

NJTL

Connections

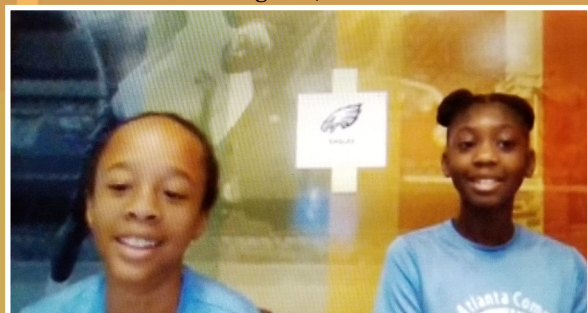
USTA Southern Hosts 1st Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl



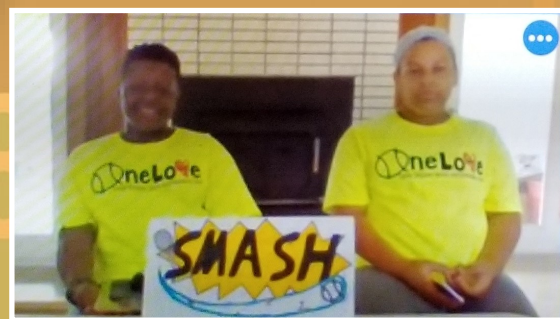
Team Owls—Quiz Bowl Champions;
Zanetta Leverette and Carter Hartfield;
James Lewis Education & Tennis Foundation,
Birmingham, AL



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



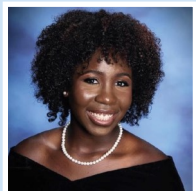
We are happy to report that Lenny Simpson, Founder and Executive Director of One Love Tennis in Wilmington, NC is back on the tennis court with the youth after suffering 3 strokes earlier this year. He continues to serve his NJTL on his road to recovery. Please keep Lenny, his wife Joann, and the Simpson 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



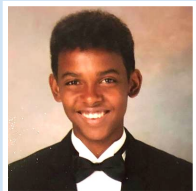
Kristen Blount
Coach Wink's NJTL
Atlanta, GA



Jay'Re Dowsey
CORTA TennisWorks!
NJTL
Columbus, GA



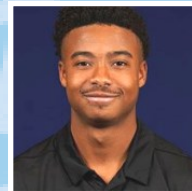
Natalie Rizzo
Public Tennis NJTL
Hilton Head Island,
SC



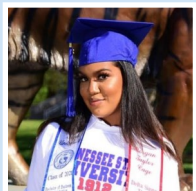
James Bostick
A's & Aces NJTL
New Orleans, LA



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



Larry Sloan*
South Atlanta NJTL
Atlanta, GA



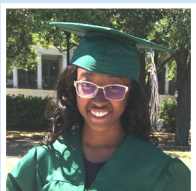
Morgan Cage*
South Atlanta NJTL
Atlanta, GA



Eve Moore
South Atlanta NJTL
Atlanta, GA



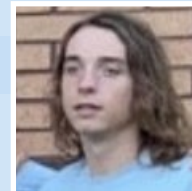
Brianna Smalls
St. George Youth
Sports League NJTL
St. George, SC



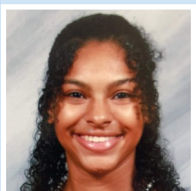
Makayla Cobbs
St. George Youth
Sports League NJTL
St. George, SC



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



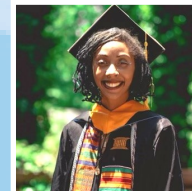
Griffin Stone
Public Tennis NJTL
Hilton Head Island,
SC



Yasmin Colon
Greenville NJTL
Greenville, MS



McKenzie Oliver
South Atlanta NJTL
Atlanta, GA



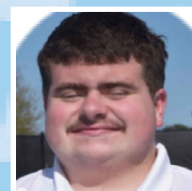
Rayven Todd*
South Atlanta NJTL
Atlanta, GA



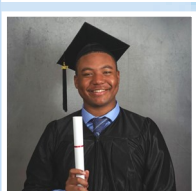
Witt Compton
Public Tennis NJTL
Hilton Head Island, SC



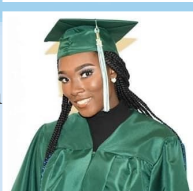
Jack Orlando
Public Tennis NJTL
Hilton Head Island, SC



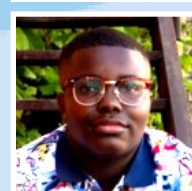
Julian Del Valle
Public Tennis NJTL
Hilton Head Island,
SC



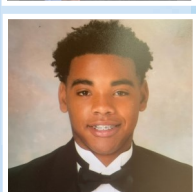
Gerald Craig
James Lewis Education
& Tennis Foundation
Birmingham, AL



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



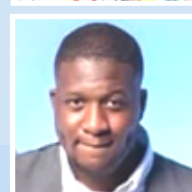
Fred Williams
Greenville NJTL
Greenville, MS



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



Caroline Biddle, MS

Mildred F. Southern Academic Excellence Award



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



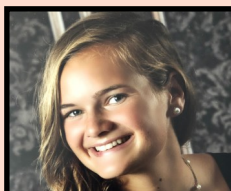
Da'Quarris Poole, AL

David R. Mauritsen 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 Daily

Hopefully, many of the youngsters who convened 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's Mississippi Junior Tennis League Rally brought together youths from all over the state for its sixth 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 experience in tennis benefit right away from talking with older kids and young adults who have gone through theUSTA Junior program and used their participation in the sport to leverage college scholarships. Twin sisters and Greenville High School graduates Myesha and Nyeshia Nealon are both attending Hinds Community College on the strength of the organization's \$10,000 Foundation Scholarship. The sisters are majoring in accounting and biomed-

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

"I'll be attending Hinds Community College majoring in interior design," Colon said. "I've been playing tennis for about eight years."

Chris Adams is heading into his junior year at Mississippi College and is making a transition into a leadership and organizing role for the annual rally.

"As I get a little bit older each year, it's good to have young people around like Chris to take on a bigger role," Jelks said. "But, the sport of tennis is something that keeps me going and it's a sport that you can play at any point of your life whether you're 9 or 90 and avoid many injuries associated with other sports."



Greenville NJTL
Greenville, MS

Lenny Simpson Tennis and Education Fund
Wilmington, NC



Agape Youth and Family Center
Atlanta, GA



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:

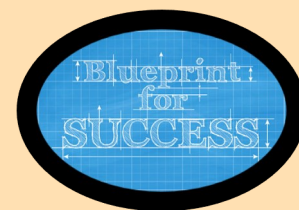
- Apply for the Grow the Game Grant [here](#).
- Apply for the USTA Foundation Cycle 2 Program Grant: The USTA Foundation's Cycle 2 Grant Application is **now open** and is set to close on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST. To access the grant application, please log in to your FLUXX account by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

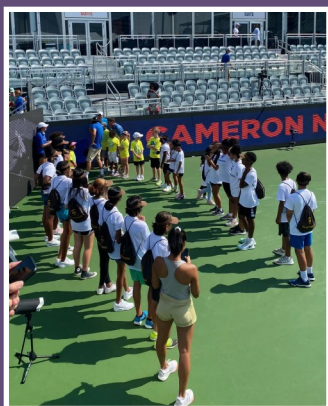


In Memory of James Luther Warren III, February 5, 1962 – August 9, 2021

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.

