



A Message from the Dean

Welcome!

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the hard work and talents of our students.

Orlean Beeson School of Education faculty and staff are passionate about preparing graduates who demonstrate keen knowledge and skills, commitment to their profession, strong moral character, leadership abilities and an unparalleled ability to enrich the communities in which they serve. Our graduates lead classrooms, direct schools, advocate for families, conduct research, serve organizations, and implement positive change across the country and around the world.

The students we honor tonight are those who meet and exceed our expectations. I invite you to join with me in congratulating them on their hard work and commitment to their professions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anna E. McEwan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A' and 'M'.

Anna E. McEwan

Dean



2024 ORLEAN BEESON SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AWARDS CEREMONY

Welcome – Dr. Anna McEwan, Dean Orlean Beeson School of Education

Invocation – Dr. Monique Witherspoon, Associate Dean Orlean Beeson School of Education

Awards Ceremony Remarks – Dr. Anna McEwan, Dean

Presentation of Awards

Educational Leadership Department

Human Development and Family Science Department

Teacher Education Department

Closing Remarks – Dr. Amy Hoaglund, Assistant Dean Orlean Beeson School of Education

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEPARTMENT

Outstanding Dissertation

Chelsea Bayko

Brian Sauls

Demetrius Scott

Kristen Westwood

Outstanding Ed.D. Student

Racheal Haley

Outstanding Ed.S. Student

Patrick White

Outstanding M.S.E./18 hr. Instructional Leadership Student

Laura Casey

Maurice Persall Endowed Scholarship

Established in 2011 in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Doctor of Education program within Orlean Beeson School of Education and named in honor of Dr. Maurice Persall, long-time faculty, chair of Educational Leadership and director of the Doctor of Education program. This scholarship is awarded to a doctoral candidate with demonstrated financial need, academic ability to succeed, and commitment to the completion of the doctoral program in Educational Leadership.

Billy Mann

(Dr. & Mrs. Maurice Persall)

Charlotte Opal Herring Ennis Scholarship in Graduate Education

This scholarship is established by Dr. Leslie Ennis and his father, Reverend Gene Ennis, in memory of Charlotte Opal Herring Ennis, mother and wife. The scholarship is awarded based upon need to students in graduate education in Orlean Beeson School of Education.

Derek Wright

(Rev. Gene Ennis & Dr. Leslie Ennis)

Jeanna King Westmoreland Scholarship

Established in honor of Jeanna King Westmoreland, by her husband, Dr. Andrew Westmoreland. They labored together in the cause of Christ-centered higher education at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas and at Samford University in Alabama. She served as the Dean of the Mike Huckabee School of Education at Ouachita and as the Chair of the Arkansas State Board of Education before moving to Alabama in 2006. Throughout her lifetime, she has been known as a world-class teacher, a skilled administrator, a caring friend, a devoted mother, and a loving wife. This scholarship is awarded to a student of financial need within Orlean Beeson School of Education.

Peter Hansen

Raymond Christian Scholarship

The Raymond Christian Scholarship was established by his family and friends as the memorial to his life and service throughout our community and state. It is awarded to a student preparing for service in public education either as a teacher, counselor, or administrator and is intended to perpetuate his motivation and character through succeeding generations of students.

Machiah Fuqua

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Distinguished Service Award

Kaylee G. Anderson

Outstanding Senior

Ellie Borcharding

Undergraduate Assistant Scholarship

Students will assist HDFS faculty with academic research and course management with a commitment of approximately 4 hours each week per semester. Evidence of service and potential contribution to the department, campus, and community, along with a minimum GPA of 3.2 are required. Funded by the Ralph W. and Orlean Bullard Beeson Scholarship Fund. Ralph and Orlean Bullard Beeson, for whom this school was named, have established several scholarship awards as a way to reward academic excellence. They also recognize leadership, participation in campus activities, and professional promise.

Lilah Harold (Dr. Celeste Hill)

Sarah Davis (Dr. Jonathan Davis)

Kaylee Snider (Dr. Kristie Chandler & Dr. Clara Gerhardt)

Jordyn Parmley (Dr. Kayla Wenth)

Academic Scholarship

Minimum GPA of 3.5 with evidence of service and potential contribution to the department, campus, and community required. Funded by the Ralph W. and Orlean Bullard Beeson Scholarship Fund.

Mackenzie Arthur

Carmen Davis

Sarah Davis

Rayne Ford

Caroline Garcia

Lilah Harold

Ella Jayne Hyde

Josselyn Kalber

Lindsey Kopach

Emma Marino

Ava Michaux

Isabella Morstatt

Erin Norris

Jordyn Parmley

Avery Prouse

Kaylee Snider

Carolyn Standridge

Mia Turner

Amelia Grace Waltman

Alumni Relations Assistant Scholarship

Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required. This student will work with the Alumni Relations Coordinator in the School of Education and will begin communication with alumni. This scholarship is funded by the Ralph W. and Orlean Bullard Beeson Scholarship Fund.

Carolyn Standridge

Dr. Joan Gardiner Chambers and Home Economics Retailing Scholarships

Dr. Joan Chambers served as chair of the home economics department within the school of education. The late Dr. Chambers, and her late husband, Mr. Carl Chambers, created these scholarships to provide financial assistance to support worthy students during their Samford experience.

Dr. Joan Gardiner Chambers Scholarship – Amelia Grace Waltman

Home Economics Retailing Scholarship – Mia Turner

Home Economics Scholarship – Josselyn Kalber

(Mr. Dale Chambers)

Jean Daugherty Williams & James H. Williams Endowed Scholarship

James H. "Jim" Williams attended Morgan County High School in Hartselle, Alabama before volunteering for the U.S. Navy. As a member of the crew of the USS Dennis, he received a presidential citation for "extraordinary heroism in action in keeping with the highest tradition of the U.S. Naval Service." After the Navy, Jim entered Howard College (now Samford University) where he earned a B.S. in Economics in 1949 and met Jean Daugherty Williams, to whom he was married for 55 years. Jim had a 30-year career as a contract negotiator for the U.S. Air Force which honored him with the Mark E. Bradley Award "for excellence in individual performance. He was a considerate person who exhibited solid Christian values, sincere patriotism, and loyal friendship. Jean Williams' objective in establishing this scholarship is two-fold: to honor the memory of her husband of 55 years and to assist worthy students in their effort to acquire a Samford education. Jean explains, "I have been blessed personally and it is my hope that this scholarship will be a blessing to future Samford students."

Rayne Ford

Ella Jayne Hyde

Isabella Morstatt

(Mrs. Kathy Anderson and Ms. Lucy Anderson)

Ms. Jewell Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Leon Zalenski in memory of his wife, Jewell Carmichael Zalenski. The purpose of the scholarship is to demonstrate to the recipient what the Lord will do for the recipients whose hearts and minds are dedicated to loving and serving the Lord all the days of their lives. It will serve as an illustration of what can and will happen in the lives of one, with a passion for demonstrating to the lives of the recipients, the fact that "JESUS IS LORD."

Carmen Davis

(the Zalenski Family)

ACADEMIC HONORS

Honors (GPA 3.5-3.74)

**Faith Albritton
Mackenzie Arthur
Elizabeth Borcharding
Taylor Butler
Sarah Carrell
Anna Grace Davidson
Sarah Davis
Sarah Dodgen**

**Lauren Edwards
Brenna Everett
Julia Foley
Kylee Ford
Jardin Friedl
Ellis Herndon
Jordyn Keesing
Paige McNabb**

**Lauren Millage
Faith Murray
Sarah Grace Queen
Allison Raymond
Mallory Shepperson
Caroline Skipper
Abbey Smith
Carolyn Standridge**

Highest Honors (GPA 3.75-4.0)

Kaylee Anderson
Rainey Bardolf
Ashlyn Barrett
Leighton Batcheller
Allison Bovey
Caroline Bowman
Elyssa Burleson
Sterling Cannady
Kathryne Cataldo
Claire Cline
Haviland Coley
Linley Darnell
Carmen Davis
Laura Dawson
Madeline Dunn
Whitney Fix
Claire Gann
Caroline Garcia
Bethany Garmon
Caroline Glass

Riley Hall
Ellie Higgins
Morgan Hill
Laura Hudson
Sadie HuYoung
Ella Jayne Hyde
Olivia Jenkins
Kayli Jones
Mallory Jones
Josselyn Kalber
Landon Knight
Mattie King
Eva Labine
Raines Langston
Claire Lawing
Madeline Manning
Emma Marino
Ava Michaux
Emma Montana
Jordan Morris

Isabella Morstatt
Sarah Noe
Erin Norris
Jordyn Parmley
Anna Clay Parrish
Halle Parsons
Avery Prouse
Robert Rait
Julia Reis
Kaylee Snider
Shelby Snow
Claire Stevens
Emma Stoebner
Louise Tillman
Amelia Turner
Amelia Grace Waltman
Meredith Wicktom
Deena Wilcox
Dorothy Williams
Sarah Witte

TEACHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

John and Frances Carter Awards

John and Frances Carter Awards for Excellence in Education are given each year to undergraduate students who show excellence in the K-12 classroom, based on their clinical experiences. Dr. John T. Carter joined the Samford faculty in 1956 and served until his retirement in 1987. He was dean of the School of Education from 1980 until 1986. His wife, Dr. Frances Carter, also served as a senior faculty member for many years. Over the years, the Carters have supported education programs by funding scholarships and sponsoring the Young Authors Conference held annually here at Samford. The Carters also led the International Book Project, which provided thousands of books to foreign university libraries.

John and Frances Carter Award for Teacher Excellence in Early Childhood Education

Margaret E. Johnson

(Mrs. Sarah Law & Mrs. Myrtis Johnson)

John and Frances Carter Award for Teacher Excellence Elementary Education

Grace J. Patterson

(Mrs. Sarah Law & Dr. Tarsha Shepard)

John and Frances Carter Award for Teacher Excellence in Special Education

Anna K. Hoaglund

(Mrs. Sarah Law & Dr. Mandy Hilsmier)

John and Frances Carter Award for Teacher Excellence in Secondary/P-12 Education

Grace K. Lafave

(Mrs. Sarah Law & Dr. Erin Gilchrist)

Ira F. Simmons Award

Robert Davis Hinton

(Dr. Jeanelle Day)

Most Promise to Be a Teacher Leader in Education

The awards for Most Promise to be a Teacher Leader in Education are presented to students who demonstrate the potential to excel as professional leaders in their schools.

Most Promise to Be a Teacher Leader in Elementary/Early Childhood Education

Meera R. Money

Most Promise to Be a Teacher Leader in Secondary P-12 Education

Micaiah L. Collins

The Martha B. Ralls Award for Most Promise as an Exemplary Teacher in Early Childhood/Elementary Education

Margaret Ann Sanders

The Martha B. Ralls Award for Most Promise as an Exemplary Teacher in Secondary/P-12 Education

Elizabeth Ann Mayfield

Most Innovative Practice in the Classroom

Ashley A. Arnold

Kappa Delta Pi Chapter Award for Excellence in the Field of Education

Anna Kate Beaudry

(Dr. Kate Scarborough)

Carol D. Dean Outstanding Service Award

Abigail E. Weaver

(Drs. Carol and Joe Dean & Dr. Amy Hoaglund)

**Highest Academic Achievement as a Junior
in Elementary/Early Childhood Education**

Amy M. Herndon

**Highest Academic Achievement as a Senior
in Elementary/Early Childhood Education**

Melissa N. Goolsby

Highest Academic Achievement as a Junior in Secondary Education

Madison E. Tarifa

Highest Academic Achievement as a Senior in Secondary Education

Allison R. Middendorf

**Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education Dean's Award for
Outstanding Teacher Education Graduating Senior**

Lindsey G. Brewer

(Dr. Amy Hoaglund)

Alabama Power School of Education Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established to honor Rev. Terry W. DeFoor for many years of service to the Baptist Ministry and to promote the education of deserving students.

Mikayla N. Criss

Alto L. Garner Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Alto L. Garner was a member of the Samford faculty for 34 years and served as the first Dean of the School of Education. This scholarship is established in his memory by his family and friends and is awarded to graduate education students dedicated to the field of education and embodying characteristics of Dr. Garner such as Christian character, moral and ethical standards, caring, respectful, cooperative, validating and a champion for students.

E. Isabelle Martin

Anne Glaze and William C. Stone Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Charles R. Glaze and to honor Ila G. Glaze. This scholarship is for undergraduate students preparing for a career in education, with preference given to students from Madison and Limestone Counties in Alabama.

Joy C. Bozeman

(Mrs. Anne Stone and Mrs. Janna Stone)

Bill and Pam Smith Family Foundation Scholarship

Established through the generosity of Bill and Pam Smith, this scholarship is awarded to students pursuing a career in elementary education, with preference given to those who are passionate about teaching mathematics and science.

Madison E. Tarifa

(Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith)

Brookwood Baptist/Nila Graham Campbell Scholarship

The Campbell Family and Brookwood Baptist Church established this scholarship in 2000 in memory of Nila Graham Campbell. The scholarship is awarded to a deserving undergraduate student with preference given to those students pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education.

A. Reese Wrather

(Mr. Bobby Campbell)

Carter Family Legacy Scholarship

The Carter Family Legacy Scholarship has been established to honor the many contributions made by the Carters to Orlean Beeson School of Education. The scholarship is awarded based on both merit and financial need to a student who is studying Elementary Education with a Christian education and missions concentration, with preference given to rising juniors and seniors.

McKenzie M. Pilch

(Mrs. Sarah Law)

Jo Cooper & Henry W. Dark Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was created through a series of gifts from Edwin W. and Billie B. Bleier, in memory of their aunt and uncle, Jo Cooper and Henry W. Dark. The Darks both served as teachers throughout their professional careers.

Claire D. Mutert

David Finn Legacy Scholarship

Dr. Alyssa Barnes established the David Finn Legacy Scholarship at Samford to honor her beloved professor and mentor and pay forward the opportunities she received as a Samford student. Dr. Finn taught in the Department of Teacher Education in Orlean Beeson School of Education for 24 years and retired in April 2022. During his time at Samford, he was instrumental in the development of a special education degree program and inspired and touched the lives of countless students. The David Finn Legacy Scholarship is awarded to undergraduate students studying within the Department of Teacher Education with demonstrated financial need. Preference will be given to those who have a passion for teaching special education and wish to travel abroad as part of their Samford experience through a Samford-sponsored program.

Hannah S. Sharpton

(Dr. David Finn)

John & Frances Carter Scholarship for Teacher Education

Dr. Frances Carter created a legacy of generosity in supporting our Samford students. In addition to her other contributions, she established the John and Frances Carter Endowed Scholarship to be awarded to rising juniors and/or rising seniors who are enrolled in a certification program for Teacher Education.

Ava M. Berry and Brennan C. Paulus

(Mrs. Sarah Law)

Kathryn Abercrombie Scholarship

Ms. Abercrombie and her family and friends have established an endowment to financially assist outstanding students in the school of education. This scholarship is based on academic performance, character, and worthiness of the individual.

Ali Grace Williams

Mary Elizabeth Wyatt Scholarship

The late Mary Wyatt was a retired educator, an alumna of Orlean Beeson School of Education, and immediate past chair and member of its Dean's Advisory Board for many years. While hospitalized for what would be a fatal stroke, Mrs. Wyatt formalized one of her last wishes: to establish the Mary Elizabeth Wyatt Scholarship as an investment in the next generation of Samford students. The Mary Elizabeth Wyatt Scholarship is awarded to a student who is starting their junior year at Samford University and is a registered declared student in Orlean Beeson School of Education. Scholarship recipients should exhibit Christ-centered character, have shown evidence of propensity in leadership, exemplify Samford's motto of For God, For Learning, Forever, have earned at least a 3.0 academic average in their coursework at Samford University and have demonstrated financial need.

Trinity E. Phillips

(Mr. Gary Wyatt)

Ralph W. & Orlean B. Beeson Scholarship

Ava M. Berry

Joy C. Bozeman

Madison C. Comans

McKenna S. Connelly

Madeline B. Hill

Emmaline F. Johnston

School of Education International Internships Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Drs. Joe and Carol Dean to support School of Education students enrolled in the Teacher Education Curriculum to enable and support their participation in international internships in developing countries allowing them to work as teacher assistants/interns in schools that serve local (primarily underserved) children.

Courtney E. Krueger

(Drs. Carol and Joe Dean & Dr. Amy Hoaglund)

Twanna Caddell Powell Annual and Endowed Scholarship in Education

Established in honor of Twanna Caddell Powell. Since a large majority of students in the School of Education are female, the donor has expressed a strong desire to give preference to students that are male, of good character, in good standing with the school, and who have expressed intent to teach in the public school system after graduation.

Brennan C. Paulus and Thomas Vaccaro

Velma Wright Irons Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is presented annually as a memorial to a beloved teacher and the wife of Samford professor, Dr. George V. Irons. The award is given to an education major who has strong goals towards pursuing a career in education.

Haley A. Skinner

Dr. Thomas E. Corts Memorial Scholarship

The names Tom and Marla Corts have been synonymous with Samford University for four decades. Dr. Thomas E. Corts was known for his invaluable leadership, his continual service, and his love for books and classical literature. In 2011, the Tom and Marla Corts Distinguished Author Series was established to recognize the Corts' leadership to the university, the community, and the cause of literacy. Over the past decade, the Orlean Beeson School of Education has proudly produced the annual author series to host a visiting author who is not only a notable name in their field, but who challenges, inspires, and expands the thinking of students to become more engaged in matters of significant intellectual or historical interest and vital issues of the day. With the blessing of Mrs. Marla Haas Corts, the Dr. Thomas E. Corts Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2023 to support undergraduate students pursuing a degree within the Orlean Beeson School of Education who feel called to teach special education.

Christopher M. Boatwright

ACADEMIC HONORS

Honors (GPA 3.5-3.74)

Sofia Michelle Annett
Caroline Melinda Bechtold
Maria Carol Benitez
Susanna Faith Brooks
Caitlin Rose Brunn
Julie Anne Clevenger
Micaiah L. Collins
Madison C. Comans
Avery Elizabeth Crawford
Naomi Jistine Crowe
Madeleine Marie Daily
Sydney Rose Durie
Margaret Anne Fulmer
Eva Louise Goldbach

Rachel Elizabeth Grier
Anna Kaitlyn Hoaglund
Anna Claire Howard
Peyton Elizabeth Hull
Emilie Ann Irwin
Caroline Bradford Kopecky
Bailey Suzanne Lankford
Mary Grace Leuenberger
Meredith G, Lindsay
Elisabeth Ann Mayfield
Maya Maria Moers
Caroline Susanne Moren
Madelyn Sue Neas
Oharah Mare Neese

Keely Page Owens
Corrie Elise Parks
Brennan Cole Paulus
Hannah McLaine Pulley
Elizabeth Marie Reynolds
Ava C. Russell
Luci K. Sobanski
Anna Elizabeth Strong
Olivia Grace Trimmier
Thomas Coburn Vaccaro
Sarah G. Weldon
Hannelore Rose Wind
Madison B. Zeitvogel

Highest Honors (GPA 3.75-4.0)

Madeline Grace Bayles
Anna Kate Beaudry
Ava M. Berry
Elaina Davis Blankenship
Joy Channell Bozeman
Lindsey G. Brewer
Larkin Hadley Camp
Olivia Grace Conklin
Mckenna Shea Connelly
Mikayla N. Criss
Megan Joy Cruise
Grace Samsel Davis
Margaret Helen DeFranco
Rileigh Hope Dietter
Emma Esther Dodd
Marigrace A. Dunn
Jordan Elizabeth Gaddy
Haley C. Galbreath
Anna C. Gannon
Melissa Noel Goolsby
Adelyn Grace Gurley
Kinley S. Hall
Audrey Caroline Henry
Amy McCall Herndon
Madeline Banks Hill

Elizabeth Joy Jackson
Hannah Paige Jacoby
Kirsten Breann Jennings
Margaret E. Johnson
Emmaline Frances Johnston
Latta Cooper Johnston
Courtney Elisabeth Krueger
Grace Kimberly Lafave
Erin Margot Lambert
Emily K. Logan
Caroline Elliot Lunsford
Ava Rose Maddux
Rouqiah F. Maflahi
Ainsley Elizabeth McCannon
Allison Rae Middendorf
Olivia Katherine Mikul
Taylor A. Miller
Meera Rhiannon Money
Garrett Scott Moore
Claire Douglas Mutert
Carson Isabella Osborne
Grace Jean Patterson
Kathryn Elizabeth Peterson
Emma Grace Phillips
Kaylee Elizabeth Phillips

Trinity Elizabeth Phillips
McKenzie Mae Pilch
McKenna Lea Ratliff
Savannah Grace Rodgers
Bailey Lane Rogers
Nicole Marie Ropog
Isaac T. Russell
Margaret A. Sanders
Hannah S. Sharpton
Haley Ann Skinner
Adeline Grace Sylvester
Madison Elizabeth Tarifa
Caroline Faye Thompson
Hunter E. Vinson
Elizabeth Reed Walker
Madelyn Rae Watson
Abigail Elizabeth Weaver
Julia Joy Wiers
Eli Creighton Wildman
Elizabeth Law Wilcox
Alexander Grace Williams
Anslee Reese Wrather
Margaret Elise Yense