

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
*presents*



16TH ANNUAL  
**GALA**  
ON THE BLUFF

2018

OUR SIGNATURE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER  
BENEFITING COLLEGE OF BUSINESS STUDENTS

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2018**

BELLE OF BATON ROUGE CASINO & HOTEL

[www.galaonthebluff.com](http://www.galaonthebluff.com)



GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME

# *To the* 16th Annual *Gala on the Bluff*

## Highlights of Tonight's Festivities:

- | Enjoy a fantastic fusion of jazz, zydeco, and R&B by some of the hottest performers in the nation.
- | Tempt your palate with epicurean delights from several food and beverage venues located in Iberville A, B, and C. Food services will be available from 8:30 pm-10:30 pm.
- | Beverage services will be available from 8:00 pm-1:00 am.
- | Awards Ceremony will begin at 9:00 pm.
- | Split the Pot Raffle starts at 8:00 pm and ends at 10pm.





# Gala Entertainment



## THE MANHATTANS *featuring* GERALD ALSTON

KEITH FRANK AND THE SOILEAU  
ZYDECO BAND

AND

THE HARRY ANDERSON BAND





## GREETINGS

### SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE

#### MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



Welcome to the 16th Annual Gala on the Bluff, the principal fundraiser and support arm of the College of Business at Southern University and A & M College. Your presence this evening is indicative of your commitment to Southern University and our College of Business. Each year, this gathering serves as a forum where old acquaintances and friendships can be renewed, new ones formed, and our dedication and loyalty to the University can be reinforced. It is my fervent hope that you will continue to be an integral supporter of this event for many years to come.

Your generous support greatly enhances the programs and services we offer our business students and scholars who study, teach, and conduct research on the Bluffs of the mighty Mississippi River. By investing in them, you empower a new cadre of Southern University graduates who can competently conduct business from Wall Street to Main Street all across the globe. Your assistance helps the College of Business bring into our nation's economy men and women equipped with the necessary business acumen to succeed at any level. We do so while remaining responsive to the unique and historic mission of our great institution -- Southern University.

Your presence at tonight's festivities adds immensely to the camaraderie that is shared between the members of the Jaguar Nation. I invite you to let your passion for Dear ole Southern unite with your passion for good food, quality friendships and great music to make this evening special! Southern University and A & M College is the aggregate of its component parts – students, scholars, staff, alumni, supporters, and friends! As Chancellor, I thank each of you in your various roles for the contributions you make to the success of this great institution of higher learning.

Wishing you a wonderful Homecoming Weekend.

Yours,  
**Ray L. Belton, Ph.D.**

#### MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Welcome to the 16th Annual Gala on the Bluff. On behalf of the College of Business Advisory Council, I would like to personally thank each of you for your continued support and patronage of the Gala on the Bluff, which provides funding to benefit the College of Business at Southern University and A&M College. The Advisory Council appreciates the hard work of our steering and host committees, and all of the volunteers to make this event a marvelous success.

My sincere gratitude is extended to the Gala sponsors, who are prominently acknowledged in this Gala Program Booklet. A special thank you to our major sponsors: Agnes Andrews Allstate, Franchise Food Systems of Minnesota and Mr. Leon E. Valdry. All of our sponsors will also be recognized during the sponsor recognition portion of tonight's festivities and with a live sponsor interview with our longtime supporter Brian Hertzock of the Film Access Academy. I am also appreciative of the many individuals who purchased tickets for the Gala. Your continued support demonstrates your profound commitment to education and a wiliness to support tomorrow's global leaders.

Over the past fifteen years, the Gala has generated more than \$700,000 to support the awarding of scholarships to our students along with enabling our students and faculty to participate in a number of developmental opportunities, both domestic and abroad. As envisioned by the Advisory Council, Gala on the Bluff is one of the most anticipated gatherings of the year. The Gala is a social magnet eclipsing racial and economic barriers to draw a diverse group of people together to celebrate sponsors and supporters of the College of Business with great music and wonderful food. Your support truly makes a difference in our community. Thank you for supporting the 16th Annual Gala on the Bluff and we look forward to your participation next year.

Sincerely,

**George Rogers Jr., CPA**  
Chairman  
Southern University College of Business Advisory Council  
SU Class of '69



## GREETINGS

### SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE



#### MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

On behalf of the College of Business at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, we would like to thank you for supporting this wonderful program. I especially thank our 2018 sponsors both major and in-kind whose support was tremendous and indispensable in establishing this activity as a signature fundraiser for the College. The Gala on the Bluff Host Committee has been and continues to be a great asset in making the "Gala" the premier activity that it has become during our homecoming. A special thank you is in order for Gloria Whiten and Dianne Woods; as our partnership with Agnes Andrews Allstate Insurance Agency is paramount to the success of the gala. Thank you for all that you do. In addition, let me send a huge thank you to the Louisiana Department of Insurance for investing into our Risk Management and Insurance Program. Your contributions to the College of Business and the Gala on the Bluff Scholarship Fundraiser will generate scholarships for our students and support for educational programming needs. This year's Gala has special relevance, as scholarship support to our students is critical to the success in developing great academic and professional outcomes for our stakeholders.

As you enjoy the splendid music of the nationally and internationally known entertainers and personalities, you can be justifiably proud that you are investing in tomorrow's business and community leaders. Recipients of the 2017 Gala Scholarships are evidence of the success that we can achieve when the community, businesses and academia work in partnership to achieve a common goal. The new realities in business call for greater cooperation between colleges, business and government in order to achieve high levels of economic performance. We need your help in preparing our students, faculty and administration for the global economy so that we can help propel this city, state and nation to new and unexplored heights.

We shall always be grateful for your generosity and we know that you will have a wonderful time at 2018 Gala on the Bluff Scholarship Fundraiser. Enjoy the evening.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Andrews

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS *History*

Established in 1937 under the direction of Samuella V. Totty, Ph.D., the first African-American woman to receive a Ph.D. in business, the College of Business humbly began as the Department of Commercial Education offering five courses, employing one teacher, and nine students. Now, over sixty-eight years later, the College of Business at Southern University boasts over 1,200 students and offers six bachelor degree programs in two departments, The Department of Accounting, Finance, and Economics and the Department of Management & Marketing. The mission of the College of Business is "to provide a quality business program that prepares students with diverse backgrounds for global career challenges and makes a positive contribution to the public and private sectors." The College emphasizes student preparation for career Opportunities in the competitive global economy. Quality instruction, faculty research and community outreach in the form of small business development and incubation are all integral parts of the learning experiences provided for our stakeholders. The College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB-International), which is recognized as the premier accrediting body for business schools in the world.

Among the objectives of the baccalaureate degree programs are: to facilitate lifelong learning opportunities; to prepare students to compete favorably in the global job market; to provide enhanced awareness of entrepreneurial challenges and rewards; and to prepare students for advanced studies in graduate and professional schools.

Since its inception, the College of Business has graduated over 8000 students; many of whom work at major corporations such as Texas Instruments, General Motors, Allstate Insurance Company, International Paper, ExxonMobil, Shell Oil, IBM, Goldman Sachs, Walmart, Sam's Club, Boeing, NASA, Ernst and Young, 3M, FDIC, Johnson and Johnson, Procter and Gamble, and many others.







# 2017-2018 *Scholarship Recipients*

Thank you to everyone who played a part in helping the College of Business provide scholarships to our future business leaders!

Alex McKee  
Alia Stewart  
Angel Caston  
Artisha Davis  
Asia Smith  
Caleb Ngoh  
Carldrick Slaughter  
Christopher Howard, Jr.  
Courtney Shelmire  
Courtney Wright  
Danielle Goodlow  
Deanna Ruffin  
Dineshia Coleman  
Elise Turner  
Ericka Mason  
Harvey Dixon

Jada Joseph  
James Eaglin  
Jared Menson  
Jasmine Williams  
Jazz Maruo  
Kanika Goins  
Kanton Jones  
Kelsey Perine  
Majesti Smith  
Mekhi Singleton  
Rufaro Chirewa  
Shamyra Walker  
Suzannah Omonuk  
Taylor Harris  
Tamiko Stroud

## MESSAGE FROM THE GALA *Sponsorship Co-Chairs*

What a success!

On behalf of the Gala on the Bluff committee, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your commitment to making this event so successful. Your support in the educational pursuits of Southern University students will result in long lasting benefits by helping to ensure valuable experience and a quality education. Your generous contributions helped make our vision reality.

As we continue to grow please know that partnerships with our sponsors are vital to the success of this Gala. You are truly appreciated. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

**Starr Daigre-Fleming**

Co-chair

Starr Real Estate & Insurance

The Professional Directory

&

**Agnes Andrews**

Co-chair

Agnes Andrews Allstate Insurance Agency

COB Advisory Council Member



## HONOREES

### MR. ELDRED JACKSON

Mr. Jackson currently works for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in the Office of the VHA Chief Procurement and Logistics Officer as the Associate Director of the Office of Procurement Operations. He has also served as Acting Director of VHA's Service Area Office – East. Mr. Jackson has over twenty five years of government service as an Acquisition Professional. Including VA his work spans four agencies, the Department of Army, the Department of State, and the Department of Justice. Prior to joining VA, Eldred served as the Deputy Director, Office of Administration, Acquisition Management Division, at the Department of Justice, in the Office of Justice Programs, where he was the Senior Contracting Official and Bureau Procurement Chief and had oversight of the procurement activities for goods and services valued over \$100 million dollars annually.

As an AMC Career Intern Program Graduate, Eldred is an advocate for mentoring and developing junior contract specialists. He has been a member of the Services Acquisition and Management Services Center Industry Government Councils. Eldred has received numerous awards for his vast procurement knowledge and expertise including The Attorney General's Award for New Employees, The Government Executive Magazine Travel Manager of the Year Award, and two Meritorious Honor Awards for Outstanding service at the Department of State. He has also been recognized for his contributions in the area of employee and labor relations and received the Secretary's Award at the Department of Veterans Affairs for Excellence in Alternate Dispute Resolution.

Eldred is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and is a graduate of Southern University, where he was initiated as a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. Eldred recently earned his Master of Science in Organizational Performance from Bellevue University, Bellevue, NE and executive level training at the Federal Executive Institute. He is active in various community activities, including many with his Alma Mater, including the College of Business Advisory Council, The System Foundation, and The Alumni Federation, in which all of them have recently recognized him for his work with the TOP Jags which stands for Top JAGS - Junior Achievers going to Southern. He was also recently honored by his High School Alumni Association as a STAR and a 2017 Louisiana Role Model by the Baton Rouge Chapter of the Links.

### PRESTON CASTILLE

Preston J. Castille, Jr. is a Partner and a member of the Executive Committee at the Taylor Porter law firm. He joined the firm in 1994 and is engaged primarily in business litigation and transactions. Prior to attending law school, Mr. Castille worked as an economist for the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C. In addition to being an experienced litigator in both state and federal court, Mr. Castille assists clients with matters in the Education and Energy sectors. Mr. Castille has been ranked for several years in Best Lawyers in America® in the fields of Administrative Law and Insurance Law. He is also a North America Area Representative for MSI Global Alliance and serves on the company's Management Board. MSI Global Alliance is an international network of more than 250 accounting and law firms in 100 countries.

Mr. Castille served two terms as National President of the Southern University Alumni Federation from 2014-2018. During his tenure as National President, Mr. Castille's administration secured an \$800,000 land donation from Eco Services Corporation and Solvay USA Inc. to support the development of the Federation's Center for Alumni & Economic Development. The acquisition of the land gives the Federation ownership and control of nine (9) acres of

land along Harding Blvd from the Mississippi River to the MLK Catholic Student Center. The Center for Alumni & Economic Development is a collaboration between the Federation and Southern University to promote alumni engagement and spark economic development in the community immediately surrounding the university. The development will also include residential apartments for law school and graduate students.

During Mr. Castille's administration, the Federation was also instrumental in establishing a partnership with the Mentorship STEAM Academy, a local public high school, to develop a Southern University Downtown Campus and build a recruitment pipeline with the high school and the university. As a result of this partnership, the Southern University System has been offering classes in downtown Baton Rouge for the last two years. In 2009, Mr. Castille was appointed Judge Pro Tempore by the LA Supreme Court. While he has returned to the full-time practice of law, he continues to periodically serve as an ad hoc judge. Mr. Castille is also an adjunct law professor. He began his career as a law professor in 2001 at LSU Law School and taught there for eight years. In 2003, he began teaching at Southern University Law Center and continues to teach multiple courses.

Mr. Castille served on the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Board of Governors from 2001-2004, President of the Baton Rouge Bar Association in 2011, and President of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society from 1998-2000. He is currently a member of the American Bar Association (ABA) House of Delegates and a member of the Louisiana Law Institute. He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of New Schools for Baton Rouge (NSBR) and Vice Chairman of the Board for the Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX).

Mr. Castille earned his Bachelor of Science in Business (Economics) in 1990 from Southern University and A&M College and his Juris Doctorate from Tulane University School of Law in 1994.



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# Special Thanks to **Doctoral Sponsor**

## GREGORY BARANCO BARANCO AUTOMOTIVE GROUP



President and CEO of Baranco Automotive Group consisting of Baranco Buick Pontiac GMC in Lilburn, Georgia; Mercedes Benz of Buckhead in Atlanta, Georgia and smart Center Buckhead in Atlanta, Georgia. A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Mr. Baranco graduated from Southern University in 1970, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. In 1999, he also received an Honorary Doctorate degree in Business from Southern University. In 1978, he founded Baranco Pontiac, Inc. Since then, he has received numerous awards sponsored by General Motors (Pontiac GMC), Ford (Lincoln-Mercury) and American Honda (Acura). Since 1990, his automotive group has remained one of Black Enterprise Magazine's top 100 businesses and has appeared on the magazine's cover. He has received the finalist status for the coveted Time Magazine Quality Dealer Award. Gregory Baranco is a member of the Georgia Automobile Dealers Association (GADA) and the Metro Atlanta Automobile Dealers Association (MAADA).

He served as President (1985) of the Metropolitan Atlanta Automobile Dealers Association (during which time he was part of a board that successfully reinstated the annual automotive show and instituted a scholarship program for vocationally talented students seeking careers in the automotive field). Mr. Baranco is actively involved in his community. As Chairman of the Board of First Southern Bank in Lithonia, Georgia, he negotiated a merger with Citizens Trust Bank of Atlanta, Georgia. This merger made the new Citizens Trust Bank the third largest minority bank in the U.S. He serves on the following boards; Southern University College of Business, Board of Visitors, and Trustee for Morehouse School of Medicine and Berry College. He also serves on the Carter Center Board of Councilors and Kaiser Permanente Foundation Health Plan of Georgia.

Mr. Baranco has served as business mentor to students from Howard University, Spelman College and Southern University. He is a member of One Hundred Black Men of Dekalb County, the United Way and the Dekalb County Task Force on Efficiency in Government. He has received recognition for his contributions to the Metropolitan Atlanta Red Cross, the Dekalb Council for the Arts, the United Negro College Fund, St. Joseph's Hospital and the Dekalb County Education Program. Mr. Baranco is married to attorney Juanita Powell Baranco and they have four children.



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A black silhouette of a city skyline with several buildings of varying heights and widths. Some buildings have yellow rectangular windows.

# BACHELOR SPONSORS



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Special thanks and appreciation to the LA. Dept. of Insurance for investing into the Risk Management and Insurance Program, here in the College of Business at Southern University.



**LDI** Louisiana  
Department of  
Insurance

## COMMITTEE OF 150

The Committee of 150- is a volunteer group composed of alumni, business partners, and friends who use both their time and means to support the mission of the College of Business. All members have pledged a minimum of \$1000.00 per year, for five (5) years.

- ALTON SMITH
- BETTY BROWN
- BETTY WOOTEN
- BILLY WOOTEN
- BRENDA BANKS
- CHARLES CARTER
- CHARLOTTE POWELL
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- GEORGE ROGERS
- HARRY CARTER
- JAMES BROWN
- LESLIE SMITH
- LESTER POURCIAU
- MILDRED CARRETHERS



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Will Anderson  
David Anderson  
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Alton Smith  
Leslie Smith  
LaQuitta Thomas  
Jefni Thomas-Johnson  
Deanitra Walker  
Tony Williams  
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TONI JACKSON | Event Coordinator  
AGNES ANDREWS | Co-Chair, Sponsorship Committee  
STARR DAIGRE | Co-Chair, Sponsorship Committee  
LORI HONORE | Chair, Ancillary Events Committee  
MARILYN DOHERTY | Chair, Volunteer Committee

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We are so grateful for the time, talent, resources, commitment and support contributed by the Gala Chairs  
Host Committee Members, and the SUBR Office of Communications. Your generosity can never be repaid, but will long be remembered.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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[Galaonthebluff.com](http://Galaonthebluff.com)

Dr. Donald R. Andrews, Dean

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