

# NJTL

## Connections

### USTA Southern Hosts 1st Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl



**Team Owls—Quiz Bowl Champions;**  
Zanetta Leverette and Carter Hartfield;  
James Lewis Education & Tennis Foundation,  
Birmingham, AL



Championship Round: Team Eagles vs. Team Owls  
Hosted by Cee Jai Jones & Jean Marie Simon



Team Eagles received 2nd place:  
Michael Sales & Hallelujah Givhan,  
South Atlanta NJTL in Atlanta, GA



Team Smash received 3rd place:  
Emilio Wood & Hayley Thornton,  
One Love Tennis in Wilmington, NC



We are happy to report that Lenny Simpson, Founder and Executive Director of One Love Tennis in Wilmington, NC is back on the tennis court with the youth after suffering 3 strokes earlier this year. He continues to serve his NJTL on his road to recovery. Please keep Lenny, his wife Joann, and the Simpson family in prayer. Here is a recent photo of Coach Lenny and USTA NC's Kelly Lombardino on the courts at 1406 Orange Street.



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# HS & College Graduates

## Class of 2021



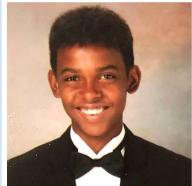
**Kristen Blount**  
Coach Wink's NJTL  
Atlanta, GA



**Jay'Re Dowsey**  
CORTA TennisWorks!  
NJTL  
Columbus, GA



**Natalie Rizzo**  
Public Tennis NJTL  
Hilton Head Island,  
SC



**James Bostick**  
A's & Aces NJTL  
New Orleans, LA



**Kimani Green**  
St. George Youth  
Sports League NJTL  
St. George, SC



**Larry Sloan\***  
South Atlanta NJTL  
Atlanta, GA



**Morgan Cage\***  
South Atlanta NJTL  
Atlanta, GA



**Eve Moore**  
South Atlanta NJTL  
Atlanta, GA



**Brianna Smalls**  
St. George Youth  
Sports League NJTL  
St. George, SC



**Makayla Cobbs**  
St. George Youth  
Sports League NJTL  
St. George, SC



**Ethan Morgan**  
A's & Aces NJTL  
New Orleans, LA



**Griffin Stone**  
Public Tennis NJTL  
Hilton Head Island,  
SC



**Yasmin Colon**  
Greenville NJTL  
Greenville, MS



**McKenzie Oliver**  
South Atlanta NJTL  
Atlanta, GA



**Rayven Todd\***  
South Atlanta NJTL  
Atlanta, GA



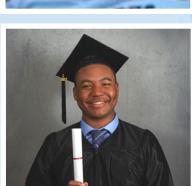
**Witt Compton**  
Public Tennis NJTL  
Hilton Head Island, SC



**Jack Orlando**  
Public Tennis NJTL  
Hilton Head Island, SC



**Julian Del Valle**  
Public Tennis NJTL  
Hilton Head Island,  
SC



**Gerald Craig**  
James Lewis Education  
& Tennis Foundation  
Birmingham, AL



**Dayani Perry**  
St. George Youth  
Sports League NJTL  
St. George, SC



**Fred Williams**  
Greenville NJTL  
Greenville, MS



**Noah Crockens**  
A's & Aces NJTL  
New Orleans, LA



**Walker Perryman**  
Public Tennis NJTL  
Hilton Head Island, SC



**Ani'Jawuan  
Wilson**  
Greenville NJTL  
Greenville, MS

## STF Scholarship Winners

### Jack Barney, SC

Dennis & Pat Van der Meer Higher Education Scholarship



### Makayla Cobbs, SC

Dennis & Pat Van der Meer Higher Education Scholarship



### Lawson Godwin, NC

JL Stacks Memorial Scholarship



### Kimani Green, SC

Dennis & Pat Van der Meer Higher Education Scholarship



### Aidan Mahoney, LA

Mildred F. Southern Academic Excellence Award



### Bradey Minnich, SC

Paul Scarpa Scholarship



### Eve Moore, GA

Dennis & Pat Van der Meer Higher Education Scholarship



### Da'Quarris Poole, AL

David R. Mauritson Memorial Scholarship



### Elizabeth Vollmin, NC

JL Stacks Memorial Scholarship

## Current Events



Naomi Osaka, Professional Tennis Player, wins Best Female Athlete Award (2021 ESPYs).



Maya Moore, WNBA Player, wins the Arthur Ashe Courage Award at the 2021 ESPY Awards.



Victor Lilov (Left) from Raleigh, NC, is the finalist in the 2021 Wimbledon Junior Boys' Singles Championships in London, England.



Zaila Avant-garde, from Harvey, Louisiana wins the 2021 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

# NJTL

## Spotlight



**Family Biz Builder Sports & Fitness**  
Tunica, MS

**Rockingham County Tennis Association**  
Rockingham County, NC



**Lowcountry Youth Tennis Association**  
Charleston, SC



**Jackson Community Tennis Project**  
Jackson, MS



**Brunswick County Tennis Association**  
Southport, NC

# NJTL

## Spotlight

### Tennis rally highlights sport's lifelong benefits

PATRICK ERVIN  
Special to the D&T

Hopefully, many of the youngsters who converged at Cypress Hills Tennis Club on Saturday came away with a sense of how powerful of a tool the sport of tennis can prove to be.

The United States Tennis Association Mississippi Junior Tennis League Rally brought together youths from all over the state for its 10th annual event that pushes ca-

maraderie over competition and puts lifelong implications of great educational pathways and good health on full display.

"Last year, we had the event at Wards Recreation Center," said event organizer Bartlett Jelks. "We rotate the event every year between Greenville and Jackson."

Jelks' cohort, SB Buck, worked with elementary school students early in the

See TENNIS ON 10



#### TENNIS / From 8

day while Jelks worked with high school and middle school students.

Kids who are getting some early experiences in tennis benefit right away from talking with older kids and young adults who have gone through the USTA Junior program and used their participation in the sport to leverage college scholarships. Greenville High and Greenville High School graduates Myisha and Nyasha Nedon are both attending Hinds Community College on the strength of the organization's \$10,000 Foundation Scholarship. The sisters are majoring in accounting and biomedical respectively.

Following in their footsteps is Leland High School 2021 graduate Yasmine Colon.



W HANOVER COUNTY  
NE LOVE TENNIS TO HOST A SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM  
ILMINGTON  
Chapel Hill campus arrested via WAY 2 South Topsail Elementary Sch Michael

### Greenville NJTL Greenville, MS



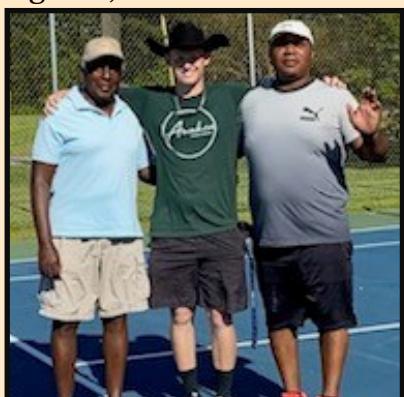
### Agape Youth and Family Center Atlanta, GA



### Lenny Simpson Tennis and Education Fund Wilmington, NC



### James Lewis Education & Tennis Found. Birmingham, AL



(L-R)  
First Missionary Baptist  
Church-Wilson's Mills  
(Selma Tennis Camp)  
Selma, NC

Below right & middle:  
Atlanta Youth Tennis &  
Education Foundation  
Atlanta, GA;  
Bottom Right: Tuscaloosa  
Tennis Association,  
Tuscaloosa, AL



# Announcements

## And Other News



**Essay Contest:** The 2021 USTA Foundation NJTL Essay Contest has ended. NJTL student participants were invited to write their essay answering the following question: *Robert Ryland was an accomplished tennis player and coach. He was known for seeing the possibilities in those he coached and within himself. Mr. Ryland was the first African-American professional tennis player and the first African-American to play in the NCAA National Championships.* What facts about his story inspire you to break boundaries and excel in school, sports, and to follow your dreams? What are your possibilities?

The timeline for selection is as follows:

- USTA Sections will provide their list of Section winners to the USTA Foundation on Friday, August 20, 2021.
- National Essay Contest Judging Committee reviews/selects Nat'l winners on/before Friday, August 27, 2021.
- The National winners & their NJTL Chapter Executive Director will be notified the week of August 30, 2021.

### Grant Opportunities:

- Apply for the Grow the Game Grant [here](#).
- Apply for the USTA Foundation Cycle 2 Program Grant: The USTA Foundation's Cycle 2 Grant Application is **now open** and is set to close on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST. To access the grant application, please log in to your FLUXX account by clicking [here](#).

**COMING SOON! Regional NJTL One-Day Camps in AL, GA, MS, NC and SC**

**2021 National HBCU Tennis Championships; Atlanta, GA; September 16-19, 2021;**

**HBCU High School Youth Combine; Atlanta, GA; September 18th; Contact Cee Jai at [jones@sta.usta.com](mailto:jones@sta.usta.com) for info**

**Social Justice:** USTA Southern has partnered with the National Black Professional Athletes Foundation for monthly zoom calls on the youth education initiative "Justice for All." These one-hour long discussions with law enforcement, community leaders, professional athletes, and USTA Southern volunteers and staff via Zoom allow NJTL youth to engage in meaningful conversations on social justice, racism, and the role of sports. In 2021, there have been calls held in Greensboro, NC with the Greensboro Tennis Foundation, the DD&J Junior Foundation in Columbia, SC; the James Lewis Education & Tennis Foundation in Birmingham, AL, and with Tennis Memphis in Memphis, TN. A big thanks to USTA-related panelists: Yasmine Osborn, Danielle Davison, Cliff Ravizee, and Arnold Thompson.

**Blueprint for Success 2:** 5 NJTL Chapters have been selected for the 2nd round of the Blueprint for Success program hosted by USTA Southern, USTA Foundation and the Southern Tennis Foundation. This capacity building program assists chapters with management, technical assistance, and resources to provide a stronger and more sustainable organization and board. Congratulations to the following:

- Excite All Stars, New Orleans, LA
- Chattanooga Tennis Association, Chattanooga, TN
- DD&J Junior Foundation, Columbia, SC
- Public Tennis Inc, Hilton Head Island, SC
- Raleigh Tennis Association, Raleigh, NC



### WELCOME TO THE NEW NJTL CHAPTERS ENROLLED IN 2021

- Lake Norman Tennis Foundation, Cornelius, NC
- Macon Area Tennis Association, Macon, GA
- Operation REACH, Jackson, MS
- Ron James Youth Tennis Program, Florence, SC
- Sumter Tennis Club, Sumter, SC
- The Championship Foundation, Rome, GA

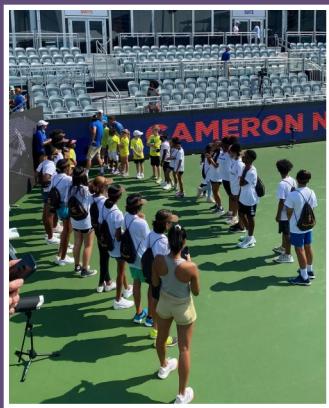


### In Memory of James Luther Warren III, February 5, 1962 – August 9, 2021

James Luther Warren III, affectionately known as Jim, passed away suddenly on August 9, 2021, at his home in Jackson, Mississippi. He was a highly accomplished and respected attorney in Jackson MS, and moreover was an incredible volunteer who was deeply entrenched in the USTA community, serving in numerous capacities over the years. Jim freely shared his time and talents to USTA Mississippi, USTA National, USTA Southern and the Southern Tennis Foundation. He was also a strong supporter of diversity and became the USTA Southern Association Board's "Diversity Advocate." Jim Warren will be greatly missed!



# Atlanta Truist Open



# Katrina Adams

## “Own The Arena”



The ALTA Foundation sponsored the Katrina Adams Junior Tennis Clinic in Atlanta, GA. The following NJTLs & Youth Tennis Organizations participated: ATA South @ Sugar Creek, Atlanta Youth Tennis & Education Foundation, Coach Wink's NJTL, Coan Tennis Association, Net Results, Rising Stars Tennis Association, South Atlanta NJTL, South Clayton NJTL, Special Pops Tennis, and Team BLUE.

