



OSCAR
WASHINGTON, JR.
EDUCATIONAL FUND

4TH ANNUAL **OSCAR WASHINGTON, JR.**
VIRTUAL AWARDS
CEREMONY



APRIL 17 6PM

OWJSCHOLARSHIP.COM

IN HONOR OF
OSCAR D. WASHINGTON, JR.



The family and friends of Oscar David Washington, Jr. created this scholarship program to honor the legacy of a great man, husband, father, brother, and friend.

Oscar was a 1986 graduate of Carlisle High School and a 1990 graduate of the University of Central Arkansas at Conway. He was a Certified Public Accountant with a Master's degree in Business from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and he served as a Captain in the Arkansas Army National Guard, 39th Infantry Brigade.

Oscar had the pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Customer Service, Entergy Arkansas, and as the owner of ODS Enterprises, LLC,

Gold Medal Flooring, and Genesis Construction.

One of Oscar's greatest gifts was being a disciple of Christ and freely serving others and the community.

He was a Deacon at Saint Mark Baptist Church Little Rock, Arkansas. He also demonstrated this by

being a faithful volunteer, mentor, and leader for various organizations such as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Big Brother Big Sister's Agency of Pulaski County, Pulaski Technical College, Alumni Association for the University of Central Arkansas, the Arkansas Home Builder's Association, American Heart Association, and more.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The 4th Annual Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund supports outstanding students achieving excellence in education and honors the educators who have assisted them along the way. For the last four years, The Oscar Washington Jr. Educational Fund has successfully partnered with businesses, organizations, The City of Little Rock, Saint Mark Baptist Church, and Friends of Oscar Washington Jr. to promote a tradition of excellence and service among a diverse group of high school seniors across the state of Arkansas.

We know that each day is bringing significant challenges and pressures on families and on their communities. We also know that community leaders rise to challenges every day with ingenuity, compassion, resilience, fortitude, and integrity. In times like these, leaders in our communities stand shoulder-to-shoulder, and we are grateful that so many decided to stand in support of education.

These are unprecedented times, and there are many, many ways to engage in philanthropy and activism. We believe that the Oscar Washington Jr. Educational Fund gives graduating seniors tools and the confidence to give it their all as they embark on their journey to success.

Congratulations to the Oscar Washington Jr. Educational Fund Scholarship Class of 2021!

Doris Washington, President
Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

On behalf of the Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund board members, I wish to extend a sincere and humble thank you to all who have played a role in making this year's awards ceremony a success. To our program participants, thank you. There are many who were instrumental behind the scenes and ensured that what we saw and heard during our program is nothing less than excellent. To our very special guest speaker this year, Mr. Bakari Sellers, thank you for inspiring all of us with your keynote address to the recipients and, more importantly, your personal advocacy for the marginalized and devotion to public service. As a non-profit organization that is run entirely by volunteers, we are solely dependent on the generosity of others. During normal times, financial gifts can be hit or miss. During a pandemic that has literally gripped the world, the assurance of financial support is even more unpredictable. However, by the grace of God, we have experienced a record-breaking giving cycle for 2021! To every sponsor, corporate and individual, we say THANK YOU! As a direct result of your generosity, we had a record number of scholarship recipients! In addition to our student recipients, we recognized four more educators who have dedicated themselves to shaping the next generation through their selfless commitment to providing quality education.

Our work is rewarding and worthwhile. As such, we are more committed than ever to planting seeds of hope through this educational fund that we believe will yield fruit for generations to come.

With humility and gratitude,

The Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund Board
Mark D. Leverett, Chair

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SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



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Kaile Johnson



Alyssa Joseph

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



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Tianfu Lam



Jada Lawson



Nina Millender



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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

BAKARI SELLERS



Bakari Sellers made history in 2006 when, at just 22 years old, he defeated a 26-year incumbent State Representative to become the youngest member of the South Carolina state legislature and the youngest African American elected official in the nation. In 2014, he was the Democratic Nominee for Lt. Governor in the state of South Carolina.

Earning his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College, where he served as student body president, and his law degree from the University of South Carolina, Sellers has followed in the footsteps of his father, civil rights leader Cleveland Sellers, in his tireless commitment to service taking championing progressive policies to address issues ranging from education and poverty to preventing domestic violence and childhood obesity.

His impressive list of accomplishments, in addition to having served on President Barack Obama's South Carolina steering committee during the 2008 election, Sellers is widely considered to be a rising star within the Democratic Party and a leading voice for his generation. That coupled with his uncommon ability to reach across the aisle and get things done has led to numerous accolades including being named to TIME Magazine's 40 Under 40 in 2010 as well as 2014 and 2015 "The Root 100" list of the nation's most influential African-Americans.

He has served as a featured speaker at events for the National Education Association, College Democrats of America National Convention, the 2008 and 2016 Democratic National Convention.

Sellers practices law with the Strom Law Firm, LLC in Columbia, SC and is a Political Commentator at CNN. He is married to Dr. Ellen Rucker-Sellers.

ALMA J. WASHINGTON

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Alma J. Washington

The Alma J. Washington Educator of the Year Award was established to recognize educators in our community who have spent their careers investing their gifts of teaching and compassion in the lives of students. Mrs. Washington is the mother of Oscar D. Washington, and this award honors her lifetime of education in Arkansas.

Since its inception in 2020, the Alma J. Washington Educator of the Year Award has been given to **9 recipients** who have received **\$1000 each**, including Mrs. Washington herself.

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS



Erika Evans



Nina Gasaway



Tyrone Harris



Karen Turner

CORPORATE SPONSORS



April 17, 2021

It is my honor to bring you greetings on behalf of the 200,000 residents of Little Rock. Tonight, we honor the memory of a friend of mine, and of many of you, who was a great man. Oscar Washington, Jr., worked to make Little Rock a better place. Not only was he a leader at Entergy, but Oscar was also a leader in his church in many volunteer efforts.



It is so appropriate that we pay tribute to Oscar's memory by celebrating the achievements of outstanding high school students. Throughout his lifetime, Oscar was a mentor and an encourager. He set a high standard for excellence and worked to help others achieve their potential. Through this scholarship program, Oscar's legacy continues.

Tonight's speaker, Bakari Sellers, is also an outstanding leader in service. While he may have first caught national attention for achieving elected office at a young age, Bakari has maintained that focus through his dedication to giving voice to the voiceless. Like Oscar, he has a deep commitment to education and to using it to expand opportunities for everyone.

I have been blessed to have participated in the first three years of the Oscar Washington, Jr., Scholarship Banquet. I am humbled to take part again this year. I look forward to many more years of this program. I am also excited to see the great works from these scholarship recipients as they honor the memory of Oscar Washington, Jr., and change the world.

Sincerely,

Mayor Frank Scott, Jr.
City of Little Rock



"On behalf of Citizens Bank, I would like to congratulate the past and future recipients of this distinguished scholarship! Citizens Bank is honored to be a supporter of the 2021 Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship Banquet. Oscar's legacy lives on through his family, friends and all those positively impacted by OJWEF."

*Mel Hutchins
Senior Vice President
Citizens Bank*



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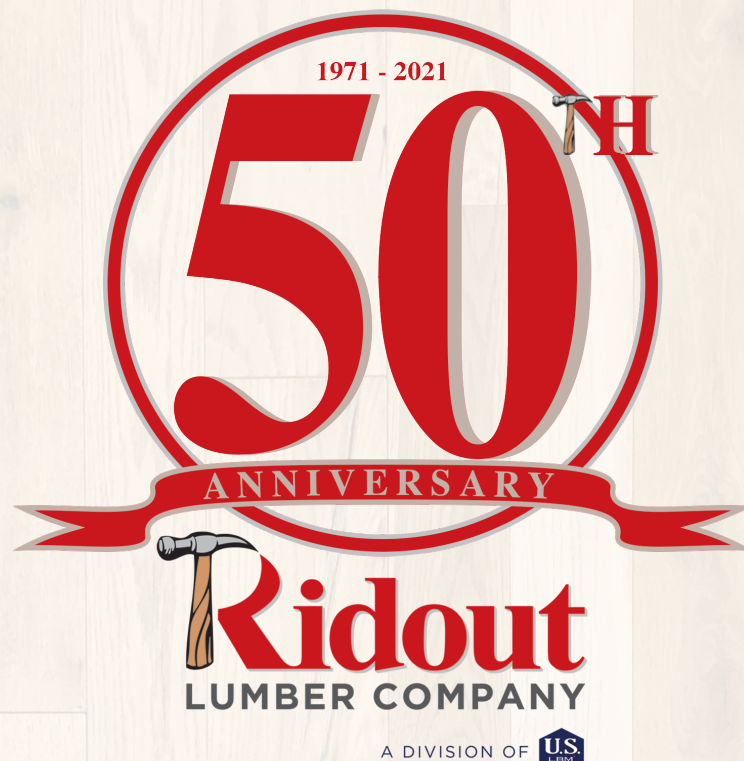
Our firm is passionate about giving back, especially when those efforts support education. We applaud the work of this outstanding program and the people who make it all happen.

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to help students achieve their educational goals.

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River City General Contractors, Inc. would like to wish all the recipients of the Oscar Washington Jr. Scholarship Fund a heartfelt Congratulations!

We want to congratulate the Oscar Washington Jr. Scholarship Fund on another triumphant year!

“Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears ,and never regrets.”

Leonardo Da Vinci



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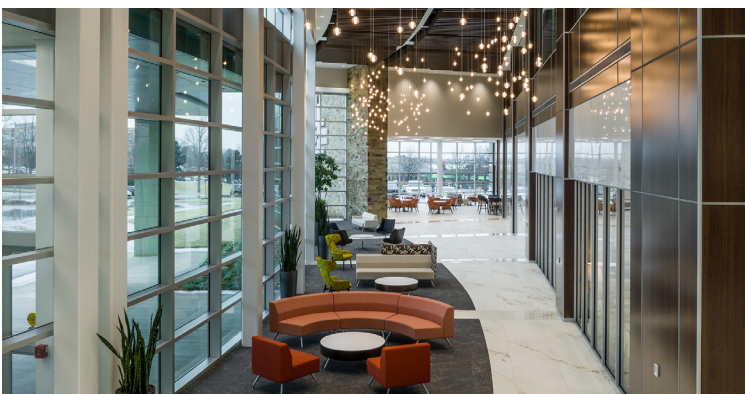
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**The Oscar Washington, Jr.
Scholarship Committee
is carrying on the noble ideals
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academic excellence.**

**Congratulations to all
award recipients.**



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For 80 years, Southwest Power Pool has fostered relationships as a means of ensuring electricity is reliably and affordably delivered across our 17-state region.

We are proud to sponsor the Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship Banquet and join in its investment in making positive impacts on our community and the lives of individuals in it.

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Oscar Washington, Jr.

Scholarship
BANQUET



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We are honored to support the Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund and their mission to help join character and education to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals and communities like ours.



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MAKING *Better* HAPPEN

First Security Bank proudly continues to support the Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund (OWJEF) and their mission of #makingbetterhappen for future generations by providing academic opportunities and generous scholarships to students throughout Arkansas. We join OWJEF in celebrating this year's scholarship recipients and Alma J. Washington Educator of the Year recipients. Congratulations to you all!



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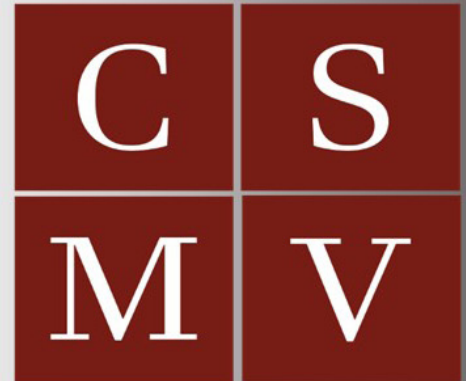
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Celebrating with **the 2021 Scholarship Recipients**

**of the The Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship
in honor of our member and friend
the late Oscar Washington Jr.**

Pastor Phillip L. Pointer, Sr., First Lady Keya Pointer,
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Congratulations
to the 2021
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Scholarship recipients
and Alma J. Washington
Educator of the Year
recipients



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