

2018 LGBT+ COLLEGE CONFERENCE AWARDS DINNER

APRIL 7, 2018 | 7:00 PM

**JAMES UNION BUILDING
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY**



**LGBT+
COLLEGE
CONFERENCE**





Sidney A. McPhee

President
Middle Tennessee State University
Cope Administration Building 204
1301 East Main Street
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
o: 615-898-2622 • f: 615-898-2507



April 7, 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2018 LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner. MTSU is once again excited to partner with great colleagues, sponsors and friends in celebrating the outstanding role models being honored tonight. These honorees have responded to essential needs on campuses, in workplaces and in this community to address issues of diversity, inclusion and social justice. They have often worked behind the scenes, without notice or recognition, in their respective areas to open doors and create safe places.

The honorees have advocated with strength and conviction for the inclusion of LGBT+ students, colleagues and friends and resisted stereotypes, discrimination and exclusion at all levels and in all places. These honorees, individually and collectively, inspire us to continually raise our voices to create positive change.

When we join together to include and not exclude, great things are possible!

Sincerely,

Sidney A. McPhee
President



April 7, 2018

Dear Friends,

Thank you all so much for attending this year's LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner. I hope you have all enjoyed the conference. I know we had an amazing program and an incredible group of presenters and participants.

I'd like to thank the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences for being with us since the beginning, and to thank our ever-growing list of sponsors and supporters for joining us on our journey to better our communities.

Those being honored this evening are already changing the world around them, making their communities a better place for all people through policy and practice. The MTSU Lambda Association would like to thank them for their commitment to the LGBT+ community and beyond.

Again, thank you so much for your support of the LGBT+ community and the support of this campus, showing that—once again—**All Diversity is True Blue!**

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Burns
President
MTSU Lambda Association



MS. BARBARA SCALES

2018 LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner Host

Barbara has 19 years of social welfare and adult learning experience. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Sociology and a Master of Arts in Education and Counseling and is working on her Ed.D. in Learning and Leadership at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. Currently, Barbara Scales serves as the Director of the June Anderson Center for Women and Nontraditional Students at Middle Tennessee State University. Barbara also is the Principle Investigator for the Department of Justice Grant – Office of Violence against Women CAMPUS Grant. She is the founder and developer of MTSU’s Bystander Intervention-Prevention Program – “Be the Power of One”; an awareness and education program about gender-based violence. Barbara is an advocate for women and nontraditional students and is dedicated to removing obstacles and building bridges between working, education, and social environments. She is truly committed to making what she considers her ceiling our future professional women’s floor through her women’s programming, advocacy, support, and events. Barbara’s passion is helping people live life in 3D; define their destiny, discover their potential and develop in their purpose.



MR. ORLANDO ANDREWS

2018 LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner Host

Orlando has been a servant to others in his daily work for many years. He is currently assisting those struggling with substance abuse disorders get help as a Mobile Admissions Specialist for Addiction Campuses. Before finding himself in this role he devoted himself to helping nonprofit Fine Arts Organizations (Theaters, Ballets, Operas and Symphonies) survive and thrive through marketing and fundraising. Orlando is an artist at heart. He began acting at a young age and when he attended Northwestern University he added, radio, television, film and dance to his repertoire. After graduation, he began his career in the Entertainment Industry as an Agent at Northshore Talent in Chicago, and later the Voiceover Director of Glynn Kennedy Models and Talent in Atlanta. He has continued to perform throughout his adult life mostly doing voiceovers for commercials and delivering Live News on the Radio...you can hear samples of his voice at www.orlandoandrews.com. At this time, Orlando is producing a show locally on the Nashville Education Community and Arts, Television Network called “Recovery” which covers a myriad of topics related to recovery from Substance Abuse, Behavioral Health, and Mental Health disorders.



MS. BEVERLY WATTS

2018 LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner
Keynote Speaker

Nashville native Beverly L. Watts was appointed the Executive Director of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission in July 2007. She has more than 30 years of experience in civil rights enforcement and education in the public and private sector. Beverly is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including the being a 2016 YWCA Nashville Athena Nominee, the ECHO 2014 Dreamers Award, the 2014 Frances Dancy Hooks Award, the YWCA 2014 Carrie Hull Award, the City of Louisville Martin Luther King award, and the 2005 induction into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame. She is a graduate of Tennessee State University, Southern Illinois University, and has completed Executive leadership programs at Duke University and the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.





PROGRAM

Hosted by Ms. Barbara Scales and Mr. Orlando Andrews

Welcome and Introductions

The Occasion

Greetings

Dr. Debra Sells

Vice President for Student Affairs,
Middle Tennessee State University

Dr. Harold “Terry” Whiteside

Dean, College of Behavioral and Health Sciences
Middle Tennessee State University

Ms. Elizabeth Burns

President,
MT Lambda

Dinner

Welcome Back

Keynote Address

Ms. Beverly Watts

Executive Director,
Tennessee Human Rights Commission



2018 Conference Awards Presentation Ceremony

Terry Whiteside Ally in Diversity Award

Civic Advocacy Award

Community Excellence Award

Diane Easter Corporate Engagement Award

Academic Advancement Award

MTSU Lambda Association Awards Presentation

Wayne C. Rosing LGBT+ Advocacy Award

Mr. Jeff Hendricks, '95

MTSU Lambda Association President 1995-96

2018 Honoree Ms. Christy Osborne, '98

Born and raised in Tennessee, Christy Osborne graduated from MTSU in 1998 with a bachelors of science in sociology and went on to pursue a masters degree in rehabilitation counseling from the university of Kentucky in 2007. While a student, Christy was an active member of the MTSU Lambda Association and served as the organization's first female president for 1992-1993, the group's fifth anniversary year. As President, Christy fought passionately against homophobic attitudes on campus and was successful at not only locating a new faculty advisor for the group but also in ensuring the group continued to have a home on MTSU's campus. Christy and her wife Rebecca live here in Murfreesboro with their son.

Remarks

Dr. William Langston

Professor, Department of Psychology, Middle Tennessee State University

Mr. Joshua Rigsby

Middle Tennessee State University LGBT+ Program Assistant

Acknowledgements and Conference Closing



NOMINEES

Terry Whiteside Ally in Diversity Award

This award serves to recognize allies of the LGBT+ community for their work in advancing, supporting, and advocating in the community where they live, work, and play. The award was named for Dr. Terry Whiteside, Dean of the College of Behavioral and Health Sciences at Middle Tennessee State University, in 2014. His support was crucial to the launching of the Inaugural LGBT+ College Conference.

Ms. Valerie Leonard
Nissan

Ms. Sharon Collins
PFLAG Franklin

Ms. Diane Hatley
Nissan

Civic Advocacy Award

This award serves to recognize individuals for their outstanding civic works in support of the LGBT+ Community through civic related advocacy efforts. Examples include an individual whose personal or professional efforts focus on legislation, building grassroots coalitions, or providing leadership to overall strategic advocacy.

Ms. Selena Haynes
Focus Middle Tennessee

Ms. Kayla Gore
OUTMemphis

Mr. Kelsey Page
OutCentral Nashville

Community Excellence Award

This award serves to recognize individuals for their work in advancing LGBT+ rights and the efforts of the LGBT+ community. Efforts include advocating for community programs, and initiatives that speak to the unique challenges of the LGBT+ community.

Ms. Kayla Gore
OUTMemphis

Mr. Phil Cobucci
Nashville Pride

Sis Saint Clair
Alumnus, retired

NOMINEES

Diane Easter Corporate Engagement Award

This award serves to recognize individuals for their professional efforts in advancing and advocating for LGBT+ inclusive workplace and community initiatives. The individual recognized will have successfully led high-impact collaborative programs with higher education and/or other organizations to advance social progress while contributing to the strategic goals of their company. The award was named for Diane Easter in 2014. Her support was crucial to the launching of the Inaugural LGBT+ College Conference.

Mr. Greg Cason
Nissan

Ms. Bethany Mason
Dollar General

Ms. Nikki Gibson
Dell

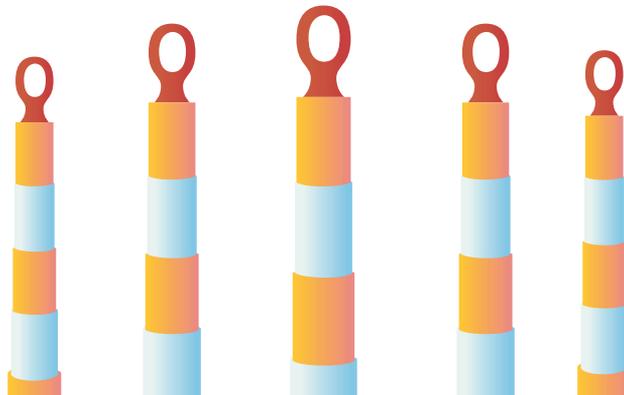
Academic Advancement Award

This award serves to recognize individuals who have made a tremendous impact on diversity and inclusion through study, research, or thought at an academic institution. This individual's efforts will have contributed to increased knowledge and understanding that supports and advances inclusive policies and practices.

Mr. Ray Allen
East Tennessee State
University

Ms. Bonnie Johnson
University of Tennessee
Knoxville

Ms. Jennifer Novo
Cumberland University





EVENT PATRONS

Mr. Scott Ellis – Newcastle-upon-Tyne, United Kingdom
Mr. Joshua Rigsby – Nashville, TN
Dr. William Langston – Murfreesboro, TN
Mr. Ron Snitker – Nashville, TN
Atty. Terry Bird – Atlanta, GA
Mr. Jon Breeding – Washington, D.C.

PAST AWARDEES

Terry Whiteside Ally in Diversity Award

2017 Ms. Anna Belle Robertson
Jackson State Community College

2016 Ms. Claudia Huskey
Special Advisor to the Mayor,
Nashville

2015 Dr. Kenny Yarbrough
Volunteer State Community College

2014 Dr. Harold (Terry) Whiteside
Middle Tennessee State University

Civic Advocacy Award

2017 Ms. Beverly Watts
Tennessee Human Rights Commission

2016 Dr. Jessica Kratzer & Dr. Mary Beth Asbury
Middle Tennessee State University

2015 Dr. Marisa Richmond
Tennessee Transgender Political Coalition

2014 Mr. Chris Sanders
Tennessee Equality Project

Community Excellence Award

2017 Mr. Doug Alexander
Nashville Cares

2016 Ms. Kathy Halbrooks
PFLAG Nashville

2015 Mr. Thomas Chappell
Association for Family and Community Integrity

2014 Mr. Michael McDaniel
Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

Diane Easter Corporate Engagement Award

2017 Mr. Ron Snitker
Waller Law

2016 Mr. Steve Smotherman
Cracker Barrel

2015 Ms. Cathy Lively
Nissan Motor Corporation

2014 Ms. Diane Easter
Deloitte LLP

Academic Achievement Award (introduced 2015)

2017 Mr. Dwayne Jenkins
Nashville Cares

2016 Ms. Morgan Hunlen
Middle Tennessee State University

2015 Mr. Brock Swims
Christian Brothers University

Wayne C. Rosing LGBT+ Advocacy Award

2017 Mr. Jon Breeding
Freddie Mac

2016 Mr. John Weaver
Delta Airlines

2015 Mr. Christian Grantham
Half Hill Farm

2014 Dr. Jim Williams
Middle Tennessee State University

2013 Dr. Wayne C. Rosing
Middle Tennessee State University

2018 CONFERENCE ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Jeffery Humble
Chair, Conference Advisory Board
SunTrust

Mr. Terry Bird
Chief Counsel to the Director of
Immigration for Alabama, Georgia,
South Carolina, and North Carolina, Retired

Mr. John Breeding
Freddie Mac

Mr. Justin Bucchio
Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Social Work

Mr. Lynn Cothren
Tennessee Human Rights Commission

Mr. TK Hampton
Street Works

Ms. Diane Hatley
Nissan

Ms. Selena Haynes
Focus

Ms. Tina Johnson
Middle Tennessee State University
Department of English

Mr. William Langston
Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Psychology

Ms. Bea Perdue
Habitat for Humanity

Ms. Marisa Richmond
Middle Tennessee State University
Department of History

Mr. Joshua Rigsby
Middle Tennessee State University
LGBT+ Program Assistant

Mr. Ron Snitker
Waller

Mr. John G. Weaver
In Memoriam

Mr. Paul Wydra
Middle Tennessee State University
Foundation

AWARDS DINNER TABLE SPONSORS

Middle Tennessee State University
College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Middle Tennessee State University
College of Basic and Applied Sciences

Tennessee Human Rights Commission

Mr. Terry C. Bird

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Psychology

Dollar General

Ms. Bea Perdue

Tennessee Transgender Political Coalition

Mr. Joshua Rigsby

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

NISSAN

Deloitte.

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance

waller.



FOCUS



DOLLAR GENERAL



CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS

Middle Tennessee State University
College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Middle Tennessee State University
College of Basic and Applied Sciences

Middle Tennessee State University Distinguished
Lectures Fund

Middle Tennessee State University
Student Activity Fee Committee

Middle Tennessee State University
Vice President's Office for Student Affairs

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Psychology

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Social Work

Middle Tennessee State University
Intercultural and Diversity Affairs Center

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



The members of the MTSU Lambda Association thank all those who have supported us publicly and financially in the presentation of the 2018 LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner. A very special thanks to those honored this evening for their outstanding contributions toward making our communities welcoming to all identities and bridging divides.

Conference graphics and artwork by Mr. Taylor Watson