CELEBRATING 5 YEARS

5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OSCAR WASHINGTON, JR.

AWARDS CEREMONY



ifund

#### O U R

# **PROGRAM**

Welcome and Sponsor Acknowledgements	Pamela Smith, Mistress of Ceremonies
InvocationRev. Way	ne Clark, President and CEO, The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas
Dinner	
Music provided by J. White	
Speaker	
Educator Awards	Paul Bowersock, OWJ Board Member
Student Awards	Dr. Suzanne Yee, OWJ Board Member
Hope Scholars	
Video	
Special Presentation	
Appeal	
Closing Remarks	
Closing Prayer	



#### 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,

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.

Arkansas. He also demonstrated this by

#### FROM THE

## **PRESIDENT**



Bridging the gap for students to go from high school to college has its challenges. Across Arkansas there are high school seniors graduating this year who are very accomplished academically, yet opportunities to further their education seem to elude them. Oscar made it clear to his family, friends, and co-workers that education is important to achieving success. His legacy of helping others reach their goals lives on today through this educational

organization. Everything we do now is what he did when he was here.

It is my pleasure to say a heartfelt thank you to those who have supported the Oscar Washington Jr. Educational Fund (OWJEF) and helped us make such an incredible difference in the lives of more than 50 high school seniors since 2018 and another 15 more heading to college this fall. These partnerships include the members of the OWJEF Board of Directors that have and continue to voluntarily commit time to carry out the mission of helping students continue their education. It also includes both the corporate and individual sponsors that provide resources, and opportunities for students to better themselves on college campuses and in corporate environments.

Tonight, as we mark our fifth year of serving students, educators and the community, we look back and are thankful for how far we have come, but also forward because we know we have been called to do so much more.

Congratulations to all recipients being honored this evening. You all are so deserving and it is my pleasure to welcome you to the OWJEF family.

Doris Washington, President
Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund

#### A HEARTFELT

## THANK YOU

We've come this far by faith...literally. When Doris, John and I finally gathered ourselves (somewhat) after Oscar's passing and started discussing what would be the best, next step; none of us envisioned that our simple desire to help a few kids get a quality education would grow to this. Five years later, we have gotten further than we ever could have imagined and are more determined to positively impact youth than we have ever been.

Believe me, despite our gains, we are not resting; we are vigilant. We want to and intend to, impact more students. We intend to make a greater impact in our local community and will continue to be intentional about helping those who need it the most. What we have been able to accomplish in five short years, has been by the grace of God and the partnership of each of you.

To those who give, who have given, who will give - thank you. To those who have volunteered countless hours, driven countless miles in support of our efforts - thank you. To the corporations who know the importance of our work and have made us a part of your annual giving - thank you. We could not have survived five years without each one of you.

We've come this far by faith; and by faith, we believe that the best is yet to come. My heartfelt thanks to each of you.

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

#### BOARD OF

# **DIRECTORS**



#### **Top Row (From left to right):**

Dionne Jackson, Mark Leverett, Willie Davis, John Ekeanyanwu, Cade Cox, Bobbie Ficklin

#### **Bottom Row (From left to right):**

Dr. Suzanne Yee, Doris Washington, JaNan Thomas, Kandi Hughes

Not pictured: Paul Bowersock

#### SCHOLARSHIP

# **RECIPIENTS**



Laritza Chena OWJ Scholar



Sheridan Cross OWJ Scholar



Ella Fu Davis OWJ Scholar



Peyton Davis OWJ Scholar



Lauren Foley OWJ Scholar



**Brian Gittens**OWJ Scholar

#### SCHOLARSHIP

# **RECIPIENTS**



Lillian Goins
OWJ Scholar



Mackenzie Jones
OWJ Scholar



Michael Knox, Jr.
OWJ Scholar



Sarah Means OWJ Scholar



**Dawson Thomas**OWJ Scholar



Jalen Wilson OWJ Scholar



India Hayes Methodist Foundation Hope Scholar



Elijah Riley Methodist Foundation Hope Scholar

#### KEYNOTE

## **SPEAKER**

#### COLETTE HONORABLE



The Honorable Colette D. Honorable is a highly regarded policymaker and strategist in domestic and international energy sectors. For over fifteen years, she has been a global leader in energy, focusing on clean energy integration, energy storage integration, infrastructure development and energy efficiency. Honorable is a member of Reed Smith LLP's Energy and Natural Resources Group where she leads the energy regulatory group. In this capacity, she is a trusted legal

and strategic advisor to her clients, many of which are Fortune 500 entities. Honorable also sits on the firm's Executive Committee, global governing board, and serves on its Audit and Talent Committees. Prior to joining Reed Smith, Honorable served as a Commissioner at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). She was nominated by then President Barack Obama and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in December 2014 for a term that expired in June 2017.

Honorable also serves as an Independent Director for Southern Company (NYSE:SO), a Fortune 200 energy company that serves 9 million customers in the Southeast United States, based in Atlanta, Georgia.

A proud native of Little Rock, Arkansas, she is a graduate of the University of Memphis, received a Juris Doctor from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law and is a member of St. Mark Baptist Church. She and her late husband, Rickey Honorable, share a daughter, Sydney Marie, who is a junior at Howard University.

# 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 **14 recipients** who have received **\$1000 each**, including Mrs. Washington herself.

#### EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

# **RECIPIENTS**



Duane Clayton



Mary Harden



Shanda Macon



Rosanna Mhlanga



LaRisha Nelson

#### CORPORATE

## **SPONSORS**



























































#### A MESSAGE FROM

## OUR MAYOR



April 30, 2022

To Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship Banquet Attendees:

It is my honor to bring you greetings on behalf of the 203,000 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 and in many other volunteer efforts. He truly put others before himself, and that is why we gather to pay tribute to him.



It is so appropriate that we honor 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, the Honorable Colette Honorable, is also an outstanding leader in service. Having grown up in Little Rock, Colette first made her mark with her dedication to service while she was still in high school. After law school she was a leader in the legal industry in the private sector and public sector. Just as Oscar spent his career devoted to the electric utility industry, over the past fifteen years, Colette has been involved in working with utilities as they are focused on equitable access, climate change, and environmental justice.

I have been blessed to have participated in the first four 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

Land halls

CITY HALL, SUITE 203, 500 W. MARKHAM

◆ 501.371.4510 

◆ FSCOTTJR@LITTLEROCK.GOV

## **PROCLAMATION**

#### CITY OF LITTLE ROCK. ARKANSAS

#### Know Ye All People By These Presents Greetings:

WHEREAS, Oscar David Washington, Jr., was a 1986 graduate of Carlisle High School and a 1990 graduate of the University of Central Arkansas; he was a certified public accountant with a Master's degree in Business from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock; and he also served as a Captain in the Arkansas Army National Guard, 39th Infantry Brigade; and

**WHEREAS**, Oscar had the pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Customer Service for Entergy Arkansas, based in Little Rock; he was also the owner of ODS Enterprises, LLC, Gold Medal Flooring, and Genesis Construction; and

WHEREAS, one of Oscar's greatest gifts was being a disciple of Christ and freely serving others and the community; he served as a Deacon at Saint Mark Baptist Church; Oscar was a faithful volunteer, mentor, and leader of various organizations such as Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pulaski Country; Pulaski Technical College; Alumni Association for the University of Central Arkansas; the Arkansas Home Builder's Association; American Heart Association, and

WHEREAS, after Oscar Washington, Jr, transitioned in April 2017, his family and friends created the Oscar Washington, Jr, Educational Fund to honor his memory and continue his legacy; and

WHEREAS, since the first Oscar Washington, Jr., Scholarship Banquet, in five years, the Fund has amassed a diverse alumni group of scholars that number 50 bright, young Arkansans with the inaugural scholarship recipients set to graduate from college next year; and

WHEREAS, more than \$20,000 has been given to community-based organizations to increase their ability to impact youth and adults in need; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 the Alma J. Washington Educator of the Year Award was established in 2020 and has recognized educators for their significant and necessary contributions to the lives of students; and

WHEREAS, the OWJ Internship Initiative has been established which engages local companies to provide paid internships for OWJ scholars in their chosen field of study; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oscar Washington, Jr., Educational Fund was selected as one of four educational entities to distribute \$25,000 a year to a student or students who met the qualifications with the funds intended to supplement that student's tuition, room and board so they graduate from an Arkansas college or university with zero debt; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2022, family and friends of Oscar D. Washington, Jr., are gathering for the fifth annual Scholarship Banquet to celebrate Oscar's memory and his legacy, as well as to hear wisdom from keynote speaker the Honorable Colette Honorable.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, do hereby proclaim April 30, 2022, as

#### Oscar Washington, Jr. Day

in Little Rock and call upon all people of the City of Little Rock to join in expressing appreciation for Oscar's memory and legacy as to the work of the Scholarship Committee and the lives which are positively impacted by the Oscar Washington, Jr., Educational Fund.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of The City of Little Rock to be affixed on this 30th day of April, in the year of our Lord, 2022.

Frank Scott, Jr

# Congratulations to our own

# Doris Washington

for her appointment as USDA State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency, Arkansas



#### Biden names UA graduate as Arkansas' Farm Service Agency executive director

#### By Ryan Tarinelli, Washington Bureau Reporter, Courtesy of arkansasonline.com

President Joe Biden has named Doris Washington as the Farm Service Agency state executive director for Arkansas, where she will oversee the implementation of agricultural policy in the Natural State.

Washington, a U.S. Army National Guard veteran and a two-time graduate of the University of Arkansas, has worked as the director of the National Water Management Center at the Natural Resources Conservation Service, where she oversaw a \$2.2 million budget and directed operations, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The center also implemented an analysis of watershed environmental projects under her guidance, the USDA said.

Washington, 55, is one of many USDA appointees announced by Biden this month. Other appointees include Farm Service Agency state executive directors for Illinois, Maine, Texas, Kentucky, Missouri and Nebraska.

The White House described Washington, a Harrisburg native, as an expert in "crops and natural resources science" and said she has served as the acting deputy chief for management and strategy for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

She also served as acting state conservationist and national team leader for administrative transformation for the conservation service, according to the White House.

Washington has more than a decade of service with the Arkansas Army National Guard as an officer, the Biden administration said.

The Farm Service Agency administers credit and loan programs, carries out agricultural policy and manages conservation and farm marketing programs nationwide.

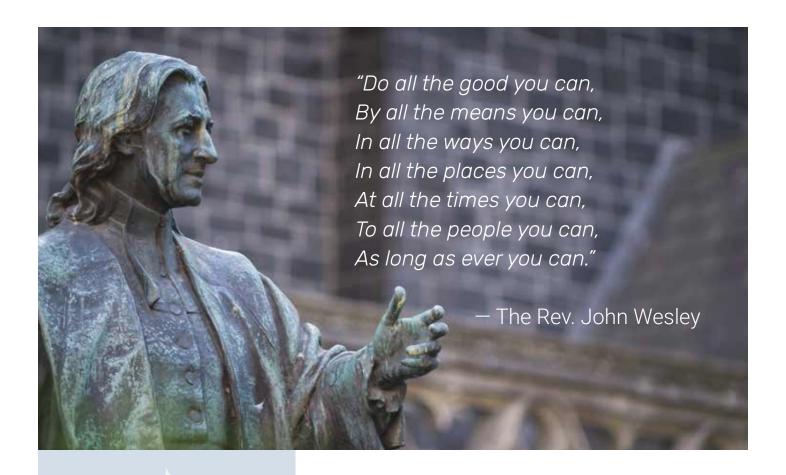
In a news release earlier this month on Washington's appointment and others, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said the appointees will play an important role in the mission of improving the lives of Americans.

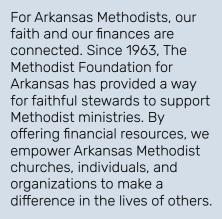
"Each of them will add to the experienced, dedicated and growing team at the department," he said in the release.

Washington holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture and has received a master of public administration in public policy, according to the USDA.

Washington has a long history with the federal department.

At the conclusion of her first year in college, Washington's high school principal reached out to inquire if she would be interested in a student internship at a local USDA office, Washington told the Democrat-Gazette previously. Washington accepted the opportunity, she said.





Each of us makes a commitment to support our church with our gifts. The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas is here to help you make the connection between faith and finances last beyond a lifetime.

#### Congratulations!

The Board of Directors and staff of The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas congratulate the student honorees.

We are honored to partner with The Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund in supporting our community through The Hope Scholarship.



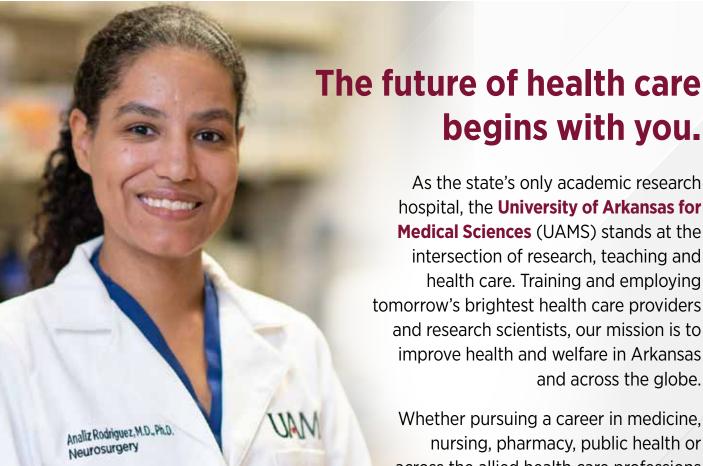
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It is our pleasure to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund and to recognize this year's honorees





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Analiz Rodriguez M.D., Ph.D.
Director of Neurosurgical Oncology
Assistant Professor, Department of Neurosurgery

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Delta Dental of Arkansas is proud to sponsor the Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund. Congratulations to the students receiving scholarships and we wish you the best in your future endeavors!



DeltaDentalAR.com





# Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund

on the 5th Anniversary of the Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship Banquet

Pastor Phillip L. Pointer, Sr., First Lady Keya Pointer, and the entire Saint Mark Baptist Church Family.

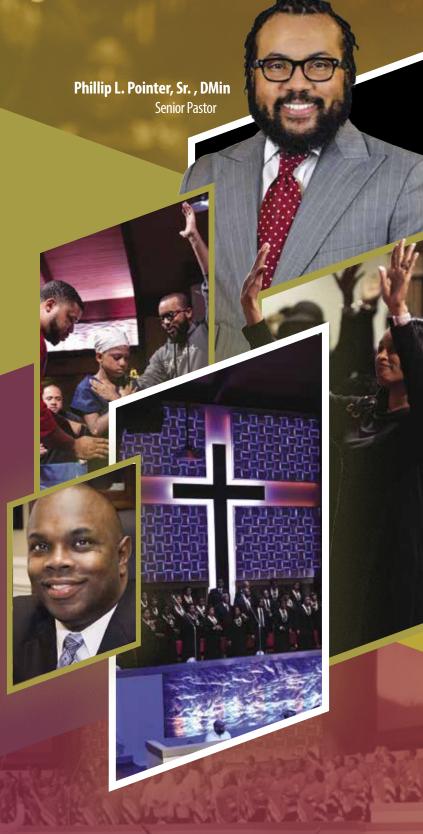
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It is an honor to support the **Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship Fund** Congratulations to all of this year's recipients.







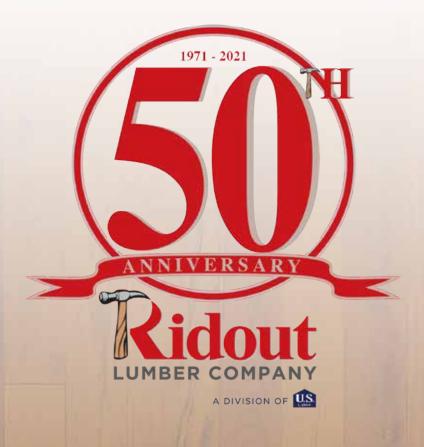








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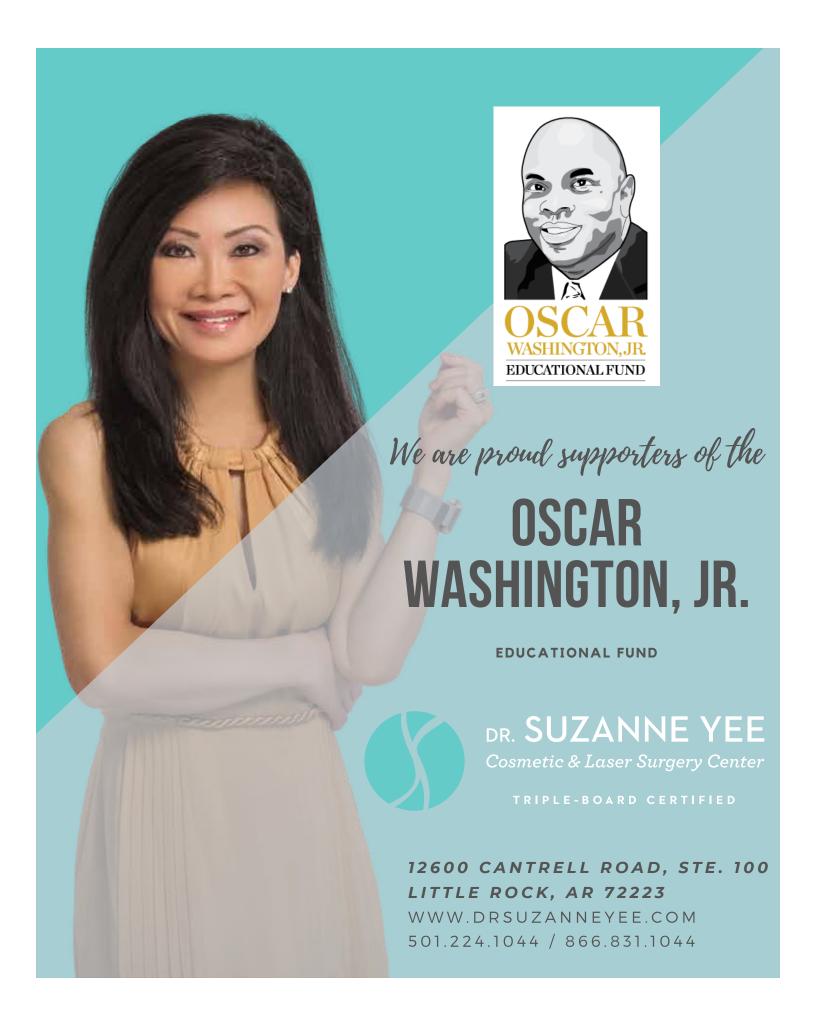
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Kim Lev Fit congratulates the 2022 OWJ scholarship recipients, the Hope Scholarship recipients and The Oscar Washington Educational Fund on five years of investing in our youth and community.



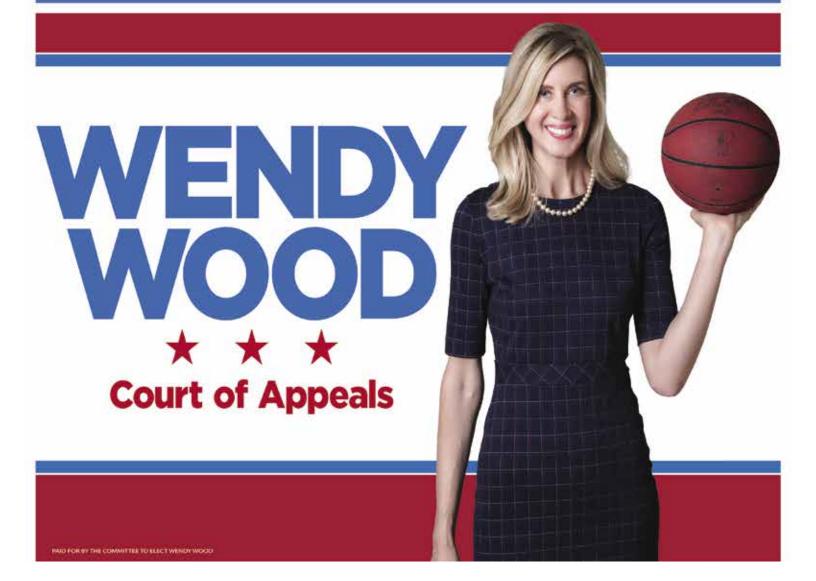


Congratulations to all of the recipients and may their pursuit of excellence be a daily goal.

The Oasis of Dumas Assisted Living Facility 38 Belmont Dumas, AR 71639 870-382-2609

I am proud to support the Fifth Annual Oscar Washington Jr. Educational Fund Scholarship Banquet and its mission to empower the next generation with purpose and generous hearts.

Congratulations to the 2022 scholarship recipients who are honored for their academic excellence and commitment to community service. These honorees are shining examples of the faithful legacy of Oscar David Washington Jr.



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FOR JUDGE

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 5TH ANNUAL

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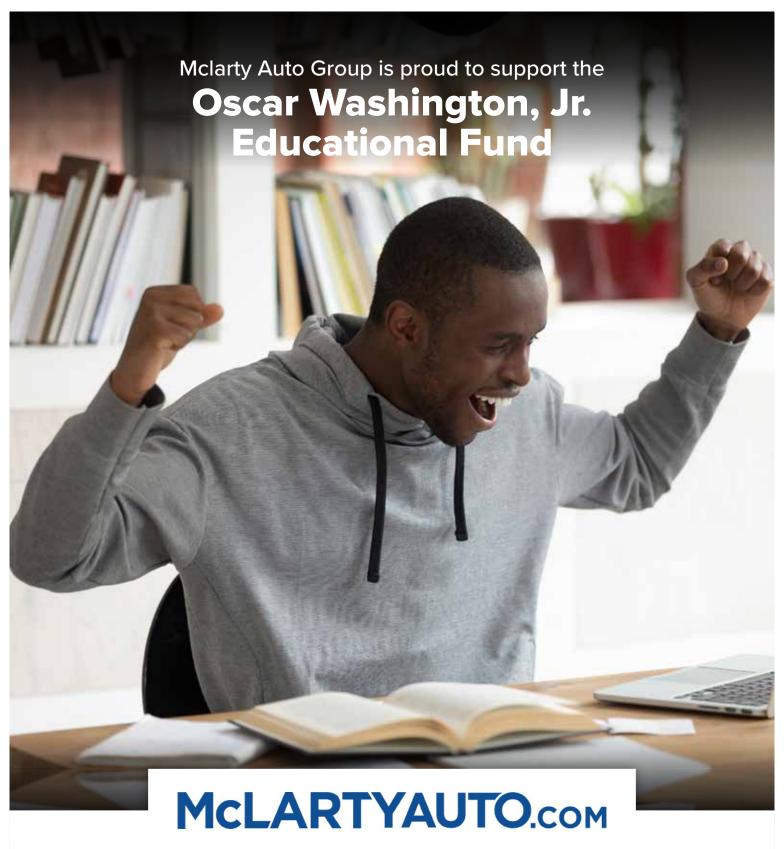
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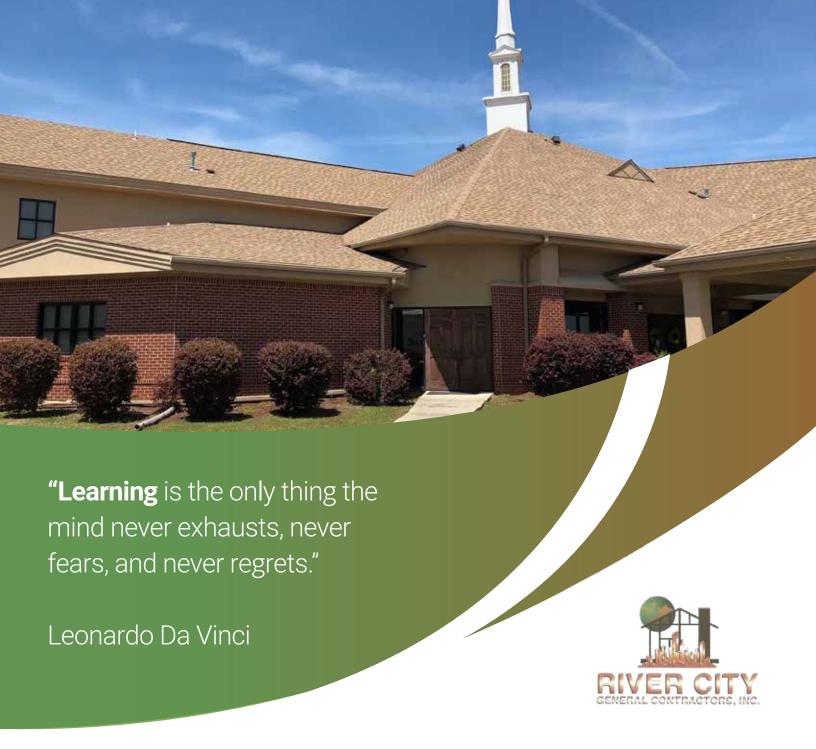












River City General Contractors, Inc. would like to wish all the recipients of the Oscar Washington Jr. Scholarship Fund a heartfelt congratulations!









# **CHRIS JONES**

Congratulations!

to the 5th Annual Oscar Washington Jr. Scholarship Recipients

I believe this state is worth believing in, worth investing in, worth lifting up. I want to make sure Arkansas is the best place to live, work, and raise a family in the United States. And we should settle for nothing less, because we deserve nothing less."

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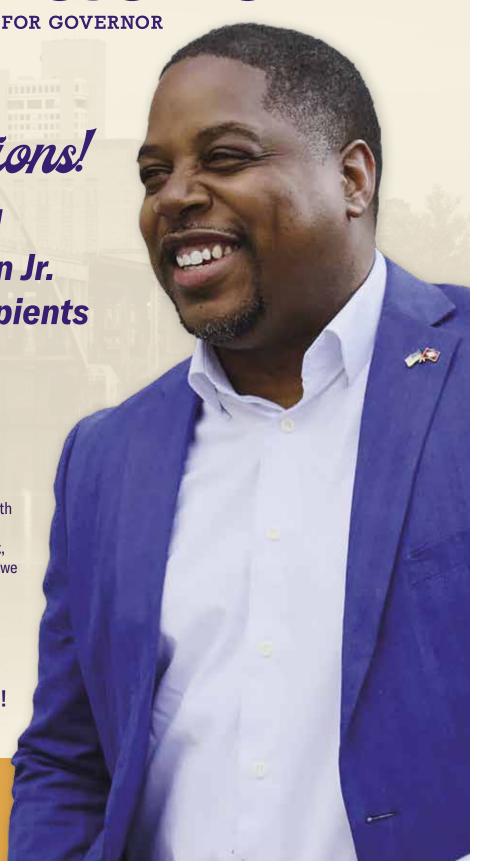
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Happy to produce the 5th anniversary video for the Oscar Washington Jr. Educational Fund





# Visionary Leadership

AT&T salutes the students who lead the way — in leadership and in life. We're proud to support the Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund and congratulate the honorees of the scholarship banquet.

AT&T

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**Congratulations** to all 2022 Oscar Washington Jr. Education Fund Scholarship recipients.

5323 John F Kennedy Blvd North Little Rock, AR 72116





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honors the legacy of

### Oscar Washington Jr.,

and his dedication to young people to reach their goals through hard work and education. Tonight we celebrate our future college graduates and their pursuit of excellence.

Congratulations,

Dr. Regina Hunter



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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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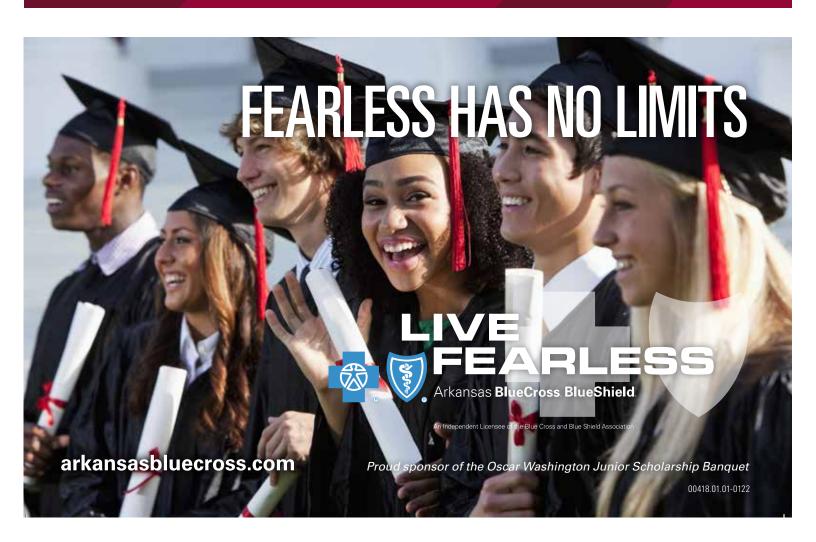
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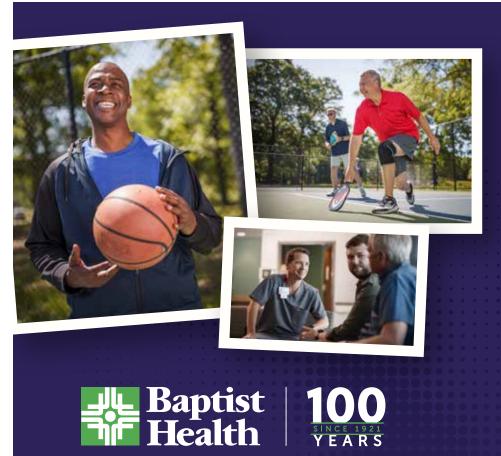
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caring company" and his vision of caring for others
continues to inspire us today.

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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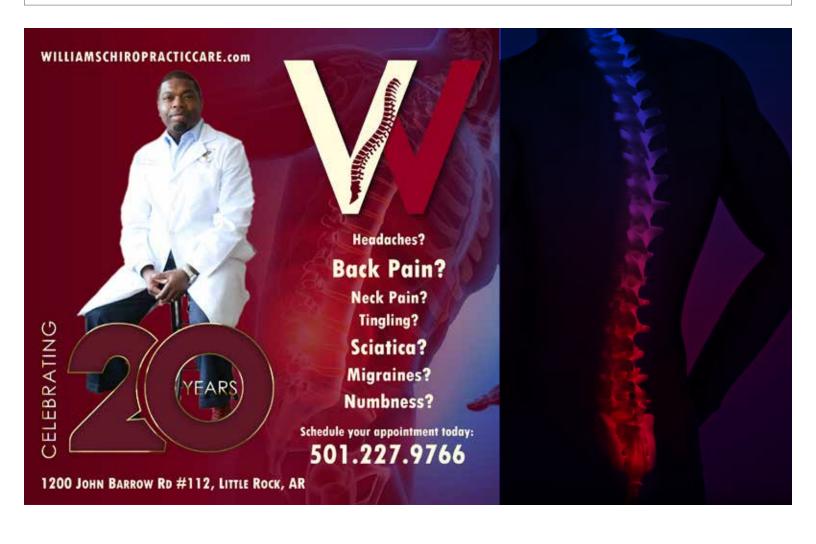
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CELEBRATING 5 YEARS
OSCAR WASHINGTON, JR. AWARDS CEREMONY

