TSU HOMECOMING

The Return

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

OCTOBER • 24-31 • 2021
Greetings, Alumni & Friends:

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you back to one of the most celebrated times of the year at Tennessee State University, Homecoming! Homecoming has been a rich tradition of our university since its first documented occurrence in 1930.

As we navigate through unprecedented times and acclimate ourselves to a “new normal,” we must take a moment to breathe, rejoice and continue to persevere. In 2020, University leaders were tasked in making the difficult decision to cancel our Homecoming festivities. Therefore, there is no better theme to describe our desire to reconnect with one another than, “The Return!” It is a time for our “Return to Celebration,” our “Return to Excellence” and our “Return to a Renewed-Spirit!” Homecoming 2021 is a time to come back in full force to support our beloved alma mater, now like never before.

Homecoming Week will officially begin on Sunday, October 24, with an array of traditional events throughout the week including the conference football contest between the Racers of Murray State University and our very own TSU Tigers on Saturday, October 30. New head coach, Eddie George, and his talented coaching staff, will lead the Tigers as they take the field at Nissan Stadium with a televised game kickoff at 5:00 PM CDT. The game will be just one of the highlights of the day as we will bring back our legendary Homecoming Parade, showcasing our very own world-renowned Aristocrat of Bands, Royal Court, as well as many groups and organizations representing TSU students, alumni and the Nashville community. We are also proud and excited to salute a distinguished and well-deserving group of Grand Marshals and Honorees, giving special recognition to State of Tennessee House of Representatives, the Honorable Rev. Harold M. Love Jr., Ph.D., who will serve as our Presidential Grand Marshal.

Now, if you think we are finished on Saturday, think again...it’s not over until it’s OVER! The Young Alumni Network of TSUNAA will host its 40 Under 40 Brunch & Day Party, honoring both 2020 and 2021 recipients, on Sunday, October 31.

As in previous years, the Planning Committee has been working diligently to produce a week of events and activities that I’m sure you will appreciate and enjoy. Please keep in mind, we are very intentional with respect to the ongoing pandemic and want to ensure that all safety protocols will be followed as governed by the Centers for Disease Control, the city of Nashville and the university. We ask that you practice social distancing, and we strongly encourage mask wearing throughout the weekend, when and where appropriate. These efforts can only be accomplished with your continued patience and cooperation.

Lastly, please take a moment to review the official schedule of events for announcements and other information relative to the week of reunion. It is our hope to make Homecoming 2021—“The Return,” a week full of memorable experiences, like we have grown accustomed. We look forward to seeing you and your family in October!

Yours in Excellence,

Grant L. Winrow, ’89, ‘18
GRAND MARSHALS

Dr. Alvin Crawford
Mrs. Celestine Lowe
Mr. Alvin Marley

HONOREES

Mr. Herman D. Brady
Dr. Dorothy Granberry
Dr. James E. Haney
Dr. Sandra Holt

PRESIDENTIAL GRAND MARSHAL

Rev. Harold M. Love, Jr., Ph.D
Sunday, October 24

3:00 P.M.  Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest
Floyd-Payne Campus Center
Robert N. Murrell Forum
Free and open to the public
Contact: Jacqueline Mitchell
jmitchell@tnstate.edu • 615.963.5741

6:00 P.M.  Gospel Explosion
Howard C. Gentry Center/Cost: TBD
Contact: Frank Stevenson
fsteven1@tnstate.edu • 615.963.2154

9:00 P.M.  Block Party
Old Courtyard/Cost: FREE
Contact: Andre Bean
abean@tnstate.edu • 615.963.7588

Monday, October 25

6:30 P.M.  Jazz on the Lawn with a Slight Turn-up
McWherter Administration Lawn/Cost: FREE
Contact: Frank Stevenson
fsteven1@tnstate.edu • 615.963.2154

Tuesday, October 26

11:00 A.M.  TSU Stamped In Time:
Time Capsule Ceremony
Old Courtyard
Contact: Tiara Thomas
tthomas87@tnstate.edu

6:00 P.M.  Aux Cord Wars
Kean Hall Gymnasium/Cost: FREE
Contact: Andre Bean
abean@tnstate.edu • 615.963.7588

Wednesday, October 27

12:00 P.M.  Courtyard
New Courtyard/Cost: FREE
Contact: Andre Bean
abean@tnstate.edu • 615.963.7588

7:00 P.M.  Mr. & Miss TSU Coronation
Kean Hall Gymnasium
Contact: Dwight Pope
Dpope@tnstate.edu / 615.963.5655

Thursday, October 28

11:00 A.M.  President and Legacy Society Day Party
"BY INVITATION ONLY"
Kean Hall Gymnasium
Contact: Ben Northington or Sonya Smith
bnorthington@tnstate.edu • 615.963.5522
ssmith6@tnstate.edu • 615.963.2963

Friday, October 29

8:00 A.M.  Breakfast of Champions
Kean Hall Gymnasium
Cost: $20 per person
Contact: Debbi Howard
debbi.howard@tnstate.edu • 615.963.5831

12:30 P.M.  Ralph Boston & Catana Starks Annual Golf Tournament
Hermitage Golf Course
Registration begins at 10:30 A.M.
Cost: $125 per person; $500 per team
Contact: Ben Northington or Dennie Marshall
bnorthington@tnstate.edu • 615.963.5522
dmarsh2561@comcast.net • 615.330.2264

2:00 P.M.  Levi Watkins, Jr. Lecture Series
Floyd-Payne Campus Center,
Robert N. Murrell Forum
Contact: Erica Gilmore
615.878.0181

4:00 P.M.  Mr. & Miss TSU Reception
"BY INVITATION ONLY"
The President's Residence
Contact: Barbara Murrell
bmurrell@tnstate.edu • 615.963.7401

7:00 P.M.  Homecoming Concert
Location and Cost: TBA
Contact: Andre Bean
abean@tnstate.edu • 615.963.7588

8:00 P.M.  Alumni Black-Out Party
"Black is the New Blue"
Host Hotel: Grand Hyatt Grand Ballroom
1000 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203
Advance Tickets now available on Eventbrite
Day of Event Tickets: $35
Reserved Table of 10: $400
Attire: Black Elegance (Splash of Blue optional)
Hosted by 92Q Kenny Smoov Morning Show with
Special Musical guest: Bizz & Everyday People
live band with Music by DJ C-Wiz
Contact: Debbi Howard
debbi.howard@tnstate.edu • 615.963.5831
9:00 A.M. **Alumni ‘Real Talk’**
Walter S. Davis Humanities Building
T.E. Poag Auditorium
Hosted by TSU Office of Alumni Relations and Starr Allen
(Alumni sharing their road to success with the first-year students.)
Contact: Sonya Smith
Ssmith6@tnstate.edu • 615.963.2936

9:30 A.M. **The 85th Anniversary of Alpha Chi Chapter Celebratory Breakfast**
“Transforming Our Legacy with Fortitude”
Grand Hyatt Hotel Grand Ballroom
Contact: Jahnari Edwards or Colette Bradley
edwardsj4.je@gmail.com • 334.520.0341
bradley.colette@yahoo.com • 615.293.8598

10:00 A.M. **Charles Campbell Fish Fry**
President’s Lawn
Cost: $15 Scholarship Donation
Contact: Janet Merriweather
tigergrowl78@gmail.com • 615.495.8970

11:00 A.M. **TSU National Alumni Association**
The Official Alumni Hall Pop Up Shop
William Jasper Hale Stadium End Zone (North End)
Contact: Kendric Dartis/
kendric_dartis@yahoo.com • 931.952.5957

12:00 P.M. **Student Pep Rally**
William Jasper Hale Stadium/Cost: FREE
Contact: Dwight Pope
Dpope@tnstate.edu / 615.963.5655

4:00 P.M. **Roaring Loud Fest**
TSU AOB performance is 6:00 p.m.
Show ends at 10:00 p.m.
Early bird tickets are ONLY $40
Tables and VIP packages are available
Contact: Mario Mitchell
roaringloudfest.com
roaringloudfest@gmail.com • 615-719-6900

6:00 P.M. **NPHC Yard Show**
Location and Cost: TBA
Contact: Andre Bean
abean@tnstate.edu • 615.963.7588

7:00 P.M. **TSU Scholarship Gala**
Music City Center
201 Representative John Lewis Way South, Nashville, TN 37203
Cost $150 per person; $1,500 table of 10
Contact: Iris Ramey, Debbi Howard, Marie Sueing
www.tnstate.edu/gala • 615.963.5586

**Saturday, October 30**

9:00 A.M. **Homecoming Parade**
Jefferson Street
Contact: Andre Bean
tnstate.edu/alumni/homecoming/parade.aspx • 828.539.0358

4:45 P.M. **Pre-Game**

5:00 P.M. **Kick Off (TSU vs. Murray State)**
Nissan Stadium
Cost: $20-$50 per person (advance)
$30-$55 per person (day of game)
Contact: Ticket Office • 615.963.5841

7:00 P.M. **Tennessee State University Alumni of Elected Officials (TSU-AOEO) Reception**
Featuring “The Taste of TSU Spirits”
*INVITATION ONLY FOR TSU ALUMNI OF ELECTED OFFICIALS [CURRENT/FORMER]*
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Location: The Grand Hyatt Hotel, 2nd Floor
Contact: Vivian Wilhoite
vivian.wilhoite@icloud.com • 615-589-2003

9:00 P.M. **The Essence of Big Blue Homecoming Game After Fest**
Host Hotel: Grand Hyatt Grand Ballroom
1000 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203
(The Official TSU After-Party featuring live music, DJ’s, Soul Train Line and TSU Trivia)
Hosted by: Tennessee State University National Alumni Association (TSUNAA) and Mighty Rho Psi Alumni Chapter
Cost: $30 in advance; $40 at the door
Contact: Melissa Howard Smoot
mdhoward91@yahoo.com

**Sunday, October 31**

11:00 A.M. **The 40/40 Brunch & Day Party**
*BY INVITATION ONLY* 40/40 BRUNCH
*GENERAL ADMISSION* DAY PARTY
Celebrating the 2020 & 2021 TSUNAA Forty Under 40 Honorees
Host Hotel: Grand Hyatt, Rooftop
1000 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203
Cost: General admission $30
Contact: Kendric Dartis
programs@tsualumnionline.org
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY 33RD ANNUAL

ROBERT N. MURRELL
ORATORICAL CONTEST

The Return

SUNDAY • OCT. 24, 2021 • 3PM
ROBERT N. MURRELL FORUM • FLOYD-PAYNE CAMPUS CENTER

Awards
First Place $100
Second Place $50
Third Place $30

Fees will be awarded for two categories: freshman and sophomore students
(3 or more completed hours)

Dr. Jacqueline Mitchell, Chair
For application and more information visit us at:
www.murrellscholarshipfund.com

HOMECOMING 2021 THE RETURN

Mr. Ralph Boston & Dr. Catana Starks

ANNUAL

GOLF TOURNAMENT
THURS 28TH OCT
TEE TIME: 12:30PM
HERITAGE GOLF COURSE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
BEN NORTINGTON @ (615) 963-3522 OR DENNIE MARSHALL @ (615) 330-2264

(615) 963-3522 – TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN AA/EO EMPLOYER - NON-DISCRIMINANT
BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS
HONORING
CASSANDRA GRIGGS,
JAMES "MONK" JOHNSON,
AND DWIGHT POPE
KEAN HALL

OCT 29TH FRIDAY 8am

YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORK PRESENTS

THE OFFICIAL ALUMNI HALL
FRIDAY
OCTOBER 29TH
11AM | WILLIAM JASPER HALE STADIUM
NORTH ENDZONE DURING PEP RALLY

FOOD • FUN • NETWORKING
CANDIDATES CORNER

SPONSORED BY
JOHN SMITH MARKETING

CURRENT COVID REGULATIONS WILL BE RESPECTED AT THIS EVENT

ANNUAL TSU HOMECOMING
CHARLES A. CAMPBELL FISH FRY
PRESIDENT’S LAWN
$15 Donation
SANDWICH & SODA
10AM–3PM
FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER

5% ALUMNI DONATION DISCOUNT
SCAN TO DONATE

YOUNG ALUMNI UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
NASHVILLE CHAPTER | 615.495.8970

COMING 2021 THE RETURN
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

THE ESSENCE OF BIG BLUE
OFICIAL HOMECOMING

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30TH
LIVE MUSIC BY HIGHER GROUND
VIP TABLES • VIP EXPERIENCE
HOSTED BY YOLO B
AND MUSIC BY DJ LAWBREAKER

1000 BROADWAY NASHVILLE, TN
TIME 9PM
The White Out
Black is the new Blue

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 28TH | TIME: 8PM

GRAND HYATT
1000 BROADWAY NASHVILLE, TN

TSU-21-153(B)-7D-50270 - TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN AA/EEO EMPLOYER. NON-DISCRIMINANT
Scholarship Gala

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
DINNER & PROGRAM 7:00PM

OCTOBER 29 FRIDAY 2021

MUSIC CITY CENTER

BLACK TIE
201 REP. JOHN LEWIS WAY S, NASHVILLE TN 37203

FOR UPDATES VISIT TNSTATE.EDU/GALA/

(TSU-21-153(B)-7D-5070 – TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN AA/EEO EMPLOYER.) NON-DISCRIMINANT
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Presents the

ALUMNI

Real Talk

Virtual Classroom Edition

Discussing Various Topics: Real Success, Real Failures, Real Inspiration

Friday, October 29, 2021 9 A.M.

Guest Speakers

Adrienne Beamer 1994
Engineering NASA

Ronnie Partee 1994
Sr. Director Pfizer

Kent Floyd Kelly 1997
Director of Diversity, Equity, Equity, and Inclusion Nissan

Roosevelt Luster 1997
Utility Operations & Maintenance Senior Project Manager Tesla

Lashundrea Fruit-Partee 1997
Business Owner

The Goddard School Cordova

Alumni would you like to share your success story with the 2021 freshman students virtually? Click the link below or scan the barcode to register.


For more information, contact Sonya Smith
semnith@statate.edu
615.263.2936
This event and vision was created by
Sonya Smith and Starr Allen

ROARING LOUD FEST

HOME COMING MUSIC FEST

STARRING

JUVENILE

WEBBIE EIGHTBALL & MJG TOO SHORT CRIME MOB

WITH THE TSU ARISTOCRAT OF BANDS

FRIDAY
OCTOBER
29TH, 2021

{ RIVERFRONT PARK
NASHVILLE, TN }

FRIDAY
DOORS OPEN
4PM-10PM

A PORTION OF ALL TICKET PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE TSU ARISTOCRAT OF BANDS

TICKETS AT ROARINGLOUDFEST.COM
Miami 2022 Florida

JUNE 9TH - JUNE 12TH
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

TSUNAA
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL

TIGERS

2021 SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 5
CANTON, OH

SEPTEMBER 11
MEMPHIS, TN

SEPTEMBER 18
NASHVILLE, TN

SEPTEMBER 25
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO

OCTOBER 2
CLARKSVILLE, TN

OCTOBER 16
NASHVILLE, TN

OCTOBER 23
CHARLESTON, IL

OCTOBER 30
NASHVILLE, TN

NOVEMBER 5
MARTIN, TN

NOVEMBER 13
NASHVILLE, TN

NOVEMBER 20
STARKVILLE, MS

ALL *HOME GAMES TO BE PLAYED IN NISSAN STADIUM

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