

VOLUME 5

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Chancellor's Report



T H E W A I T I S O V E R

CALLING ALL GRADUATES

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT

Commencement Ceremony

RECOGNIZING GRADS FROM:

SUMMER 2019
FALL 2019

SPRING 2020
SUMMER 2020

FALL 2020
SPRING 2021

**SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021 | 6:00 PM | INDEPENDENCE STADIUM
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA**



T H E W A I T I S O V E R



APHRIEKAH DUHANEY-WEST, MBA, MSN, FACHE

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT SHREVEPORT

Commencement Ceremony

MEET YOUR COMMENCENT SPEAKER

Aphriekah DuHaney-West is the Chief Executive Officer at Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport Academic Medical Center. She manages the day to day operations and oversees the operational excellence, physician and employee engagement, and the strategic market position for the Academic Medical Centers 454 licensed bed facility.

**SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021 | 6:00 PM | INDEPENDENCE STADIUM
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA**



PAYING IT FORWARD: FORMER STUDENT'S EXPERIENCE AT SUSLA INSPIRES HER TO GIVE BACK



When alumnae Beatrice "Bea" Wright walked into Financial Aid Director Dr. Alan Jackson's Office, the last thing he imagined is that she would walk out leaving a \$1,000 check behind.

"I found Southern University at Shreveport Louisiana to be a home away from home. The Administrative staff, Instructors, and Support staff all play an active Integral role in the success of students by assisting us to allow the GREATNESS we are born with, manifest and take us places we dare to dream about. I am forever Grateful to all at SUSLA, my HBCU. Because of you I am the Employee of the Quarter."

Ms. Wright is a 2020 graduate of Southern University at Shreveport who received her degree in Nursing. While at SUSLA she achieved status as a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, was elected to serve as SGA President in 2018-2019 by her fellow students, and was recipient of multiple scholarships, including the David Raines Community Health Center Award for Nursing. Now working in the Healthcare profession Ms. Wright says of her gift, "I just wanted to be a blessing to others because SUSLA was a blessing to me".

Click [here](#) to donate! For more information, please contact Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer at srogers@susla.edu.

SUSLA'S INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT SPRING RETREAT: REFRESH, RENEW, & REDISCOVER



On Monday, May 17, 2021, the Institutional Advancement Department held its Annual Advancement Division Spring Retreat at Milam Street Kitchen Incubator & Community Kitchen 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Each division staff member gave PowerPoint Presentations on their Top Three Job Priorities for 2021 relevant to Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) Strategic Plan 2016-2021. Attendees were: Stephanie Rogers, Chief Advancement Officer, Yvette Allen, Advancement Program Coordinator & Alumni Liaison, Michael Thomas, Director of Marketing, Angelique Feaster Evans, Museum Coordinator & Events Manager, Dellanee Wade, Graphics Services & Multimedia Coordinator, Annquinette King, Web Designer, and Brenda Henderson, Grants Resource Specialist.

Throughout the day guest from various divisions at SUSLA gave special presentations on services that are available to students and offered effective team building skills for faculty and staff. Advancement's guests were: Dr. Rodney Ellis, Chancellor, AJ Williams, Career Services Coordinator, Jorge Sousa III, Director of Admissions & Recruitment, Janice Sneed, Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs & Workforce Development, Devonye Brown, Director of Outcomes, Assessments & Quality Management.

Advancement Division Staff enjoyed complimentary breakfast and lunch—a continental breakfast including assorted muffins, breakfast sandwiches, fruit, and orange juice; and Jason's Deli lunch boxes and desserts.

Stephanie Rogers provided division staff and guest speakers with appreciation gifts. It was a fun but informative day learning ways to improve job performances to ensure faculty and staff are providing excellent customer service to the students and each other at SUSLA and the entire community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. MELVA WILLIAMS FOR BEING THE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER FOR CENTENARY COLLEGE



Centenary College of Louisiana
welcomes

Dr. Melva Williams

as speaker for the 2021
commencement ceremonies

**Saturday,
May 8, 2021**

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
and Enrollment Management
Southern University Shreveport

SUSLA'S TRIO PROGRAM HOSTS COMMUNITY/VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR FOR THE SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER AREA



The Community/Veterans Resource Fair is an annual event held at Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) main campus and sponsored by the TRiO Educational Opportunity Centers Program (EOC), TRiO Veterans Upward Bound (VUB), and Healthy Blue of Louisiana with the sole purpose of bringing together businesses and organizations that have valuable resources available to the Shreveport-Bossier communities. EOC and VUB are federal grant programs funded through the U. S. Department of Education and housed in the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at SUSLA. This year's event was held April 22, 2021 with these businesses and organizations participating:

Bancorp South	Shreveport Job Corps
Cajun Court – Justice Jackie	VAMC
Communities of Color	VET Center
David Raines Health Clinic	SUSLA's Admission Office
Elle Foundation	Aerospace Program
Goodwill Industries	Jaguar Scholars
Healthy Blue of Louisiana	Nursing Department:
Jason's Deli	(CNA, LPN, RN)
Judge Sheva Sims	TRiO EOC
KHAM Radio	Educational Talent Search
KID ZONE	Upward Bound North
Shreve Memorial Library:	Upward Bound South
Walette	Veterans Upward Bound

We would like to thank our sponsors Reta T. Stewart, Director of Educational Opportunity Centers, Urina F. Holt, Director of Veterans Upward Bound, and Rashad Bistro, Community Relations Representative III of Healthy Blue of Louisiana.



SUMAS PARTICIPATES IN RETURN OF DOWNTOWN ARTWALK FEATURED 'BREAKING BARRIERS: WOMEN THAT ART'



Southern University Museum of Art Shreveport (SUMAS) participated in the return of Downtown Shreveport Artwalk since the beginning of the COVID pandemic in March 2020. This event was held on May 6, 2021 in partnership with the Shreveport Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the Shreveport-Bossier Convention & Tourist Bureau's Be A Fan Week as part of National Tourism Week. SUMAS hosted an exhibit closing reception for the 'Breaking Barriers: Women That Art' exhibition featuring the artwork of artists, Whitney Bates, Yolanda Barnes, and Karen La Beau. This event was held at the Downtown Metro Center campus located at 610 Texas Street, Ste. 110, Shreveport, Louisiana.

"We were thrilled to extend our Women's History Month exhibit to culminate with both Downtown Shreveport Artwalk and Be A Fan Week! Over 100 visitors attended the closing reception honoring Whitney, Yolanda, and Karen's artwork in the spirit of sisterhood and collaboration among women" said Angelique Feaster Evans, Museum Coordinator.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Karen T. La Beau is a self-taught, third generation artist, New Orleans, La. native who now resides in Shreveport, La. La Beau began drawing at the age of six and began painting professionally in 2007. In 2012, La Beau was honored at the North Louisiana-Multicultural Center as a woman artist in NWLA; in 2015 she was selected by International Artist; Nick Cave to be one of six artists who were awarded an artist residency for his 2015-2016 project, "As Is" in Shreveport, LA. In 2017, she was awarded the "Cultural Preservation Heritage Award" in New Orleans; and the "Artist Fellowship Award" by the Shreveport Regional Arts Council. Karen was highlighted in a news segment for Black History Month titled, "Standing on the Shoulders of Legends."

Whitney Bates is a Shreveport based artist and muralist. Her work is inspired by nature, space, and mental health awareness. Whitney has created multiple murals in Dallas and Shreveport/Bossier and has shown her work across Louisiana. She is a juried roster artist and collectible artist of the Northwest Louisiana. Whitney holds a BA in Studio Art from Centenary College of Louisiana.

Yolanda Barnes is a native of Chicago Heights, Illinois. A self-proclaimed evolving artist, she has always loved different forms of art—acrylics, pencil, watercolors, and mixed media. In recent years, art has been the catalyst for her healing through intense personal challenges and losses. As a result, she has been able to channel feelings and various experiences through her art. Yolanda loves to depict her subjects in bold colors or themes that express her cultural heritage as an African American woman. Bold colors exemplify her work whether subjects or abstract. Her work has been exhibited at artspace in 2020, during the 2020 Black Out Exhibition, and R.W. Norton Art Gallery in 2019. Her desire is to inspire others to step into their creative callings, whatever it may be.

SUMAS FEATURED FOR NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK 'MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTED IN AREA BE A FAN WEEK COMMERCIAL'



Southern University Museum of Art Shreveport (SUMAS) was a featured attraction in Be A Fan Week held on May 1-9, 2021 in partnership with the Shreveport-Bossier Convention & Tourist Bureau's National Tourism Week celebration. Southern University Museum of Art Shreveport was selected as an attraction highlighted in the commercial for the Shreveport Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau "Be A Fan" Week as well as the social media commercial throughout Shreveport-Bossier City.

The commercials were shot on location at SUMAS. Here's some behind the scenes footage of SUSLA Staff Angelique Feaster Evans, Yvette Allen, Dellanee Wade, Marlo Miller, and Victor Thomas during the shoot. Catch the social media commercial that was featured [here!](#)





The Chancellor's Report is a monthly publication from the
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Dr. Rodney A. Ellis, Chancellor

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