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Tennessee State University Women's Center

2024

Women of Legend and Merit Awards April 16 2024

Tennessee State University

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THANK YOU!

Thank you for gracing us with your presence at the 2024 Women of Legend and Merit event. Your attendance added immense value to the celebration, and your support for the honorees and our mission of empowerment is deeply appreciated. We are grateful for your commitment to recognizing the achievements of exceptional women and look forward to your continued involvement in our endeavors.



Sophia A. Nelson
Guest Speaker

Annual *Women of* Legend & Merit

TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH, 2024

Private Reception 6pm | Awards Dinner 7pm

2024 HONOREES:



Dr. Adrienne Battle



Sharon Roberson, Esq



Sondrea Tolbert, J.D.



Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell



Dr. Carolyn Baldwin Tucker



Charlane Oliver



TSU Women's Center

MUSIC CITY CENTER
KARL F. DEAN GRAND BALLROOM
201 Rep. John Lewis Way South
Nashville, TN 37203



In honor of our cherished colleague

The Latrisha Stewart Jemison Endowed Scholarship Fund

Few people impacted the lives of those around her like Latrisha Stewart Jemison. Committed to spreading hope and help, Latrisha was devoted to her family, her faith and to serving as a force for good. Today, guided by her legacy of leadership and service, we're honored to introduce the \$100,000 Latrisha Jemison Scholarship for single moms at Tennessee State University. We're grateful for the opportunity to advance the positive work Latrisha championed.



Latrisha Stewart Jemison

A tireless advocate for the people across Nashville and beyond.

Congratulations to all of this year's Women of Legend and Merit honorees.

regions.com



President Glenda Glover

Dear Honorees and Guests:

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Tennessee State University, I would like to welcome you to the 15th annual celebration of women, the Women of Legend and Merit Awards. This year's theme is: "Extraordinary Women Living Legendary Lives" and this year's list of honorees, who represent the categories of Education, Religion, Leadership and Government truly exemplifies this theme. Added to these special honorees are the recipients for the Strength, Courage and Commitment award and the Lifetime Achievement award.

I extend a warm welcome to our guest speaker and award-winning author, journalist and motivational speaker, Ms. Sophia Nelson. I am sure that her message will inspire each of us to pursue our dreams and live fulfilled, purpose-driven lives.

Today's honorees recognize that they stand on the shoulders of many who came before them paving their path, and they are eager to support those who are coming after them. They represent inspiration to other young women who are witnessing the dynamic achievements and unyielding commitments that are common among these Women of Legend and Merit. I also congratulate this year's "Rising Star" scholarship recipients, sophomore Mya Wortham, an Exercise Science major, and junior Quentesha White, who is pursuing her undergraduate degree in Criminal Science.

Thanks to our sponsors whose generous support makes this evening possible. Special thanks go to our 2024 chair, Ms. Seanne Wilson, the Women of Legend and Merit Award Committee, and the entire TSU Women's Center Advisory Board for their work in planning this wonderful affair. Most of all, I thank all of you – our attendees – for your continued support of this event and the work we are doing at TSU that positively impacts the lives of young women.

Enjoy the program!

Sincerely,

Dr. Glenda Glover
President





Seanne Wilson

Chair, 2024 Women of Legend and Merit Committee
Director, TSU Women's Center

Dear Esteemed Women of Legend and Merit Honorees and Distinguished Guests,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Women of Legend and Merit Awards dinner and celebration at Tennessee State University. As we mark the fifteenth year of honoring exceptional women, we reflect on the profound significance of this milestone. Fifteen symbolizes positive change and empowerment across various facets of life, from leadership and wisdom to relationships and love. It signifies a journey towards the realization of God's plan and embodies values pertinent to family, peace, and joy.

Tonight, we gather to celebrate Honorees whose professional accomplishments, community engagement, and spiritual leadership have profoundly impacted the Nashville community. Despite facing myriad challenges, these women have demonstrated resilience and determination in overcoming obstacles, both personal and systemic. Their commitment to breaking barriers and paving the way for future generations of women is truly inspiring. We take great pride in witnessing their triumphs as they shatter glass ceilings and strive for excellence.

I extend heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed keynote speaker, Ms. Sophia A. Nelson, whose insights and wisdom guide us on a path of healing and growth. I also express profound appreciation to our 8th President, Dr. Glenda Glover, whose leadership over the past decade has been invaluable. Furthermore, I extend sincere thanks to our generous sponsors whose continued support enables us to provide mentorship, leadership, and personal development opportunities for women. The success of the Women's Center is a testament to the dedication of leaders in Student Affairs, including Dean Frank Stevenson, Dr. Stacey Walker, and Dr. Brent Dukhie.

I commend the exceptional work of the Women of Legend and Merit Award Committee, the TSU Women's Center Advisory Board, and the Women's Center Ambassadors for their tireless efforts in organizing this event and ensuring its success.

Tonight, as we come together to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women, let us reaffirm our commitment to empowerment and progress.

Brenda Gilmore

Mistress of Ceremony



Brenda Gilmore, a dedicated public servant, was elected State Senator for Tennessee's District #19 in November 2018. Prior to her current role, she served as a Metro Council Woman and represented District #54 in the Tennessee General Assembly for twelve years. With a wealth of experience, Brenda has also held notable positions in the private sector, including nearly twenty years as Director of University Mail Services at Vanderbilt University, as well as roles such as Loan Officer at Fidelity Federal Savings & Loan Association and Director of the Postal Services Division for the State of Tennessee.

Senator Gilmore's academic journey includes earning a Bachelor of Science in Business from Tennessee State University and a Master's degree from Vanderbilt University. Beyond her professional achievements, Brenda's commitment to community service is exemplary. She has served on various boards and committees, including the John F. Kennedy Susan Gray School for Children, Margaret Cunningham Women's Center, and the United Negro College Fund Volunteer Committee.

Passionate about women's advocacy, Brenda has chaired organizations like CABLE and played a significant role in events such as the Women's March 2018. Her dedication to empowering marginalized communities has earned her numerous awards and recognitions, including induction into the Public Education Hall of Fame and accolades from organizations like the YWCA and NOAH.

Brenda's personal life is equally fulfilling. She and her husband, Harry, have been married for over 50 years and have one daughter, Erica Gilmore, who serves as Metro Nashville Trustee, and a granddaughter, Anyah Gilmore Jones. Brenda remains an active member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, where her faith fuels her passion for addressing issues affecting the disadvantaged, women, and children. Her tireless efforts continue to make a profound impact on the lives of many, embodying the spirit of servant leadership and advocacy.



Maya Worthem

Maya Worthem, born in Alexandria, Virginia in 2004, grew up in the Washington, D.C Metropolitan with her 9 siblings. Currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science and a minor in Personal Training at Tennessee State University, Maya is passionate about health, wellness, and community. Engaged in TigerFit and volunteering at events like Breast Cancer Awareness Fair and Girls On The Run 5K, Maya is dedicated to academic excellence and making a positive impact in the Human Health System. Committed to generational wealth and community service, Maya aims to empower others to achieve their goals while embracing new challenges and growth opportunities at TSU.



Quentesha White

Quentesha White, hailing from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, serves as President of the TSU Women's Center while pursuing a Criminal Justice degree as a Junior. As a first-generation student and three-time Dean's list scholar, she embodies dedication and academic excellence. Joining the Women's Center as a freshman Ambassador, Quentesha's commitment led her to the Leadership TSU program, nominated by Ms. Seanne Wilson. Engaged in community service, she's earned recognition for her leadership. Nominated for the National Society of Leadership and Success, Quentesha balances academics with a work-study position since her freshman year. Currently interning at Nashville Juvenile Court, she aspires to attend law school, guided by Jeremiah 29:11.

Alyssa Johnson
Miss Women's Center

Jasmyne Choate
Women's Center Secretary

Canerica Johnson
Women's Center Ambassador

Courtney Cannon
Women's Center Ambassador

Cinyah Dotson
Women's Center Ambassador

Shelby Burruss
Women's Center Ambassador

Paige Thacker
Women's Center Ambassador

Brittany Awuah
Women's Center Ambassador

Skylar Moore
Women's Center Ambassador

Taylor Driver
Women's Center Ambassador

Jasmine Watkins
Women's Center Ambassador

Amyia White
Women's Center Ambassador

Dylan Stevens
Women's Center Ambassador

Jeniah Singh
Women's Center Ambassador

MariaNeasha Gray
Women's Center Ambassador

Order of Program

Processional of Honorees.....Name of Person
 Prayer & Meditation.....Rev. Kelli X, M.Div.
 Director of Racial Justice Ministries at Scarritt Bennett Center

Greetings..... Dr. Glenda Glover
 8th President
 Tennessee State University

Introduction of Mistress of Ceremony.....Victoria Renee McRae

Mistress of Ceremony..... Mrs. Brenda Gilmore
 Former Tennessee State Senator

Occasion/Overview..... Name of Person
 Dinner & Music
 Music City Center

Women's Center Video Presentation

Rising Stars

Miss Maya Worthem
 Alexandria, Virginia
 Sophomore
 Miss Quentesha White
 Tuscaloosa, Alabama
 Junior

Sponsors Presentation.....Tennessee State University Foundation

HCA
 REGIONS BANK

Salute to HonoreeMrs. Christiane Buggs
 CEO
 Pencil President &

Education - Dr. Adrienne Battle

Salute to Honorees.....Women of Legend and Merit Committee

Leadership - Mrs. Sharon Roberson JD.
 President & CEO
 YWCA Nashville and Middle Tennessee

Salute to HonoreeWomen of Legend and Merit Committee

Lifetime Achievement - Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell
 Executive Director
 Enterprise Systems Interdisciplinary Program and Professor of Communications

Salute to Honorees..... Women of Legend and Merit Committee

Religion - Rev. Sondrea L. Tolbert, J.D., M.Div.
 Executive Director - Scarritt Bennett Center
 Assistant Pastor - Fairfield Missionary Baptist Church

Salute to Honorees..... Women of Legend and Merit Committee

Woman of Strength, Courage, and Commitment -
 Dr. Caroline Baldwin Tucker
 Retired, Metro Council Member
 Principle, Metropolitan Nashville Schools

Introduction of Guest Speaker.....Women of Legend and Merit Committee

Guest Speaker.....Ms. Sophia A. Nelson
 Award Winning Author, Commentator, Journalist, Speaker

Special Presentations.....Dean Frank Stevenson

President
 Associate Vice-
 Student Affairs Division

Mayor Freddie O'Connell
 Tenth Mayor
 Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Tennessee

Remarks.....Dr. Glenda Glover

8th President
 Tennessee State University

Committee Members



Event History

The Women of Legend and Merit Awards has become a signature event in support of the Women's Center at Tennessee State University. It is designed to raise awareness as well as funding in support of the TSU Women's Center. Since its inception, nearly 40 women have been honored and have received the exclusive "glass slipper" award signifying the delicacy, class and valuable characteristics of women.

A small group of passionate, but powerful and committed women were assembled on campus to make this dream a reality, resulting in the inaugural Women of Legend and Merit Awards Dinner being held March 2007. Through the years, the response from the university and community has been outstanding.

That first awards program led to the development of the TSU Women's Center on campus. Just two months after the inaugural Women of Legend and Merit event, the groundwork for a Women's Center on campus began as an effort to give female students the resources they need to succeed in and outside of the classroom.



Sophia A. Nelson

Guest Speaker

Sophia A. Nelson, Esquire, is a highly regarded and award-winning author, journalist, and distinguished international motivational speaker.

Renowned for her perceptive columns on CNN Opinion and her weekly appearances on CNN, where she offers expert legal and political analysis, Nelson boasts a background as a former Adjunct Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Big 10 Law Firm Senior Counsel and Capitol Hill Congressional Committee Counsel.

She is widely recognized as a Scholar, Lecturer, and Panel Moderator at prestigious academic institutions such as Harvard's Kennedy School, Bowdoin College, Depauw University, University of Indiana-Bloomington and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the United States. Nelson has been featured on prominent national programs such as Morning Joe, The Today Show, Nightline, and NPR. A trailblazer in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, women's workplace wellness, and Emotional Intelligence (EIQ), she serves as a respected curator and trainer in corporate leadership and human resources development.

Collaborating closely with Fortune 100 companies, Nelson has left a significant impact on global diversity and workplace wellness practices, extending her influence as far as Sydney, Australia. With four bestselling non-fiction works to her name, including "Black Woman Redefined," "The Woman Code," "ePluribus One," and her latest 2022 publication, "Be the One You Need: 21 Life Lessons I Learned While Taking Care of Everyone But Me" (Simon & Schuster 2022).

Nelson continues to make meaningful contributions to literature and societal well-being through her various media, writing and speaking platforms. She is the founder of the new "Redefining Freedom" Foundation located in Virginia, and she is working on her 5th book by the same name, due for publication in 2025.

Education



Dr. Adrienne Battle

Director of Schools
MNPS

Dr. Adrienne Battle is Superintendent of Metro Nashville Public Schools, the first female superintendent and graduate of the school system to serve in this role. She has spent almost her entire career at MNPS, previously serving as a teacher, assistant principal, academic principal, executive principal, principal supervisor and community superintendent. A Nashville native, Dr. Battle is a graduate of John Overton High School, Missouri State University and Tennessee State University, where she earned her master's, education specialist and doctorate degrees in Educational Administration and Supervision. Under her leadership, MNPS was named a Level 5 district - the highest achievement - in the Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System in both 2022 and 2023. The district recently received national recognition in the Education Recovery Scorecard for its work on post-pandemic academic recovery, ranking in the top 10 among large urban districts for growth in both reading and math. Dr. Battle was named the Professional Educators of Tennessee's 2022 Superintendent of the Year and the 2021 Tennessee Principals Association Supervisor of the Year and received the Nashville NAACP's Legacy Award. She is a graduate of Leadership Nashville and is a member of Leadership Tennessee's 2023-2024 class. In 2015 she received the William J. and Lucille H. Field Excellence in Tennessee Secondary Leadership Award from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville as a result of leading Antioch High School to become the first zoned high school ever to be named a Tennessee Reward School, the top distinction a school can earn in Tennessee. She is a proud mother and wife.

Leadership



Dr. Sharon Roberson, Esq.

President & CEO YMCA
Nashville and Middle Tennessee

Sharon K. Roberson, Esq. is a seasoned C - Suite executive with over 30 years of experience in the insurance industry. She serves as President and CEO of YWCA Nashville & Middle Tennessee, the largest domestic violence services provider in Tennessee. Since joining the YWCA, Sharon has increased the 65-bed Weaver Domestic Violence Center's capacity by 15 beds. She has also broadened the agency's life-saving services, including adding the only Emergency DV Text Line in Tennessee and implementing a children's program at Weaver Center. In 2021, YWCA opened the first-ever, state-of-the-art pet shelter in Tennessee for pets of domestic violence victims.

Under Sharon's leadership, the YWCA has more than tripled its school-based programs, including expanding the AMEND Together healthy masculinity program to eight other YWCA associations across the country. During COVID, the YWCA expanded its adult learning center programing and career services.

Sharon has renewed the YWCA's focus on racial justice by implementing a Social Justice and Advocacy program. Several anti-domestic violence pieces of legislation championed by YWCA have become law in Tennessee under her leadership.

During Sharon's tenure, the YWCA in Nashville received the largest single donation in its 125-year history.

Sharon has received community recognition, including being a two-time Athena nominee, Nashville Bar Fellow, Leadership Nashville alum, Nashville Business Journal Women of Influence, and being inducted into the YWCA Academy for Women of Achievement. Sharon has been named one of Nashville's Most Powerful Women by the Nashville Post and five times one of Nashville's Most Admired CEOs by the Nashville Business Journal. In 2022 she received the prestigious Napier-Looby Bar Foundation Z. Alexander Looby Lifetime Achievement Award.

Under Sharon's leadership, the YWCA was named a 2018 person of the year by the Nashville Tennessean and one of Nashville's 24 Black Leaders to Know in 2024 by the publication. She serves on the Children's Hospital at TriStar Centennial Community Advisory Board and the Regions Bank Advisory Board. Sharon graduated from Vanderbilt University with a B.A. in Economics and a law degree.

Religion



Sondrea Tolbert

M.DIV Educator & Faith Based Leader
Scarritt Bennett Center

Rev. Sondrea L. Tolbert, J.D., M.Div.

Rev. Sondrea L. Tolbert, J.D., M.Div. is the Executive Director of Scarritt Bennett Center, adjunct professor of Business Law, author, and the first woman ordained and appointed as an assistant pastor of the historic Fairfield Missionary Baptist Church.

At Fairfield, Rev. Tolbert founded Sisterhood R.O.C.K.S. (Radically Obedient Christian-Women Kingdom Surrendered), a ministry that empowers women and girls by offering regular development opportunities, distributing products to women and children experiencing homelessness, and holding regular mentoring round tables for teen girls. Additionally, she is the visionary for the Annual Fairfield Sisterhood Tea that empowers women and girls across the community; My Sister's Closet, a free clothing boutique for women; and Pampering with a Purpose, which—in conjunction with various community organizations—provides free health services, business opportunities for women and minority vendors, educational materials and sessions, and self-care techniques.

She's a gifted attorney and served in the judicial system for many years before transitioning to Scarritt Bennett Center as the Executive Director where she's leading the way toward "creating a more just world."

Rev. Sondrea is the immediate past director of the National Consortium of Black Women in Ministry (NCBWIM), Nashville Chapter, where she instituted initiatives involving breast cancer awareness, domestic violence, and HIV/AIDS. She is the visionary for Pink Sunday Nashville that raises breast cancer awareness in churches, synagogues, mosque, faith-based organizations throughout middle Tennessee.

Widely recognized for her work having received proclamations from the State of TN and the Mayor of Nashville. She's received Visionary Award from "Fashioned in HIS image," won the International Sojourner Truth Award from the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club and was an ATHENA TWENTY TWENTY-ONE Nominee.

As a freelance writer, Sondrea further equips the body of Christ as the author of "On the Bright Side Morning Joy", a collection of devotionals that awakens and encourages readers to live on the bright side. She has received numerous awards for her work including proclamations from the State of Tennessee, the Mayor of Nashville, the Visionary Award from Fashioned in His Image, Inc., the 2018 National Sojourner Truth Award from the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Central Alabama, and an ATHENA 2021 Nominee. Rev. Sondrea is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Les Gemmes, Inc., Nashville Chapter.

Rev. Tolbert is a graduate of Fisk University, North Carolina Central University School of Law, and Payne Theological Seminary. She loves reading; spending time with family; and cuddling with Amos, her Maltipoo.

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Connect with Rev. Tolbert on LinkedIn at: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sondrealtolbert/>
Visit Rev. Tolbert's website at <https://sondrealtolbert.com/> or stolbert@scarrittbennett.org

Lifetime Achievement



Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell, Esq.

Executive Director of Enterprise Systems
Interdisciplinary Program and
Professor of Communications, TSU

Dr. Jacqueline W. Mitchell earned her Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Speech Pathology from The Ohio State University, Department of Communications, with a secondary area of concentration in Higher Education Administration and her undergraduate degree at Howard University in Speech and Hearing Sciences. Dr. Mitchell's extensive international travels have included studying abroad and participating in academic meetings throughout many countries in Africa, Europe, South America and Asia. Dr. Mitchell came to Tennessee State University (TSU) as an Assistant Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology in the Department of Communications, was promoted to Associate and then Full Professor, and served two terms as Chair of the TSU Faculty Senate.

Dr. Mitchell served as Special Assistant to the President of TSU for the Geier Consent Decree from 2000 to 2006, managing \$73 million dollars as part of the final settlement of the 38 years long Federal Court Higher Education Desegregation lawsuit to eliminate the dual system in Tennessee. Afterwards, Dr. Mitchell became Project Director for the Preservation of Historical Desegregation Documents in Tennessee Higher Education at TSU.

Dr. Mitchell's signature program is the annual Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest which she has chaired for the last 28 years. Many of the scholarship contestants are or have been enrolled in her Public Speaking class and some are members of the nationally award-winning Forensics Team in the Department of Communications where Dr. Mitchell is a professor.

Dr. Mitchell is presently Executive Director of the Enterprise Systems Interdisciplinary Program at TSU. She first served as Coordinator of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, helping students increase their marketability and gain access to remunerative careers in the public and private sectors. Later, as Project Manager for the Enterprise Systems Program (IBM technology), she worked with the Mobile Collaborative Education Consulting firm (MCEC) to help academic departments at TSU infuse cutting edge Enterprise Systems information technology courses into their curricula as boot camps, bringing business partners to TSU and helping students earn certification badges in technical areas that will prepare them for internship placement and lucrative employment in Fortune 500 and other major companies across corporate America. She also fundraises for the TSU Foundation Enterprise Systems Account, sponsoring students from all majors to attend a national conference annually. Dr. Mitchell is also the principal fundraiser for the Dr. Harold R. Mitchell Endowed Scholarship, named in honor of her late husband who established the Department of Speech Pathology & Audiology and founded the Speech, Hearing & Language Center at TSU.

Dr. Mitchell's community service includes having served as a member and officer on the Board of Directors and Trustee Boards of two local Nashville Charter Schools and serving on the Boards of the YWCA and the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Dr. Mitchell has served on various Departmental, College and University committees at TSU and been honored as Department Professor of the Year, Student Government Association Professor of the Year, been recognized for service by the Tennessee State University Theater Program and received the 2023 Faculty & Staff Award. Dr. Mitchell attends Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Nashville, TN, and is currently a member of Societas Docta, Inc.; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Associate Jewels of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.; The Links, Inc.; and Carrousel, Inc.

Woman of Strength, Courage, and Commitment

Government



Dr. Carolyn Baldwin Tucker

Retired Metro Council Member Principal,
Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

In 1999, Dr. Carolyn Baldwin Tucker was elected to the Metro Council becoming the first African American woman to win a county-wide race in the history of Nashville-Davidson County. Also, Dr. Tucker is the first African woman to be elected as an At-Large member of the Metro Council. Recently a street was named in her honor (Dr. Carolyn Tucker, Ct) because of her history making elections and longtime service to the community as an educator.

For thirty years, Dr. Tucker was employed with MNPS: five years as a classroom teacher; twenty-two years as a principal, and three years as an Elementary Schools Director. For sixteen years, Dr. Tucker served as a Visiting Professor at Lipscomb University and during her tenure with Lipscomb, for two years she was the Director of Graduate Studies in Education. Dr. Tucker was, also, an Exemplary Educator for the Tennessee Department of Education. In addition, during the 2009- 2010 school year, Dr. Tucker was appointed Interim Director of Schools for the Murfreesboro City Schools.

Dr. Tucker is the author of two published books. Currently, she serves as a consultant for a non-profit organization and is a Ladies Bible Class facilitator.

Dr. Tucker has been married to Jesse Tucker for fifty-four (54) years and they worship with the Church of Christ at Jackson Street. The Tuckers have two adult children: Attorney Susan Tucker Jones and Evangelist Randall Tucker, Sr who is married to Ericca. The Tuckers have four wonderful grandchildren.



Charlane Oliver

State Senator
Tennessee General Assembly

Senator Charlane Oliver is serving in her first term representing Senate District 19 in the Tennessee General Assembly. Tennessee became her home over 20 years ago when she moved to Nashville as a college student bound for Vanderbilt University. There, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Human & Organizational Development and later a Master of Public Administration from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Charlane has over 20 years of experience in government, nonprofit management, grassroots organizing, communications, and community engagement.

Sen. Oliver is the co-founder of The Equity Alliance, a statewide 501(c)(3) nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy organization whose mission is to unapologetically build independent Black political and economic power and keep government in check. Under her visionary leadership, she turned \$250 of her own money into a \$2.5 million-dollar powerhouse organization in just five years. Her successes through TEA earned her the prestigious recognition of 2020 People of the Year by The Tennessean and numerous accolades.

After the election of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, Charlane was named among 8 Black women fighting for voting rights in the South. She honed her policy expertise while serving as a congressional aide and communications strategist for U.S. Congressman Jim Cooper, where she advised the congressman on voting rights and criminal justice reform issues. As State Senator, she plans to serve the people with a progressive legislative agenda that champions women, children and working families; addresses the childcare shortage; protects our most vulnerable citizens; protects our constitutional rights; ensures our democracy works for all of us; and brings significant investments to the District. A resident of Bordeaux, Sen. Oliver is proud to be married to her partner of 18 years, Captain Leshuan Oliver, with whom they have three children together.

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A woman in a white outfit and large hat. She is smiling and holding the hat.A woman in a white dress and sunglasses. She is standing in a kitchen.

PHOTOGRAPHER
Donzaleigh INC.

VOL.3

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CONGRATULATIONS
2024 WOMEN OF LEGEND AND MERIT
HONOREE



REV. SONDREA L. TOLBERT, J.D., M.DIV.
ASSISTANT PASTOR
FAIRFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"GOD IS WITHIN HER SHE WILL NOT FAIL..."
PSALM 46:5



Rev. Howard E. Jones, Jr.
Senior Pastor

Congratulations
2024 Women of Legend &
Merit Honoree



Dr. Jacqueline W. Mitchell

We are so happy to celebrate your
accomplishments!

Your Friends,

Ronald & Brenda Corbin

Congratulations

**2024 WOMEN OF LEGEND & MERIT
HONOREE**



OUR DR. JACQUELINE W. MITCHELL

**WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH &
CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESS!**

Your Loving Family

Congratulations!

**2024 Women of Legend
& Merit Honoree**



Dr. Jacqueline W. Mitchell

**In Recognition of Your
Excellence & Achievements**

**My Mother Stands Committed to Outstanding
Performance and Dedication in Every Endeavor**

**I'm So Very Proud of You, Mom!
From Your Loving Daughter, Chelli**

congratulations

**DR.
JACQUELINE
MITCHELL**

Charter & Platinum Member



Congratulations to Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell, a proud Charter and Platinum Member of The Hendersonville Area (TN) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. Dr. Mitchell's unwavering dedication to her community, family, and friends reinforces the mission of The Links, Inc. in her daily life.



*Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Hendersonville Area (TN) Chapter*

Jacqueline W. Mitchell, PhD

The Carrousel of Nashville, Tennessee congratulate you and are ecstatic that your achievements are being honored.



MEMBERS

*Carolyn Qualls-President
Philecia Avery
Sandra Bates-Grant
Brenda Corbin
Merial Douglas
Leslie Douglas-Churchwell
Janis Ernst
Crystal Churchwell Evans*



Carrousel, Inc.

*Suzanne Fletcher-Thompson
Michele Frazier
Angela Gaskin
Gina Gunn
Alexis Gunn
Cloretta Lampkin
Jacqueline Mitchell
Richelle Mitchell
Hillary Thomas*

Congratulations!



Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell

On behalf of Dr. Janet Finch, Dean of College of Education, Faculty, and staff, we are proud of your excellence in Community Service and Professional Service to Tennessee State University.

"In the Spirit of Excellence"
Best Wishes



Jack and Jill of America, Inc.
Nashville Chapter Associate Jewels

Congratulations

DR. JACQUELINE W. MITCHELL

on her selection as an honoree of the
2024 Women of Legend & Merit

We recognize & honor her many years of
dedicated service to Tennessee State University
and the entire Nashville community.



TO CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell

as you are celebrated as a

WOMAN of
Legend and Merit



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BE ENCOURAGED, BE PREPARED, BE INSPIRED!

It is an honor to recognize Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell

Tennessee State University
professor and advocate
and proud supporter of
the TSU Women's Center.

We Celebrate You!



*Dr. Deborah Cole,
Vice President
for Societas Docta*

*Dr. Carolyn Baldwin Tucker
Vice President
for Programs April 2024*



THE NASHVILLE CHAPTER
OF SOCIETAS DOCTA, INC.

Proudly congratulates
Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell

*for her diligent
service to
Tennessee State
University
and the
TSU
Women's Center*



We are so
proud of you!

Dr. Phyllis Qualls
President



Thank you

DR. JACQUELINE MITCHELL

*for your service and dedication to our students.
You are the epitome of excellence in the classroom.*

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS



Congratulations

Rev. Sondrea Tolbert,
2024 Women of
Legend and Merit Honoree!

*On behalf of
Scarritt Bennett Center
we are proud of you,
your accomplishments, and
this awesome achievement!*



Scarritt Bennett Center is a nonprofit conference, retreat, and education center located in Nashville, TN. Our mission is to create a space where individuals and groups engage each other to achieve a more just world. This year, we celebrate our 100-year history in Nashville, reaffirming our commitment to eradicating racism, empowering women, providing transformative education, and offering spiritual enrichment.



Scarritt
Bennett



Dr. Mitchell, MCEC would like to congratulate you on being selected as an honoree of the Women of Legend and Merit Award!

Working with you in your role as Executive Director of TSU's Interdisciplinary Enterprise Systems Programs providing the executive leadership and vision for the deployment of the curriculum my company designed and delivered to TSU has truly been an honor and extreme pleasure.

The contributions you have made within the professional domains of business, the Nashville community, and higher education by working with MCEC's program design that has produced over 100 candidates that have been placed with major Fortune 500 companies, since its deployment in 2015, with job positions that have commanded average starting salaries of over \$95,000 with sign-on bonuses of over \$10,000 in some cases. Your program has made a true difference in the lives of those you have touched and changed the trajectory and life circumstances of many students.

This new global market economy is driven and supported by enterprise systems technology and very few universities are deploying it across the country. Notwithstanding, the US Department of Education has identified 107 colleges as HBCUs and TSU is the only HBCU that offers an Enterprise Systems Program.

Your accomplishments as Executive Director has truly been phenomenal, your unwavering commitment to excellence, determination and perseverance have not gone unnoticed.

Continue to push the boundaries of what is possible, showing others the limitless possibilities of the great things that can be accomplished. Your contributions are invaluable, and the positive effects of your efforts will be felt for years to come, paving the way for a better future!

Again, congratulations on your well-deserved recognition and thank you for all that you do!

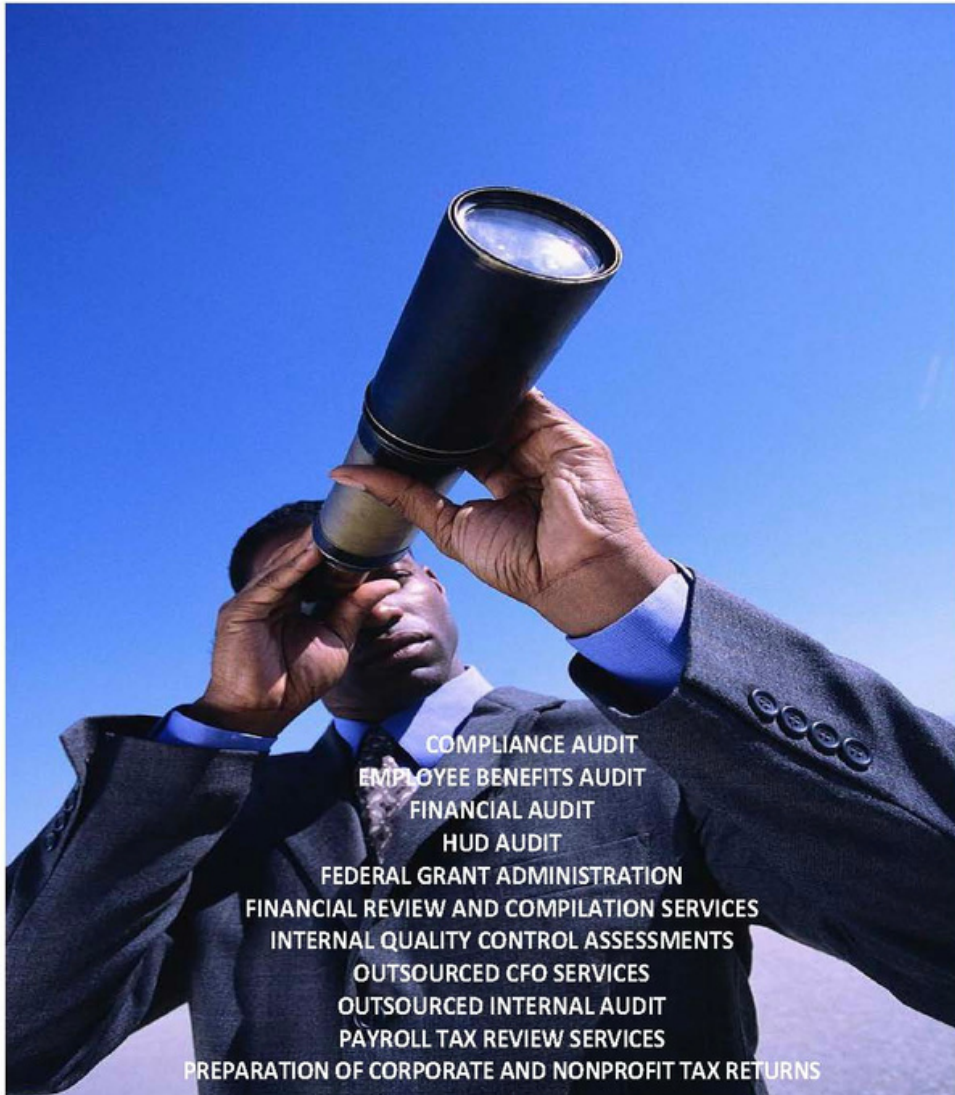
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Salute to Dr. Jacqueline W. Mitchell

2024 Women of Legend & Merit Honoree



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Saluting exceptional women

Betsy Jean Whitaker

September 22, 1965 - January 13, 2024



At HCA Healthcare and TriStar Health, we celebrate the women in healthcare who show up each day to care for our patients, and we remain committed to supporting the advancement, equity and empowerment of women in our communities.

As we celebrate today, we also remember our beloved colleague, Betsy Jean Whitaker, who championed the visibility and voices of women in Nashville through strong leadership and advocacy.

We are proud to support the Women's Center at Tennessee State University and its efforts to empower women for the betterment of society.



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