

## Annual Celebration Reception & Awards



To read more about this event, see page 3.

- ▲ ▲ ▲ **Otha Brandon** receives the Alumnus of the year Award for 2011 from 2010 recipient **Glenn Sessoms**.
- ▲ ▲ **Barbara & Pitt Hyde** were presented with the Kate Gooch Leader of the Year Award by LM board chair **Chris McLean**.
- ▲ ▲ **Bob Fockler**, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, accepts the Community Champion Award from LM incoming Board Chair **Eric Robertson**.
- ▲ **Jacoby "J-Smoove" Jelks** makes the case for all of us to believe in One Memphis.

## President's Corner

Dear LM Alumni and Friends,

As a native Memphian, I've seen a lot of change in our great city: I've seen downtown blossom from a shell into a dynamic destination. I've watched as power and leadership changed hands. I've seen the change in our graduates' perceptions, and in our own, as we learn from one another.

This, too, is a time of change for Leadership Memphis. In almost every arena: branding, staffing, location, and outreach. But we believe that these changes are vital to the continued success of Leadership Memphis. You believe it as well and have been with us every step of the way with guidance, advice, and support. None of this would be possible without you, and for that we cannot thank you enough.

Leadership Memphis stands on a rock-solid foundation. It is a foundation that was built on, *u n w a v e r i n g* *d e t e r m i n a t i o n*, vision, and hard work. Our reputation is just as solid. That will not change.



David Williams

But now is the time to step up, just as the visionaries who founded Leadership Memphis did three decades ago, and move forward. We must do so not only in order to survive, but to thrive. It's an exciting time to be a part of Leadership Memphis. We are evolving. Adapting. Restructuring. Relocating. Reenergizing. In a word, changing.

We know that along the way there will be challenges and obstacles, and we are prepared for those. We are united in our vision to take Leadership Memphis to the next level. Prepared to "step up," if you will.

Because that's what leaders do.

Sincerely,

David Williams  
President/CEO

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### **Brian Stephens**

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### **Bobby White**

Mayor's Chief of Staff,  
City of Memphis

## Memphis Talent Dividend: National Attention

On Friday, May 20th, Leadership Memphis and the Memphis Talent Dividend welcomed two guests from Washington to its quarterly update session: Greg Darneider, Special Assistant to the Secretary for College Access at the United States Department of Education, and Congressman Steve Cohen. What is the Memphis Talent Dividend, exactly? This college attainment brings together stakeholders who are working together to increase the number of college graduates in the Memphis Metro area by one percentage point over the next five years. Though it might not sound like much, consider this: that one percent will have a \$1 billion impact on the local economy.

So how does that 1% create such a boost to the economy? Darneider explained to Fox 13's Ernie Freeman how it all breaks down. "The increase will come from sales taxes, auto sales, home purchases, while there would be decreased social expenditures, from law enforcement to healthcare. So the impact is more than significant," Darneider noted.

Memphis is one of 57 cities across the country taking up the challenge from CEOs for Cities to increase college enrollment by 1% for a \$1 million prize. Where does Memphis stand among the 57 competing cities, and what will it take for the Bluff City to win the million-dollar prize? Well, no one can say for now, but we know that the winning city will have done two things to succeed. First, various sectors in the community, from the corporate sector to faith-based organizations and more, should all be involved, working together to not only get the word out about going to and completing college, but to help in their own areas of expertise. The second key is getting those who attended college without graduating to enroll again to earn their degrees.

To find out more about the Memphis Talent Dividend and to see how you can help us help the city, visit [www.memphistalentdividend.com](http://www.memphistalentdividend.com) or check out our Facebook page - just search Memphis Talent Dividend; if you like what you see - let us know, and share with your friends.



▲ Greg Darneider, U.S. Dept. of Education, at MTD report session



▲ Executive Program Class of 2011

## LM's Annual Celebration Reception & Awards

If you weren't among the hundreds who flocked to the Memphis Cook Convention Center on May 3rd for our annual soiree, here are the highlights and the lowdown on the evening's events.

Following the graduation ceremony for the Executive Program 2011 class, the festive evening kicked off with cocktails and hors d'ouvres. Performances by students from Overton High School and from the Visible Music College warmed up the crowd for the opening of the ceremony by LM class of 1979 graduate, Mayor A C Wharton. A highlight of the event was Jacoby "J-Smoove" Jelk's rap performance of "One Memphis" and then, it was on to the awards. The Distinguished Alumnus Award went to Otha Brandon, Director of Government Affairs, Comcast; the Community Champion Award went to the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, accepted by foundation Executive Director Bob Fockler; and the Kate Gooch Leader of the Year Award was given to co-recipients Barbara and Pitt Hyde of the Hyde Family Foundations.

Fox 13's Mearl Purvis emceed the event, and ran it so smoothly that the event ended ahead of schedule so that Griz fans could get home to watch the game. Sadly, It wasn't the Griz' night to win, but it was a winning event for Leadership Memphis, our alums, and our sponsors.

## Going the Extra MILE: Austin Baker

Austin Baker (EP 2008) is in the business of business. It's something that the Memphis native has known from an early age. So when it came time to choose a major in college, well, that was easy. When it came time to choose a university that, too, was easy. The University of Memphis – and more specifically, the Fogelman School of Business & Economics.

"It has a stellar reputation," says Baker.

And while other students were tailgating and donning togas, Baker was busy thinking of ways in which to improve the city. Ways to make better leaders. Ways to encourage young people to get serious about management and business and entrepreneurship.

So when Baker met author and professor Robert Taylor, it was a match made, well, in business school heaven. Taylor had been developing the idea of MILE – or the Memphis Institute for Leadership Education for a few years, but was more of a visionary. Baker, who had already been involved in managing and starting two businesses (Owen Brennan's and EServ, respectively), was the perfect complement to Taylor's talents. "He says we're like Reese's Peanut Butter Cups," laughs Baker. "He's the inside, I'm the outside."

With their roles and duties cemented, it was time to form the first class. The concept was simple: partnering students with professionals in their fields of interest to create a mentor/protégé program thus giving students an advantage, an inside look at what they were studying.

Taylor was tapped with making the student selections, with the criteria that each had to show initiative, fill out a series of applications, and have an interview. Baker raised the funds from sponsors and reached out to professors and business leaders to volunteer their time.

"The goal was to create a 'brass ring' organization to give students something to strive for," explains Baker. In 2006, Taylor and Baker approached University officials to get their blessing for the program. The school was equally enthusiastic and happily green-lighted the program.

The first class, which was formed in 2007, paired 25 students with 25 mentors. The program lasts for two semesters, and the organization hosts a graduation each April. "We do take off in March," says Baker. "I mean, March madness is a really big deal," he laughs.

It's exactly that type of common sense and familiarity with the "client" that has made Baker so successful. "You have to know what is going to work and what is reasonable," adds Baker. "Otherwise you're wasting your and everyone else's time and money." MILE students must attend several meetings, tackle reading assignments, attend seminars and other shadowing events, as well as a monthly speaker's series.

It's clear that students who participate are getting an edge before they get their degrees, but what exactly do the mentors get out of it? "You know, most of the time the mentors say they get more out of it than the students," says Baker. "It's a very powerful experience to get together with like-minded people and network, compare ideas and goals. Some of the mentors have stuck with the program since the very beginning," notes Baker, adding that in addition to professors, leaders from companies like FedEx, First Tennessee, and Watkins-Uiberall are involved as well.

Needless to say, the program has been a success. In a year's time, the program went from 85 pairs to 225 pairs, and is still going strong and growing steadily.

In business, as in life, timing is critical, so the fact that Baker graduated from Leadership Memphis' Executive Program the same year his first class of MILE students did is no coincidence. "Leadership Memphis helped me see just what a highly professional, high performing leadership program should look like. It helped me in my endeavors immensely."

For information about the MILE program email [mile@memphis.edu](mailto:mile@memphis.edu).



▲ Austin Baker and Jay Myers

### Our Impact: FastTrack Spring 2011

My knowledge of the opportunities for Memphis:  
**from 5.2 to 59.42%**

*"I now understand the power and importance of dialogue."*

My knowledge of issues that will shape Memphis' future:  
**from 5.11 to 63.21%**

*"I thoroughly enjoyed the program and have recommended it to my friends, family, and co-workers. Wish it could have lasted longer!"*

My awareness of how I can help make Memphis great:  
**from 5.09 to 58.3%**

*"This is an excellent program. I met great, committed Memphians and that gives me hope for our future."*

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### Our Impact: Executive Program 2011

My understanding of what makes cities successful:  
**from 6.61 to 25.56%**

*"It broadened my knowledge of Memphis, including both leadership opportunities as well as challenges..."*

I have a clear agenda and that I will follow as advocate for community change: **from 6.51 to 25.49%**

*"Yes, significant results can be obtained by community action."*

My knowledge of what will make Memphis a city of choice:  
**from 6.91 to 22.72%**

*"In order to have 'one Memphis race relations must be improved. Diversity contributes to Memphis' uniqueness."*

## Executive Program 2011 Graduates

Beverly N. Alexander	Dwan L. Gilliom
Lisa L. Bailey	Leslie F. Gower
Fred C.B.	Shawn M. Grigson
Bannerman-Williams	Trace Hollowell
Alvin D. Benson	Diane M. Hampton
Susan N. Berry-Buckley	Matthew S. Heiter
Carmen Blatteis	John Hurley
Natasha D. Bowen	Russell Ingram
Diane Brown	Eric Janssen
Ralph Calhoun	Bradley F. Johnson
Mollie Merry Campbell	Ephie Johnson
Clarence Carr	Linda O. Kennard
Linda F. Carter	Susan M. Kyles
Patrick H. Carter III	Terica C. Lamb
Zachary R. Chandler	Pierre T. Landaiche III
Reggie L. Crenshaw	Shantelle
Jennie M. Cull	A. Leatherwood
Hughetta W. Dudley	Felicia D. Lee
Fred Ellrich	Susan D. Lee
Lynn Field	Ruth W. Lentz
Shelia Fleming-Hunter	Mickell Lowery
Reneé S. Frazier	Susan E. Mackenzie
Stephanie W. Gatewood	Bernice Martin
John H. Gemmill	Douglas A. McGowen
Scott R. Gill	Kimberly McNeil



Susan K. Mealer	Lirah B. Sabir	Kenny Traynom
Jim E. Meeks Jr.	Roderick E. Scott	Jill E. Turner
Howard Mitchell	William Sehnert	Van D. Turner Jr.
Pat Mitchell Worley	Grace Simmons	Charles Utterback
Gerald D. Neely	Randy J. Spicer	Kimberly C. Williams
Anthony B. Norris	Pamela Sullivan	Michael W. Wilson
Donald O'Conner	Brenda J. Taylor	Harold M. Wingood
James Overstreet	Telesa L. Taylor	Tara Wolckenhauer
Walter O. Person	Darrell K. Thomas	Angela H. Woods
Ross B. Ridenhour	Fred A. Towler	Fenton E. Wright

## FastTrack Spring 2011 Graduates

Michel Allen	Anjali Jones	Gwendolyn
Andrea Ards	Marion Kello	Thomas-Sudduth
Richard Armstrong	Sarah Beth Larson	Ruth Towler
Megan Arthur	Nikki Lekhy	Aubrey Tucker
Tiffany Brimhall	Maggie Louie	Beth Turner
Felicia Donelson	Jonathon Lyons	Stephanie Wexler-
Abby Elzemeyer	Bernice Malone	Malone
Mark Engelen	Larry McHatch	Reggie Whitney
Callie Ford	Ryan Nelson	Margaret Williams
Michael Gaither	Kathy Randall	
Dan Gant	Shvet Rawla	
Aaron Hall	Linda Reddick	
Kim Haynes	Meghan Shanklin	
Rodney Higdon	Larry Strong	
Sheria Holmes	Brittany	
Gail House	Strung Fryman	
Nicki Inman		

## FastTrack Fall 2010 Graduates

Carrie	Marie Harl	Willette Patton
Allison-Brooks	DeJuan Hendricks	Donna Robinson
Audra Bares	Brandon	Angela Ross
Alicia Boyd	Herrington	Gwen Shields
Jared Bulluck	Dawn Hunter	Buz Sorce
Kerri Campbell	Justin Lawhead	Mark Stanley
Tracy	Kathy Lofton	Felicia Stone
Christoffersen	David Loges	Tina Sullivan
Glynis Cox-Finnie	Greg Love	Pam Summons
Frederick	Keisha Malone	Deidre Thompson
Cunningham	Mark Meadows	Alex Turner
Dawn Hunter	Brian Moore	Anne Walk
Karen Ervin	Christina Moran	Delois Williams
Jonathan Farman	Arvis Nichols	Christine Wilson
Michele Fortner	Kelly O'Dwyer	Mike Young
Nicole Gates	Willie Patterson	
Ajitabh Gupta	Levera Patton	

The Executive Program enrolls 80 individuals each year. The program begins in September and ends in May. During the nine-month program, participants spend a total of 12 days together on a challenging and informative curriculum. We are accepting nominations now for the 2012 class.

The FastTrack Program is a 40-hour program held over a semester; we offer a spring semester and a fall semester. There are still a few available slots for the Fall 2011 program.

To apply or nominate someone for one of the programs, contact us at [admissions@leadershipmemphis.org](mailto:admissions@leadershipmemphis.org), or call our offices at 278-0016. For more information about these programs and more, visit [www.leadershipmemphis.org](http://www.leadershipmemphis.org).

## Annual Corporate Sponsorships for 2010-2011

### Leader (\$30,000+)

FedEx  
Tactical Magic  
Urban Child Institute

Regional Medical Center  
Sedgwick CMS  
Thompson & Company  
United Way of the Mid-South  
University of Phoenix

### Entrepreneur (\$12,500-\$29,999)

Baptist Memorial Health Care  
Comcast  
e2Global  
International Paper  
Memphis Grizzlies  
Charitable Foundation  
Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare  
Mid-South Minority  
Business Council  
Playhouse on the Square

Woman's Foundation  
for a Greater Memphis

### Team Builder (\$6,500-\$12,499)

Center for Community  
Building & Neighborhood Action  
CIGNA Healthcare  
Cummins  
Nike Inc.  
Patterson Graham  
Saint Francis Healthcare

### Innovator (\$3,000-\$6,499)

Accredo  
Adams Keegan  
AT&T  
Bank of America  
BlueCross BlueShield  
Buckman  
Champion Awards  
Commercial Realty Group  
DelBrocco & Associates  
Diamond Companies, Inc.  
Flintco, Inc.  
Huey's Restaurants  
KDesigns  
KPMG  
McDonald's/Century Management

Memphis Brooks Museum of Art  
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.  
Northwestern Mutual  
OfficeMax® Impress™  
Orpheum Theatre  
Ray Rico Freelance  
Regions Bank  
SunTrust Bank  
Tag Truck Center  
Thomas & Betts  
Tri-State Defender  
Wachovia Foundation

## Annual Alumni Sponsorships for 2010-2011

Leadership Memphis alumni and corporate sponsorships are based on the organization's fiscal year (July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011). Sponsors posted herewith are those who have pledged as of May 1, 2011. If your name is not listed and it should be, or if you would like to make a corporate or alumni sponsorship commitment, please contact Toria Parker.

### Movers (\$1,000+)

Clint Anderson EP2008  
Rusty Bloodworth EP1981  
Otha Brandon EP2001  
Kathy Buckman  
Gibson EP 2003  
Jennifer Gilbert EP2010  
Russell Gwatney EP1997  
Pat Halloran EP1988  
Page Inman EP2006  
Chris Kelley EP2009  
Matt King EP2010  
Melvin Lee EP2006  
Steve Lykins EP1987  
LeVeda McCou EP2010  
Mary McDaniel EP2002  
Eileen McGinley EP1997  
Chris McLean EP2002  
Christine Munson EP1991  
Paul Posey EP2007  
Leigh Shockey EP1998  
Joscelyn Shoptaw EP2010  
Rob Varner EP2007  
Regina Walker EP1987  
Trey Watkins EP2005  
Ricky Wilkins EP1992  
David Williams EP2006  
Duncan Williams EP1994

Denise Bollheimer EP1986  
Paul Boyle EP2009  
Christy Bradley EP2006  
Martin Carodine EP2009  
Jeane Chapman EP1982  
Chirag Chauhan EP2006  
Darrell Cobbins EP1999  
Veronica Coleman  
Davis EP1990  
John Dobbs EP2010  
Bryan Ford EP2009  
Brenda  
Gaines-Ollie EP1988  
Jeff Gaudino EP2008  
J.W. Gibson EP1999  
Tomeka Hart EP2007  
Bryce Haugsdahl EP1992  
Peter Heist EP2008  
Hank Herrod EP1991  
John D. Jackson EP2007  
Beverly Jordan EP2008  
Edith Kelly-Green EP1987  
Ellen Klyce EP2005  
Robert Lipscomb EP1987  
Richard Marsh,  
CTP EP2007  
Lauren McHugh EP2007  
Anthony Milton EP2010  
Isaac W. Northern EP1987  
Frank Patterson EP2009  
Lori Patton EP2010  
Ben EP1991 & Pamela  
Peternell EP1997  
Beverly Robertson EP1989  
Eric Robertson EP2006  
Sharon Ryan EP2006

Lucy Shaw EP1989  
Vickie Terry EP2009  
Fred Turverey EP2010  
Michael Uiberall EP1985  
Berje Yacoubian EP1982  
**Trailblazers (\$250-\$499)**  
Ben Adams, Jr. EP1990  
Laura Adams EP2007  
Austin Baker EP2008  
Shelley Baur EP1991  
Yvonne Becton EP2006  
Diana Bedwell EP2007  
Dianne Berry EP2001  
Chuck Blatteis EP2001  
Kenneth Bodmer EP2008  
James Boyd EP1982  
William Breen EP2001  
Ruby Bright EP1996  
Richard Briscoe EP1985  
Dana Burkett EP2006  
Caron Byrd EP2007  
Suki Carson EP2001  
Faye Carter EP2000  
Cynthia Childress EP2003  
Lisa Clark EP2010  
Betty Cole McGee EP1996  
Deborah Cotney EP1987  
Nancy Crawford EP2010  
Kimberly  
Daugherty EP2010  
Karla Davis EP2009  
C. William  
Denton EP1996  
Karen Ellis EP1996  
Joseph Evangelisti EP1994

Donald Fisher EP1998  
Randy Flatt,  
CLU, AEP EP1998  
Joe Ford EP1998  
Justin Ford FS2009  
J. Scott Fountain EP1996  
Frank Gianotti, III EP1982  
Sharon  
Goldsworthy EP1996  
Kate Gooch EP1979  
Mary Jo Greil EP2003  
William Haltom EP1990  
Deborah Hester  
Harrison EP1999  
Carolyn S. Head EP1996  
Randall  
Hutchinson EP2006  
Dorothy Johnson EP1993  
Martavius Jones EP2008  
Marty Kelman EP1997  
John Keys EP1990  
Ann Langston EP1995  
Cindy Lekhy EP2003  
Robin  
Mayweather EP2010  
Mamel McCain EP1991  
Chris McDermott EP2003  
Logan Mitchell EP1993  
Ken Neill EP1982  
Deborah  
Northcross EP1986  
Theresa  
Okwumabua EP1994  
Carla  
Pecher-Ryan EP2010

Martha  
Perine Beard EP1998  
Victor Perini EP2006  
James Perrin, Jr. EP1999  
David Poteat EP1995  
Richard Ranta EP1981  
Suzanne Ratliff EP2008  
Howard  
Robertson EP1990  
Lemoyne  
Robinson EP2010  
Marc Rubenstein EP1998  
Bob Schreiber FS2008  
Janet Scott EP1989  
Glenn Sessoms EP1997  
Linda Sessoms FS2008  
Donna Sue  
Shannon EP1992  
Wayne Shannon EP1995  
Janice Shipp GF2007  
Steve Shipp GF2006  
Gary Shorb EP1987  
Linda Sklar EP2007  
Dave Skorupa EP2002  
J. Ritchie Smith EP1990  
Patricia Smith GF2008  
Dorchelle Spence EP2010  
Joyce Springfield-  
Collins EP1990  
Jill Steinberg EP1996  
Sridhar Sunkara EP2009  
Anthony Tate EP1993  
William Taylor EP1985  
Frank Thomas EP2001  
Carolyn Tisdale EP2009  
Milton Todd, Jr. EP1999

Janice Toshach EP2009  
Cristie Travis EP1999  
Johnnie Turner EP1980  
Micahel Ugwueke EP2009  
Martha Wagley EP2010  
Cassandra  
Webster EP1994  
Michael D. Weinberg,  
O.D. EP2008  
Ashley Williams EP2009  
Linda Williams EP1996  
Kim Wilson Bond EP2009  
Rebecca Wilson EP1998  
Luke Yancy EP1981  
Oscar Young EP2010

### Pathfinders (\$100-\$249)

Donna Abney EP1993  
Karanja Ajanaku EP2009  
Howard Allenberg EP1986  
Juan Carlos  
Altuzar EP2009  
Michael Amick EP2003  
Belinda Anderson EP2001  
Barbara Andrews EP2008  
Darryl Arbor EP1997  
John Armstrong EP1984  
Verline Armstrong EP2001  
Howard Averyhart EP1994  
JoeAnn Ballard EP2002  
Pritpal Bansal EP2008  
Alison Barton EP2002  
Amelia Barton EP1998  
Adrian Baskin FS2008

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## Annual Alumni Sponsorships for 2010-2011 *(continued)*

Terrance Bates EP2007	Michael Detroit EP2005	Gene Holcomb EP1986	Dr. Mary McDonald EP1997	Stephen Smart EP2005	Cindy Wilson FS2009
Cheryl Beard EP2007	Dean Deyo EP1985	Janice Holder EP1993	Missie McDonnell EP1988	J. Ritchie Smith EP1990	Paul Winter EP1995
Cathy Beaty GF2007	Ann Dillard EP1982	Mabra Holeyfield EP1985	Harrison McIver, III EP2002	Paulette Smithers EP2004	Ron Wong EP2003
Steven Becton EP2008	Sharon D. Harris EP1998	Michael Hollister FS2010	Paul McKinney EP2003	John Source EP2011	Delilah Works EP2000
Marty Belz EP1979	Bettye C. Donahue EP1985	Antonette Holman EP2010	Bob Mebane EP2005	James Stafford EP1984	Michael Young EP1987
Katherine Bingham EP2004	Dwight Drinkard EP1983	James Holt EP2006	Janie Mennis EP1990	Mark Stansbury EP1979	Casey Zettler EP2006
Rosie Bingham EP1990	David Dunavant EP1985	Janet Hooks EP1990	Patricia Merrill EP1985	Almella Starks-Umoja EP1985	<b>Donations</b>
Mark Bishop EP1980	Virginia Dunaway EP1990	Henry Hooper, II EP1989	Ted Miller EP2005	Brian Stephen EP2009	Elsie Bailey EP1980
Ceylon Blackwell, Jr. EP1984	DiDi Montgomery EP1996	Ronald Horrell EP1987	Michael Minor EP2007	Marvin Stockwell FS2008	Mauricio Calvo EP2002
Nancy Bogatin EP1990	Frank Dyer, III EP2004	James Howell, II EP1996	James Mitchell E 2000	Sandra Stone FS2010	Deborah Carpenter EP2004
Tim Bolding EP1994	Naomi Dyson EP1996	Xiagen Hu EP2004	Elizabeth C. Moore EP2004	Jim Strickland EP2005	Patrick Carter, Jr. EP1996
Joy Richmond Bowen EP2004	Howard Eddings EP1993	Lawrence Hudson EP1998	Marlin Mosby EP1981	Ann M. Sullivan EP1980	F. Guthrie Castle, Jr. EP1990
Mike Bowen EP1997	Susan Edelman EP2008	Deborah Hughes EP2008	Kim Moss EP2006	Clement Tate EP2009	Cheryl Cathey GF2007
Stephen Bowie EP1987	Anne Edmiston EP2008	Jeff Hulett FS2010	Dot Neale EP1995	Lisa Taylor FF2009	Valentina Cochran FF2008
Marcia Boyd EP2008	Dr. Donald Edwards EP2001	Allen Israel EP1992	James Nelson EP2003	Lennell Terrell EP1986	Evelyn Crawford EP1996
Sonji Branch EP2010	Steve Ehrhart EP1986	Joseph Jackson FS2010	Jacquelyn Nerren EP1991	Shelia Terrell EP2009	Charles Elliott EP2010
Linda Brashear EP1998	Maurice Elliott EP1982	Paula Jacobson EP1999	Elijah Noel EP1981	Edwina Thomas EP1987	Robert Eoff EP1996
Willie Brooks EP1986	Juliette Eskridge EP2006	Frank Jemison EP1980	Keith Norman EP2010	Jon Thompson EP1981	Jonathan Farman FF2010
David Wayne Brown EP1985	Shane Evans EP2008	Whitney Jo FS2008	Crystal Oliver EP2005	Theodis Thompson EP1982	Christine Grandberry EP2006
Mark Brown EP1998	V. Lynn Evans EP1981	Cato Johnson EP1985	DeNobra Owens EP2004	Sherry Thornton EP1989	Lucia Heros EP2010
Roshunda Buchanan FF2010	Edward Fensenthal EP1990	James Johnson EP1993	Marie Kirk Owens EP2003	Christine Todd EP2001	Bruce Hopkins EP1984
Ron Buck FS2008	William Finney EP1992	Jesse Johnson EP2001	Deanie Parker EP1989	Cristie Travis EP1999	Dr. Charlotte Kennedy EP1996
Gary Burhop EP1983	Glynis Cox-Finnie FF2001	Yvonne Joiner EP2008	Latoria Parker FS2010	Emily Trenholm EP2007	David Less EP1996
Wilfred Busby EP2010	Donna Fisher EP1985	June Jointer-Jones EP1992	Ida Payne EP1979	Orpheus Triplett EP1998	Sr. Lakshmie Napagoda EP2010
Cynthia Calhoun, FF2008	Steve Fitzpatrick EP2005	Deborah Jones FF2008	Edd Peyton FF2008	Kelly Truitt EP2003	Jacqueline Oselen GF2006
Belinda Campbell EP2004	John Flack EP2007	Fred Jones EP2006	Tony Pinson EP2010	Constance Tucker FS2009	Luisa Ramirez de Lynch EP2010
L. Hunt Campbell EP2002	Rose Jackson Flenorl EP1987	Meg Jones EP2010	Pamela Pitts EP2007	Jimmie Tucker EP1997	Lirah Sabir EP2011
Mary Cashiola EP2010	Robert Fockler EP2001	Phyllis Jones EP1993	Anthony Porter EP2003	Sybil Tucker EP1993	Kathy Simonetti EP2004
Renee Castle EP1992	Richard Fogelman EP1996	Trina Jones EP2008	Allie Prescott EP1991	Gloria Tuggle EP1991	Consuela (Joy) Turner FF2008
Pamela Castleman EP2001	James Folz EP2001	Mary Kavanagh Day EP2004	Angel Price EP2009	Melvyn Tuggle EP1979	Gib Vestal EP2007
Stuart Chamblin, III, EP2001	Edmund Ford, Jr. EP2010	Nancy Kelso EP1993	Dr. Mohammad Rafieetary EP2008	Carolyn Turman EP1993	Keisha Walker FF2010
Sidney Chism EP1996	Mary Nell Ford EP1998	Fadi Kiameh EP2003	Lorna Brown-Ray EP1999	Patricia Turner EP2004	Gordon Wilson EP1990
Tracy Christoffersen	Sylverna Ford EP2002	Lorene King EP2010	Laurel Reisman EP1998	Steven Turner EP2000	<b>Memorial</b>
Christy Clark, Ph.D., EP1994	Yvonne Fournier EP1991	Karen Kitchens EP1999	Ann Linder Rice EP2001	Floyd Tyler, Jr. EP2002	For Sherri Sawyer EP1992
Kevin Clarkson EP2005	Danari Fowlkes EP1982	Maudie Kite-Powell EP1993	Tammie Ritchey EP2004	Marceline V. Perkins FF2010	From Donna Sue EP1992
James Cochran EP2010	Jonathan Frisch EP2009	Andy Kitsinger EP2010	Mike Ritz EP1993	Dr. Peggy T. Vesser EP1990	& Wayne Shannon EP1995
David Cocke EP1983	Donghui Fu EP2007	Curtis Kittrell EP1989	Dequanda Roberson FF2009	Carolyn Blackett Wade EP1990	<b>Honorariums</b>
Keith Cole EP2001	Bradley Gabriel EP1990	Virginia Klettner EP1987	Letitia Robertson EP2007	Mark Walden EP2010	For Otha Brandon EP2001
Viola Cole EP1984	J. Daniel Garrick EP2008	Marie Knight EP1994	Victor Robilio EP1985	Flynn Wallace EP2002	From Ronald A. Walter
Ronald Coleman EP1990	Edward Gentry EP2007	David Krueger EP1998	Patrice Robinson EP2006	Johnsie Wallace EP2007	For Rusty Bloodworth EP1981
Daniel Conaway EP1982	Janie Gentry Bates EP2008	Aurelia Kyles EP1993	Carol Ross-Spang EP1999	Karen Ward EP2001	From Joel Brown
Glenn Cox EP2003	Evelyn Gibbs GF2006	Susan Lane EP1988	Jerome Rubin EP1991	Michael Warr EP2000	
Margaret Craddock EP1998	Andre Gibson EP2008	Mike Lawhead EP1980	Barbara Russell EP1997	Lee Warren EP2006	
Charles Crawford EP1983	Wanda Goodman EP1983	Nancy Lawhead EP1980	Jim (James) Russell EP1980	Bennie Nelson West EP1982	
Reggie Crenshaw EP2011	Robert Gordon EP1991	Patrick Lawton EP2006	Michael Ryan EP2010	June West EP1995	
T. O'Neal Crivens EP1993	William Gotten EP1981	Scott Ledbetter EP1982	Verties Sails EP1982	Katie West EP2009	
Pearson Crutcher EP2008	Dotsie Graham EP1999	Steven Levy EP1991	Harry Samuels EP1980	Shelia Whalum EP2009	
Susanne Darnell EP1983	Scott Guidry FS2009	Michael Lupfer EP1980	Andrew Sawyer EP1998	Thomas Wicinski EP2010	<b>Friends' Donations</b>
Virginia Davenport EP2007	Monice Hagler EP1991	Shirley Lupfer EP1985	Gladys Sawyer EP2001	Willie Mae Willett EP1980	Melinda McCloy
Dr. Cynthia Davis EP2008	Reb Haizlip EP1993	Mark Luttrell EP2001	Julie Schap EP2005	Burnetta Williams EP1993	Carolyn Chism
Dr. Elvernice Davis EP2001	Edward Haley EP1980	George Mabon EP2005	Karl Schledwitz EP1982	Dr. Freda Williams EP2010	Michael Moore
Mark Deane EP2001	Lese Halfacre EP1996	Edmund Mackey FS2008	Earle Schwarz EP1997	Lois Williams EP2010	Roz Wallace
David DelBrocco EP1997	Marion Hare EP2010	Arnetta Macklin EP2007	Brian Todd Sellers EP2004	Nancy Williams EP2005	
Sam Delk, MD EP1990	Carrie Harris EP1990	Jerome Makowsky EP1982	Dewun Settle EP2011	Roby Williams EP2008	
Michael Demster EP2006	Darrick Harris EP2002	B. Lee Mallory EP1979	Rachel Shankman EP1994	Sue Reid Williams EP1996	
	Marieta Harris EP2002	Betty Mallott EP2009	Fredric Shapiro EP2006	S. Page Williamson EP1995	
	Alfred Harris, Sr. EP1995	Merilyn Mangum EP1997	Gwendolyn Shields EP2011	Betty Anne Wilson EP1996	
	William Harrison EP1991	Dr. Elma Mardis, Ed. EP1980	Hollye Shotwell EP1994		
	Edd Hayes FS2009	Fabian Matthews EP2010	Mary Singer EP2000		
	Stephen Haynes EP1996	George Mayzell EP2010			
	Carey Hoffman EP1997	Wilson McCloy FS2008			

## Inarguably Successful: Q & A With Dwight Fryer



▲ Dwight Fryer

A battle of words is one thing - not exactly the most positive of connotations - but a debate, now that's something entirely different. And who should know better than Dwight Fryer (EP 2004), the League Director for the Memphis Urban Debate League? We sat down with Fryer to talk about the role that debate clubs and competitions play in students' lives, and were pretty surprised at just how effective the academic sport can be in boosting confidence levels, school attendance, and most importantly, college enrollment.

### When was the MUDL founded and why?

We formed in March 2008 via partnership between Memphis City Schools and the Memphis Urban Debate League Advisory Board. Founder and Board President Jim Sdoia participated in debate in his youth and attributes much of his personal and professional success to that. He reached out to Dr. Kriner Cash, and a year later, MUDL was born, with 15 schools enrolled. This year we have 21 schools involved - 270 students total, and more than 40 MCS teacher-debate coaches to recruit and help develop the students.

### What sort of topics do the students tackle?

Everything from the US involvement in the Middle East to increasing our exploration of space, health care policies, and even school consolidation.

### Sounds like there was interest from the beginning?

It has taken time; however, after three seasons, the Memphis Urban Debate League is becoming a standard fixture as an academic sport in the majority of the MCS high schools. We have seen growth, and our goal for our fourth season is to expand to 25 high schools. The most important benefit has been the change we see in students from one event to the next.

### What, specifically, are the benefits you're referencing?

Students who join the debate team are 42% more likely to graduate from high school than those who do not. African-American males who debate are 70% more likely to graduate. Urban debaters improve their Reading and English ACT scores by 15%. They are 34% and 74% more likely to achieve the college readiness benchmarks - in English and Literature respectively -- after just two years in debate.

*Dwight Fryer is a Christian minister, writer, speaker, storyteller, avid bird and nature watcher, reader, and anything outdoors, especially flying kites. Dwight and his wife Linda work with the National Meningitis Association as an advocate for immunization against bacterial meningitis after the death of their sixteen-year-old daughter Adrienne from meningococcal disease. For more information on the Memphis Urban Debate League see [www.memphisdebate.org](http://www.memphisdebate.org).*

### What about college enrollment?

Our senior debaters have a college acceptance rate of just under 100% as of this writing, and are attending schools all over, including Rhodes, Howard, and Wake Forest. This spring, we received ACT scores from 34 graduating MCS debaters from 12 different MCS high schools. The average score was 20.43 and the highest was 30. This is 22.6 percent higher than the average composite ACT score of graduating MCS students.

Students are also paired with mentors - what are you looking for in a mentor, and what would you say to someone interested but unsure they're qualified?

I encourage adults to really think about what they have to offer and inventory their life experiences. Each of us has tremendous gifts and experiences that will benefit young persons in indescribable ways, and most adults know a great deal more than we believe. My primary advice is to put our children first...all of them. Show love, earn and require respect, and practice healthy concern for the safety and growth of youth.

### Are there any lessons you learned in Leadership Memphis that helped prepare you or even give you ideas for this challenge?

My LM class used a Robert Greenleaf quote that has stayed with me: *Do those served grow as persons; do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants?*

Leadership Memphis broadened my perspective on how true community leadership appears and operates. LM provided connectivity for me across greater Memphis. Those liaisons morphed into my first non-profit experience outside the church sector when I became a board member at Porter-Leath and inspired me to look for other opportunities to serve our community.

### Leadership Memphis Staff:

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Keep up with the latest news from Leadership Memphis on our Facebook Page or follow us on Twitter @LeadershipMphs. We also want to keep up with you, so send your alumni news to [info@leadershipmemphis.org](mailto:info@leadershipmemphis.org).

## New Faces in Great Places

Leadership Memphis, without a doubt, has one of the most dedicated and hard-working Board of Directors an organization could wish for. For their tireless support of our mission, their generosity, and their willingness to do anything needed to help us achieve our goals, we cannot thank them enough.

A new year brings new members, and new roles for others. We welcome those who have "stepped up" into new roles, appreciate those "veterans" who will undoubtedly support and mentor our newcomers, and look forward to 2012, which, as incoming Board Chair Eric Robertson promised will be "the best year yet."



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**Eric Robertson**  
Greater Memphis  
Neighborhoods



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**Beverly Jordan**  
Baptist Memorial  
HealthCare Corp.



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Suntrust Bank



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Coleman Davis**  
National Institute for  
Law & Equity, Inc.



*Immediate Past Chair*  
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Methodist  
Healthcare



*Alumni Chair*  
**Jeff Gaudino**  
Belz Enterprises



*Development Chair*  
**Christine Munson**  
First Tennessee Bank



*Program Chair*  
**Lemoyne Robinson**  
The Influence 1  
Foundation



*Marketing Chair*  
**Jeane Chapman**  
Continuum  
Healthcare

A warm welcome to new Board members:

**Janice Crawford**  
**Douglas McGowen**  
**Brian Stephens**  
**Cynthia Calhoun**  
**Robert White**  
**Lirah Sabir**  
**Reggie Crenshaw**  
**Patricia Smith**  
**Jerry Redmond**  
**Stanley Sawyer**  
**Mary Tate-Smith**  
**Lori Patton**

Welcome back returning board members:

**Dianne Berry**  
**Denise Bollheimer**  
**Cynthia Calhoun**  
**Jeane Chapman**  
**Veronica  
Coleman Davis**  
**Janice Crawford**  
**Reggie Crenshaw**  
**Bryan Ford**  
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**Christine Munson**  
**Lori Patton**  
**Paul Posey**  
**Jerry Redmond**  
**Eric Robertson**  
**Lemoyne Robinson**  
**Sharon Ryan**

Thank you to board members rolling off:

**Clint Anderson**  
**Rusty Bloodworth**  
**Otha Brandon**  
**DiDi**  
**Dwyer Montgomery**  
**Dorothy Johnson**  
**Robert Lipscomb**  
**Isaac W. Northern**  
**Beverly Robertson**  
**Rob Varner**  
**Cassandra Webster**  
**Berje Yacoubian**

Leadership Memphis is also pleased to welcome our newest staff members, who have already brought fresh energy and ideas to the organization:



*Program Manager*  
**John Gilmore**



*Operations Manager*  
**Latoria  
"Tori" Parker**



*Administrative Assistant*  
**Tiffani Nelson  
Ragland**

## Alumni On The Move

**Elijah Noel Jr. (EP 1981)** has been inducted to the Memphis Catholic High School Hall of Fame.

**Gene Cashman (EP 1984)** Director of the Urban Child Institute, was honored by the UT College of Social Work with the Senator Douglas Henry Award for Service to Children and Families at Risk.

**Yvonne Robinson Jones (EP 1985)** has been named vice president of The Brooks Museum League.

**Dr. William Falvy (EP 1986)** was featured in the Commercial Appeal and also Memphis Magazine about his collection of illustrated classics which were on display at the Benjamin Hooks Public Library.

**Judge Bernice Bouie Donald (EP 1987)** has been nominated for appointment to the United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

**Howard Robertson (EP 1990)** The radio industry trade publication Radio INK Magazine has listed Robertson, CEO of Memphis-based Spotset Radio Network, as one of the 20 Most Influential African Americans in Radio.

**Ruby Bright (EP 1996)** was honored with the Changing the Face of Philanthropy Award given by the Women's Funding Network at their annual conference held in New York.

**Dr. Mary McDonald (EP 1997)**, was honored by the Society of Entrepreneurs at the Annual Entrepreneur Awards Presentation and Dinner.

**Rita Harris (EP 1999)** received the Sierra Club's 2011 Virginia Ferguson Award in recognition of her many years of hard work on the Club's Dismantling Racism program.

**Cristie Upshaw Travis (EP 1999)**, the CEO of the Memphis Business Group on Health, has joined the Board of Trustees at Southern College of Optometry.

**Keith Cole (EP 2001)** has been named Executive Director of the Wolf River Conservancy.

**Kelly Truitt (EP 2003)** President of CB Richard Ellis Memphis, was honored as the Commercial Broker by the Memphis Area Association of Realtors Commercial Council. Truitt was a key player in the decision to move the Pinnacle Airlines headquarters to One Commerce Square.

**Sheila Whalum (EP 2009)** was elected to the Board of Directors of Girl Scouts/Heart of the South as an at-large board member representing 59 counties in Tennessee and Mississippi.

**Holli Weatherington (FS 2010)** has joined Sumerall Electric Company as its new President and CEO.

**Glynis Finnie (FF 2010)** has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the National Association of Women in Construction.

**Jennifer Littlejohn (EP 2010)** was selected by The Rotary Club to travel to Norway as part of the Group Study Exchange in May.

**Natasha D. Bowen (EP 2011)** was elected president of National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO)-Memphis Chapter for 2011-2013

**Ross Ridenhour (EP 2011)** has been named executive vice president of the Phoenix Club.

## Alumni Learning Journeys

The Leadership Memphis experience is a fond memory for many of our alumni, but we are kicking off a participatory series which brings back the kind of educational opportunities which alums enjoyed in class. Alumni Learning Journeys will be offered periodically, open to all alumni, to offer insights into issues and programs important to our community.

In June, Leadership Memphis and The Urban Child Institute teamed up to host a luncheon session on early childhood development. Attendees heard a talk from Dr. Hank Herrod (EP 1991), took a tour of brain-awareness exhibits, and had some fun with Playback Memphis' interactive theater project. It was an engaging presentation from an innovative non-profit whose mission is to better the lives of children by advocating for public policies that are good for children; initiating prevention based strategies; and launching intervention programs.

More such events will be announced in our weekly e-newsletter as well as on our web site events page and our Facebook page. Some will be educational – in September we will tour Facing History & Ourselves "Choosing to Participate" at the library, in November we'll visit Memphis City Schools' Think Show – and some will just be fun excursions such as our recent gathering at a Levitt Shell concert.

What would you like to visit or learn about? Suggestions are starting to come in, but we'd like to hear more. Send your thoughts to [alumni@leadershipmemphis.org](mailto:alumni@leadershipmemphis.org).



▲ (L to R): Pedro Rodrigues of Portugal, blues legend Bobby Rush, and Florian Toncar of Germany on Beale Street.

## Bonjour, Guten Tag, Ciao, Labas, Ahoj

And hello to you too! Once again this Leadership Memphis will serve as the local coordinating agency for a visiting delegation of European young professionals through the Marshall Memorial Fellows program of the German Marshall Fund. The Fellows spent 24 days touring the US, beginning in New York, ending in Washington, and seeing the heartland in the interim. In October 2010, we host a member of the German parliament, a member of the Portuguese parliament, a Slovenian venture capitalist, a Bulgarian newscaster, and an Italian business woman for four days. Staying with host families and enjoying both plenary tours and individual tours according to professional interest area, our visitors were so impressed with Memphis that they lobbied, successfully, that an extra day be added to the Memphis leg of the trip in 2011. If you are interested in hosting a Fellow this October or being involved in international leadership, please contact [khall@leadershipmemphis.org](mailto:khall@leadershipmemphis.org).



- ◀ ▲ High school students and adults working together to build a consensus vision.
- ▲ The Imagine Memphis appreciative inquiry process begins with one-on-one interviews.

## Imagine Memphis

What can Memphis be? What is our community's potential? It is a question which we should ask ourselves and, perhaps more importantly, it is a question we should ask our area youth, the next generation who will be shaping our city's future. Imagine Memphis is a program which has been doing just that, pairing groups of high school students with groups of adults in facilitated interviews and visioning sessions lasting between two and four hours. Some of our recent LM Executive Program classes have experienced this process, and the reviews are positive for the inter-generational dialogue. Leadership Memphis is now hosting the program offering infrastructure and opportunity for expanded offerings. If your company, organization, group, or club would be interested in participating in a session, please contact us at [khall@leadershipmemphis.org](mailto:khall@leadershipmemphis.org).



▲ Adjacent to trade show booths, student artwork from Douglass High School illustrated business & commerce.



▲ The Greater Memphis Diversity Collaborative meets periodically to foster communication and cooperation.

## Mid-South Minority Business Council 2011 Economic Development Fair

This year's Mid-South Minority Business Council event was themed "Wall Street to Main Street: Bridging the Economic Avenues of America." Leadership Memphis had a booth in the trade show and sponsored one of the luncheons, a panel discussion on the accomplishments of female entrepreneurs. The three-day event also included seminars and speakers who touched on everything from music and entertainment to regionalism and diversity.

## Greater Memphis Diversity Collaborative

Leadership Memphis is committed to diversity and inclusion as are a number of organizations in Memphis. And we're working together. The Greater Memphis Diversity Collaborative is an informal way to compare calendars, collaborate, cross-promote, and collectively say to the world "Memphis welcomes you!" Our mission is "to promote the rich diversity of Memphis as a resource and strength of our community."

If you'd like to see photos and more, check out the Greater Memphis Diversity Collaborative Facebook fan page. A nifty web site is coming in the not too distant future.



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## Alumni Engagement

Watch for engagement opportunities in our weekly e-newsletter and on our web site. Meanwhile mark your calendars now for:

- 10/26/2011**     **Multicultural Breakfast**
- 12/6/2011**    **Holiday Party**
- 3/31/2012**    **Community Leadership Luncheon**
- 5/3/2012**     **Celebration Reception & Awards**

*Are you interested in serving on a committee for Development, Programs, Marketing, and Alumni?  
Want to help with Imagine Memphis, Greater Memphis Diversity Collaborative, or Marshall Memorial Fellows?  
Have an idea for an Alumni Learning Journey? Contact us at 278-0016 or email [kball@leadershipmemphis.org](mailto:kball@leadershipmemphis.org).*

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