

THE
Legacy
EDITION



*An Evening
of Gratitude*

A look inside the
MCC Foundation
Celebration

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Drew Edwards, CPA
Special assistant to the vice president for financial services

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

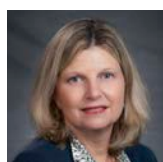
Leia Agnew Hill, Ed.D.
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Eugene Perry
Vice president for financial services and chief financial officer

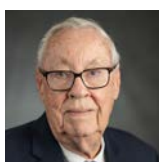
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Vice president for workforce solutions

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Jamie Cater



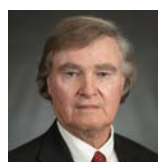
Tommy Dulaney



Rev. LaBaron Hegemon



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**

INVESTING IN HOPE, TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE
OUR COMMUNITY HELPS MCC STUDENTS FIND THEIR WINGS



Dr. Leia Agnew Hill

As I look back on this past year at Meridian Community College, I'm reminded once again that progress rarely happens in a single moment, it grows quietly, steadily, through the dedication of people who believe in possibility. And this year, possibility was everywhere.

We welcomed new students who brought energy and curiosity to our campus, and we celebrated returning students who continued to chase goals they once thought were out of reach. Across our classrooms, labs, studios, and fields, you can feel a renewed sense of purpose. Our faculty and staff continue to go above and beyond, and our community partners have stepped forward in remarkable ways.

MCC is moving forward, not by chance, but because so many of you care deeply about what education can do.

What encourages me most is what happens behind the scenes, the stories that rarely make headlines but change lives every day. A single mother earning a credential that will reshape her family's future. A first-generation student discovering an unexpected career path. A veteran returning to college to gain new skills with confidence. These moments don't happen by accident; they happen because someone believed enough to give.

Your generosity continues to transform MCC in ways both visible and invisible. Scholarships open doors wider. Modernized equipment strengthens our workforce pipeline. Enhanced programs create opportunities for students to thrive in a world that is evolving faster than ever. Every gift, whether large or small, becomes part of a story bigger than itself.

As we move into a new year, we are focusing intentionally on student belonging, innovative learning spaces, and opportunities that meet our community's changing needs. It is an exciting time for MCC, and we could not do this work without the donors, friends, and partners who walk alongside us. You are helping shape not only individual journeys, but the future of our region.

Thank you for investing in hope, in education, and in the belief that every student deserves the chance to rise. Together, we will continue building a campus where potential finds direction, where challenges become opportunities, and where dreams take flight. I am grateful for each of you and look forward to all that we will accomplish, together, in the year ahead.

Dr. Leia Agnew Hill
 Vice president for advancement and operations
 Executive director of the MCC Foundation

Celebrating and honoring

FOUNDATION PAYS TRIBUTE TO ITS MEMBERS



Dr. Tom Huebner and Sherry Howell

The Meridian Community College Foundation honored its donors and celebrated a year of record support at its 2025 Annual Membership Celebration held at Northwood Country Club.

The evening brought together community leaders, alumni, College faculty, staff, administrators, and supporters to recognize the generosity of donors. The MCC Resurrection Jazz Band, directed by Chris King, provided live music as guests gathered for the event.

Dr. Leia Hill, vice president for institutional advancement and operations and executive director of the MCC Foundation, opened the celebration's program by welcoming attendees and thanking them for their support in the College's mission.

"Tonight is about generosity, impact, and community," Dr. Hill said. "Every person in this room helps make education possible for our students."

MCC President Dr. Tom Huebner thanked donors for their commitment. "Because of your generosity and the dedication of our staff, MCC stands as the community college with the largest net assets in the state of Mississippi," Dr. Huebner said.



Dr. Tom Huebner and Diane Delk



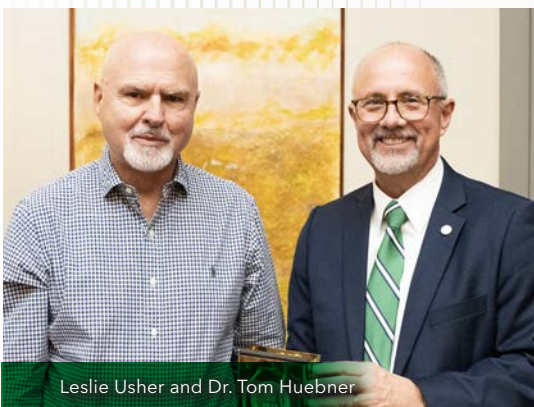
Steven Cooksey, Dr. Tom Huebner and Tyler Walton



Dr. Tom Huebner and Shirley Nell Goodman



Dr. Tom Huebner, Pam McDonald and Dr. Tommy McDonald



Leslie Usher and Dr. Tom Huebner

During the program, the Foundation recognized donors who reached new milestones in the Wings of Giving Society, which honors cumulative giving at the Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Emerald levels.

New Bronze Wings members included Diane and Robert Delk; Shirley Nell Goodman; Johnson Dodge Chrysler Jeep; Patrick Allen Companies; Southeastern Electric Exchange, Inc.; Mina Beth Tonini; and United Way of East Mississippi. New Silver Wings member was Southern Cast Products. And, new Gold Wings members were the late Jimmie Evans; Dr. Tommy and Pam McDonald; Meridian Kiwanis Club; the late Sara and William Scaggs; and Leslie Usher.

The evening's highest honor, the induction into the Emerald Circle, recognized The Paul and Sherry Broadhead Foundation for surpassing \$1 million in lifetime giving. The Foundation joins a group of community partners whose philanthropy continues to transform lives through education. Accepting the recognition on behalf of The Paul and Sherry Broadhead Foundation was Vice President Sherry Howell.

“Paul and Sherry Broadhead were visionaries whose love for this community lives on through their family’s continued generosity,” Dr. Huebner said. “Their legacy will impact MCC students for generations to come.”

An Evening of Gratitude



In loving memory of **GERRY PURVIS**

The event also honored the memory of longtime MCC Foundation Board member Gerry Purvis. Dr. Hill reflected on his years of service, noting,

“Gerry’s kindness and commitment helped shape the success we celebrate tonight. His legacy will remain part of the MCC Foundation story forever.”

Foundation Board President Russell Thompson closed the evening by sharing that private investment in the College continues to grow, with nearly \$1.4 million raised in the past year. “Your generosity continues to exceed expectations,” Thompson said. “Because of you, the Foundation can keep investing in the lives of students who will shape our future.”



Dr. Leia Agnew Hill and Russell Thompson





Dr. Tom Huebner, Rebecca and Tommy Dulaney, Dr. Leia Agnew Hill , Donna Jill Johnson, and Anita Jo Ross



Will Roland



Bob and Penne Huff



Jackie McElphin and Jean Willis



Dorothy and Otis Gowdy



Carol Dean, Victoria Mosley, and Adrian Mosley



Rhonda and Dr. Ray Denton



Madison Carr and Tara Shelton



C.D. Smith and Dr. Leia Agnew Hill

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



SCAN HERE

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.

LIFETIME GIVING RECOGNITION

EMERALD CIRCLE

Baptist Anderson Regional Health System
Ochsner Rush Health

The Paul and Sherry Broadhead Foundation

The Phil Hardin Foundation
David Quave
The Riley Foundation
Structural Steel Services

PLATINUM WINGS

Marty and Linda Davidson
Earnest Workers Circle King's Daughters & Sons
Rest Home Foundation
The Emma McCain Trust
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.

GOLD WINGS

AT&T
Ann and Jimmy Alexander
Anderson Support & Development Foundation, Inc.
Atlas Roofing
BankPlus
Citizens National Bank
Mr. and Mrs. James Covington
Dart Foundation
Glen & Janice Dewese Family
Estate of Betsy Barrell Weems
Estate of George Pugh
Estate of Jean Ellen Winright
Estate of Lemann H. and Wilma S. Bounds
Jimmie Evans
Fred Gray
Great Southern Bank
The G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Foundation
Kahlmus Family
KTS Holdings, LLC
Wendy Lerner
Dr. Tommy and Pam McDonald
James E. McGinnis, Jr.
Meridian Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Meridian Kiwanis Club
The Meridian Star
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
Sara and William Scaggs
Slay Steel, Inc.
T.H. & Allie R. Hobgood Educational Trust
Chip and Lisa Taylor
Leslie Usher
Valley Services, Inc.
Vital Care, Inc.
Waters International Trucks
Norma Webb
Frank Charles Winstead
WTOK TV

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
Estate of Lou Weddington Hart
Donia and Don 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 Aeronautical
Larry and Lisa Love
Sara Jo and Jack Malone
MCC Faculty/Staff Association
Meridian Council of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Helen and Harold Meyer, Jr.
Arthur Nelson
Joseph Price
Michael Reed and Family
Mary Ann and Richard Riley
Hilda and Clarence Roberts
I.A. Rosenbaum
Southern Cast Products
Rebekah Toney
Van Zyverden, Inc.
The Weddington Family
Randy and Marcia Sanders West
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 Co., Inc.
 Jay and Sheryl Davidson
Diane and Robert Delk
 Richard Dixon
 Downtown Optimist Club, Inc.
 Dr. Scott Elliott
 Engineering Plus
 William Entekin
 Estate of Margaret F. Butler
 Estate of Sara and Sam Niemetz
 Joyce and Myles Frank
 Fruge' Oil Company
 Glass, Inc.
Shirley Nell Goodman
 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
 Dr. Tom and Mindy Huebner
 Insurance Advisory Group, LLC
 John O'Neil Johnson Toyota
Johnson Dodge Chrysler Jeep
 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
 Anne and Richard Meyer
 Mississippi Community College Foundation
 Mitchell Companies
 MarLynne Moore
 Scott and Susie Morgan
 New South Ford
Patrick Allen Companies
 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
Southeastern Electric Exchange, Inc.
 Sue and J.F. Thompson
 The William Lewis and Mae Carroll Thornton Family
Mina Beth Tonini
 Trustmark National Bank
United Way of East Mississippi
 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



2024-2025 President's Roundtable & Community Members

Legacy Member

Leslie Usher
The White Family Foundation
Structural Steel Services
Mississippi Board of Nursing
Meridian Mutual Federal
Credit Union
Tommy and Pam McDonald
Wendy Lerner
Gene Haas Foundation
Estate of Jimmie Evans
The Paul and Sherry Broadhead
Foundation

Presidents Circle

Baptist Anderson Regional
Medical Center
Mississippi Power Company

Trustee's Circle

The G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery
Foundation
Community Foundation for
Greater New Haven
Country Meat Packers, Inc.
Larry and Lisa Love
Ochsner Rush Health
Phil Hardin Foundation
Gerry and Betty Purvis
Howard Sanderford
Debbie Wedgeworth
Joe and Mary Ann Wilkerson
W TOK TV

Partner

A & B Electric, Inc.
Jimmy and Ann Alexander
Atlas Roofing Corporation
Charles L. Young, Sr. Foundation
Marty and Linda Davidson
Davis Purdy Architects, PLLC
Gipson Steel, Inc.
Hardy and Monica Graham
Clay and Laura Holladay
James Hudnall
Tom and Mindy Huebner
KTS Holdings, LLC
Magnolia Steel, Inc.
Meridian Coca-Cola Bottling
Company
Mid-South Welding Supply
Patrick Allen Companies
Regions Bank
Slay Steel, Inc.
Mina Beth Tonini
United Way of East Mississippi

Grand Benefactor

The Cross Agency
The Hardy Poindexter Graham
Foundation
The Progress Foundation Trust
The Riley Foundation
1st Mississippi Federal
Credit Union
Sarah Abernathy
Dianne Agnew
Allred Investments, LLC
Anderson Support &
Development Foundation, Inc.
Andrew Chapel Church
Archer Architecture, PLLC
AT&T
Atmos Energy
Avis Aycoc
Jeana Bennett
Bishop Dennis and
Pastor Pearl Huggins
Robert D. Blubaugh
Bo Haarala Autoplex
Chad Boudreaux
Norma Bourdeaux
Jo Lynn Polk Bridges
Sidney & Jamila Brown Coleman
Burns & Burns, Inc.
BWI
East Mississippi Electric Power
Association
Cater's Market
Citizens National Bank
Clearspan Components, Inc.
Leonard B. Cobb, Attorney
College Park Auto
Community Bank - Meridian
Construction Services, Inc.
Annette Cook
Country Folks Portable Buildings
CUI Systems, Inc.
D & E Construction Company, Inc.
Martin Sherrill Davidson
Mike and Kathryn Dawkins
Lindy Deen
Robert and Diane Delk
Deweese Libations, LLC
Doug and Bet Deweese
Anne Dowdle
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Development Corporation
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Equipment Company
Patti Edwards
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Don and Donia Evans
First Christian Church
First State Bank
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Glass, Inc.
Great Southern Bank
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Maurice and Cathy Hall
Harriet and Gregory H Browne
Joel and Pam Harrison
Alan Hart

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Henderson Steel Corporation
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Howard Industries, Inc.
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Insurance Solutions of
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Mike and Linda Rainer
Margaret Remy
L. N. and Charlotte Rhodes
Erin Richardson
Jimmy and Katherine Rigdon
Brittany Risher
Janice Rivers
Ralph and Betty Roberts
Ronny and Missy Roberts
Larry and Susan Ross
Sonny Ruff
Kimberly Rush
Ruben and Madeline Saavedra
Joyce Scarborough
Jet and Rachael Scarbrough
Jeff and Lisa Scarbrough
Norma Sessions
Genia Smith
Rob and Lori Smith
Michael Smith
Sherry Snowden

Randy Spears
Pamela Stanley
State Games of Mississippi
Llewellyn Sterling
Jimmy and Tracy Stockton
Jeremy and Bethany Stringer
Reggie Sykes
The Bill Bledsoe and
Theresa R. Bledsoe
Revocable Trust
Sandra Thomas
Josh and Amanda Thompson
Nancee Thompson and
Ann Davidson
Threefoot Blooms
Tull Brothers, Inc.
Twin States News
(WGBC, EGBC, WMDN)
Uniforms & Accessories, Inc
Lee and Helen Valentine
Donald and Becky Vance
Sonny and Jan Warren
Donna Waseleski
M. L. and Kim Waters
Beverly Weathersby
Clarence Weatherspoon
Cathy and Woody Webb
Crystal Webster
William Woods III, DMD
Denise Wright
Mark Zerko

MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUM ERIC BUTLER FINDS PURPOSE IN CARING FOR PATIENTS

Eric Butler built his career on a simple idea he learned early in life: do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

Today, the Meridian Community College graduate follows that mantra every day as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist at Ochsner Rush Medical Center.

Butler said he always felt drawn to helping others. He enjoyed science, problem-solving, and learning how the body works, but he also wanted a career that mattered. "I like being the person who helps relieve pain, saves lives, or supports families during difficult times," he said. "Healthcare gives me a sense of purpose and the feeling that my work matters every day."

In his role, Butler creates and carries out anesthetic plans for patients before surgery. "I enjoy getting to know each patient and developing a plan that fits their needs," he said. "The goal is always a positive outcome."

Butler credits MCC with giving him the foundation he needed to start his nursing career. He graduated from the Associate Degree Nursing program in 2000. "MCC provided the classes and nursing program that gave me solid knowledge and experience," he said. "That allowed me to become a Registered Nurse, which became the springboard for advanced practice."

Affordability was one of the main reasons he chose MCC to start his higher education. Studying close to home allowed him to keep his part-time landscaping job and avoid extra expenses. "It just made sense," he said.

After receiving his degree from MCC, Butler earned a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi, a master of science in nursing from the University of North Carolina, and a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist designation from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

He encourages students who may be unsure about their future to consider MCC, noting the College is a great place to take core classes and explore different fields.

"When choosing which college to attend, always look for return on your investment. For many students, MCC offers Tuition Guarantee, allowing students to receive a degree. This is a 'no-brainer' when it comes to a great return on your investment," he said.

Outside of work, Butler enjoys spending time outdoors and being with his family. He has been married to his high school sweetheart, Jaycee, for 25 years. Their son, Grant, is a sophomore at Mississippi College studying Christian Studies. Their daughter, Lila, is a junior at West Lauderdale High School and plays volleyball.

Whether at work or home, Butler said he tries to live by the words his father shared when he was nine years old:

*"If a man doesn't have his word,
he doesn't have much at all."*

Butler added, "These words made a huge impact on me and I try my very best to live by them to this very day."

For more information, visit meridiancc.edu.



Eric Butler

MCC TEAM WINS TWO NCMPR AWARDS

Meridian Community College’s College Communications team earned two Medallion Awards at the 2025 National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) District 2 Conference. MCC won second place in Magazine - Large Scale for the July 2024 issue of Connections, created by Tony Boutwell and Kay Thomas, and third place in Notes/Cards/ Invitation for a thank-you card designed by Amy Miller for the MCC Foundation.

“The accomplishments of College Communications make me immensely proud. These awards underscore the exceptional skill, dedication, and thoughtfulness my colleagues bring to their work daily,” said Dr. Leia Hill, vice president for institutional advancement and operations and executive director of the MCC Foundation. “I’m thankful that our team continues to tell the college’s story with both impact and creativity.”

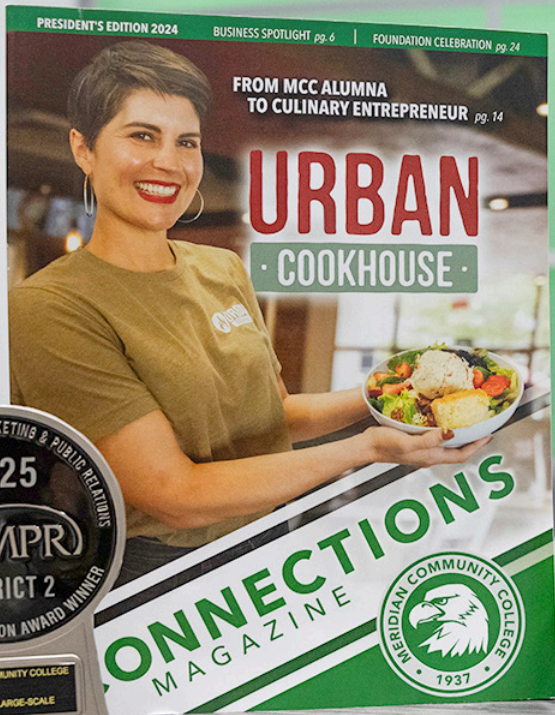
College Communications supports MCC’s brand and outreach across social media, publications, and campus-wide messaging. Along with Boutwell, Miller, and Thomas, team members include Desi Leeper, Joy Smith, Casey Holladay, Tanisha Clark, Hunter Heath, Matt Milner, and Jet Scarbrough.



Tony Boutwell, Amy Miller, Dr. Leia Agnew Hill, and Kay Thomas

The NCMPR Medallion Awards recognize outstanding marketing, communications, and public relations work by community and technical colleges across seven districts. District 2 encompasses institutions in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, and the Bahamas.

For more information about MCC, visit meridiancc.edu.



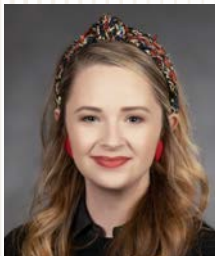
EAGLES LEADERSHIP CONVOCATION REACHES MIDPOINT



As Meridian Community College moves through the academic year, members of the Eagles Leadership Convocation (E.L.C.) are midway through their yearlong journey of growth and collaboration.

The E.L.C., sponsored by the MCC Foundation, brings together nine faculty and staff members to strengthen leadership skills, communication, and teamwork while building stronger connections across campus.

The Class of 2026 includes:



Veronica Fox
Assistant Director
of Student Accounts



James Runnels
Director of I.T.
Systems Analyst



Rhonda Smith
College and
Career Navigator



Jawanda Huggins
Biological Science
Instructor



Chris King
Director of Bands



Crystal Sterling
Mathematics Instructor



Eric Jones
Welding Program
Coordinator and
Instructor



Parker Manley
Workforce Project
Manager



Dr. Tommy Winston
Physical Therapist Assistant
Program Coordinator
and Instructor



James Runnels, Crystal Sterling, Parker Manley
and Dr. Tommy Winston

MCC President Dr. Tom Huebner and Dr. Leia Hill, vice president for institutional advancement and operations and executive director of the MCC Foundation, serve as program facilitators. Courtney Pitts, executive assistant to the vice president for institutional advancement and operations and alumni coordinator, supports the program as an assistant.

Each month through May, the group meets to explore topics such as leadership, communication, teamwork, and community engagement. Sessions also cover areas like AI, human resources, and crisis management.

At the end of the program, participants will present a group project addressing a college need and proposing a practical solution. Graduates will receive a \$500 stipend upon completion.



Veronica Fox and Jawanda Huggins

Fox said she's already seeing the benefits of the program. "I joined E.L.C. to grow both personally and professionally," she added. "It's a great chance to learn from leaders across campus, develop new strategies, and understand how our departments work together toward shared goals."

To learn more about the Eagles Leadership Convocation, visit meridiancc.edu/elc



E.L.C. team: Courtney Pitts, Dr. Leia Agnew Hill, Eric Jones, Crystal Sterling, Veronica Fox, Parker Manley, James Runnels, Chris King, Jawanda Huggins, Dr. Tommy Winston, and Dr. Tom Huebner

MCC ALUMNA JESSICA ANDERSON

BUILDS CAREER ROOTED IN COMMUNITY, GRATITUDE



Jessica Anderson

Jessica Anderson didn't realize it at the time, but choosing to begin her college journey at Meridian Community College set the course for her future degrees, her career in banking, and the life she now cherishes with her family.

What she did know was that MCC felt like the right place to begin: familiar faces, a supportive environment, smaller classes, and the added benefit of paid tuition.

Today, Anderson, who earned her associate of arts degree from MCC in 2007, and her bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University-Meridian, serves as senior vice president and human resources manager at Citizens National Bank.

Anderson first learned about a banking opportunity from one of her professors at MSU-Meridian. "I knew it was a great company, so I applied," she said. "I went

for an interview, and I've been here 15 years since." At Citizens National Bank, she now works with more than 300 employees across Mississippi.

Her path to business and accounting began at MCC.

"MCC helped me decide what I wanted to study," Anderson said. "It was a great foundation that prepared me for my four-year degree, my master's degree, and eventually my career."

A graduate of Meridian High School, Anderson originally planned to attend the University of Mississippi, but staying in Meridian felt right. "Everything I needed was here—my family, my church, my job, and many of my friends," she said.

Another key attraction of MCC for her was the Tuition Guarantee, the MCC Foundation's signature program that covers two years of tuition for Lauderdale County high school graduates. "I am very appreciative of the many individuals and companies who have supported the Tuition Guarantee program and truly invested back into Meridian and the surrounding areas," she said.

During her time at MCC, Anderson excelled academically, earning the Outstanding Business Student award and other honors. "One of my favorite things about MCC was the smaller class size, which allowed for more interaction with the class and the instructor," she said.

Her resume reflects continued success: positions of increasing responsibility at Citizens National Bank, SHRM-CP certification, multiple professional awards, and recognition as one of The Meridian Star's 2025 Top Twenty Under 40. She is also a graduate of Leadership Lauderdale.

Away from work, Anderson stays grounded in the people and activities she loves. She and her husband, Drew—also an MCC alumnus and former Eagle baseball player—have been married 16 years. Their two children, Lane, an eighth grader, and Layken, a fourth grader, keep the family busy with sports and lake days. They are active at Covenant Church, and Anderson devotes time to special needs sports programs, including Challenger League, Top Soccer, and Camp Hoops.

Her guiding philosophy comes from Proverbs 16:3: “Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.”

“Sometimes we face difficult decisions or challenges in life,” she said, “but if we keep our focus on the Lord, everything will work out, and often better than we imagined.”

Anderson hopes students considering college will give MCC a close look, just as she once did. “People have asked me if I regretted not ‘going off’ to college, and I don’t regret it one bit,” she said.

“MCC was the perfect start for my education,” Anderson said, adding, “If I hadn’t stayed in Meridian, I might not have the life I have today, for which I am so incredibly thankful.”

For more information about MCC, visit meridiancc.edu.



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 operations and MCC Foundation executive director and 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

There’s also a social media channel facebook.com/groups/mccalumniassociation

For details, contact Pitts at MCC at 601.484.8688, or email courtney.pitts@meridiancc.edu.

COASTAL WONDERS

TRAVELERS DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF MAINE

The MCC Foundation Travelers found Maine to be beautiful at every turn - its coastlines, ocean air, and seaside towns quickly became the heart of the journey.

The Bar Harbor Inn set the tone, offering a welcoming atmosphere and stunning views that carried throughout the trip.

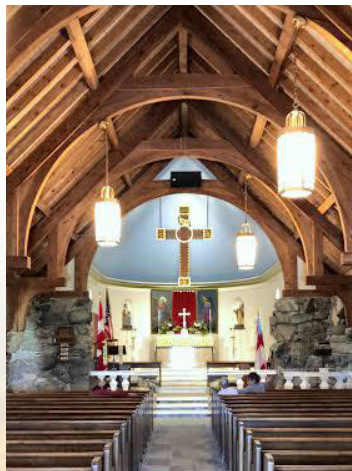
After traveling from Meridian to Bangor and settling into Bar Harbor, the group enjoyed a relaxed morning before taking a guided tour of Acadia National Park. Sweeping ocean views, rugged cliffs, and pine forests offered an unforgettable introduction to Maine's natural beauty.

Bar Harbor continued to delight with a tour of the historic inn, a sunset schooner sail from its pier, and dinner in the Reading Room overlooking the water. Travelers journeyed south to Portland, where breakfast over Frenchman Bay, fresh lobster rolls, and a city-and-lighthouse tour delivered New England experiences before the group arrived in Kennebunkport.

There, the Colony Hotel and a trolley ride through town showcased the area's coastal charm, capped with a festive lobster bake on the hotel grounds. A scenic lobster tour became another favorite moment, offering close-up views of lighthouses, wildlife, and the Bush Compound.



From Acadia's cliffs to Kennebunkport's harbors, the week was filled with beauty, great food, and memorable moments. Maine proved to be a remarkable destination—and the MCC Foundation looks forward to the adventures ahead.



BONJOUR, FRANCE! TRAVEL WITH THE MCC FOUNDATION JULY 10 - 20



PARIS, BORDEAUX & NORMANDY: A PRIVATE MCC FOUNDATION TOUR

From the City of Light to the coastal beauty of Normandy, this exclusive 10-day journey invites you to savor the sights, flavors, and romance of France. Designed just for MCC Foundation travelers, this private experience offers flexibility, comfort, and unforgettable moments shared with friends – not strangers.

Your adventure begins with a **Paris pre-tour experience**, featuring:

- Dinner in the Eiffel Tower
- An evening Seine River dinner cruise
- A full-day trip to the Palace of Versailles

Then travel onward to explore France's most enchanting regions:

The Bordeaux Region

Wander fairy tale châteaux and vineyards. Enjoy private wine tastings and local cuisine. Relax and travel at your own pace.

The Normandy Coast

Visit the historic D-Day beaches. Reflect and explore with flexible time among your MCC group.

Every detail is arranged to let you immerse yourself in the best of France, from fragrant gardens and storied wineries to coastal charm and Parisian elegance.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE THIS TRIP

- Private tour exclusively for MCC Foundation participants
- Flexible itinerary - linger where you love, skip what you don't
- Personalized experience - travel with friends, not strangers
- Airfare: Choose your own flight or work with Corrigan Travel (estimated \$1,200-\$1,600 round trip)
- Price (Land Only): \$5,800 per person (double occupancy)
- Single occupancy pricing available upon request
- Deposit: \$500 non-refundable, due at registration

Seats are limited for this exclusive MCC experience; don't miss your chance to experience France at its finest!

For more information about future travel opportunities, visit meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel.

For more information or to register, call the MCC Foundation at 601.484.8612 or visit meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel/paris



MCC RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY STUDENT HONORED WITH FIRST ADRIAN MICHAEL HILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Meridian Community College student Macy Adams never thought the start of her final year of study in the Radiologic Technology Program would reveal a surprise that would help cover the cost of her education.

It would also connect deeply to her career goals.

Adams, 22, of Enterprise, is the first recipient of the Adrian Michael Hill Memorial Scholarship. This newly endowed scholarship, which is funded through the MCC Foundation, honors Hill, a nuclear medicine technologist for 22 years. Hill died in March 2025 after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

In announcing the scholarship and the recipient during Adams' class, Dr. Leia Hill, Adrian's widow and the vice president for institutional advancement and operations and executive director of the MCC Foundation, shared a little about her husband. "He absolutely loved what he did. It has been so meaningful to hear from his patients and colleagues after his passing—so many spoke about how his kindness made a lasting difference in their lives. It's a true testament to the person he was."

Adrian wanted his legacy to continue helping people, and a scholarship is one way to do that. It is awarded

to second-year students in the Radiologic Technology Program who show compassion, integrity, and a commitment to helping others – qualities that reflected Adrian's own life and work.

Adams said her own health battles shaped her career goals. "When I was younger, I had leukemia, and I wanted to give back," she said. "I'm drawn to mammography or radiation therapy - areas that deal more with cancer."

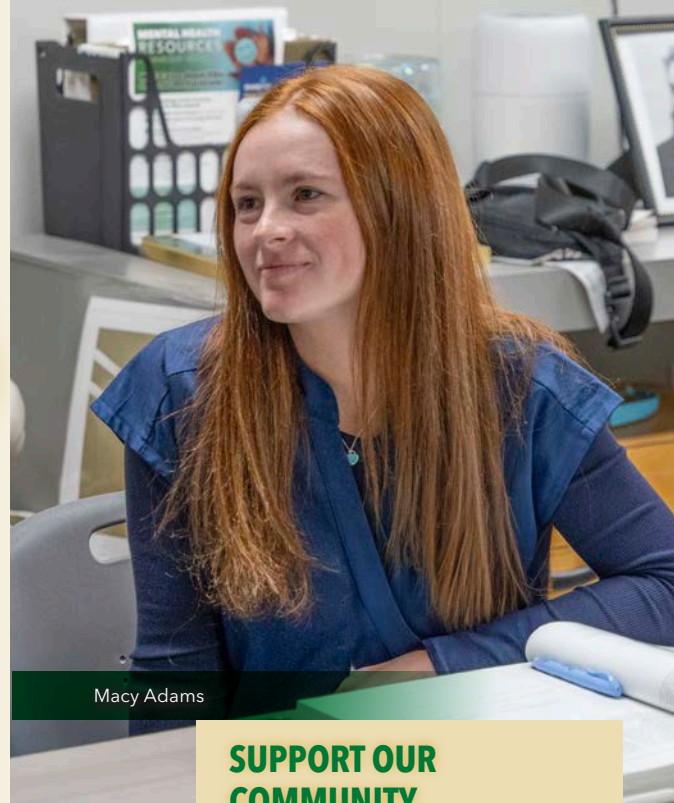
"I like that connection with the patient," she said.

Going to school full-time, Adams also works part-time at Baptist Anderson Regional Medical Center as a student tech in radiology and admits, "This scholarship means so much. This is huge."

Adams came to MCC after studying for two years at Northwest Community College. "I cheered there, but I just like being home." She began her studies at the MCC Radiologic Technology Program and plans to graduate in May.

This health care program consists of five consecutive semesters of training and is designed to prepare students for entry-level radiography.

For more information, visit meridiancc.edu/foundation.



Macy Adams

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



Adrian Michael Hill

MCC FOUNDATION ENDOWMENTS

FUEL STUDENT SUCCESS, COMMUNITY GROWTH

Endowed scholarships at Meridian Community College are built to last. Donors give to these funds, the money is invested, and each year the earnings help pay for student scholarships. That means a single gift can support students for generations.

Endowments come from many sources – individuals, families, businesses, and community groups. Some honor loved ones. Others support a field of study or help students from a certain hometown. No matter their purpose, these funds open doors and strengthen the community.

“MCC’s endowed scholarships are more than financial support. Every scholarship tells a story, and for most, it’s about honoring a person’s life and legacy,” said Dr. Leia Hill, vice president for institutional advancement and operations and executive director of the MCC Foundation. “Behind each named endowment is a heartbeat – a parent honoring a child, a family memorializing someone they loved, or a graduate giving back to the college that shaped their future.”

Today, the MCC Foundation manages more than 160 endowed scholarships.

BEBE ROBERTS FREEMAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Bebe Roberts Freeman Scholarship supports MCC students preparing for careers in education. Freeman, who died in 2007, was known as a dedicated teacher, a strong advocate for social justice, and a proud feminist. She taught for 30 years in schools across Meridian, Louisiana, Washington, D.C., and Ohio.

Freeman attended Meridian High School and spent one year at Meridian Junior College before earning degrees from Mississippi University for Women and the

University of Cincinnati. She loved learning and believed strongly in the role education plays in helping people reach their potential.

Her husband, Harry Freeman, said, “Bebe believed opportunity mattered. She would be thrilled to know her name helps future teachers build their careers.”

The Freemans also established previous MCC scholarships honoring family and friends, which have already supported dozens of students. This newly endowed scholarship continues that legacy by helping the next generation of educators.

REV. WAYNE EDWARDS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Before his passing in 2024, the Rev. Wayne Edwards spent his life serving others. He pastored churches in McCool, Little Rock, Eudora, Meridian, and Collinsville, and worked more than 42 years with the Mississippi Baptist Convention’s Baptist Children’s Village. He also taught biblical studies at MCC for 24 years.

The scholarship endowment, when it is fully funded, will support students who show leadership, community involvement, and an interest in Bible or theology courses.

CARLTON “CORKY” PALMER SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Carlton “Corky” Palmer left a lasting mark on the game of baseball. With a career coaching record of 946-493 across high school, community college, and Division I teams, he influenced generations of players.

Palmer coached the MCC Eagles from 1987 to 1996, leading the team

to the Division I JUCO World Series in Colorado. Later, at the University of Southern Mississippi, he guided his alma mater to the College World Series in Omaha. He is a member of several halls of fame and is remembered for caring as much about his players’ lives off the field as on it.

When this endowment is fully funded, it will support an MCC sophomore baseball player who shows leadership, a positive attitude, strong character, and a commitment to being a good teammate.

DR. THOMAS M. HUEBNER ENDOWMENT

The Dr. Thomas M. Huebner Endowment honors Meridian Community College’s president, whose work has shaped MCC and the wider community. Dr. Huebner holds degrees from Southwest Baptist University, the University of Georgia, and the University of Southern Mississippi, all in communication. Throughout his career, he has been recognized for excellence in teaching, leadership, and service.

The scholarship will support a student who has completed MCC’s ABE/GED program and is enrolling as a college student. It reflects Dr. Huebner’s belief in second chances, lifelong learning, and the power of education to change lives. This endowment is continuing to be funded.

To learn more or to create or to give to an endowment, visit meridiancc.edu/foundation.

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



MERIDIAN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FALL 2025 RECIPIENTS



DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

*Scholarships awarded as of 12/8/2025

ADN Donor Scholarship

Destini Keeton

Baptist Anderson Board of Directors Scholarship

Shannon Russell

Anderson Support and Development Foundation Scholarship

Katherine Bruner
Aisata Slaughter

Dr. William Jeff Anderson Memorial Scholarship

Makayla Feasel

Dr. William J. Anderson, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Tatiana Jennings

Dr. William J. Anderson, III Memorial Scholarship

Tausha Bianchi

Charles Armstrong Scholarship

Akeelah Davis
Margarita Gonzalez

AT&T Scholarship

Emeline Ayala
Kenzleigh Dearman

Laurie M. Autry Memorial Scholarship

Barbara Seals

C. B. Bailey Memorial Scholarship

Alexandria Hill
Connor McDill

Barnett All-America City Scholarship

Kittra Hudnall
Jonathan Parker

Leonard Corydon Barrell Family Scholarship

Blissany Bigbee
Xa'Zarria Blanks
Janiya Hill
Kameisha Houston

Shirley M. and Dr. John R. Berney Scholarship

Brittney Battle

Cameron Scott Boggan Memorial Scholarship

Mushula Tubby

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

Josthin Moreno, Jr.

Judie Bounds Memorial Scholarship

Anna-Leigh Purvis

Dr. Lemann H. and Wilma S. Bounds Scholarship

Destiny Chisolm
Jayla Powe

Harry & Vivian Boureau Music Scholarship

Haley Reynolds
Aidyn Way

Susan Partridge Boyette Memorial Scholarship

Morgan Campbell

Gloria Blackshear Brown High School Equivalency Scholarship

Isabella Brown

Fran and Wadell Byrd Memorial Scholarship

Ranisha Gentry

Madeline Scott Callahan Memorial Scholarship

Kiersten Hampton

Mark Chandler Memorial Scholarship

Makayla Ward

Alta and Ivan Chisolm Memorial Scholarship

Madelyn Parker

A. C. Johnson/Civitan Scholarship

Kalee Lathem
Macy Oliver
Havyn Riser

Coastal Television Scholarship

Oscar Fields

Justin and Brent Cobb Memorial Scholarship

Sydney Cooper

Robert F. Cochran, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Bruce McClung

Chuck Nicholson/Community Bank Veteran Scholarship

Keith Dailey

Winnie P. Crampton Nursing Scholarship

Shakea Winford

Linda and Marty Davidson Scholarship

Hannah Capello
Ben Cole, IV
Nykolis Stevens

L. J. Davis and Winifred Davis Memorial Scholarship

Mya Pruet
Landon Warren

Dental Hygiene Scholarship

Brittney Battle

Toni L. DeVaney Memorial Scholarship

Steven Lewis

Glen Deweese Scholarship

Ashlynn Lofton
Hannah Rogala
Zacaree Rupert

Dixie Highway High School Scholarship

Cooper Gordon
Madison Hayes
Adrian Houston
Kyle Parten

T. K. Dobbins, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Anders Jensen
Malerie Lee
Clara Lott

Downtown Optimist Club/Bill Herndon Memorial Scholarship

Markeita Hill
Sarah Joyner

Margaret Reed Dulaney Scholarship

Dantwaine Johnson
Aaliya Mendiola
Mary Margaret Stevens

Eagle Influencer Scholarship

Hannah Beddingfield
John Barry Boldin
Katherine Bruner
Ty'Rhiana Jeffery
Aaliya Mendiola
Joshua Randall
Faith Tillery
Jardashia Williams

Earnest Workers Circle of the International Order of King's Daughters and Sons Scholarship

Tazmine Hudnall

Susan M. Ellis Memorial Scholarship

Kaelyn Latting

William H. Entrekun Family Music Scholarship

Lauren Broome

Erika's Hope Memorial Scholarship

Blessing Igwe

Evans PTK Scholarship Award

Nicholas Lewis

Hugh and Katherine Foster Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Elizabeth Pryor

Bebe Roberts Freeman Scholarship

Rylee Turner

Jacob Chester Frist Memorial Scholarship

Kaylin Wright

Future Nurses Scholarship

Olivia Avera
Alexis Thornton

Gameday Operations Scholarship

Shadarion Washington
David Watkins

Nicholas Gianakos Memorial Scholarship

Derek Byrd
Bailey Cszasz
Daylon Horton
Riley Pate
Emma Patterson
Nathan Trochessett

Dottie and Hardy Graham, Sr. Scholarship

Christian Allen, Jr.
Hannah Beddingfield
Audrey Gibson
Anabelle Hodges
Graham Jackson
Elizabeth Shirley

Gayle Gray Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Felesia Faile
Hailey Wilborn

Jerry Greene Memorial Scholarship

Trinity Wilks

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

Latarisa Ray

Debbie Gunn Memorial Scholarship

Erika Gardner
Kloe Goodin

William Gunn, Esquire Memorial Scholarship

Hannah Burkhalter

Gene Haas Scholarship

James Alsobrooks
Sadler Blackwell
Bryson Drummond
Luke Ishee
Daniel Lane
Caleb Purvis
Jimmie Smith, III

Phil Hardin Foundation Scholarship

Sarah Katherine Bounds
Tafadzwa Chikomba

Lou Weddington Hart Memorial Scholarship

Gracie Wiggins

Mattie D. Hart/ Emma Donald Music Scholarship

Matthew Jackson
Scarlett Walker
Tiyanna Ward

Katherine Chisolm Hester and Lamar Hester Memorial Scholarship

Angel Buckley

Adrian Michael Hill Memorial Scholarship

Macy Adams

T. H. and Allie Hobgood Memorial Scholarship

Antoinette Brown
Samuel Hosch
Carley Pugh

Eddie Holladay Broadcast/Marketing Scholarship

William Patrick

Dr. Jeff Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship

Kambrianna Bailey

Richard Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship

Jayne Wilson

Paulette Aycock Hopkins Memorial Scholarship

Ashley Andrews

Catherine Hovious Nursing Scholarship

Demetria Fletcher
Shaqueria Polk
Madison Tullos

Linda and Billy Howard Computer Technology Scholarship

Jamal Wilkins

Richard Harper Howarth, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Caitlyn Gant

Dr. George Howell Nursing Scholarship

Sherwiana Lamb
Akira Myers

H.M. Ivy Scholarship

Hannah Buchanan
Holly Gillies
Katherine Hayes
Savannah Smith

Austin and Alice James Accounting Scholarship

Jason Guerrero Blanco
Nicholas Lewis

John and Ann Johnson Scholarship

Calleigh Chaudron
Elijah Collins

Reuben S. Johnson, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Matesha Johnson

Walter and Cora Thompson Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Timothy Adkins
Amalia Santiago

Wilton B. (Bill) Johnson Scholarship

Alexa Shirley

Howard and Jean Jones Industrial Technology Scholarship

Clay Shumate

Ann and Ken Joyner Book Scholarship

Samuel Burke
Daelyn Netto

Lucy Kahlmus Dental Hygiene Scholarship

Neena French

*Scholarships awarded as of 12/8/2025



FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

*Scholarships awarded as of 12/8/2025



Key Brothers Memorial Scholarship

Joshua Randall

Gondine Kittrell Memorial Scholarship

Chelsea Hillhouse

Prof. Howard Lane Memorial Scholarship

Alyssa Bland

Marcella and Hubert Langford Scholarship

Grace Wade

William and Dorothy Lerner Scholarship

Ariadna Magana
Linette Osuna

LFW Ministries Scholarship

Tyra Benoman

Stennis "Judge" Little Memorial Scholarship

Kloe Goodin
Shanice Price

Lockheed STEM Scholarship

Trevor Clayton

Jack Malone Memorial Scholarship

Donna Chaney

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

Madelyn Jones
Annaston Wallace

MCC Alumni and Friends Scholarship

Courtney Odom

MCCF Miscellaneous Scholarship

Daniel Jackson

Kathleen Newby McDaniel Memorial Scholarship

Sabrina Davis
Victoria Davis
Raylee Turk

Emily Louise McDonald Nursing Scholarship

Danielle Davis
Shaquana McAfee
Shawond Webster

Kelly Thompson McKee Memorial Scholarship

Angel Bloss

Percy R. McLemore Scholarship

Kellie McKinney

Medical Lab Technology Scholarship

Safrench Terry

Meridian Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship

Peyton Coleman

Meridian Area Dental Association Scholarship

Natalie Pierce
Riley Sheppard

Meridian Exchange Club/Bo Russell Memorial Scholarship

Emma Crocker
Milan Greer

Meridian Rotary Club Scholarship

Zeah Wilson

Mabel and S. Carl Merritt Scholarship

Addyson Hover
Yajaira Huebner
Haley Sims
Lilley Worthington

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**CONNECTIONS
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CONTRIBUTORS**

Jaycee Butler
Lifetime Quest and MCC Foundation
events coordinator

Brandy Hill
Associate vice president of operations
and foundation finance

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

Theresa Hogan
MCC Foundation scholarship
coordinator

Amy Miller
Lead graphic designer

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

Joy Smith
Communications coordinator

Kay Thomas
Director of public information

*Scholarships awarded as of 12/8/2025



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.



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