



Press Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2025

Contact: Don Mitchell, Executive Director
270-519-9101

MCCCE Announces 2025/26 Educational Scholarship Winners

The McCracken County Community Career Endowment, Inc. (MCCCE) is pleased to distribute the 2025/26 Educational Scholarships at a **reception honoring 38 students at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, June 1, 2025 at the Clemens Fine Arts Center on the campus of West Kentucky Community and Technical College.**

The event's keynote speaker will be Mr. Dylan Howard. Dylan Howard's journey is one defined by resilience, determination, and a deep commitment to giving back. Growing up in a single-parent household and witnessing the challenges of drug use at an early age, Dylan learned responsibility young, working to help support his family. These early experiences shaped his drive and gave him a unique perspective on the importance of stability, guidance, and positive role models.

Dylan attended Paducah Tilghman High School, where he graduated in 2016 and was an active member of the school band. He continued his education at West Kentucky Community and Technical College, where he discovered a passion for teaching that combined his desire to help others with his love of learning. After earning his associate degree, he transferred to Murray State University, supported by academic scholarships, and continued working while pursuing his dream.

In 2020, Dylan proudly graduated from Murray State and returned to his hometown to begin teaching at Paducah Middle School. For the past five years, he has dedicated himself to inspiring and uplifting the next generation, serving as a role model to students who may face struggles similar to his own. His life and work stand as a testament to the power of perseverance, education, and community impact.

Due to additional funds received from the Fred and Peggy Paxton Non-Endowed Fund, enhanced scholarship funds will also be presented to six (6) students in Class XIV of the PaxtonScholars Program. Cassidy Minter, Hannah Long, Audreya White, Terrance Robinson, Coryon Brooks and Mason Edwards will receive scholarship funds earned during their Junior and Senior years of high school. They were awarded a college-ready laptop computer with a carrying case in December 2024 and will receive additional funds next year which they will earn during their first two semesters of college (all these funds are based on student Grade Point Averages). Students in Class XIII of the PaxtonScholars Program will receive funds earned during their 2025

Spring college semester and students recently selected to comprise the PaxtonScholars Program Class XV will be recognized.

The 38 students chosen based on their GPA, financial need, achievements, and future goals to receive the 2025/26 MCCCE Educational Scholarship funds totaling over \$70,000.00 are:

Zoe Houston—Murray State University, Physics & Math Major, Secondary Certification

Brenda Taylor—Kentucky State University, Elementary Education Major

Gabrielle Copeland—University of Kentucky, Theatre/Arts Administration Major

Shymiya Daye—University of Louisville, Exercise Science Major

Shaovion Davis—West Kentucky Community and Technical College/University of Louisville, Practical Nursing Major

Roselyn Minter—University of Kentucky Engineering School@Paducah-Mechanical Engineering Major

Ma’Hali Brown—University of Kentucky, Finance & Accounting Major

Chase Maxie—University of Kentucky Engineering School@Paducah, Mechanical Engineering Major

Lebran McMullen—West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Biology Major

Raymond Green—West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Logistics Management Major

Khiland Moss—University of Kentucky, Business/Accounting Major

Kauri Whitfield---University of Kentucky, Nursing Major

Landon Fitzgerald---West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Physical Therapy Major

Joemari Starks---Campbellsville University, Sports Management Major

Jaelynn Carver-Smith---Western Kentucky University, Psychology Major

Joseph Reeves, Jr.---Murray State University, Television Production Major

Kailen McGregor---Centre College, Theatre & English Major

Brooklynne Riley---West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Sonography/Associate in Science Major

Jo’Kerrian Casey---University of Kentucky, Sports Journalism Major

Jayla Reed---Brescia University, Biology/Chemistry Major

Paige Hixon---Kentucky State University, Nursing Major

Alexandria Copper---University of Louisville, Neuroscience Major

Dale Young III---Western Kentucky University, Sports Management Major

A’Nniya Harris---University of Miami, Biology Major

Sydnee Harris---Kentucky State University, Nursing Major

Alexa White---Kentucky State University, Business Major

Matthew Robinson---Senior@Paducah Tilghman High School, University of Louisville, Physical Therapy Major

Jakevion Perry---Senior@Paducah Tilghman High School, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Business Major

Kilee Minter---Murray State University, Construction Management & Architectural Design Major

Alecza Andrea Coffie---Kentucky State University, Nursing Major

Justice Campbell---University of Kentucky, Mechanical Engineering Major

Alyssa Foster---Murray State University, Psychology Major

Davion Dunbar---Senior@McCracken County High School, Murray State University, Business Major

Christopher “Chris” Shaw---Senior@McCracken County High School, Western Kentucky University, Psychology Major

Morgan Jackson---Senior@Paducah Tilghman High School, Greenville University, Business Major

Jayda Reed---Senior@Paducah Tilghman High School, Spalding University, Nursing Major

Victoria Wheeler---Senior@Paducah Tilghman High School, University of Louisville, Physical Therapy Major

Makayah Carruthers---Senior@Paducah Tilghman High School, Western Kentucky University, Criminology Major

EIGHTH ANNUAL B.A. HAMILTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Raymond Green—West Kentucky Community and Technical College, Logistics Management Major

CHARLES HICKS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Coryon Brooks---Senior @ PTHS, University of Kentucky, Vocal Performance & Music Education Major

Maukella Jackson---Senior @ PTHS, University of Kentucky, Food Biosciences Major

For the Nineteenth (19th) consecutive year, the Ronald McDonald House Charities donated funds again this year to purchase two new college ready HP laptop computers, with carrying cases. Ms. Cathy Elliott will award them to two lucky scholarship winners during the program.

Nine (9) area mentoring/tutoring organizations each received \$1,200.00 grants from the MCCCE Fredrickia Hargrove Mentoring/Tutoring Enrichment Program. To be recognized are: Ninth Street Tabernacle Youth Ministries, Inc., L.I.F.E. Community, Inc., The Luther Carson Four Rivers Center, KeysII@Broadway United Methodist Church, Tornado Alley Youth Services Center, Black Coal & Roses Society Young Ladies Organization, PTHS African American Leadership Club, PTHS Student Equity Advisory Council and the MCHS African American Leadership Club.

The event is open to the public. For tickets, call 270-519-9101 to purchase your tickets for a suggested \$10.00 donation.

View our website at **mccce.org** to learn how to donate funds to assist the MCCCE in our efforts.