

# TSU *elect* NEWSLETTER

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## TSU names scholarship in honor of alumnus James Shaw, Jr.



**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (TSU News Service)** – Tennessee State University has set up a scholarship in the name of alumnus James Shaw, Jr., who has received national acclaim after disarming a Waffle House shooter in April.

The announcement was made during a reception held in Shaw's honor at the university on May 7. The event made national news, including being featured on "Good Morning America."

"The TSU family is extremely proud of alumnus James Shaw, Jr. for his bravery and courage," President Glenda Glover said before the ceremony. "James epitomizes the core values and mission of our institution, which is think, work and serve. His genuine concern for the well-being of others is a tribute to his parents, who are also TSU alumni."

During the event, President Glover also announced that Shaw will receive a Special Presidential Recognition at Tennessee State's homecoming in October.

Nearly \$15,000 was collected just moments after the university made the scholarship donation information public.

Donations to the James Shaw, Jr. Scholarship Fund can be paid through the link below or by mail. Please send donations to: The James Shaw, Jr. Scholarship Fund at Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University Foundation, 3500 John A. Merritt Blvd. Box 9542, Nashville, TN 37209

<http://www.tnstate.edu/shawscholarship>

## Memphis high school graduates with nearly \$19 million in scholarships, say "yes" to TSU

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (TSU News Service)** - Two Memphis graduating high school seniors accepted into nearly 400 colleges, with combined scholarship awards of close to \$19 million, are coming to Tennessee State University.

Meaghen Jones and Jayla Woods are from Whitehaven High School. With even grade point averages of 4.2, the two will attend TSU this fall - Jones as a pre-med major, and Woods a double major in nutrition and athletic training. Woods' career goal is to develop meal and diet plans for athletes.



TSU President Glenda Glover said it is no surprise that Woods and Jones selected TSU. In 2016, the president announced sweeping changes to raise admission standards to attract the best and brightest students.

Following that announcement, the university launched a number of initiatives, including "Experience TSU" to attract students in four major markets – Atlanta, Birmingham, Memphis and Nashville. Jones and Woods are a result of that effort.

"Tennessee State University is a place with high standards for high achievers," said Glover. "More and more we continue to attract elite scholars who value the world-class programs and quality education offered here in a caring community of faculty, staff and administrators who are committed to excellence."

Think. Work. Serve.



## Watkins family donates a half million, University establishes Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Institute



**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (TSU News Service)** – Tennessee State University is using a half million dollar gift from the family of the late Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. to establish an endowed scholarship fund in honor of the TSU alumnus and renowned heart surgeon.

The Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund will provide financial assistance to pre-med majors at the institution based on high scholastic achievement. In conjunction with the scholarship fund, TSU will establish the Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Memorial Institute. The initiative is made up of three components: the Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Society, the Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Pre-Med Society and the Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Lecture Series.

“We are extremely grateful to the family of Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. for this tremendous gift to further the legacy of such a brilliant individual, and TSU alumnus,” said Tennessee State University President Glenda Glover.

“The Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. Endowed Scholarship and institute are incredible programs to have housed at our university and will add another caveat to our stellar STEM programs. Most importantly, it continues the work of Dr. Watkins of inspiring students to pursue their dreams in the medical profession and to give back to others.”

Watkins was the first doctor to successfully implant an automatic heart defibrillator in a patient, a medical procedure that is now more commonplace. It is because of his vision and innovation that this medical breakthrough has been responsible for saving the lives of millions worldwide.

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## Campus landscape to change



**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (TSU News Service)** - The Tennessee State University campus landscape will soon have a new look, as construction begins in the upcoming months of five campus buildings.

TSU President Glenda Glover says the new buildings will enhance student living and improve their learning environment.

“The new projects are part of a long-term plan to improve academic programs and increase our residence hall inventory while enhancing the overall status of the university,” adds President Glover. “We are extremely excited about the future and the new look our campus will take on with the construction. It’s been a long time coming for our students, faculty, staff and alumni.”

On slate for construction is a new Health Sciences Building, two new residence halls, the Field Research Organic Laboratory, Gateway Arch Entrance, new Engineering building, and Alumni House and Welcome Center. Plans for several of the projects were unveiled last fall to kick-off the university’s homecoming celebration. All of the projects must be approved by the State Building Commission (SBC).

In addition to the new buildings, the university is also planning a nearly \$5 million enhancement to Hale Stadium, according to Dr. Curtis Johnson, TSU’s chief of staff.

*Save the Date!*



**TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY**

*Homecoming*

*October 14-20, 2018*

Sheraton Music City (Host Hotel)  
777 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN 37214  
Call (615) 933-8120 or  
visit [www.homecomingTSU.com](http://www.homecomingTSU.com)  
Early bird rates end June 30, 2018.



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