



Presidential Scholar Patria Gatson, a biology/pre-med major from Pelham, AL, was named Miss Talladega College 2020 -2021 on September 24, 2020



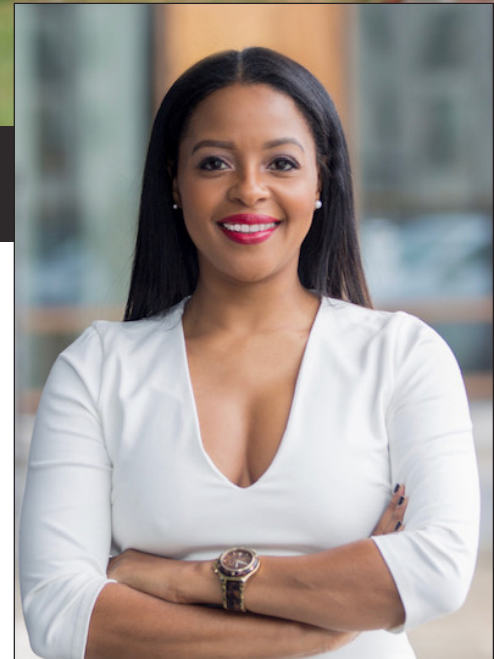
## ***MASK UP!***

Student Government Association President Jamal Hairston urges students to wear masks, which are mandatory on campus. Having lost two relatives to COVID-19, the Detroit native understands the importance of being cautious. His advice to students: “Skip the off-campus parties. It’s not safe to be in crowded places.”

## **Meredith Y. Lilly, Esq. ‘01**

Attorney Meredith Lilly is a sought-after political strategist and the co-owner of AdaChic Designs, a socially conscious handbag company located in Lagos, Nigeria. The brand provides employment and global skill-sets to local sewers and suppliers.

This tireless Talladegan also serves as the director of external affairs for DeKalb County, Georgia, where she is responsible for executing various tasks to support the CEO of DeKalb County, including managing day-to-day operations as well as events and ceremonies. She distinguished herself in 2007 as regional political director of the Obama for America Campaign by successfully leading and mobilizing campaign employees and volunteers in states won by President Obama in the 2008 presidential election. Prior to her political endeavors, she practiced criminal defense law and served as an adjunct professor at Miles College in Birmingham, Alabama.



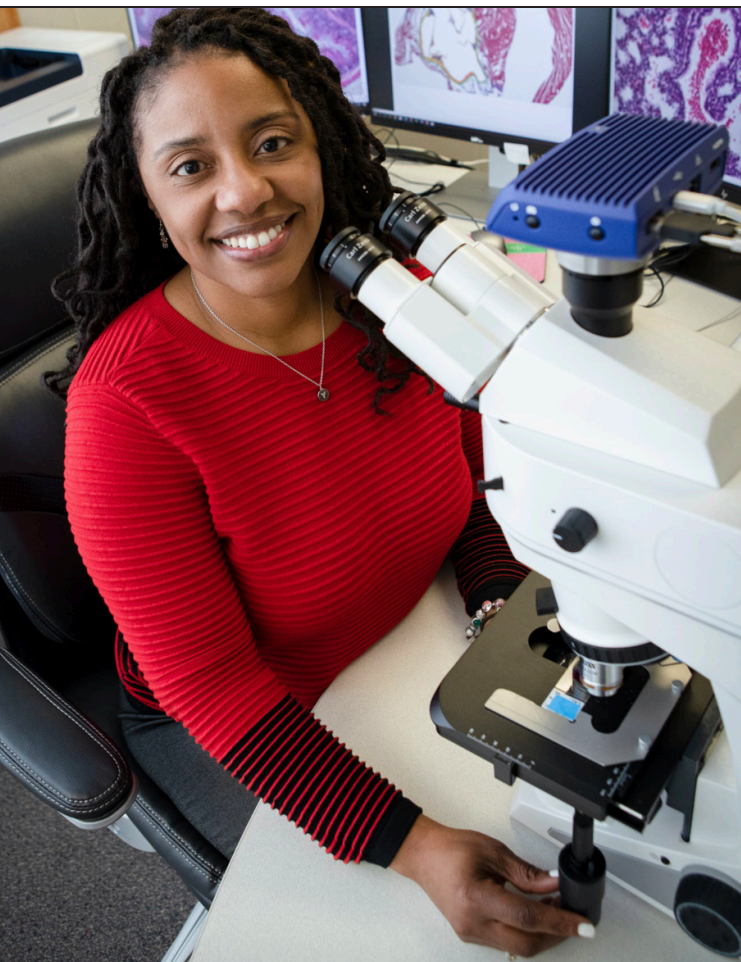




## **STUDENTS LEAD VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE AND MARCH**

Talladega College students recently led a peaceful march for racial equality and justice, which was followed by a voter registration drive. Hundreds of students participated in the events, which were spearheaded by the Student Government Association (SGA) and other campus leaders. Participants marched from the Dr. Billy C. Hawkins Student Activity Center to the county courthouse, around the square and back. SGA members include SGA President Jamal Hairston from Detroit, Michigan; SGA Vice President Trevion McClary from Houston, Texas; Student Representative to the Board of Trustees Shakayah Midgette from Stockbridge, Georgia; SGA Secretary Geornipha Milbin from Clayton County, Georgia; SGA Treasurer Reanna Burroughs from Mobile, Alabama; Parliamentarian Troy Brown from New Orleans, Louisiana; Speaker of the House Tevante Harris from Pine Bluff, Arkansas; and Chief Justice Ashton Hall from Talladega, Alabama.

## **DR. YAVA JONES-HALL RECOGNIZED BY CROSSTALK**



Dr. Yava Jones-Hall '99, an associate professor and director of the Core Histology Laboratory at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, is the only veterinarian named among CrossTalk's list of 100 inspiring Black scientists in America.

CrossTalk is the official blog of Cell Press, a leading publisher of more than 50 scientific journals across the life, physical, earth and health sciences. CrossTalk created the list to help generate a conversation that increases the visibility of noteworthy Black scientists.

Dr. Jones-Hall earned a B.A. in biology at Talladega College, a DVM at Tuskegee University's College of Veterinary Medicine, and a PhD in pathology at Michigan State University.





Join us for VIRTUAL TOWN HALL:  
<http://bit.ly/TownHallAL>



Talladega College was awarded \$10,000 in the second annual Ford HBC-You Mobility Challenge. The funds will be used to increase mobility for the visually impaired and blind. Talladega will partner with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind (AIDB) to develop improved sidewalks with truncated domes, which are raised circles on the pavement used to alert visually-impaired pedestrians when they have reached the end of a sidewalk. Talladega College President Dr. Billy C. Hawkins said, “Talladega College and AIDB are both student-centered organizations and we share a special bond. The innovative Ford HBC-You Mobility Challenge Grant will strengthen this bond while enhancing the lives of blind students by providing them with greater mobility and independence.”



Dr. Hawkins pictured with student leaders.

Miss Talladega College UNCF 2020 - 2021 Brittany Wynn is raising funds for United Negro College Fund (UNCF) scholarships. She recently met with the Mayor of Talladega and local business leaders, who agreed to support her campaign. With the assistance of the Pre-Alumni Council, she is also conducting a piggy bank campaign to urge Talladegans to donate their coins. To help Brittany raise funds for UNCF, contact Mr. Anthony Jones at [AMjones@talladega.edu](mailto:AMjones@talladega.edu).

**"JUST COME TO CLASS!"**  
 WE HAVE FUN IN THE DEPARTMENT  
 OF MASS MEDIA STUDIES AT  
 TALLADEGA COLLEGE



Mass Media Studies majors recently launched “Just Come to Class,” a campaign designed to promote attendance. Department Chair Dr. Luis Almeida stated, “I am so proud of the Mass Media Studies students for producing such an important call to action. The project is a testament of how creative and intelligent our students are.”

Students studying photography are taking headshots of faculty and staff during the month of October. Please contact Dr. Almeida at [lalmeida@talladega.edu](mailto:lalmeida@talladega.edu) to schedule a headshot. Once your headshot is completed, please email it to [msood@talladega.edu](mailto:msood@talladega.edu) and it will be added to the new website.

View *The New Talladegan* magazine at <http://www.talladega.edu/talladegan2020/>



# RECORD-SETTING ENROLLMENT FOR 2020-2021!

Talladega College has set a record for the largest enrollment in its 153-year history. Enrollment has risen six percent to an all-time high of 1,313 students, making the 2020-2021 academic year Talladega's 3rd consecutive year for record enrollment increases. This number represents a six percent overall increase and a 27% increase in new students. The previous record was set last year, when the college enrolled 1,230 for the 2019-2020 academic year. Talladega also enjoyed a record-high enrollment increase in the 2018-2019 academic year, when the student population increased to 1,216.



2019 RECORD ENROLLMENT PHOTO

## OPPORTUNITIES

**IBM:** Talladega College and IBM are partnering to expand opportunities in research, skills development and curriculum improvement. As part of the IBM Skills Academy Initiative, IBM is donating more than \$100M in assets, including lectures, curriculum content, digital badges, software and training to Talladega and other select HBCUs by the end of 2020.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Sedrick T. Hill Sr. stated, "Badges on average cost approximately \$10,000 and Talladega College is eligible for up to 200 at a value of two million dollars."

**MCDONALD'S:** McDonald's, in partnership with the International Youth Foundation, will provide free skills training for 150 Talladega College students via its PTS Explorer, which complements Talladega's Career Pathways program and provides the College with additional opportunities to train and equip students for success. Students may contact Ms. Sherissa Gaitor at [skgaitor@talladega.edu](mailto:skgaitor@talladega.edu) to register.



**DejaNae Travis**, a Talladega College junior majoring in psychology, was awarded the 2020-2021 UNCF Jacqueline Feignenson Scholarship. Students are encouraged to visit [www.uncf.org](http://www.uncf.org) or contact Interim Financial Aid Director Ms. Lakecia Taylor at [ltaylor@talladega.edu](mailto:ltaylor@talladega.edu) for

details about a wide variety of UNCF scholarships. UNCF has provided funds to help over 500,000 students attend college. There are far too many scholarships to list, so please visit UNCF's website.

**U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT:** *U.S. News and World Report 2021 Best Colleges Guide* recognized Talladega College in three categories - National Liberal Arts Colleges, Historically Black Colleges (HBCUs), and Top Performers on Social Mobility. In addition, the *Princeton Review* listed Talladega College among the "Best Southeastern Colleges."

Submit TC Update story suggestions to:  
**Mary Sood**  
Director of Public Relations  
[msood@talladega.edu](mailto:msood@talladega.edu)

 <https://www.facebook.com/TheTalladegaCollege>

 <https://www.instagram.com/thetalladegacollege/>

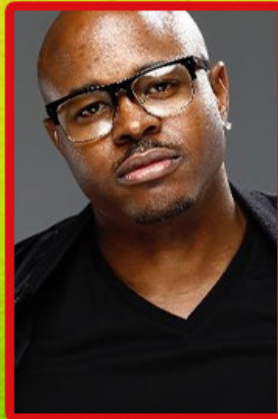


# VIRTUAL HOMECOMING



LIVE BROADCAST

OCTOBER 10 | 12PM - 6PM CST



SPECIAL GUEST DJ'S

DJ FREDDY FINGAZ x DJ MR COLLIPARK  
DJ MARS x DJ CHRIS COLEMAN x DJ GENIUS

#OURHBCUSCELEBRATE



JOIN LIVE STREAM: [www.ourhbcuscelebrate.com](http://www.ourhbcuscelebrate.com)

TALLADEGA'S HAPPY HOUR • 4 - 5 PM:

<http://bit.ly/hchbcu>