospital  
 William Riley  
 Thomas Roberson  
 Rotary Club of Meridian  
 Saint-Gobain Corporation Foundation  
 Howard Sanderford  
 Robert and Linda Sanford  
 Daniel Self  
 Henry and Ginny Shurlds  
 Margaret Smylie  
 Southern Cast Products  
 Sue and J.F. Thompson  
 The William Lewis and Mae Carroll Thornton Family  
 Trustmark National Bank  
 Cary and Faith Vaughn  
 Billy Wansley  
 Robert F. Ward Family  
 Garnett Wilbourn  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wile  
 Witherspoon & Compton Attorneys at Law  
 WOKK FM Radio

# MCC ALUM BRIAN DRISKILL

## FROM TUITION GUARANTEE TO LEADING HOSPITALITY AT MISSISSIPPI'S OLDEST RESTAURANT



At 35, Meridian Community College alum Brian Driskill is making his mark in the hospitality and food industry while turning a passion for service into a career as the banquet and catering manager for Mississippi's oldest restaurant, Weidmann's.

Growing up in Lauderdale County, Driskill saw MCC as a pathway to an affordable education, especially with Tuition Guarantee. With its signature Tuition Guarantee Program, the MCC Foundation underwrites any part of the tuition not covered by financial aid for graduates of Lauderdale County high schools and homeschooled grads.

While the College had yet to offer the culinary arts program it has today, MCC's Hotel and Restaurant Management Technology track was close enough to give Driskill the skills he needed to succeed. Working alongside and catering with Mark Chandler, then program coordinator, was one of Driskill's favorite MCC memories. "Mark was a great mentor," Driskill said.

The skills he gained from MCC gave him the tools he needed as Driskill started his career as the front desk manager at the Holiday Inn Express, and shortly after, he took the helm as general manager at the age of 21. But he didn't stop there; Driskill helped open a new hotel in Winona and completed a multi-million dollar renovation in Meridian.

Other ventures were calling him - this time with Weidmann's and starting a real estate career.

Brian Driskill serves as the banquet and catering manager at Weidmann's.





He offers advice to those considering a college education. "Follow your passion; if the program you're interested in is not offered, find the closest option. Most of all, don't feel like you can't change your mind about your career path. Not everyone knows exactly what they want to do out of college, so use that time to find out what you're interested in, which you can see yourself doing long term."

Driskill added, "It's not wasted time in college; it's a time of learning about your future career and yourself."

Driskill has been married for 10 years to his wife, Constance, an MCC alum who is also one of the first graduates of Mississippi State University Meridian's Criminology program. Together, they have an eight-year-old daughter, Leighton, who, at 10 months old, faced severe health challenges, including multiple open-heart surgeries and a complete heart block. Her journey has had its challenges, but she's thriving, and her spirit continues to inspire the Driskills daily.

## JOIN OTHER ALUMS

**THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE - AND THAT INCLUDES BECOMING A MEMBER OF MCC'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.**

Courtney Pitts, executive assistant to the vice president for institutional advancement and MCC Foundation executive director; alumni association coordinator said there are no fees to join the association. The membership benefits are plentiful, including being informed of College events, networking with other alumni, and advocating for an institution that provides quality education.

To Join - alums can go to  
**[meridiancc.edu/alumniassociation](http://meridiancc.edu/alumniassociation)**

There's also a social media channel  
**[facebook.com/groups/mccalumniassociation](https://facebook.com/groups/mccalumniassociation)**

For details, contact Pitts at MCC at 601.484.8688, or email  
**[courtney.pitts@meridiancc.edu](mailto:courtney.pitts@meridiancc.edu)**

# BARCELONA AND MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE OFFERED UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES



A group of MCC Foundation travelers returned from an unforgettable trip to Barcelona, Spain, followed by a Mediterranean cruise. Starting with a welcome party at a hotel in the heart of Barcelona, the MCC adventurers enjoyed appetizers and drinks while getting to know each other before heading out to La Rambla for a lively dinner.

The group explored Barcelona's Gothic District during a guided walking tour, followed by a bus tour that allowed them to see the city's landmarks at their own pace, including the iconic Sagrada Familia.

One day was set aside for personal exploration. Some participants chose to sail in the harbor, join a tapas and wine tour, or take a day trip to Montserrat. Others used their Hop-On-Hop-Off bus tickets to discover more of the city.



The trip continued with a cruise on the Celebrity Equinox. During the cruise, the group visited several destinations, including an overnight stay in Lisbon and a Morocco stop where some rode camels. Excursions at each port provided opportunities to explore charming villages and local culture.

The Meridian Community College Foundation organized the trip. For information about future travel opportunities, visit [meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel](http://meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel).



## EXPLORE CANADA WITH MCC FOUNDATION'S EXCLUSIVE TOUR

The MCC Foundation invites you on a once-in-a-lifetime journey to discover the majestic beauty of Canada's most iconic destinations. From July 11 to July 20, this 10-day tour will take travelers through vibrant cities, breathtaking landscapes, and cultural landmarks, all while staying in luxurious accommodations.

### Highlights of the tour include:

**Toronto and Niagara Falls:** Start your adventure in Toronto with panoramic views from the CN Tower and a private dinner at the Royal Ontario Museum. Then, head to Niagara Falls to experience the power of the Falls up close with a boat cruise. Wrap up with a visit to the charming town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

**Ottawa:** Canada's capital offers guided tours of Parliament Hill and the Canadian Museum of History. Guests will stay at the historic Fairmont Château Laurier.

**Montreal:** Explore Old Montreal, admire the Notre-Dame Basilica, and savor French-inspired cuisine while staying at the Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth.

**Quebec City:** This European-style city features the iconic Fairmont Le Château Frontenac. Discover historic sites like the Citadel and Montmorency Falls, and visit a traditional sugar shack to learn about maple syrup production.

The cost is \$8,300 per person for double occupancy, with a \$500 non-refundable deposit required at registration. The price includes airfare, airport transfers, most excursions, and over 20 meals featuring regional specialties.

For more information or to register, call the MCC Foundation at 601.484.8612 or visit [meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel/canada](http://meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel/canada).



# DICK AND WANDA DIXON

## A LIFETIME OF LOVE, LEARNING, AND GIVING BACK TO MCC



Richard "Dick" Dixon

For nearly 63 years of married life, Richard "Dick" and Wanda Dixon proved that some equations were built to withstand the test of time.

The retired engineer and lifelong mathematics educator first met in high school, where a shared love for problem-solving and each other began to bloom. Decades later, their journey proved to be a testament to partnership, perseverance, and a bond that overcame challenges, celebrated milestones and inspired all who knew them.

"She was a fearless woman," said Dick about Wanda, who passed away in January 2020, revealing his love and admiration for his wife. With a silver-framed photograph of Wanda always close by, Dick continues to share his love for his life partner. "When Wanda passed, I developed a philosophy - a little adage: You will get through it, but you won't ever get over it - her death."

"That's the way I feel about it."

Wanda's background in math formed early; she graduated with the highest honors from Meridian Public School, earning the mathematics award, and won an engineering scholarship to study at Mississippi State University. However, she changed her major to math education and received her bachelor's degree in mathematics from MSU, her master's degree in mathematics from the University of Southern Mississippi, and her coursework toward her doctorate in mathematics from the University of Mississippi.

The Dixons' journey together spanned states, as Dick's engineering career took them across the country while Wanda taught mathematics and computer science at schools and universities along the way. Upon returning to their hometown

of Meridian, Wanda began a 25-year tenure at Meridian Community College, where she served as chair of the Mathematics and Science Division. Twice named MCC's Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Wanda also graded Advanced Placement exams for the National Science Foundation.

When Dick retired, he joined Wanda at MCC, teaching physics under her leadership. His love for the college endured even after retiring in 2001, when he donated his first Social Security check to the MCC Foundation, saying, "Put this where it would do the most good for the college." Later, Dick honored Wanda's legacy by endowing a scholarship in her memory - a goal he was proud to fulfill.

At MCC Foundation's annual celebration, Dick was inducted into the 1937 Society Bronze Wings Circle, a recognition of his enduring generosity and deep connection to the college. The Dixons' story is one of devotion—not only to each other but to education, community, and a legacy of giving that continues to inspire.

# SCHOLARSHIP REVIVED TO HONOR MCC RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND INSTRUCTOR

The legacy of Darlene Withers, a beloved Radiologic Technology Program coordinator and instructor at Meridian Community College, will continue to inspire students by re-establishing a scholarship in her name.

Withers passed away in November 2023 at the age of 85.

Withers, who dedicated her life to education and her students, believed sincerely in the power of education to change lives. She was the first program coordinator and instructor of the Radiologic Technology Program at MCC from 1975 to 1999.

Her daughter, Debbie Wedgeworth, who revived the scholarship, said it reflects her mother's struggles and determination. "I wanted to re-establish the scholarship because it meant so much to her not only for the fact that a former student cared enough to start it in her name, but more importantly the fact that it would make such a profound difference in the lives of so many people," Wedgeworth added.

"Growing up poor and later after years of marriage to my daddy, she became a single mother. Therefore, she knew exactly what it felt like to face financial challenges," Withers' daughter said. "When she decided to attend an X-ray program in 1975, she couldn't get a loan on her own. She kept going from bank to bank until someone finally took a chance on her. She wanted this scholarship to give others that same chance."



Known for her high standards and unwavering support, Withers was admired by her students, whom she often called "her kids."

"She gave 100 percent and expected her students to do the same," her daughter said. "Her love for them didn't stop at graduation. She stayed connected and took pride in seeing their success."

For Withers, education wasn't just about career advancement but about empowerment. "She always said knowledge is power. She knew the difference it made in her life, our lives, and the lives of her patients," her daughter said.

The Darlene Withers Memorial Scholarship will help Radiologic Technology students who need financial assistance, continuing Withers' lifelong mission of supporting others. "She would be so proud to know this scholarship is still helping students achieve their dreams," her daughter said.

## SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH EDUCATION

### FIVE WAYS TO GIVE TO THE MCC FOUNDATION

**President's Roundtable** - PRT comprises businesses and individuals committed to supporting MCC's Tuition Guarantee program.

**Annual Giving Fund** - The Annual Giving Fund consists of gifts from individuals interested in supporting the College through scholarships, program support, or unrestricted funds.

**Memorials and Honoraria** - Donations are accepted as memorials and as living tributes. Acknowledgments are made using cards depicting a scene from campus.

**Endowments** - Long-term investment options for those who want to establish a legacy gift. Once the endowment is complete, it is never breached, creating a never-ending source for scholarships and awards.

**Planned giving** - Bequests, insurance, annuities, and trusts that list the MCC Foundation as the beneficiary.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE



SCAN HERE

# FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



**MERIDIAN**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
**FOUNDATION**

## FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FALL 2024 RECIPIENTS



## DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

### **ADN Donor Scholarship**

Shakara Miller

### **Baptist Anderson Board of Directors Scholarship**

Andrea Sciple

### **Anderson Support and Development Foundation Scholarship**

J'Nyah Moore  
Sylvia Yates

### **Dr. William Jeff Anderson, Memorial Scholarship**

Rebecca Owen

### **Dr. William J. Anderson, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**

Keleigh Moore

### **Dr. William J. Anderson, III Memorial Scholarship**

Emily Arias

### **AT&T Scholarship**

Nicholas Lewis

### **Bill Autry Memorial Scholarship**

Alondra Arreola-Espino  
Justin Hopkins

### **C. B. Bailey Memorial Scholarship**

Sarah Bounds  
Makayla Hopkins

### **Beverly Barham Memorial Scholarship**

Alexa Shirley

### **Barnett All-America City Scholarship**

Jonathan Parker

### **Leonard Corydon Barrell Family Scholarship**

Bradley Hooks  
Morgan Sloan

### **Sallie Mae Bell Memorial Scholarship**

Daylon Horton

### **Dr. George W. and Ettamac Bounds, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**

Rivers Burnette

### **Judie Bounds Memorial Scholarship**

Lakeesha McFarland

### **Dr. Lemann H. and Wilma S. Bounds Scholarship**

Amber Gates  
Mallory Piglia

### **Thomas and Norma Bourdeaux Scholarship**

Alexa Shirley

### **Harry & Vivian Boureau Music Scholarship**

Payton Alexander

### **Keli Breanne Brown Memorial Scholarship**

Rebekah Stephens

### **Margaret F. Butler Memorial Scholarship**

Corbin Gillentine  
Lydia Wilson

### **Fran and Wadell Byrd Memorial Scholarship**

Keri Hans

### **Madeline Scott Callahan Memorial Scholarship**

Felicia Kelly

### **Carney-Nelson Scholarship**

Quendaisha Lewis

### **Cater's Market Culinary Scholarship**

Albrie Harper

### **Mark Chandler Memorial Scholarship**

Emily Scarbrough

### **A. C. Johnson/Civitan Scholarship**

Kennedy Franklin  
Macy Oliver  
Jimmie Smith

### **Robert Cochran Memorial Scholarship**

Brandon Epting

### **Lynn Bruner Combest Memorial Scholarship**

Kiersten Hampton

### **Lynn Combest Memorial Marketing/Photography Scholarship**

Harley Morland

### **Commercial Truck Driving Program Scholarship**

Rosie Gordon

### **Chuck Nicholson/Community Bank Veteran Scholarship**

Marcos Aguirre

### **Winnie Crampton Memorial Nursing Scholarship**

Ariana Ramos

### **Linda and Marty Davidson Scholarship**

Holly Gillies  
Laken Thornton

### **Clifton "Buddy" Davis Memorial Scholarship**

Dylan Simpson

### **Toni L. DeVaney Memorial Scholarship**

LeCosha Rhone

### **Glen Deweese Scholarship**

Chiquita Holcombe

### **T. K. Dobbins, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**

Payton Fowler

**Downtown Optimist Club/Bill Herndon Memorial Scholarship**

Ashley Burkeen  
Haley Williams

**Margaret Reed Dulaney Scholarship**

Emily Guin

**Earnest Workers King's Daughters and Sons Scholarship**

Mesheila Harris

**William H. Entrekin Family Music Scholarship**

Lauren Broome

**Erika's Hope Memorial Scholarship**

Amber Lewis  
Zaria Williams

**Evans PTK Scholarship Award**

Alondra Arreola-Espino

**Don and Donia Evans Scholarship**

Courtney Odom

**Hugh and Katherine Foster Memorial Scholarship**

Hasen Caldwell

**Bebe Roberts Freeman Scholarship**

Libby Smith

**Jacob Chester Frist Memorial Scholarship**

Jerriunika Harris

**Future Nurses Scholarship**

Emily Arias  
Keleigh Moore

**Gameday Operations Scholarship**

Serena Blackwell  
Jazmine Meza

**Nicholas Gianakos Memorial Scholarship**

Julie Amacher  
Kamron Darden  
Anna McGowin  
Elizabeth Robbins

**Dotty and Hardy Graham, Sr. Scholarship**

Seth Garrett  
Lance Rawson

**Gayle Gray Memorial Nursing Scholarship**

Jermeka Hathorn  
Barbara Nelson  
Macy Smith

**Thomas H. Greer, Jr. M.D. and Joycelyn D. Greer Scholarship for Nursing**

Jayda Mullins

**Debbie Gunn Memorial Scholarship**

Nathaniel Carstaffhur  
Shamia Easter

**William Gunn, Esquire Memorial Scholarship**

Keri Hans

**Gene Haas Scholarship**

James Alsobrooks  
Tyler Bearden  
Hannah Buchanan  
Eli Collum  
Daniel Davis  
Pedro Gonzalez  
Logan Hemphill  
Justin Hopkins  
Luke Ishee  
McKinley Jones  
Daniel Lane  
Tyson Marlow  
Brayden Mathis  
Caleb Purvis  
William Satcher  
Jimmie Smith

**Anne Brown Hargon Memorial Scholarship**

Madisyn Sims

**Lou Weddington Hart Memorial Scholarship**

Daveyonia Loyd

**Mattie D. Hart/ Emma Donald Music Scholarship**

Hasen Caldwell

**Katherine Chisolm Hester and Lamar Hester Memorial Scholarship**

Samantha Lauderdale

**T. H. and Allie Hobgood Memorial Scholarship**

Caitlyn Batchelor  
John Boldin  
Camden Cooper  
Karlee Pierce  
Mary Margaret Stevens

**Eddie Holladay Broadcast/Marketing Scholarship**

Calicia Smith

**Dr. Jeff Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship**

Mallory Ross

**Richard Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship**

Joseph Sanders

**Paulette Aycock Hopkins Memorial Scholarship**

Memorie Warren

**Catherine Hovious Nursing Scholarship**

Jamia Hornsby  
Tamician Hunt

**Richard Harper Howarth, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**

Reagan Cochran

**Dr. George Howell Nursing Scholarship**

Shantiona Bridges

**Dr. George Howell Nursing Scholarship**

Madison Tindle

**H.M. Ivy Scholarship**

Phallyn Clark  
Amari Davis  
Madison Hines

**John and Ann Johnson Scholarship**

Fletcher Mayerhoff

**Reuben S. Johnson, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**

Amber Lewis

**Walter and Cora Thompson Johnson Memorial Scholarship**

Aaron Teffeteller

**Edwin Arlo and Bonnie Joiner Memorial Scholarship**

Jolee Todd

**Ann and Ken Joyner Book Scholarship**

Arlee McClellan



# FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



## **Lucy Kahlmus Dental Hygiene Scholarship**

Kinsey Davis

## **Key Brothers Memorial Scholarship**

Caleb Purvis

## **Kingdom InfluenceHER Leadership Scholarship**

Temayah Hopson

## **Gondine Kittrell Memorial Scholarship**

Andrea Sciple

## **Prof. Howard Lane Memorial Scholarship**

Candace Hill

## **Marcella and Hubert Langford Scholarship**

Grace Wade

## **William and Dorothy Lerner Scholarship**

Sydney Cooper  
Joeey McWilliams

## **Stennis "Judge" Little Memorial Scholarship**

Joslyn Broome-Tucker

## **Lockheed STEM Scholarship**

Hasen Caldwell

## **Dr. Lloyd Wilton and Dr. Sula Johnson Marsalis Memorial Scholarship**

Alexis Haguewood  
Allison McCoy

## **MCC Alumni and Friends Scholarship**

Ava Hayes

## **Kathleen Newby McDaniel Memorial Scholarship**

Sabrina Davis  
Keeton Garrett  
Shakea Winford

## **Emily Louise McDonald Nursing Scholarship**

Michelle Ryans  
Ollie Savage

## **Percy R. McLemore Scholarship**

Tilley Lucas

## **Medical Lab Technology Scholarship**

Precious Jenkins

## **Meridian Area Dental Association Scholarship**

Kinsey Davis  
Kendal Howell

## **Meridian Exchange Club/Bo Russell Memorial Scholarship**

Trevor Clayton  
Ava Null

## **Meridian Lion's Club Scholarship**

Daniel Scrimshire

## **Mabel and S. Carl Merritt Scholarship**

Brett Busbea  
Kinsey Davis

## **Richard L. Meyer Memorial Scholarship**

Maston McMahan

## **MHS Class of 1978 Scholarship**

SaMorgan Townsend

## **Mississippi Board of Nursing Scholarship**

Lakeesha McFarland

## **Mississippi Power Heritage Scholarship**

Johnathan Cole  
Kaydence Patterson  
Matthew Williams

## **Mitchell Companies Scholarship**

William Oliver  
Gabriel Skinner

## **William D. Mobley Dental Hygiene Scholarship**

Amelia Dees  
Bailey Parker

## **G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Memorial Scholarship**

Emma Creel  
Dorcia Mayer  
Macy McCharen  
Addison Satterfield  
Hayden Williams

## **Dr. William R. Moore, II Memorial Scholarship**

Mallory Ross

## **Joyce Morrison Memorial Scholarship**

Talisha Hollingsworth

## **Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship**

Michael Shaffer

## **NASA Space Grant Scholarship**

Alondra Arreola-Espino  
SeDerrick Davis  
Isaac James  
Christian McClelland  
Drew Williams

## **National Board for Respiratory Care Scholarship**

Breanna Gordon  
Shakedria Griffin

## **Ruth Van Dyke Nelson Memorial Scholarship**

Rosina Burford

Henton Walton

## **Virginia Price Nelson Scholarship**

Haley Freeman

## **Gloria Nuckolls Memorial Scholarship**

Rebecca Owen

## **Tanya Renia Ocampo Memorial Scholarship**

LeCosha Rhone

## **Alexander Ott/The Crossings Memorial Scholarship**

Samantha Lauderdale

## **Phil Hardin Foundation Scholarship**

Nathan Mott  
Ember Temple

## **Pioneer Classes Scholarship**

Amiya Boyd

## **Mark M. Porter Memorial Scholarship**

Jeremiah Atterberry

## **Gerald Price Memorial Scholarship**

Allison Fox

## **Rev. George Pugh Memorial Hospitality Scholarship**

Erika Monroe

## **Gerry Wayne Purvis Scholarship**

Sara Lacy

## **C. B. "Dough" & Alice Rawlings Scholarship**

Somalia Lewis

## **Jo and George Rea Memorial Scholarship**

Abdulhaim Obid

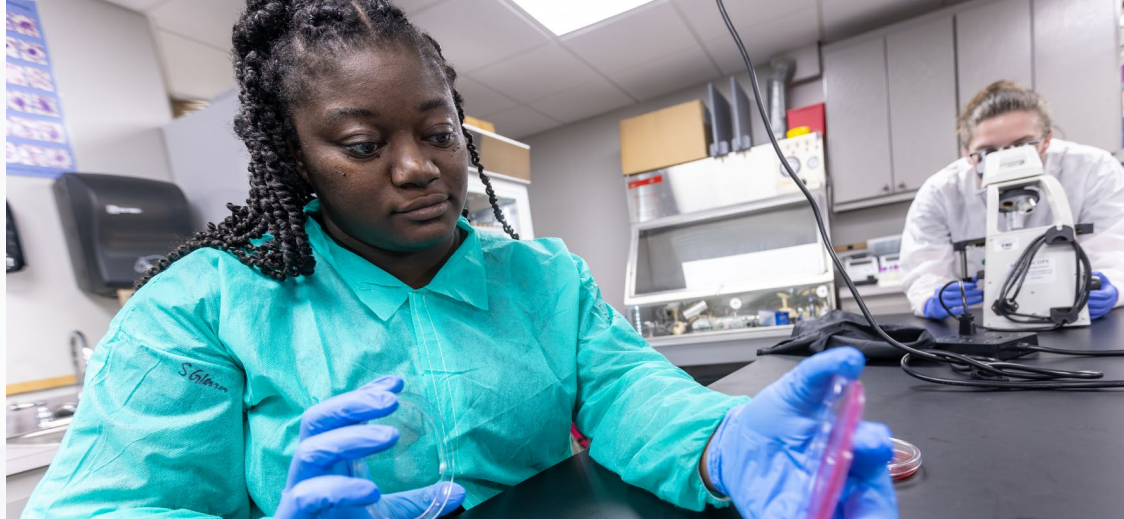
## **Elizabeth Riley Memorial Scholarship**

Jeyde Fitzgerald  
Kristen Hosey  
Shaquetta Parker

## **William G. Riley MD Memorial Scholarship**

Yolanda Jackson





**Miriam Roberson Nursing Scholarship**

Kaylynn Boshoff  
Lyndi Pryor

**Ardell Moffett Rogers Memorial Scholarship**

Emma Hill  
Javar James  
Jeremiah Ragsdale

**I. A. Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship**

Christian McClelland

**Lucile R. Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship**

Thiago Martins-Fasano

**Royalty Education Scholarship**

Emma Watson

**Big and Ham Sanders Memorial Scholarship**

Bennett Thurston

**Joe Charles and Mai Keen Sanders Memorial Scholarship**

Kiersten White

**Doris and Cecil Seale Memorial Scholarship**

Alison Perez-Zapata

**Daniel P. and Ruby Self Scholarship**

Adrienne Edwards  
Hampton Ross

**Jack Shank Scholarship**

Kennedy Franklin

**Jackie Bates Slay Memorial Scholarship**

Emma Murray

**Lee Anne Smith Memorial Scholarship**

Collin Russell

**Maude Smith Scholarship**

Allison Harrison

**Margaret & Bill Smylie Nursing Scholarship**

Kathryn Grant

**State Farm Companies Scholarship**

Sydney Cooper

**Structural Steel Services Scholarship**

Kalli Carrillo  
Heather Frazier  
Layla Havard  
Elijah Hodges  
Sabrina Ivy  
Zoey Ivy

**A. Wayne Sullivan, M.D. Memorial Scholarship**

Micah Nelson

**Walter H. Thompson Memorial Radiologic Technology Scholarship**

Carlondria McLaughlin

**Dr. Dan Thornton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship**

Alicia Gabrelcik

**Mae Carroll Thornton Scholarship**

Jamia Hornsby  
Shawond Webster

**Jacob Toney Memorial Scholarship**

Breland Abston  
Kevondra Simmons

**Jacob Touchstone MLT Scholarship**

Lamaquija Black

**Rodney Walker Technology Scholarship**

William Moffett

**Les Wallace Memorial Scholarship**

Josthin Moreno, Jr.  
Daniel Scrimshire

**Waters Family Scholarship**

Chloe Smith

**Norma Rawlings Webb Scholarship**

Shakara Miller

**White Family Foundation Scholarship**

Shaquana McAfee

**James C. and Garnett S. Wilbourn Family Scholarship**

Kayli Warren

**Charles James Winright, Jr. and Jean Ellen Winright Memorial Scholarship**

Kaleigh Griffith  
Rory Hyde  
Alyssa Metcalf  
Allie Wyman  
Jacob Young

**Charles L. Young, Sr. Cosmetology Scholarship**

Madison Hatcher  
Charity Jordan

**CONNECTIONS MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTORS**

**Tony Boutwell**  
Director of visual media

**Jaycee Butler**  
Lifetime Quest and MCC Foundation events coordinator

**Brandy Hill**  
MCC Foundation senior accountant and financial analyst

**Dr. Leia Agnew Hill**  
Vice president for institutional advancement and executive director of the MCC Foundation

**Theresa Hogan**  
MCC Foundation scholarship coordinator

**Courtney Pitts**  
Executive assistant to the vice president for institutional advancement and MCC Foundation executive director; alumni association coordinator

**Joy Smith**  
Communications coordinator

**Kay Thomas**  
Director of public information



# NAMING NAMES

Is there a notable MCC alum who deserves to be a member of the MCC Hall of Fame? If so, send us their resume and nominate them as part of the MCC Hall of Fame recipients.



Scan the QR code or visit: [meridiancc.edu/halloffame](https://meridiancc.edu/halloffame)