

# Alumni & Friends Newsletter

## MESSAGE FROM ALUMNI AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

# October

Alumni and Friends:

I am De'Shawn Barnes, a native of West Memphis, Arkansas, and a graduate of the class of 2022. I am elated to serve as your new Director of Alumni Affairs. I previously served as an Enrollment Counselor in the Office of Enrollment Management, where my focus was to reach and guide students and parents through each step of the admissions and enrollment process. I represented the College at college fairs, expos, and private visits. During my matriculation at Lane College, I have had the pleasure of serving Lane College in a plethora of leadership capacities, including but not limited to being President of the Student Government Association, President of Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity Inc., and Scholar Leader for the Power of Potential Scholarship program. I was also selected among top scholars to represent the institution as a 2021–2022 White House Scholar with the White House Initiatives on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. As the new Director of Alumni Affairs, I look forward to engaging with our esteemed alumni and making a positive contribution in this area.

The Office of Alumni Affairs wants you to stay connected with us. Here are ten ways in which you can do so. Share your professional achievements and community activities by submitting a class note. Attend a Lane College event. Join the Lane College alumni community on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Encourage your company to hire Lane College graduates. Invest in the future of our students by making an annual gift to Lane College. Establish a scholarship fund to help support the next generation of Lane College students. Show your commitment to Lane College and join the Jennie E. Lane Legacy Society. Update your contact information and reconnect with classmates. Help the Office of Admissions recruit the best and brightest prospective students as an Alumni Ambassador. Share your expertise by mentoring a student or recent graduate.

If you have news you would like to share in an upcoming issue of the Alumni and Friends Newsletter, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs.

De'Shawn Barnes

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731-410-6716

Director of Alumni Affairs



## LANE COLLEGE CELEBRATES HOMECOMING 2023



2023 Homecoming Queen & King:

Homecoming Royal Court 2023:

Lane College Celebrated the annual Homecoming Royal Coronation on Monday October 16, 2023 crowning & sashing the 2023 Homecoming Royal Court.

Miss Homecoming 2023: Ms. Kai Green

Mr. Homecoming 2023: Mr. Braxton Laster

### Lane College 2023 Homecoming Parade Winners

**On Campus Cars, Trucks & Marching Units**

1st PLACE - Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity

**Off Campus Cars & Trucks**

1st PLACE - A. J. Merriweather Construction LLC  
 2nd PLACE - Parker & Company - Real Estate & Quick Bond  
 3rd PLACE - St. Paul C.M.E. Church

**Off Campus Floats**

1st PLACE - Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Order of the Eastern Star A.F. & A.M of Tennessee  
 2nd PLACE Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
 3rd PLACE - Urban Defense Gun Club Inc. NAAGA, Jackson, TN Chapter

**Majorettes, Dance, & Cheer Teams**

1st PLACE - Jackson Central Merry High School Cheer Team  
 2nd PLACE - North Parkway Middle School Cheer Team  
 3rd PLACE - MBSM Elite Majorette Dance Team

**Marching Bands**

1st PLACE - Memphis Academy of Science & Engineering  
 2nd PLACE - Humboldt High School Marching Vikings  
 3rd PLACE - Fayette Ware High School Marching Band

**Off Campus Marching Bands**

1st PLACE - South Side High School NJROTC

The annual Lane College Homecoming Parade was held Saturday, October 22, 2023, with over 60 entries in the categories of on-campus cars, trucks & marching units, off-campus cars & trucks, off-campus floats, majorettes, dance & cheer teams, marching bands, and off-campus marching bands. Lane College celebrates the 2023 Homecoming Parade Winners..

## LANE COLLEGE CELEBRATES HOMECOMING 2023



Lane College is pleased to announce that Miss Tennessee Volunteer Jada Brown will be the 2023 Lane College Homecoming Parade Marshal. Miss Lane College Jada Brown made history on Saturday, July 29, 2023, at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson, Tennessee, as she was crowned the first Black contestant to win the title of Miss Tennessee Volunteer. As Miss Tennessee Volunteer, Brown will serve as the Governor’s Official Spokesperson for Character Education. Championing the platform “The Beauty Within Our Hands,” Brown highlighted American Sign Language and her experience growing up with a stepsister in a deaf and hard of hearing home. “Growing up, little Jada didn’t really have any representation, so now as the first-ever African American Miss Tennessee Volunteer, I’m so excited to be that representation for our youth and to let them know that no matter where they come from, how much money they have, where they go to school, that they can achieve their goals,” Brown said. Brown is a senior at Lane College seeking a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. “I’m so excited to be able to show everyone the importance of HBCUs and diversity and bring representation,” Brown said. “It’s so much bigger than me. It’s about allowing everyone to have a seat at the table.”



Lane College wants to thank the Lane College National Alumni Association, alumni chapters, and members all over the country in conjunction with the Dragon Booster Club for presenting a gift of \$175,000 to the College in a presentation during the Homecoming celebration on Saturday, October 21. Lane College also thanks the Class of 1973 for their gift of over \$162,000 to the College during the celebration of Homecoming 2023. The gift is a part of a yearlong campaign by the graduates to mark their golden anniversary Lane would like to thank all alumni and friends who continue to make a difference every day in the lives of our students. Remember, it is never too late to give.

<https://www.lanecollege.edu/give-to-lanet>

## LANE COLLEGE CELEBRATES HOMECOMING 2023

### 20 Under Forty Alumni Society

Lane College Office of Alumni Affairs celebrated the Inaugural 20 Under Forty Alumni Society. The 20 Under Forty Alumni Society recognizes exceptional young alumni who are achieving great success in their professional and personal endeavors. This honor will be presented annually to young alumni leading the way in business, leadership, community, educational, and philanthropic work. The 20 Under Forty Alumni Society Ceremony was held in conjunction with the 2023 Homecoming Celebration on Friday, October 20 at Kirkendoll Hall on the campus of Lane College.



### Hall of Distinction

On Friday, October 20, 2023 Lane College inducted the 2023 Class of Distinguished Alumni into the Lane College Hall of Distinction. Inductees to the hall have set a standard of excellence in their chosen field, have demonstrated significant professional accomplishment, and exemplified the educational mission of the College.

#### Young Alumni Achievement Award

The Honorable Scott Conger– Mayor, City of Jackson (2008)

#### Legacy Award

Capt.(Ret.)Voresa Booker– Retired Navy Captain, 1 of only 26 African American women to rise to the rank of Captain ( 1981)

Dr. Brett Ferguson– Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Department Chair, UMKC School of Medicine, First African American President of National Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (1975)

Bishop William H. Graves (Posthumously)– Vice Chair of National Board of NAACP, Founding Member and Chair of Congress of National Black Churches, First African American appointed to Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors, 42nd Bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (1960)

Judge Teresa Jones (Posthumously)– Chief Prosecutor and Judge, Memphis Municipal Court, Teamsters Trailblazer Award for exceptional longtime efforts to advance opportunities for women (1981)

Judson Pickard – Revered businessman and civic leader, McDonald's franchise entrepreneur (1970)

John Potts– McDonald's franchise entrepreneur; received prestigious Ronald Award given to top 1% of franchise owners across the country (1971)



# Alumnus of the Month



Our Alumnus of the Month for October is Mr. Braylin Laster. Mr. Laster, a native of Little Rock, Arkansas received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Lane College in 2017. Laster hit the ground running as a higher education professional as the Lane College Donor relations coordinator where his focus was Donor engagement, research analysis, organizing student-led fundraising teams and implementation of stewardship activities. In 2018,

Laster then became the Director of Alumni Affairs where his focus was to help communicate the college's accomplishments and upcoming events with Alumni and work closely with the Director of Annual Fund and the National Alumni Association. In 2019, Laster participated in the TICUA Advancing 'Leaders Summit' and was selected as one of thirty-one local business professionals to graduate from the Jackson Chamber's Leadership Jackson class. In

2022, he served as Vice President of Public Relations for the UNCF National Alumni Council (NAC) Board of Directors. He was awarded Exceptional Advisor of the Year at the 73rd UNCF National Alumni Council conference.

Laster then obtained his Master of Business Administration from Bethel University in 2022. On November 1, 2023, Laster begin his new journey as the Associate Vice President (AVP) for Institutional Advancement and Resource Development at Southwest Tennessee Community College. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and in the National Black MBA Association (NBMBA).

## YOUNG ALUMNI SUCCESS STORY SPOTLIGHT

## Demetris Johnson Jr., City Councilman– Earle, Arkansas



Mr. Demetris Johnson Jr. is a native of Earle, Arkansas.

Johnson received his Bachelors of Science in Physical Education with a minor in Biology from Lane College in 2023.

During his tenure at Lane College, Johnson served as Student Government Association President and Vice President, President of the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated, a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, Lead Residential Assistant of Harper Hall, and a member of Lane's National Honor Society.

In 2020, Johnson became the youngest city councilman in the State of Arkansas as the Earle, Arkansas City Councilman Ward 2 Position 2. After graduating Lane College, Johnson returned back to his home town to his Alma Mater Earle High School as a Jr./Sr High School Science Teacher.

Johnson ultimate goal is to show the youth to persevere through any storm and that there is a way no matter how many down falls you have.

## Dequoria Parker, M.Ed– Memphis, Tennessee



Ms. Dequoria Parker is a native of Memphis, Tennessee.

Parker received her Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies from Lane College in 2022.

During her tenure at Lane College, Parker served as Senior Class President, President of The National Society of Leadership and Success, New Student Orientation Leader, and Cohort Leader for the Power of Potential Scholarship Program. Parker was also a volunteer at the Redemption Road Rescue non-profit organization in Madison County, Tennessee where her focus was to help horses and horse owners in need by accepting surrendered animals. After graduating Lane College, Parker was accepted into the Memphis Teacher Residency Program where she was able to work on her Master of Education while also being teacher's assistant at Berclair Elementary School.

In April of 2023, Parker received her Master of Education from Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee. Parker is now teaching 1st Grade Mathematics at Cornerstone Preparatory School in Memphis, Tennessee where her ultimate goal is to change the statics of underserved schools. Parker wants to do this by giving her scholars a high quality education and providing them with every opportunity and resource no matter the zip code to close the academic and achievement gaps.

We celebrate Amashia Mabone for receiving the 6K Energy "\$6K for 6K Scholars" scholarship.



6K Energy, a leader in the sustainable production of critical materials for lithium-ion batteries, today announced in concert with Lane College, the selection of the first recipient of the newly created scholarship "\$6K for 6K Scholars", Amashia Mabone. Amashia is a sophomore at Lane College, studying chemistry. The scholarship program supports academically talented students majoring in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, or physics who are interested in pursuing a career in industry. "We are very excited to formally announce a well-deserving student, Amashia Mabone, as our first scholarship recipient at Lane College," said 6K Energy COO Rob Davies. "At 6K Energy, it is paramount that we help eager students like Amashia to not only offset tuition expenses but also provide a summer internship, allowing her to gain valuable hands-on experience working side by side with professionals creating the first domestically produced battery material in the US. Lane College President Dr. Logan Hampton added, "I am ecstatic for Amashia and thankful to 6K Energy for working with Lane College in creating the "\$6K for 6K Scholars" program. We know how overwhelming it can be trying to tackle the cost of college. We recognize the commitment 6K Energy has made with the program and appreciate how they have quickly become a desired employer for students of Lane College." Amashia is a member of the Lane College Power of Potential Scholarship group. Outside of her studies, she enjoys expanding her knowledge through reading and honing her writing skills.

## We celebrate Maya Leon for her new appointment by Governor Lee to the Tennessee Student Assistant Corporation (TSAC).

Lane College Celebrates Maya Leon for her appointment to the Tennessee Student Assistant Corporation by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee. Leon is a native of Gary, Indiana. Leon began her tenure at Lane College in the Fall of 2022 majoring in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. Currently, Leon serves as President of the Lane College Rotaract Club, President of the Lane College Fine Arts Club, Secretary of the Lane College Pre-Alumni Council, and a member of the Lane College Lumonistry Lab. Leon goal after she graduate is to enter professional school to obtain her Ph.D in Bioinformatics.



# STAY CONNECTED WITH US!



UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION



ATHLETICS



SOCIAL MEDIA



LANE COLLEGE

LANECOLLEGE.EDU

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

2023-2024 LANE COLLEGE WOMEN BASKETBALL

# SCHEDULE

OCT. 31	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	7:00PM	JAN. 13	@MILES COLLEGE*	2:00PM
NOV. 10	MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE	TBA	JAN. 15	@LIVINGSTONE	TBA
NOV. 11	DELTA STATE UNI.	TBA	JAN. 20	SPRING HILL*	2:00PM
NOV. 18	@FIK UNIVERSITY	5:30PM	JAN. 22	TUSKEGEE UNI.*	5:30PM
NOV. 25	@BENEDICT COLLEGE	12:00PM (EST)	JAN. 27	LEMOYNE-OWEN*	5:30PM
NOV. 27	@ALLEN UNIVERSITY*	4:30PM (EST)	JAN. 29	CENTRAL STATE*	5:30PM
DEC. 2	ALBANY STATE*	2:00PM	JAN. 31	KENTUCKY STATE*	5:30PM
DEC. 4	FORT VALLEY STATE*	5:30PM	FEB. 3	@KENTUCKY STATE*	1:00PM (EST)
DEC. 9	@BLUE MOUNTAIN UNI.	5:00PM	FEB. 5	@CENTRAL STATE*	5:30PM (EST)
DEC. 13	@ARKANSAS BAPTIST	5:00PM (EST)	FEB. 10	@TUSKEGEE UNI.*	2:00PM
DEC. 16	@CLARK ATLANTA*	1:00PM (EST)	FEB. 12	@SPRING HILL*	4:30PM
DEC. 19	TOUGALOO COLLEGE	3:00PM	FEB. 17	@LEMOYNE-OWEN*	5:30PM
JAN. 4	EDWARD WATERS	5:30PM	FEB. 20	ARKANSAS BAPTIST	5:00PM
JAN. 6	SAVANNAH STATE*	2:00PM	FEB. 26	MILES COLLEGE*	5:30PM
			MAR. 2-9	SIAC CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT	

HOMEREAWAYWAY \*INDICATES HOME/ROAD/GAMES

ALL HOME GAMES ARE HELD AT THE LANE COLLEGE GYMNASIUM\*

2023-2024 LANE COLLEGE MEN BASKETBALL

# SCHEDULE

OCT. 29	@UNI. OF MEMPHIS	12:00PM	JAN. 13	@MILES COLLEGE*	4:00PM
NOV. 10	UNION UNIVERSITY	TBA	JAN. 15	@LIVINGSTONE	TBA
NOV. 11	@SHORTER UNIVERSITY	TBA	JAN. 20	SPRING HILL*	4:00PM
NOV. 18	LINCOLN UNIVERSITY	4:00PM	JAN. 22	TUSKEGEE UNI.*	7:30PM
NOV. 25	@BENEDICT COLLEGE*	4:00PM (EST)	JAN. 27	LEMOYNE-OWEN*	7:30PM
NOV. 27	@ALLEN UNIVERSITY*	7:30PM (EST)	JAN. 29	CENTRAL STATE*	7:30PM
NOV. 28	@TALLADEGA COLLEGE	TBA	JAN. 31	KENTUCKY STATE*	7:30PM
DEC. 2	ALBANY STATE*	4:00PM	FEB. 3	@KENTUCKY STATE*	4:00PM (EST)
DEC. 4	FORT VALLEY STATE*	7:30PM	FEB. 5	@CENTRAL STATE*	7:30PM (EST)
DEC. 12	TALLADEGA COLLEGE	7:30PM	FEB. 10	@TUSKEGEE UNI.*	4:00PM
DEC. 16	@CLARK ATLANTA*	4:00PM (EST)	FEB. 12	@SPRING HILL*	7:30PM
DEC. 18	@MOREHOUSE COLLEGE*	7:30PM (EST)	FEB. 17	@LEMOYNE-OWEN*	7:30PM
JAN. 4	EDWARD WATERS	7:30PM	FEB. 20	ARKANSAS BAPTIST	7:00PM
JAN. 6	SAVANNAH STATE*	4:00PM	FEB. 26	MILES COLLEGE*	7:30PM
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