

2023 NJTL Leadership Camp in Columbia, S.C.

USTA Southern provided 33 youth ages 12-16 from 16 different NJTL Chapters an opportunity to attend a four-day Leadership Camp in Columbia, S.C. Here are some of the daily highlights:

Day 1

- University of South Carolina Information Session
- Guest Speaker: Lenny Simpson
 - * Book Signing



Camp Participants with Southern Hall of Famer, Lenny Simpson

Day 2

- Tennis Drills at USC Indoor Courts
- Benedict College Tour
 - * Guest Speakers: Dr. Carter Francique & Davante Ponder
- Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl
- Guest Speaker: Nan Smith
- Team Building: Andrew Feldman

Day 3

- Team Tennis Competition
- SC State House Tour
 - * Guests: Drs. Carol and Rodney Alan
- Columbia Fireflies Baseball Game

Day 4

- PTR Assistant Coach Training
- Match Play
- Awards Distribution



Columbia Fireflies Baseball Game

Benedict College Tour



Team Building



SC State House



2023 NJTL Newsletter Summer Issue



Ace 2 Deuce CTA/Friends of Battlefield Park Foundation, Inc.



A's & Aces



Birmingham Area Tennis Association



Coach Wink's NJTL



CORTA Tennis Works!



DD&J Junior Tennis Foundation



Family Biz Builder



Golden Triangle Tennis



James Lewis E&T Scholarship Foundation



MACH Academy, Inc.



Pat's Tennis Foundation



South Atlanta Community Tennis Association



South Clayton Community Tennis Association



Sportsmanship Winners



Team Competition Winners



St. George Youth Sports League



Camp Leadership



PTR Assistant Coach Training with Jorge Andrew



Third Annual NJTL Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl

Congratulations to the NJTL Chapters that competed in the 3rd Annual Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl. This year, the quiz bowl was hosted at the NJTL Leadership Camp in Columbia, S.C. This is the first time the quiz bowl was held in-person! Nicholas Pate (South Atlanta CTA), Miniyah Wynn (Coach Wink's NJTL), and Simon Kimani (Birmingham Area Tennis Association), the representatives of the Yellow Team, were crowned 2023 Champions. Deneen Mosley (Friends of Battlefield Park Foundation NJTL), Matison Williams (A's & Aces), and Jordyn Walker (MACH Academy, Inc.), representatives of the Black Team, placed 2nd. The winning trio, the Yellow Team, received victory medals and everyone received a Juneteenth hat. The academic challenge featured 3 rounds of general questions worth 10 points and bonus questions worth 20 points. This single elimination tournament featured questions on Black History & Freedom Day.



1st and 2nd Place Teams of the 2023 Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl



1st Place Team of the 2023 Juneteenth Heritage Quiz Bowl

Class of 2023 High School and College Graduates



Jasmine Bennett
Ace to Deuce CTA



Issac Braxton
Ace to Deuce CTA



Anna L. Everly
Ace to Deuce CTA



Brandon Jones
Ace to Deuce CTA



Tavarion Cotton
CORTA Tennis Works!



Jessie Isaacs
CORTA Tennis Works!



Adriana Doherty
Get A Grip Tennis
Association, Inc



Ami Didd Mungin
Get A Grip Tennis
Association, Inc



Jeremyah McDaniel
Golden Triangle Tennis



Yasmin Fisher
James Lewis E&T
Foundation



Midhun Sadanand
James Lewis E&T
Foundation



Gabrielle Henderson
MACH Academy, Inc.



Isaiah Robertson
Northeast Mississippi
CTA



Flex Howard
South Atlanta CTA



Angelina Kennedy
South Atlanta CTA



Germany Davis
South Atlanta CTA



Jonay Brittain
South Atlanta CTA



Angelei Kennedy
South Atlanta CTA



Nylin Hereford
Youth Development
Association



Scholarship Winners



McLaurin Bankhead

Columbia, S.C.



Cassie Cervantes

Bentonville, Ark.



Adrina Doherty

Rex, Ga.



Micah Hill

Laurel, Miss.



Neo James

Charleston, S.C.



Kendall Moody

Columbus, Miss.



Charlie Ratliff

Madison, Miss.



Justin Rieckert

Grovetown, Ga.



Isaiah Robertson

Luka, Miss.



William Silberman

Cookeville, Tenn.



Blueprint II for Success Chapters Elevate

The second cohort of five blueprint chapters have one goal and that is to continue to improve their organizations to benefit kids in their communities for the unforeseeable future and expose them to advantageous opportunities. With technical and financial assistance provided by USTA Southern, the Southern Tennis Foundation and the USTA Foundation, they are stronger and more viable than ever. Board development training with guidance to form working boards, advice on strategically hiring staff, encouraging relationships with potential funders are just a few areas where they continue to shine. The evidence is clear when the results unfold, and a chapter such as Excite All Stars triples its fundraising efforts in two years.

Here are a few highlights:

Excite All Stars NJTL – Camp Catahoula 2023 – An overnight camp held July 10-12 at Bayou Segnette State Park that included activities such a luau, building a bonfire and making smores, a dance party, arts & crafts, various indoor and outdoor games, STEM activities, and more.



DD&J Foundation NJTL – Hosted several summer camps including a 6-week “Lob the Ball to Financial Literacy” camp, June 20 – July 27th in coordination with the city of Columbia.



Chattanooga NJTL – To host an inaugural sponsorship fundraiser event called “Taste of the Tour” in October at Manker Patten Tennis Club.



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Raleigh Tennis NJTL – Created a strategic plan to support the NJTL as they searched for and hired a new Executive Director. Tools such as Hello Insight will be implemented to measure success.



Public Tennis Inc. NJTL – Took advantage of a KidsREAD book donation program by hosting a “Tennis for Learning” event at Hardeeville Elementary School for 3rd & 4th Graders.



In Loving Memory of William “Coach Wink” Fulton & Daron Sellars



1964-2022

1974-2022

William “Coach Wink” Fulton Jr. was one of the most beloved coaches in the Atlanta Community and beyond. He worked 30 years at the McGhee and Washington Park Tennis Centers. Coach Wink’s NJTL impacted hundreds of youth through programming, US Open trips to NY and the Arthur Ashe Essay Contests. His legacy will live on through the lives he impacted.

Daron Sellars, Founder/CEO of the National Black Professional Athletes Foundation was an entrepreneur, community developer and USTA Southern NJTL Supporter. An award winning businessman, Sellars inspired our youth with his leadership, philanthropy and commitment to social justice.

A's & Aces Selects Two Scholar-Athletes as the Inaugural

Dr. James B. Ewers, Jr. 'Junior Fellows'

Two scholar-athletes have been selected for the Dr. James B. Ewers Jr. Junior Fellowship Program. This Program is an A's & Aces Career Development Initiative developed to prepare exceptional participants of early high school status (ages 14-16) for the leadership and responsibility of being a tennis coach/mentor while training to improve their own tennis game. These Junior Fellows were selected based on several criteria, including leadership potential, academic performance, tennis interest, exceptional character, sportsmanship, and teamwork skills.

The inaugural Junior Fellows include Matison Williams and Zachary Maple. Matison is an incoming first-year student at Ben Franklin High School. Matison is an accomplished Louisiana tennis player who plans to play tennis in high school and college. She is ranked top 30 in the State in her age division. Matison had a 4.0 GPA throughout elementary and middle school, graduating as a salutarian. Zachary is a rising junior attending John Curtis High School. He is on the academic A/B honor roll with high college aspirations. He is a versatile athlete, engaged in tennis and track at his high school. One of his goals is to teach other children how to play tennis and enjoy the game for life.

Fellowship Background: The Dr. Ewers Junior Fellowship Program is designed to provide youth with an opportunity to develop leadership and management skills, discover and build life skills, and improve their athletic and coaching capabilities. The Program is named after Dr. James B. Ewers Jr., a youth advocate, educator, coach, author, and social justice activist, who was inducted into the Black Tennis Hall of Fame in 2021. Dr. James B. Ewers, Jr. is a native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and a product of the parochial and public schools there. He is an educator with over forty years of experience in working at the college and secondary school level. During this time, he has developed programs and activities for traditional and non-traditional students. He has also created partnerships with businesses that have resulted in the creation of jobs for many students.



32 Southern NJTL Chapters Receive \$536,500 in USTA Foundation Funding

A total of 148 National Junior Tennis & Learning chapters (NJTL) in 41 states and the District of Columbia will benefit from 4 million dollars in the latest round of grants awarded by the USTA Foundation. Of the 148 awarded, 21% are in the Southern section. The recipients are listed by state:

Alabama

Birmingham Area Tennis Association
James Lewis Education & Tennis Foundation
Youth Development Association

Mississippi

Ace to Deuce CTA
Family Biz Builder
Friends of Battlefield Park Foundation
Greenville CTA/NJTL

Arkansas

Boys & Girls Club of Central Arkansas
Love All Serve All

North Carolina

Above the Net
Atlanta Youth Tennis & Education Foundation
Columbus Regional Tennis Association
Get a Grip Tennis Association
MACH Academy
Macon Area Tennis Association
South Atlanta CTA NJTL

Cape Fear Regional Tennis Foundation
GTP Foundation
Kimberley Park Tennis Association
Lenny Simpson Tennis & Education Fund Inc.
Pat's Tennis Foundation
Raleigh Tennis Association
United Tennis Organization

Kentucky

Paducah Tennis Association

South Carolina

Public Tennis Inc.
Ron James Youth Tennis
Third Serve Foundation

Louisiana

A's and Aces
Excite All-Stars
NW Louisiana CTA

Tennessee

Tennis Memphis Inc



NJTL Spotlight

Above the Net, Ga.



Ace to Deuce, Miss.



A's & Aces, La.



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Atlanta Youth Tennis & Education Foundation, Ga.



Chattanooga Tennis Association, Tenn.



Columbus Regional Tennis Association, Inc., Ga.



2023 NJTL Newsletter Summer Issue

Family Biz Builder, Miss.



Friends of Battlefield Park Foundation, Inc., Miss



Get A Grip Tennis Association, Inc., Ga.



2023 NJTL Newsletter Summer Issue

Golden Triangle Tennis, Miss.



Greenville CTA/NJTL, Miss.



GTP Foundation, N.C.



2023 NJTL Newsletter Summer Issue

James Lewis Education & Tennis Foundation, Ala.



MACH Academy, Inc., Ga.



Northwest Louisiana CTA, La.



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Rainbow Moves, Tenn.



Small is the New Big, Ark.



United Tennis Organization, N.C.



Youth Development Association, Ala.



Kimberley Park Tennis Association, N.C.



2023 ATA National Championships



MACH Academy took a group of 15 to compete in the 2023 ATA National Championships.

1st Place Girls 14s-Arien Thomas

1st Place Girls 16s-Aleynah Thomas

Finalist Girls 18s-Francesca Brown

Finalist Women's Open-Francesca Brown

Finalist Men's Open Singles-Morgan Woodson

Finalist Men's Doubles-Morgan Woodson

NJTL Scenes from the Atlanta Open



News & Announcements

Welcome New 2023 Southern NJTL Chapters

New Lyons Park NJTL (Ala.)

Small is the New Big (Ark.)

ACSquared Tennis (Ga.)

Paducah Tennis Association (Ky.)

Cape Fear Regional Tennis Foundation (N.C.)

Charlotte Black Tennis Club (N.C.)

Durham-Orange Community Tennis Assoc. (N.C.)

Rainbow Moves (Tenn.)

2023 USTA Foundation Scholarship Winners:

Dwight F. Davis College Scholarship \$20,000:

Gabrielle Henderson – MACH Academy

Dwight Mosley College Scholarship \$20,000:

Yasmin Fisher – James Lewis NJTL

Flex Howard – South Atlanta CTA

Donald Tisdel Lawson College Scholarship \$20,000:

Isaiah Robertson – Northeast Mississippi CTA

Angelina Kennedy – South Atlanta CTA

Nora McNeely Hurley College Scholarship \$20-\$40,000:

Midhun Sadanand – James Lewis NJTL

Jessie Isaacs - CORTA

Joany Brittain – South Atlanta CTA

Germany Davis – South Atlanta CTA

Rosalind P Walter College Scholarship \$20,000:

Angelei Kennedy – South Atlanta CTA

NJTL Essay Contest State Winners

Ala.: Kaila Welch, James Lewis Education & Tennis Foundation

Ark.: Kristopher Glason, Small is the New Big

Ga.: Massai Sales, South Atlanta CTA

Ky.: Brooklyn Middleton, Rising Stars of Kentucky Tennis

La.: Zaria Curry, NW Louisiana CTA

Miss.: Deneen Mosley, Friends of Battlefield Park Foundation

N.C. Elizabeth Jikuri, Kimberley Park Tennis Association

S.C.: Scarlett Turnbull, Public Tennis Inc.

Coming Soon

HBCU National Tennis Championships

- September 14-17, 2023
- South Fulton Tennis Center
- HBCUtennis.com

HBCU Recruiting Showcase

- Saturday, September 16, 2023
- South Fulton Tennis Center

NJTL Impact Conference

- October 11-14, 2023
- Orlando, Fla.

Order your Net Generation Banner Today!

- [Net Generation Banner Request Form](#)

2023 NJTL Leadership Camp YouTube Video

- [YouTube Link](#)

