

PRESENTS



SATURDAY, APRIL 27 7 PM

The Venue at Westwind

7318 Windsong Drive North Little Rock, AR 72113



Saluting academic excellence in our community!



We are proud PRESENTING SPONSORS of this year's



Scholarship Awards Gala

sam's club <>

INHONOR OF Oscar D. Washington, Fr.



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.

brother, and friend.

Oscar had the pleasure of serving as the Vice President of Customer Service, Entergy Arkansas, and

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 Brothers 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.

THANKYOU from the Chair

It is difficult to believe this is year seven. Our origin was marked by intentionality and humility. We were intentional about helping young people get a quality education. We were humble enough to know that we couldn't do it alone. In our seventh year, neither of those things have changed. It is our great joy to honor these deserving scholarship recipients as well as the often overlooked and under appreciated educator honorees.



I want to extend my personal thank you to each individual and organization who has served, given, prayed, advised, volunteered and otherwise helped in any way to move our mission forward. We have accomplished a lot and we could not have done it without the help of so many.

To the OWJEF board, thank you for your investment of time, counsel, money and influence. I value each of you and am sincerely grateful that you've chosen to serve. I am thankful to the volunteers who answer the call in and out of season. You guys are a team that exudes excellence and you are second to none.

A very special thank you to the Washington family for their gracious and unwavering support of our work. It is not lost on us that our annual gathering is both a celebration of academic achievement and a reminder of a substantial loss. Your visible and vocal support is nothing short of first class.

We know that kids thrive when they are encouraged, supported and receive practical resources along the way. We believe that investments made in young people filled with purpose are never wasted.

Notwithstanding what we have accomplished over the last seven years, I am of the firm belief that our best days are ahead of us. My hope is that, in all that we do, God gets glory and people are better off having come our way than they were before.

With sincerity and gratitude,

Mark D. Leverett

SPECIAL HONOR

Doris Washington

With a Bachelor of Science in agriculture and a Master of Public Administration in public policy, Doris has blazed trails for over a decade as an officer in the Arkansas Army National Guard. Her 35 years of experience in managing governmental and public affairs initiatives, spanning environmental protection, education, economic development,

and agriculture, culminated in her appointment by President Joe Biden as the State Executive Director of the USDA Farm Service Agency in December 2021. Doris is a history maker, currently the sole African American female in this role nationwide. In her spare time, she leads as the President/CEO of ODS Enterprises and conquers half marathons.







SPECIAL HONOR

Stephanie Washington

Stephanie's journey is one of academic excellence and dedication to the law. Graduating Magna Cum Laude from Clark Atlanta University in 2021, she embarked on her legal path at American University Washington College of Law. Alongside her studies, Stephanie has immersed herself in legal internships, drafting and reviewing licensing agreements within the music industry. She's held internships

at Madden Flow
Entertainment
in Los Angeles,
CA, and Black
Entertainment
Network in New
York. Currently, as
a student attorney
with the Community
Economic and Equity
Development Clinic in
Washington DC, she's poised to
graduate with a juris doctorate,
aiming to make her mark in Atlanta
or Washington DC.







SPECIAL HONOR

Gydnie Washington

At Parkview High
School, Sydnie
epitomizes
leadership and
service. A senior
with a remarkable list
of achievements, she's
a four-year member of
Arkansas Commitment,
a 2024 Alpha Phi Alpha
Debutante, and a section leader
in the Parkview Madrigals. Her
dedication extends to community
involvement, volunteering

countless hours with organizations like the Arkansas Heart Association and Tendaji Community Development Corporation. Sydnie's accolades include the prestigious Girl Scouts' Gold Award, All Region

Choir recognition, and numerous academic honors, culminating in her ranking first in her class with an outstanding 4.23 GPA.







GRADUATING SENIORS 2024 (Hwardees

ANNA BELIN

Little Rock Southwest Magnet High School

- -Principal's Scholars Award
- -Class Valedictorian
- -Robotics Club, member

RAMSEY CUMMINGS

Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School

- -National Honor Society
- -Arkansas Boys' State
- -Arkansas Governor's School

JAKOREI FOREMAN-CARTER

Hall STEAM Magnet High School

- -Senior Class Student Council, Vice President
- -Hall STEAM Magnet Football Team, Captain
- -Ken Hatfield (Outstanding Sportsmanship) Award, recipient

SYDNEY FRANKLIN

eStem Public Charter High School

- -National Honor Society
- -Arkansas Governor's School
- -Dean's List

MARY GRIMES

Conway High School

- -Model United Nations, Senior Leader
- -Arkansas Governor's School
- -Lincoln Douglass debater, state and nationally ranked



GRADUATING SENIORS 2024 (Awardees

KAEDAN HENDRIX

Little Rock Central High School

- -Arkansas Governor's School
- -Senior Class Vice President
- -Public Forum Debate, 2023 State Champion

CHRISTIAN HOLDEN

Sylvan Hills High School

- -Arkansas Governor's School
- -All Region Orchestra
- -Power of the Youth Award, recipient

IVAN RAMOS MARTINEZ

Searcy High School

- -Honor Roll
- -Varsity Wrestling Team, state qualifier
- -Active member of Saint James

Catholic Church

JOSHUA MONTGOMERY

Pulaski Academy

- -Pulaski Academy Order of Excellence
- -National Honor Society
- -All-State Boys Soccer

KASSIDY NICHOLS

North Little Rock Center of Excellence

- -Principal's Choice Award, recipient
- -National Honor Society
- -Arkansas Scholar, recipient



GRADUATING SENIORS 2024 (Awardees

ARION PEGRAM

Bryant High School

- -Honor Roll, Principal's Platinum recipient
- -Lady Hornets basketball, Team Player, Scholar Athlete and Most Improved
- -Ranked in the top 7% of graduating class

EMMA STEWART

Maumelle Charter High School

- -National Honor Society
- -Regional Science Fair, placed 3rd overall
- -Fellowship of Christian Students, member

LYDIA THOMAS

Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School

- -Arkansas Governor's School
- -Arkansas Girls' State
- -President's Education Award Program for Outstanding Academic Achievement

SYDNIE WASHINGTON

Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School

- -National Honor Society, President
- -Parkview Madrigals, section leader
- -2024 Class Valedictorian



CONTINUING STUDENTS 2024 (Awardees

When we started this educational fund in 2018, our focus was to give financial assistance to a few high school seniors that were going to college. Since that time, we have expanded our efforts in the area of education to include the OWJ Internship Initiative - assisting our scholars in obtaining paid summer internships in their field of study. We also started the Oscar Juniors program where we have adopted three local elementary schools and, in partnership with First Security Bank, we make financial deposits into the student saver accounts of elementary students who are nominated based on good grades, conduct and attendance.

Last year, our team committed to doing more. We introduced our OWJ Continuing Scholars grant for 2024. We select a minimum of two college students, who are not previous OWJ scholarship recipients, and award a \$1,500 grant to each student. Our inaugural grant recipients are listed below.

JAKAIYAH BROWN

Freshman, Grambling State University

- -Biological Science major
- -Strada HBCU Scholar
- -Thurgood Marshall Ambassador
- -Volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and the Arkansas Food Bank
- -Career goal is to become a neurosurgeon





GIANNA ELLISON

Freshman, Stillman College

- -Elementary Education major
- -Christian Student's Association,
- Vice President
- -Stillman College Choir, member
- -Girl Scouts of America, Life Member

EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR Namesake



The Alma J. Washington Educators 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, Jr. and this award honors

her lifetime of education in Arkansas.

Since its inception in 2020, the Alma J. Washington Educators of the Year Award has been given to 24 recipients who have received \$1000 each, including Mrs. Washington herself.



EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR Honorees



KWADJO BOAITEY Mills Middle School

KIMBERLY BRASFIELD Little Rock Central High School





JUNE JOSEPH Carver STEAM Magnet Elementary School

MARY LOUISE
WILLIAMS
Retired Educator
(Bearden, Magnolia,
Conway County,
Morrilton, and Menifee)



SPEAKER

Danyelle Musselman

Danyelle Musselman has an extensive background working in sports broadcasting with years of experience in anchoring, hosting and reporting.

Most recently, Musselman worked for the NFL Network where she served as an update anchor and as the host of "Up to the Minute." She also served as the host for Yahoo Sports, and as an anchor for Fox Sports Net.

In addition, Musselman worked as a sideline reporter for FOX Sports NFL

games and spent two years anchoring various programs on ESPN and ESPNews.

Musselman is the Co-Chair of the Coaches vs Cancer Wives & Friends team, and serves as the Market Chair for the Make a Wish Foundation Mid-South Region.

Musselman is married to former Arkansas Men's Basketball coach Eric Musselman. They share three children, Michael (25), Matthew (20), and Mariah (11).

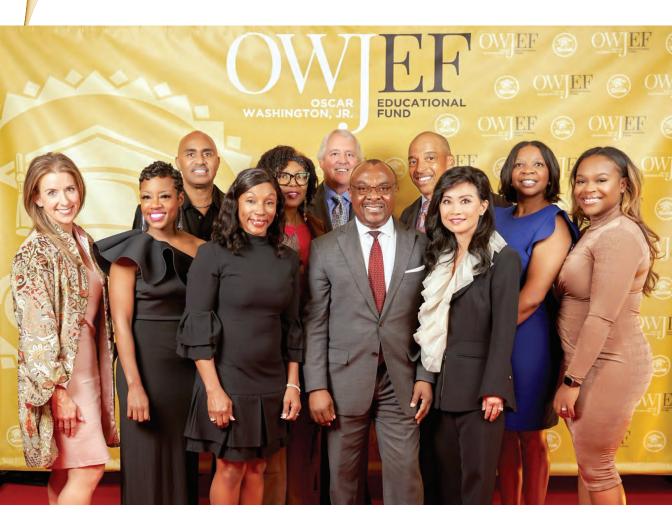
PROGRAM

Greetings & Acknowledgements Pamela Smith, Host Video Presentation Prayer.....Pastor Ronne Miller-Yow Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church Dinner is Served Introduction of Speaker SpeakerMrs. Danyelle Musselman Jordan Lambert Educator Honorees' Video Presentation Presentation of Educators Mrs. Alma J. Washington Recap Video Appeal.....Paul Bowersock Remarks from Chair Judge Mark Leverett Blessing for the Organization Rev. Brittany Stilwell



Second Baptist Church, Downtown

BOARD of Directors



Front Row (From left to right): JaNan Thomas, Kandi Hughes, Doris Washington, John Ekeanyanwu, and Dr. Suzanne Yee

Back Row (From left to right): Willie Davis, Bobbie Ficklin, Paul Bowersock, Mark Leverett, Dionne Jackson, and Sharita Bilson

Not pictured: Cade Cox and Tiffany Brown

FROMTHE Little Rock Mayor



April 27, 2024

Dear Esteemed Guests,

On behalf of the City of Little Rock, it is with great pleasure that I extend our warmest greetings to welcome you to the 7th Annual Oscar Washington, Jr. Scholarship Banquet. This year, we are honored to host an evening celebrating the achievements of outstanding high school students, as well as recognizing the educators of the year and our remarkable keynote speaker, Danyelle Musselman.



Tonight, we honor the memory of Oscar Washington, Jr., a truly extraordinary man who devoted his life to making a positive impact on the lives of others and myself as a dear friend and confidant. As a leader at Entergy, a committed Deacon at Saint Mark Baptist Church, and an influential figure in various volunteer efforts, his legacy of selfless service continues to inspire us all. It is in this spirit that we gather to celebrate the exceptional achievements of our scholarship recipients, carrying forward Oscar's dedication to promoting education and leadership within our community.

We are honored to have Danyelle Musselman, a former sports television reporter for ESPN and Fox Sports, turned anchor for several significant platforms. In addition to Danyelle's extensive background working in sports broadcasting and many years of experience in anchoring, hosting, and reporting, she has served as an organizer and championed numerous charitable and philanthropic organizations across Arkansas. Danyell is a shining example of leadership through service, as evidenced by her utilizing her unique skill set from one industry to aid in the indelible impact in philanthropic efforts.

As we come together to honor the memory and enduring legacy of Oscar Washington, Jr., we look forward to an evening filled with inspiration and celebration. Together, we will continue to champion the pursuit of education, leadership, and service, upholding the values that Oscar held so dear.

Sincerely,

Mayor Frank Scott, Jr. City of Little Rock

Jul Luly 50

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Pulaski County Title
Jim Keet
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Special thanks to Chick-Fil-A for providing lunch for the honoree workshop.



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We join with so many others in our support of this worthwhile effort.

The Oscar Washington, Jr.
Educational Fund
is carrying on the noble ideals of success
through academic excellence.

Congratulations to all award recipients.







Portrait by AY Media Gro

Dr. Suzanne Yee Cosmetic & Laser Surgery Center 12600 Cantrell Road, Ste. 100 Little Rock, AR 72223 www.drsuzanneyee.com | 501.224.1044

Congratulation Sto all of this year's recipients!

Your hard work and accomplishments are deserving of this special recognition.



Thank you to the Oscar Washington, Jr.
Educational Fund for honoring
these talented individuals.



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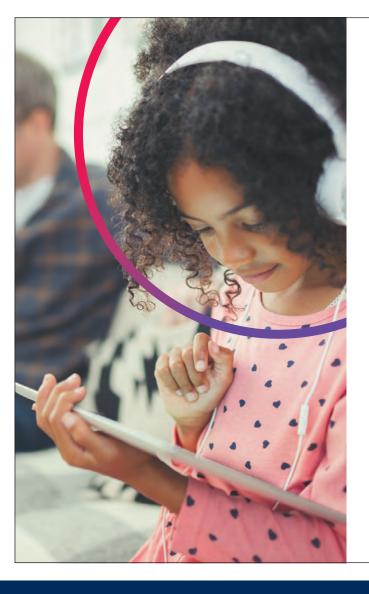
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CELEBRATING WITH the OWJEF Award Recipients

at the 7th Annual Scholarship Banquet.

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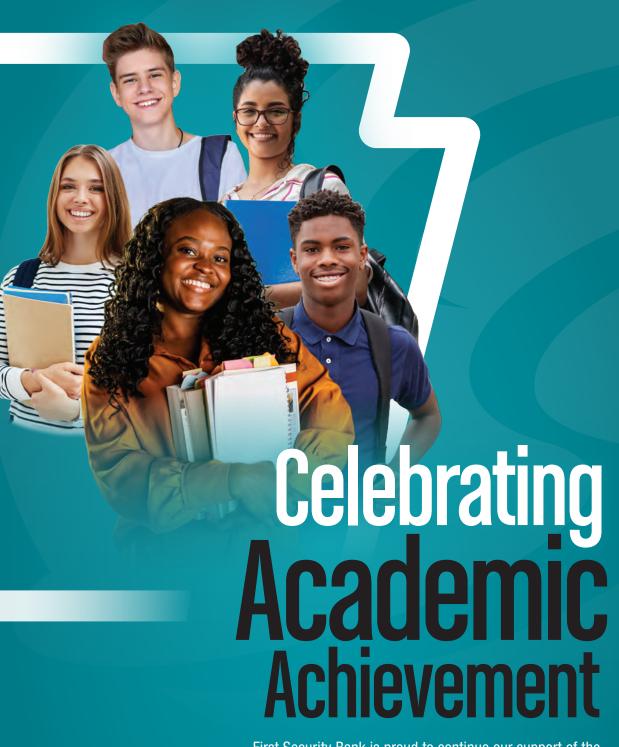
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First Security Bank is proud to continue our support of the **Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund (OWJEF)** and its investments in youth. Congratulations to the 2024 OWJEF Scholarship recipients on your academic achievement and the recognition of your outstanding character. We salute you and your potential to change communities.







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The team at APEX Senior Care & Consulting, LLC

Congratulates

the current, past and future

Scholarship Recipients

We are honored and humbled to partner with The Oscar Washington, Jr. Educational Fund in supporting the community through this outstanding award.

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Celebrating with all of this year's honorees.

Congratulations!



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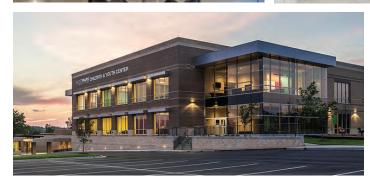
and the future starts now!

1 Peter 1:3-4 MSG

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



















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We offer our heartfelt congratulations to the 2024 OWJEF scholarship recipients and educators of the year!

"Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it."

- Marian Wright Edelman

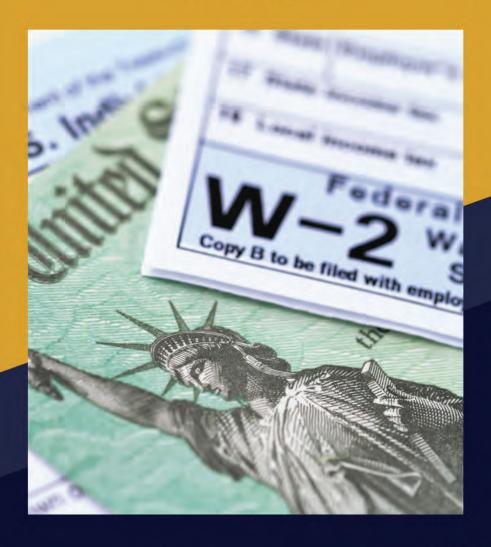
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Congratulations to the 2024 Scholarship Awardees

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