



2022 lgbt+ college conference
awards dinner

april 9, 2022 | 7:00 p.m.
student union building

Middle Tennessee State University



Office of the President

Middle Tennessee State University
110 Cope Administration Building
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
o: 615-898-2622 • f: 615-898-2507



April 9, 2022

Dear Friends and Colleagues,



Welcome to the 2022 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 (he/him/his)
President

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April 9, 2022

Dear Friends,

Thank you all so much for attending this year's LGBT+ College Conference Awards Dinner. I hope you have enjoyed the conference. I know we had an amazing program and an incredible group of presenters and participants. On behalf of MTSU Lambda Association, I would like to especially thank our presenters for volunteering their time and effort to this important endeavor.

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

Those being honored this evening are already changing the world around them, making their communities a better place for all people. 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, showing that—once again—All Diversity is True Blue!

Sincerely,

Adam Peavy (he/him/his)
President
MTSU Lambda Association



HOSTS



Kayla Gore
(she/her/hers)

Kayla works to help organize and conduct direct outreach and to advocate for the rights of women, especially transgender women. Kayla's most recent work is with the #tinyhouseprojectMSH with the goal of developing tiny homes for Black and Brown Trans Women. With the assistance of Jasmine Wright and DKGR Architects, they launched the pilot for the project in 2021.



Zach Woodward
(he/him/his)

Zac Woodward is an MTSU Alumnus, now working for iHeartRadio as a local and nationally syndicated radio personality. Zac was voted 'Best Radio Personality' of 2021 by the Nashville Scene and dreams of one day hosting his own daytime talk show. Being part of the LGBTQIA+ community, it's extremely important to show the younger generation that there is someone that looks like them in mainstream media.

MUSIC



Adam Peavy
(he/him/his)

Adam Peavy is a Junior at Middle Tennessee State University studying Video and Film Production. He is a transgender male who has released music under his nickname "Turtle" that shares his life experiences including his gender identity journey. He is also the current president of MTSU's LGBTQ+ and Ally Organization, MT Lambda.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Kathy Halbrooks
(she/her/hers)

Kathy Halbrooks has been involved as an ally and advocate for almost twenty years. As a straight, cisgender person with no children, she became active as an ally because a bill that would protect employees of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County was introduced to the city council in 2002. As a Metro employee, she was in favor of this bill, but her first step into committed activism came when protestors from Westboro Baptist Church came to Nashville to protest the bill

For the first time, she did something besides being supportive in her heart and mind. She stepped onto the courthouse steps and stood in support of the bill. (It failed, but a bill passed in 2009 that included protection for both sexual orientation and gender identity for city employees.)

Once Kathy started to learn about LGBTQ+ issues, her passion grew. She went from not even knowing anyone LGBTQ+ to having numerous cherished friends who belong to the community. Kathy is Co-Chair of PFLAG Nashville and is South Atlantic Regional Director for PFLAG. She volunteers with the Tennessee Equality Project and works whenever possible to do her part to ensure that someday everyone, regardless of whom they are or whom they love, is treated equally with respect and affirmation.

She is immensely grateful to the people she's met along her journey who have taught her about the privileges she was lucky enough to be born with and how to use those privileges to help others.



program

Hosted by Kayla Gore & Zac Woodward

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

THE OCCASION

GREETINGS

Dr. Harold "Terry" Whiteside

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

Adam Peavy

President,
MTSU Lambda Association

MUSICAL PRELUDE

Adam Peavy

DINNER

WELCOME BACK

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Kathy Halbrooks

2022 CONFERENCE AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Terry Whiteside Ally in Diversity Award
Marisa Richmond Civic Advocacy Award
Community Excellence Award
Diane Easter Corporate Engagement Award
Academic Advancement Award

MTSU LAMBDA ASSOCIATION AWARD PRESENTATION

Wayne C. Rosing LGBT+ Advocacy Award
Vincent Windrow
Middle Tennessee State University

MTSU Lambda Association
Heroes Scholarship Presentation

REMARKS

Dr. William Langston
Professor, Department of Psychology,
Middle Tennessee State University

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & 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.

Erin Bloom
Volunteer State
Community College

Matt Lively
Cracker Barrel

Ray White
Licensed Professional
Counselor

Marissa Richmond 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. This award was named for Marisa Richmond in 2019 in honor of her extraordinary level of commitment to civic advocacy.

BoroPride Planning Team
(Leslie Russell Yost, Troy Yost, William Langston, Trent Jackson, Christopher Michael Maupins, Nichole McVeigh, Norman Hanks, River Johnson, George W. Manus, Jr., Brittany Potts, Laura Bohling, Airana McMillan)
Boro Pride

Aly Chapman
GLSEN Tennessee

Reverend Pamela Hawkins
Belmont United Methodist Church



NOMINEES

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.

Amanda Crawford
Licensed Professional
Counselor/MHSP

Jake Martino
PFLAG Nashville

Amy Whittemore
Write with Pride

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.

Elliott Noble-Holt
MediCopy

Terry Vo
Comcast

Ron Balcarras
Deloitte

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.

Dr. LaToya Eaves
University of Tennessee,
Knoxville

**Dr. Meredith Anne
(MA) Higgs**
Middle Tennessee
State University

Jamie Fuston
Volunteer State
Community College

Past Awardees

Terry Whiteside Ally in Diversity Award

2019 Patrick McCarthy
Middle Tennessee State University
Department of Psychology

2018 Sharon Collins
PFLAG Franklin

2017 Anna Belle Robertson
Jackson State
Community College

2016 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

Marissa Richmond Civic Advocacy Award

2019 Ronellis Tunstall
Nashville CARES

2018 Selena Haynes
Focus Middle Tennessee

2017 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 Chris Sanders
Tennessee Equality Project

Community Excellence Award

2019 Michael Reding
PFLAG Nashville/Nashville
in Harmony

2018 Kayla Gore
OUTMemphis

2017 Doug Alexander
Nashville Cares

2016 Kathy Halbrooks
PFLAG Nashville

2015 Thomas Chappell
Association for Family
and Community Integrity

2014 Michael McDaniel
Community Foundation of Middle
Tennessee

Diane Easter Corporate Engagement Award

2019 Bethany Mason
Dollar General

2018 Greg Cason
Nissan

2017 Ron Snitker
Waller Law

2016 Steve Smotherman
Cracker Barrel

2015 Cathy Lively
Nissan Motor Corporation

2014 Diane Easter
Deloitte LLP

Academic Achievement Award (introduced 2015)

2019 Tyler Kibbey
University of Kentucky

2018 Bonnie Johnson
University of Tennessee
Knoxville

2018 Jennifer Novo
Cumberland University

2017 Dwayne Jenkins
Nashville Cares

2016 Morgan Hunlen
Middle Tennessee
State University

2015 Brock Swims
Christian Brothers University

Wayne C. Rosing LGBT+ Advocacy Award

2019 Donna Baker
Archivist, Middle Tennessee
State University Gore Research
Center

2018 Christy Osborne
Middle Tennessee State
University Alumnus '98

2017 Jon Breeding
Freddie Mac

2016 John Weaver
Delta Airlines

2015 Christian Grantham
Half Hill Farm

2014 Dr. Jim Williams
Middle Tennessee
State University

2013 Wayne C. Rosing
Middle Tennessee
State University

2022 Conference Advisory Board

Selena Haynes

Chair, Conference Advisory Board
CEO of S&L Companies

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University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Kerri French-Nelson (she/her/hers)
University of Memphis

Jamie Fuston (they/them/their)
Volunteer State Community College

Daniel Green (he/him/his)
Middle Tennessee State University

Diane Hatley (she/her/hers)
Nissan

Don Hayes (he/him/his)
Nissan

Tyler Kibbey (he/they)
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

William Langston (he/him/his)
Middle Tennessee State University

Shane McCoy (they/them/their)
Middle Tennessee State University

Lloyd McDonald (he/him/his)
USH Advisors

Justin Reed (he/him/his)
Middle Tennessee State University

Marisa Richmond (she/her/hers)
Middle Tennessee State University

Ray White (he/him/his)
Whitewood Counseling

Paul Wydra (he/him/his)
Middle Tennessee State University

Awards Dinner Table Sponsors

Tennessee Human Rights Commission

Shane McCoy, Ph.D.

Conference Sponsors

NISSAN



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TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY

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Albert Gore
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The members of MTSU Lambda Association thank all those who have supported us publicly and financially in the presentation of the 2022 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 building support.

Conference graphics & artwork by Taylor Watson (he/him/his)