

THE *Legacy*  
EDITION



MERIDIAN  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION

*An Evening  
of Gratitude*

A look inside the  
MCC Foundation  
Celebration

# INSIDE THIS EDITION



02



10



14

- 1 **From the Executive Director** | Investing in hope
- 2 **Celebrating and Honoring** | Foundation pays tribute to its members
- 6 Lifetime Giving Recognition
- 8 President's Roundtable and Community Members
- 10 **MCC Alum Eric Butler** | Finds purpose in caring for patients
- 12 New E.L.C. Class
- 14 **MCC Alumna Jessica Anderson** | Builds career rooted in community, gratitude
- 16 Foundation Travel | Maine
- 17 Foundation Travel | A private tour
- 18 Radiologic Technology Scholarship | First student honored
- 19 Endowments | Fuel student success
- 20 Foundation Scholarships | Fall 2025 recipients



## MCC ADMINISTRATION

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

**Laureta Chisolm**  
Executive assistant to the president

**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.**  
Vice president for institutional advancement and operations and executive director of the MCC Foundation

**Eugene Perry**  
Vice president for financial services and chief financial officer

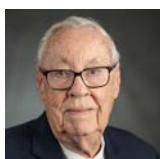
**Joseph Knight**  
Vice president for workforce solutions

**Michael Thompson**  
Vice president for academic affairs

## MCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Jamie Cater



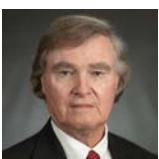
Tommy Dulaney



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.

## 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  
Eugene Perry, 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  
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

## ► 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

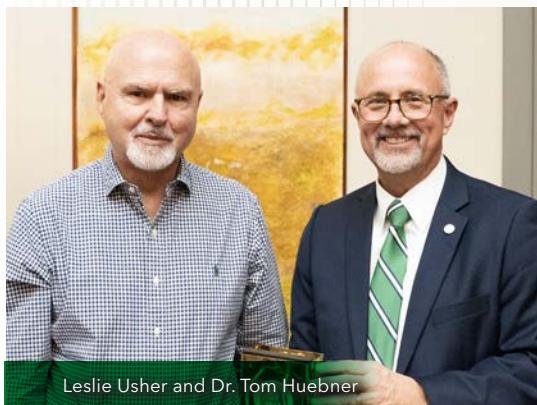
During the program, the Foundation recognized donors who reached new milestones in the Wings of Giving Society, which honors cumulative giving at the Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Emerald levels.

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.



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



Leslie Usher and Dr. Tom Huebner

***"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*

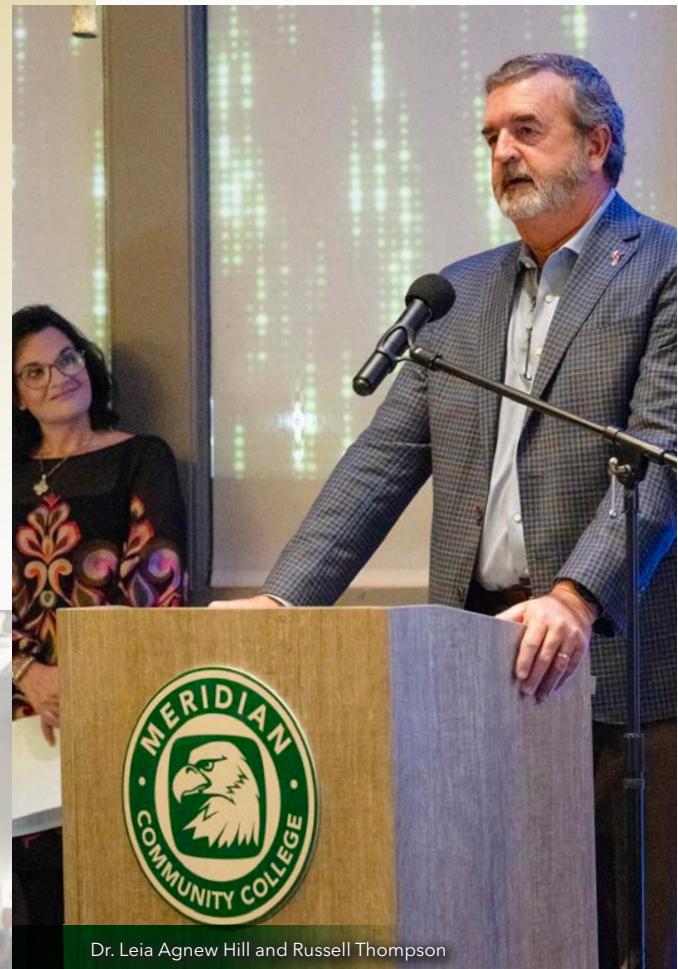


In loving memory  
of **GERRY PURVIS**

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

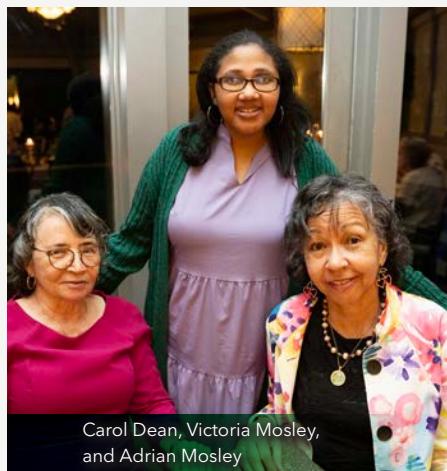




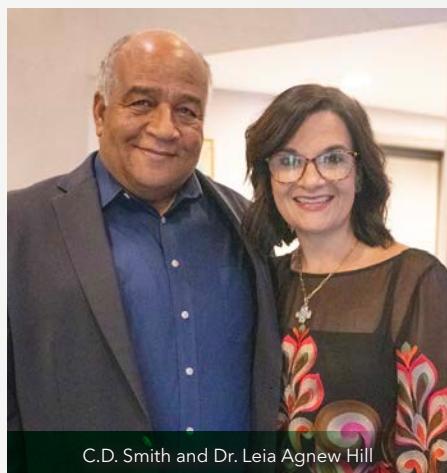
Bob and Penne Huff

Jackie McElphin and Jean Willis

Will Roland



Carol Dean, Victoria Mosley, and Adrian Mosley



C.D. Smith and Dr. Leia Agnew Hill



Madison Carr and Tara Shelton



Rhonda and Dr. Ray Denton

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



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**

# 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 Deweese 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 Stevenson & 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 &amp; B Communications, Inc.

A &amp; 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 &amp; 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 Entrekin

Estate of Margaret F. Butler

Estate of Sara and Sam Niemetz

Joyce and Myles Frank

Fruge' Oil Company

Glass, Inc.

**Shirley Nell Goodman**

H &amp; 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 &amp; Corey Realtors

Fred Poitevent

Quality Logistics Systems

Rea Shaw Giffin &amp; 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 &amp; 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  
 WTOK-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 Aycock  
 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  
 Carter'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  
 East Mississippi Business Development Corporation  
 Educational Furniture & Equipment Company  
 Patti Edwards  
 Engineering Plus  
 Morris and Daphne Etheridge  
 Don and Donia Evans  
 First Christian Church  
 First State Bank  
 Lean and George Follett  
 Joyce Frank  
 Fruge' Oil Company  
 G. McLeod Services, LLC  
 David Garner  
 Glass, Inc.  
 Great Southern Bank  
 Sherry Gunn  
 Maurice and Cathy Hall  
 Harriet and Gregory H Browne  
 Joel and Pam Harrison  
 Alan Hart

Wallace and Janet Heggie  
 Henderson Steel Corporation  
 Leia Hill  
 Honda of Meridian  
 Sonny 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  
 Alice James  
 Johnson Dodge Chrysler Jeep  
 Dwayne and Tracey Jones  
 Lucy Kahlmus  
 Mike Kattawar  
 Chuck Keigley  
 Alan and Lou Ann Lamar  
 Jimmy and Shannon Lang  
 Leading Edges  
 Michael J. Lee  
 Darryl and Donna Lewis  
 Little Caesars  
 Anne Malone  
 Bo and Jodie Marsalis  
 Bruce and Julie Martin  
 McDonald and Hill, Inc.  
 L. Ben McEachin  
 McGinnis Lumber Company, Inc.  
 Brian McMillan  
 Mark and Wanda McPhail  
 Meridian Area Dental Society  
 Anne Z. Meyer  
 Helen Meyer  
 Michael W. Hansen, Attorney At Law  
 Scott and Susie Morgan  
 MUNA Federal Credit Union  
 Nathan E. Daniels Roofing Company, Inc.  
 New South Ford  
 Norman Enterprises, Inc.  
 Ochsner Rush Volunteers  
 Bill and Beverly Pennington  
 Todd Pittman  
 Gail Price  
 Purvis Business Machines, Inc.  
 Quality Logistics Systems  
 RDT Metal Works, LLC  
 Bob and Karen Rea  
 Gail Riley  
 Robert Barham Family Funeral Home  
 Hilda Roberts  
 Anita Jo and Bill Ross  
 Linda Sanford  
 C. D. Smith  
 Southern Cast Products  
 Jesse Stephens  
 W. Kenneth and Virginia Stevens  
 Steven and Michelle Stokley  
 Swain, Collins & Napp, PA  
 Steve and Beth Tarrt  
 Terral Insurance, LLC  
 Michael and Pam Thompson  
 Toyota of Meridian  
 Trustmark  
 Van Zyverden, Inc.  
 John Voss

Chuck Walker  
 Patrick Warner  
 Waters International Trucks  
 Steve and Sheila Webster  
 Witherspoon & Compton

### Benefactor

A & B Communications, Inc.  
 Melody Allen  
 Jeff and Lynne Anderson  
 Earl and Jill Aycock  
 BCI LLC / eBen Consultants  
 Rodney Bell  
 Benefits Management Group  
 Scott and Laura Berry  
 David and Valerie Bishop  
 Janet Booth  
 Bowers Auto, Inc.  
 Ben and Bess Box  
 Kajuan Boyd  
 Cass Brown  
 Eric and Jaycee Butler  
 Chevron  
 Cobler's Cremation Services  
 Cokers Chapel United Methodist Church  
 Collinsville First Baptist  
 Jack Combest  
 Commercial Bank  
 Donna Creel  
 Wilhelmine Damon  
 Connie Coleman Davis Flory  
 Carol Dean  
 Tommy and Rebecca Dulaney  
 Elite Flooring, Inc.  
 Federico Baseball Camp, LLC  
 Shirley Nell Goodman  
 Chad and Chelsea Graham  
 Greater Pinebelt Community Foundation  
 Marilyn Greene  
 Harry Mayer, Inc.  
 Highland Baptist Church  
 Hilbun Electric Contractors, Inc.  
 Tooney and Brandy Hill  
 Allan and Theresa Hogan  
 Phillip and Bernice Holmes  
 David Huckaby  
 Scott and Rose Hudson  
 Bob and Penne Huff  
 Brian Hynniman  
 Barbara R. Jones  
 Richard K. Joyner  
 Ronnie Key  
 Joseph Knight  
 Dixie LaBruyere  
 Lane Burroughs Baseball, LLC  
 Lauderdale County School District  
 Jim and Chris Lauderdale  
 Leadership Lauderdale  
 Sherry Leggett  
 Parker Manley  
 Rhianna McClellan  
 John and Sylvia McEachin  
 Casey McElhenney  
 James and Linda McKelroy  
 Connye Meredith  
 Meridian Cycles - Honda Suzuki  
 Meridian Media Group, LLC  
 Kevin Miller  
 Jason and Michelle Moak

Marlynne Moore  
 Morgan Tile Carpet One  
 M'Prints Promotional Products  
 Jimmie and Ann Orr  
 Jeff and Jennifer Prejean  
 Pretty Presentations Catering, Inc.  
 James Price  
 Read Bama Read  
 Julia Reece  
 Michael and Stephanie Reed  
 Laura M. Reinstatler  
 Robbie and Sylvia Dreyfus  
 Perry Rogers  
 Rotary Club of Meridian  
 San Marcos Mexican Restaurant  
 Sara "Sally" Scaggs  
 Cindy Kane  
 Robert and Cynthia Sharp  
 Bill and Harriet Simmons  
 Simply Sweet, LLC  
 Southern Business Supply  
 Southern Pipe and Supply Company, Inc.  
 Jerri Lynn Spears  
 Wallace Strickland  
 Dancy and Brad Sykes  
 Anna Roberts and John Tettleton  
 Thomas Refrigeration of Meridian, LLC  
 Transmission Service, Inc.  
 Truckers' Supply, Inc.  
 Carolyn Vick  
 Wayne Raley Construction  
 Bo and Miranda Welch  
 Gary and Sally Wilkinson  
 Pete and Jean Willis  
 Woodstock Furniture  
 World of Flowers

### Grand Patron

The Evans Family and Friends  
 Helen Blanks Abraham  
 Al's Garden & Gift  
 Animal Medical Supply  
 David and Ava Barr  
 Kelli Bounds  
 Cedric and Angela Bradley  
 Nedra L. Bradley  
 Ruby R. Brown  
 Von and Cindy Burt  
 Joel and Gayle Callahan  
 Jami Capello  
 Chapman Plumbing Company, Inc.  
 Charles Ledbetter Forestry Consultant, Inc.  
 Jeff and Lara Collum  
 Corrigan Travel Agency, Inc.  
 Wendy Cox  
 Holly Crane  
 Christopher Drew Edwards  
 Ellis Optical Shoppe  
 Florence High School Booster Club  
 Barry Germany  
 Kelley Gonzales  
 Tommy and Joy Greer  
 Lorrie Gunn  
 Mike Hayes  
 Dan and Tammy Henderson  
 Frances Hinton  
 Krys Holifield  
 Stephanie Holifield

Jason and Phyllis Holladay  
Ida Holliday, PhD.  
John and Jeanette Howell  
Richard and Sarah James  
Sheila Johnson  
Imogene Joyner  
Kevin Kennedy  
L J Candy Company  
Lucy Lambirth  
Robert and Lee Loeb  
Robert Logan  
David and Jean Makey  
Jeff and Ethel Ann McCoy  
Barbara McDonald  
Meridian Coach & Travel, Inc.  
Judith and Ronnie Miller  
Missionscape  
Mowdy Cabinetry, LLC  
Joey and Jeannette Murphey  
Piggly Wiggly of Collinsville  
William and Courtney Pitts  
Kelly Prather  
Prospect Presbyterian Church  
Skip and Brenda Scaggs  
Charles and Theresa Scales  
Tara Shelton  
Tori Shelton  
Tom and Page Sikes  
Hank and Stephanie Singley  
Donnie and Betty Smith  
Linda G. Smith  
Rhonda O. Smith  
State Farm Companies Foundation  
Till-Newell Animal Hospital  
Debbie Greer Tucker  
Weidmann's  
Kristi Williamson  
Womack Paint Contractor  
Rufus and Dawn Wright  
Ralph Young

#### Patron

The Carter Foundation  
The Rustler, Inc.  
5 Degrees Branding, LLC  
601 Sports Meridian  
Troy Adams  
James and Wendi Alsobrooks  
Sander Atkinson  
Ron and Linda Barham  
Kathy Harmon Baxter  
Ray and Marsha Beasley  
Renee Benett  
Stanley Bishop  
Bishop's Body Shop, LLC  
Michael and Julie Booth  
Tony Boutwell  
Mitch and Christi Brantley  
Curtis Brown  
Glenda Busbea  
Carter Miller Associates  
Deandra Carter-Hosey  
Jamie and Catherine Chandler  
Chris Charnes  
Sandy H. Clark  
Collinsville Drugs, Inc.  
Steven and Tracy Cooksey  
Barbara Crudup  
Dee's Automotive  
Wendy Dobbins  
Edwin and Betty Downer  
Eddie and Suzie Gibson

Otis and Dorothy Gowdy  
Jaime Grammer  
Scott and Dawn Gray  
Robin Gunn  
Lily Hatampa-Fleming  
Michelle Heidelberg  
Sherrod Hines  
Pamela Hunt  
Donna Jill Johnson  
Jones Cleaners  
Christopher King  
Kingdom InfluenceHER Foundation  
Richard L. Knox, Jr.  
Laird Hospital Employees  
Lakeshore Transport, LLC  
Frederick and Victoria Liddell  
David and Sandra Little  
Vicki Lockhart  
Frances and Sam Long  
Lost Pizza Co.  
Mac Trucking  
Lisa Matlock  
Joshua and Andrea May  
Paula McCalister  
Phillip McCalister  
Lee and Karen Meyer  
Midway Baptist Church  
Gene and Tammy Miles  
Chase Moore  
Morrison Welding, LLC  
Eric Morrow and Family  
Mr. Sandless Wood Floor  
Refinishing  
Jacob Munn  
John and Sarah Mutziger  
Bill and Meryl Lee Nunnery  
Melissa Pace  
K.T. Pearson  
Ronnie and Pam Posey  
Traveling Light Photobooth  
David and B.J. Ray  
James Runnels  
Michael and Sheri Shelby  
Southern AGCredit FLCA  
Crystal Sterling  
Derrick and Whitney Stevens  
Suzette Sullivan  
Flora Sumrall  
Billy Tadlock  
George and Glenda Thomas  
Total Pain Care, LLC  
Melanie Trochessett  
Josh and Kammi Turner  
William and Lee Ann Vicars  
Robert Ward  
Eric Washington  
Jason and Kristi Watson  
Alex and Ann Weddington  
Faith Hopper Westby  
Jennifer D. Whitlock  
Duffee and Alatha Williams  
Lee Williams  
Tommy Winston

#### Associate

The Insurance Center  
Ace Hardware  
Bobby and Andi Adams  
Gloria Adams  
Heather Ammon  
Michael Artman  
Katie Autry

B&H Farming  
Robert and Missy Bailey  
Darren Bane  
Berneice Barham  
Deborah Barras  
Jim and Carol Bass  
Cindy Belcher - State Farm  
Austin and Barbara Bishop  
Gary and Barbara Boone  
Darren and Lorie Borne  
Rebecca and Dale Borne  
Robert and Nancy Boswell  
Amy Bott  
John Bounds  
Constance Bradley PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC  
The Briggs Family  
Alan and Marilyn Brown  
Norris and Barbara Burnside  
Jonathan and Angie Carraway  
Cleo's Asphalt  
Timothy and Margarette Cole  
Coleman & Co. Certified Public Accountant  
Robert and Rosemary Connor  
Linda Cooper  
Patricia Corey  
Renee Cotton  
Jason and Barbara Craft  
Rickey and Leisa Creel  
Anthony D'Angelo  
Richard and Jody Dantin  
Esta Nell Davis  
Dayna Dewitt  
Kristy Dickerson  
Robert Dilworth  
Melissa Duke  
Esthetics Unlimited  
Keith and Kristy Ethridge  
Eye Care Associates, P.A.  
Randy and Emily Farmer  
Douglas Faulkner  
Arnold Feinstein  
Marmion L. Francis  
Sara Frederic  
Jansen Freeman  
Katrina Garrett  
Chip Gayden  
Jim and Patti George  
Amber Germany  
Larry Goodman  
Deanna Gray  
Shelton Griffin  
Marcia Griffis  
Brad Grinstead  
John and Martha Halbrook  
Glenn and Robyn Hancock  
Christopher Haralson  
Laura Nichole Harden  
Mallory Hardy  
Becky Higginbotham  
Hill Real Estate Group, LLC  
Patricia Hoffman  
House of Flowers, LTD  
Diane Hudson  
Phillip and Carol Husband  
Dwight and Laura Hyche  
I Just Have To Have It  
Alvin Jackson, Sr.  
Donald and Kathy Jackson  
John and Marilyn Jackson  
Angela Hollingsworth James

Jeffery Wilson State Farm Agency, Inc.  
Lisa Jenkins  
Dr. Melanie Jones  
Sherri Kimbrow  
Jerome and Lisa Kittrell  
Rosanne Knight  
Denise Knost  
Mary Ann Krauss  
Mary Beth Kynerd  
Melinda LeBlanc  
Stoney Linn  
Long Cleaning Solutions, LLC  
Lowell Martin  
Kristin Mayatt  
Cathy McFerrin  
Mary McLendon  
Meridian Animal Care Center  
Matthew Milner  
Mississippi Automotive Manufacturers Association  
Mississippi Polymers, Inc.  
Charlene Mitchell  
Christina Mobley  
Cotton and Frances Moffett  
Moffetrx, LLC  
Thad and Kim Moore  
Laura Lea Morrow  
Moss Law Firm, PLLC  
Ryan Mounce  
Charles and Linda Munoz  
Jan L. Murphy  
Jordan Murray  
N. MS Industrial Development Association  
Deborah Nettles  
Terrell Nicholson Taylor  
Vanessa Norman  
Northwest MS Community College Foundation  
Steve and Elna Owen  
Pampered Bodies, LLC  
Matt and Vicki Parden  
Jade Parkes  
Jarrod Parks  
Janet Farrow Parrett  
Paige Pennington  
Angie Pickard  
Brandi Childers Pickett  
Mike and Janice Poole  
Marsha Price  
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](http://meridiancc.edu).



Eric Butler

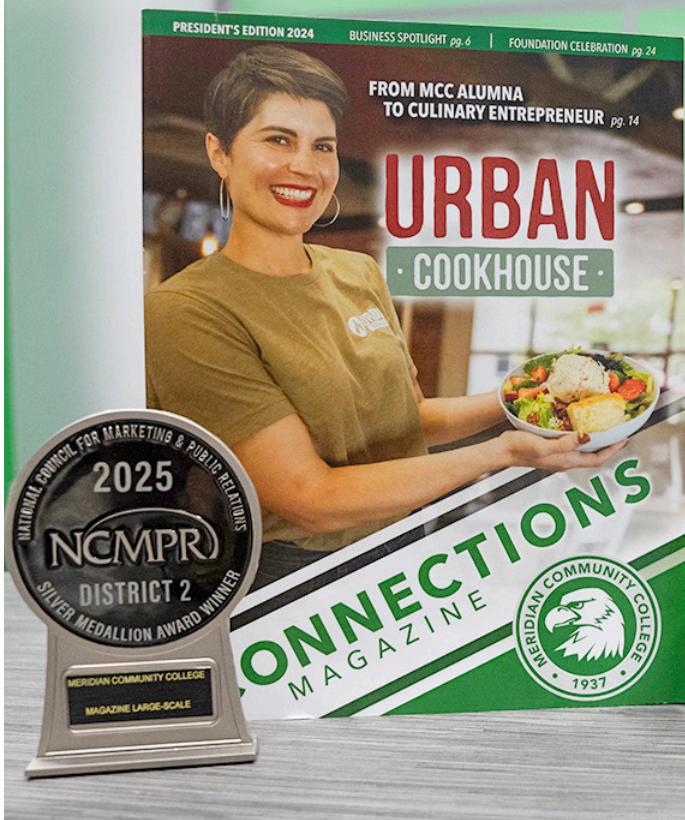
# MCC TEAM

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](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).

# 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.



For more information about future travel opportunities, visit [meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel](http://meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel).

# 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.

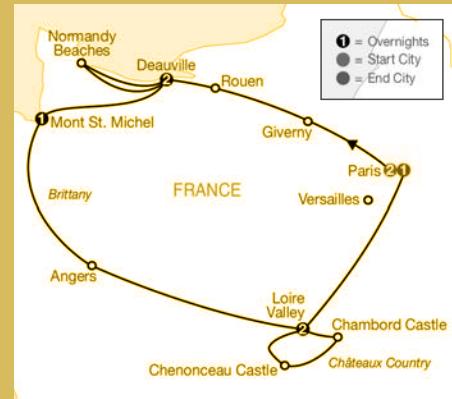
Every detail is arranged to let you immerse yourself in the best of France, from fragrant gardens and storied wineries to coastal charm and Parisian elegance.

### 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 or to register, call the MCC Foundation at 601.484.8612 or visit [meridiancc.edu/foundationtravel/paris](http://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."

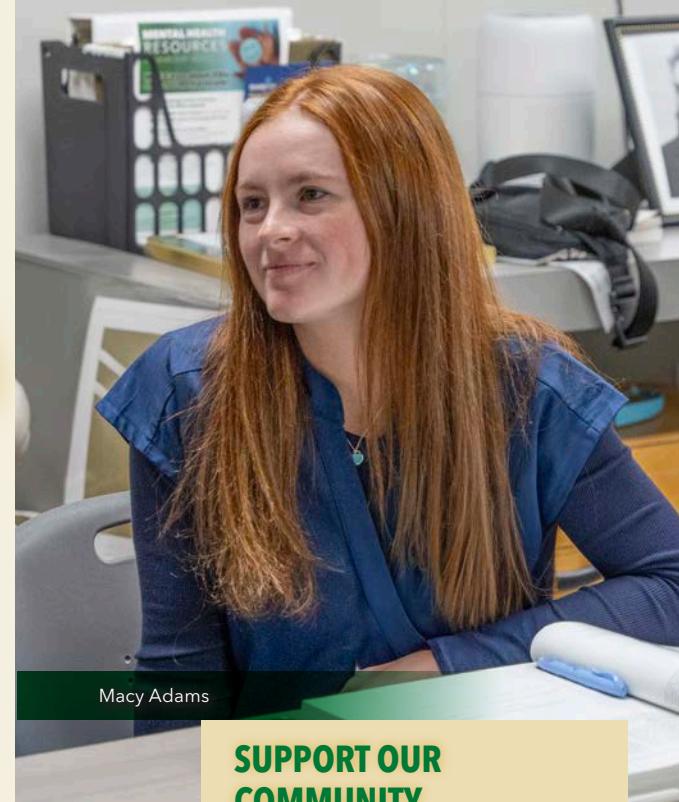
Adams came to MCC after studying for two years at Northwest Community College. "I cheered there, but I just like being home." She began her studies at the MCC Radiologic Technology Program and plans to graduate in May.

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](http://meridiancc.edu/foundation).



Adrian Michael Hill



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



# 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](http://meridiancc.edu/foundation).**

# FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



## FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FALL 2025 RECIPIENTS



\*Scholarships awarded as of 12/8/2025

## DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

### 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

Tatiyana Jennings

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

Tausha Bianchi

### Charles Armstrong Scholarship

Akeelah Davis  
Margarita Gonzalez

### AT&T Scholarship

Emeline Ayala  
Kenleigh 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

### Madeleine 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 Pruitt  
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. Entrekin 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**

Shadaron Washington  
David Watkins

**Nicholas Gianakos Memorial Scholarship**

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

**Dottye 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

## Richard L. Meyer Memorial Scholarship

Chase Chandler

## MHS Class of 1978 Scholarship

Zybreun Horn

## Thomas Y. Minniece Memorial Scholarship

Matias Miyahira

## Mississippi Board of Nursing Scholarship

Kamibrianna Bailey  
Earisene Bigsby  
Treasure Cleveland  
Alexis Cole  
Tomika Darby  
Laurel Davidson  
LaTowina Davis  
Adrienne Edwards  
Alondrea Edwards  
Felesia Faile  
Ranisha Gentry  
Thelma Hall  
Jade Matfey  
Erica McCaskill  
Ashley Miller  
Anesa Moore  
Sarah Moore  
Auja Phillips  
Shanice Price  
Akeila Scott  
Aime Stewart  
Madison Tullos  
Erica Williams  
Shannon Yarborough

## 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

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

Destini Haney

## Joyce Morrison Memorial Scholarship

Angel Jefferson

## National Board for Respiratory Care Scholarship

Brianna Curtis  
Cahnesiyah Donald  
Laquita Duff  
Chiquita Holcombe  
Jacqueline Lee  
Daveyonia Loyd  
Jekelcy Montgomery  
Joslyn Otto  
Nadiya Robinson-Doss  
Savannah Sims

## Ruth Van Dyke Nelson Memorial Scholarship

Reine Akombo  
Autumn Gilland  
Gavin Thurman

## Virginia Price Nelson Scholarship

Na'Kosha Adams

## Sara and Sam Niemetz Memorial Scholarship

Matthew Jackson

## Gloria Nuckolls Memorial Scholarship

Carolyn Palmer

## Tanya Ocampo Memorial Scholarship

Shelby Rhodes

## Alexander Ott/The Crossings Memorial Scholarship

Jazmine Butler  
Trinity Robertson

## Katherine G. Perry Memorial Scholarship

Takiriel Stapleton

## Pioneer Classes Scholarship

Keyani Grace

## Rev. George Pugh Memorial Hospitality Scholarship

Rendell Allen, Jr.  
Kaleigh Griffith  
Kiya Maye  
Cinthia Silva-Palacios

**Gerry Wayne Purvis Scholarship**  
Eli Swearingen

**C. B. "Dough" & Alice Rawlings Scholarship**  
Raven Jones

**Rea, Shaw, Giffin, and Stuart Scholarship**  
Lydia Wilson

**Recycled and Renewed/Second Chance Scholarship**  
Shanderica Thompson

**Elizabeth Riley Memorial Scholarship**  
Memorie Warren  
Kendaisha Price  
B'Anca Wallace  
Kayli Warren

**Richard F. Riley, M.D. Scholarship**  
Ethan Bassett  
Matthew Driskill  
Shaniua Edmonds  
Rico Lott, Jr.

**William G. Riley, M.D. Memorial Scholarship**  
Daveyonia Loyd

**Miriam Roberson Nursing Scholarship**  
Kilah Dearman  
Adrienne Edwards

**Ardell Moffett Rogers Memorial Scholarship**  
Tatiana Stanley

**I. A. Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship**  
Brady Branstetter  
Ridge Brown

**Lucile Reisman Rosenbaum Scholarship**  
Alondra Arreola-Espino

**Royalty Education Scholarship**  
Chloe Keeton

**S.E.E. Line Worker Scholarship**  
Hayden Backus  
David Cooley  
Jacob Hostetler  
Tyson Lucky  
Caleb Peters  
Daniel Swain

**Melvin Sanderford Memorial Scholarship**  
Brett Busbea

**Big and Ham Sanders Memorial Scholarship**  
Rosina Burford

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

Corea Brown  
Stephanie Hodges

**Doris and Cecil Seale Memorial Scholarship**  
Tiara Sims

**Daniel P. and Ruby Self Scholarship**  
Presley Black  
Mollie Mitchell

**Jack Shank History Scholarship**  
Jon Ivy

**Andy Sharp EMS Memorial Scholarship**  
Michael Addy

**Jackie Bates Slay Memorial Scholarship**  
Emma Murray

**Lee Anne Smith Memorial Scholarship**  
Jaylon Blackmon

**Maude Smith Scholarship**  
Karlee Pierce

**Margaret and Bill Smylie Scholarship**  
Rodnesha Gulley

**Structural Steel Services Scholarship**  
Eliel Aldana

**Structural Steel Services Scholarship**

Kalli Carrillo  
Sabrina Ivy  
Tyson Lucky

**A. Wayne Sullivan, M.D. Memorial Scholarship**  
Elam Davis  
Celeste Sharpe

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

**Dr. Dan Thornton, Jr. Memorial Nursing Scholarship**  
Ashley Miller

**Mae Carroll Thornton Scholarship**

Taylor Manasco  
Darnecia Spencer

**Jacob Toney Memorial Scholarship**

Lindzi Harris  
Anna Spooner

**Jacob Touchstone MLT Scholarship**  
Haley Coody

**Twentieth Century Club Scholarship**  
Madison Brent

**Upward Bound Scholarship**  
Myneshia Scott

**Bob and Barbara Walker Scholarship**  
Kalyn Post

**Les Wallace Memorial Scholarship**  
Mason Goodman

**Waters Family Scholarship**  
Adrian Houston  
Kyle Parten

**Norma Rawlings Webb Scholarship**  
Monica Ivy

**Tommy Webb Business Scholarship**  
Conner Bourg  
Cadon Goodman  
Gabriel Ward

**White Family Foundation Scholarship**  
Ashley Burkeen  
Nadia Noguera Ortega  
Barbara Seals  
Alexis Cole

**Mavis Williams Memorial Scholarship**  
Nadia Noguera-Ortega

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

Emma Bearden  
MaLeah Ellis  
Anna McCary  
Rebekah Reynolds

**W. C. Winstead Scholarship**  
Jordan Wilson

**WTOK-TV Broadcast Communication Scholarship**  
Dillon Turner

**Ralph E. Young, Sr. Memorial Scholarship**  
Legend Nave

\*Scholarships awarded as of 12/8/2025



**CONNECTIONS MAGAZINE 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



## 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](http://meridiancc.edu/halloffame)