



HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENTIAL
INAUGURATION & SCHOLARSHIP GALA

DR. LATONIA COLLINS SMITH

TWENTY-FIRST PRESIDENT OF
HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

*Harris-Stowe State University
provides educational
opportunities that reflect
excellence in holistic student
development. We offer
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diverse, global society.*

MISSION IN ESSENTIA

HARRIS-STOWE
STATE UNIVERSITY





Purpose

The purpose of this premier fundraising event will be to celebrate the installation of the first African-American female president in the history of Harris-Stowe State University, Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith. This event will also raise much-needed dollars benefiting future and current students of Harris-Stowe State University.

Harris-Stowe's Mission

Harris-Stowe State University is a historically Black institution (HBCU) located in the heart of vibrant mid-town St. Louis, Missouri. The University provides educational opportunities, with an emphasis in STEM, that reflect excellence in holistic student development. We offer programs designed to nurture intellectual curiosity and build authentic skills that prepare our students for success in a diverse, global society.



Campus History


Harris-Stowe State University traces its origins back to 1857 when the St. Louis Public Schools system created it as a normal school and thus became the first public teacher education institution west of the Mississippi River and the 12th such institution in the United States. The earliest predecessor of Harris-Stowe State University was a normal school established for white students only by the Public School System of the City of St. Louis. This school was later named Harris Teachers College in honor of William Torrey Harris, a Superintendent of Instruction in the St. Louis Public Schools and a United States Commissioner of Education.

The College began offering in-service education for white St. Louis teachers as early as 1906. In 1920, Harris Teachers College became a four-year undergraduate institution authorized to grant a Bachelor of Arts in Education Degree.

A second predecessor institution was Stowe Teachers College, which began in 1890 as a normal school for future Black elementary school teachers in the City of St. Louis. This normal school was also founded by the St. Louis Public School System and was an extension of Sumner High School. In 1924, the Sumner Normal School became a four-year institution with the authority to grant the baccalaureate degree. In 1929, its name was changed to Stowe Teachers College in honor of the abolitionist and novelist Harriet Beecher Stowe.

These two educational institutions were merged by the Board of Education of the St. Louis Public Schools in 1954 as the first of several steps to integrate the public schools of St. Louis. The merged institution retained the name Harris Teachers College. Later, in response to the many requests from alumni of Stowe Teachers College and members of the greater St. Louis community, the Board of Education agreed to restore "Stowe" to the College's name and remove the word "Teachers" from its title.

In 1979, the General Assembly of the State of Missouri enacted Senate Bill 703, under which Harris-Stowe College became the newest member of the State system of public higher education. As a result, the institution's name was again changed by adding the word "State" and became officially known as Harris-Stowe State College. In addition to the name change,

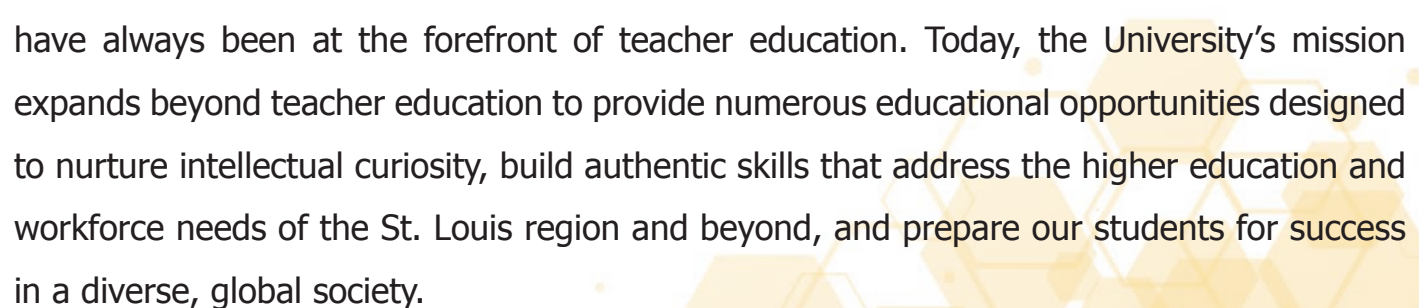


the College's baccalaureate degree was changed to a Bachelor of Science in Education. The College's Teacher Education curriculum was modified to comply with the new state standards and teacher certification requirements. Three teacher education majors were approved: Early Childhood Education, Elementary School Education, and Middle School/High School Education.

In 1981, the College received state approval for a new degree program — the Bachelor of Science in Urban Education. This program was the first of its kind at the undergraduate level in the United States. It was designed to prepare non-teaching urban education specialists to effectively solve the many urban-related problems facing today's urban schools. Then, in 1993, the State Governor signed into law Senate Bill 153, which authorized the College to expand its mission to address unmet needs of metropolitan St. Louis in various applied professional disciplines. In response to that authority, Harris-Stowe developed two new baccalaureate degree programs: (1) Business Administration with professional options in Accounting, Management Information Systems, General Business, and Marketing and (2) Secondary Teacher Education with subject-matter options in Biology, English, Mathematics, and Social Studies.

Finally, on August 25, 2005, by mandate of the State of Missouri, Harris-Stowe State College obtained university status. Today the University hosts collaborative graduate degree programs with Maryville University, the University of Missouri-St. Louis and Webster University. The University continues to expand, adding new campuses and buildings as part of its 21st-century initiative to offer opportunities for undergraduate students seeking various degrees.

From its beginnings as two normal schools to its present status as a state institution of public higher education, Harris-Stowe State University, and its predecessor institutions have always been at the forefront of teacher education. Today, the University's mission expands beyond teacher education to provide numerous educational opportunities designed to nurture intellectual curiosity, build authentic skills that address the higher education and workforce needs of the St. Louis region and beyond, and prepare our students for success in a diverse, global society.





MEET
DR. LATONIA
COLLINS SMITH
21ST PRESIDENT
HARRIS-STOWE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith is the 21st President of Harris-Stowe State University. She is the first woman to serve the University in this role. Collins Smith has more than 25 years of progressive leadership experience and an extensive administrative and program development background. She began her career in higher education at Harris-Stowe State University in 2010 and has served the University in several leadership roles.

Dr. Collins Smith was the co-principal investigator of a \$5 million National Science Foundation grant to substantially strengthen STEM in the state of Missouri, the largest grant in the history of Harris-Stowe. During her first year as President, HSSU made significant strides. Under her leadership, the University raised more than \$3.9 million in scholarships and donations, including those designated for endowments and grants, which is a 462% increase from the previous fiscal year. In addition, Harris-Stowe kicked off renovations for the former Vashon Community Center Building, which will become home to the Don and Heide Wolff Jazz Institute and National Black Radio Hall of Fame. The University's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is in its early development phase. In 2021-2022, HSSU graduated its largest class in the University's history (236) students, and 51% graduated with honors.

Dr. Collins Smith serves as chair of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Statewide Celebration Commission of Missouri and co-chair of the Concordance First Chance Campaign. In addition, she serves as a member of the following boards: the Higher Education Consortium of St. Louis, Greater STL, Inc., Boy Scouts of America Greater St. Louis Area Council, and Ameren Missouri Community Voices Board. Collins Smith was instrumental in founding the University of Central Missouri Black Alumni Organization and is a member of the Alumni Board of

“I want to be a living example for Black and brown girls, letting them know that their dreams are possible.”

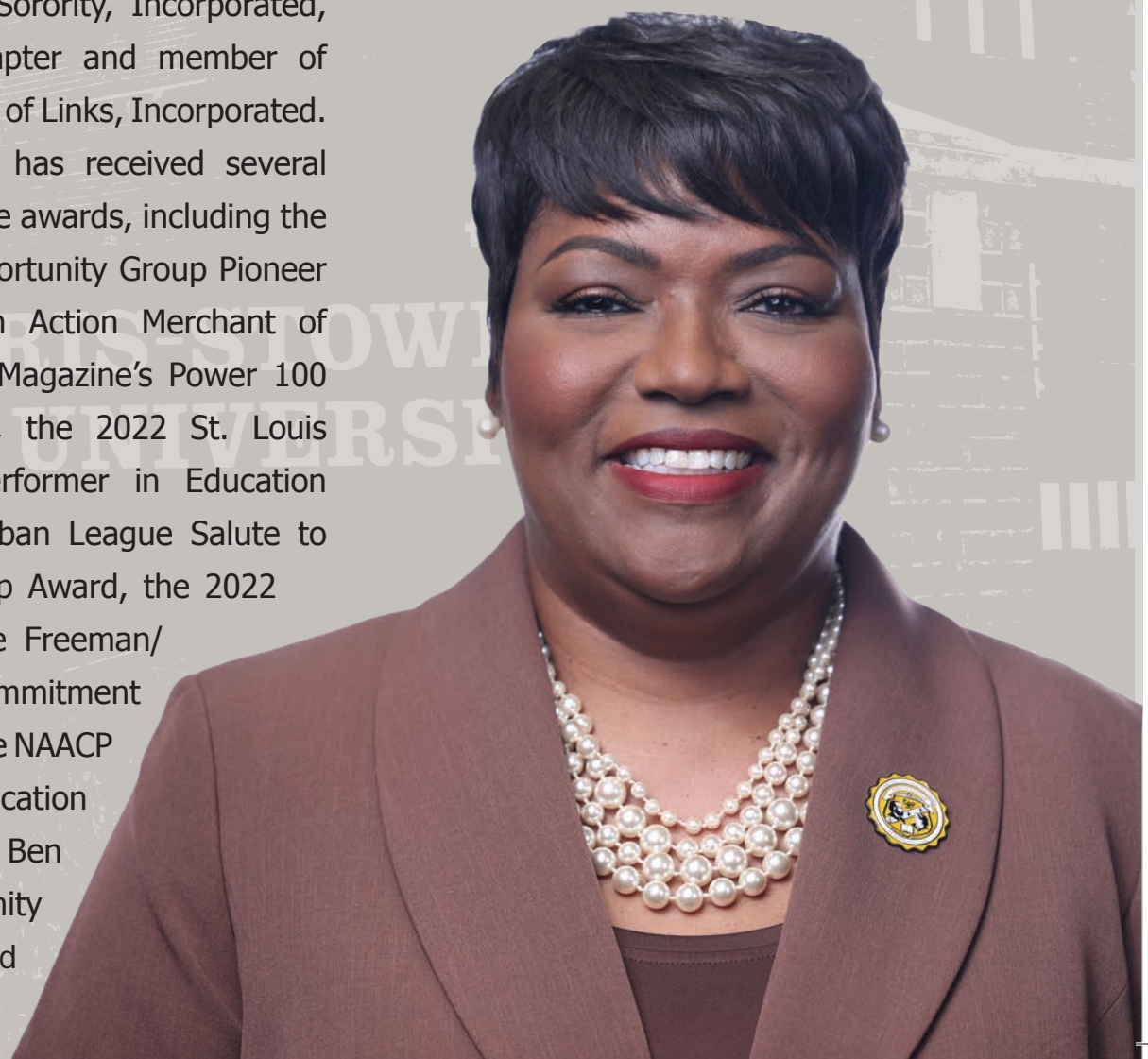
Directors and Alumni Foundation Board at the University of Central Missouri.

She is a charter member of Black Women College Presidents and Chancellors (BWPC), a member of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), a Silver Life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Gamma Omega Chapter and member of Gateway (IL) Chapter of Links, Incorporated.

Dr. Collins Smith has received several leadership and service awards, including the Equal Education Opportunity Group Pioneer Award, Resilience in Action Merchant of Hope Award, Delux Magazine's Power 100 in Education award, the 2022 St. Louis American Stellar Performer in Education Award, the 2022 Urban League Salute to Women in Leadership Award, the 2022 NAACP Frankie Muse Freeman/Norman A. Seay Commitment to St. Louis Award, the NAACP Excellence in Education award, the NAACP Ben Hooks Community Leader award and

the AKA Central Region's Outstanding Educational Advancement Foundation Captain award. In addition, she is a 2019 Millennium Leadership Initiative Protégé, a St. Louis Business Diversity Initiative Fellow, and a Higher Education Leadership Foundation Fellow.

Dr. Collins Smith earned an educational doctorate in higher education leadership from Maryville University in St. Louis. She holds a master of social work degree and a master of public health degree from Saint Louis University. Her mission is to inspire change in others through the power of education, scholarship, and service.





HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION/SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Sponsorship Packages

\$100,000 TITLE SPONSOR:

- ◆ Private dinner at the St. Louis Club with the President. (up to one guest)
- ◆ Mock check presentation and story writeup
- ◆ Priority reserved seating for 16 guests (two tables) in a premium location at dinner/gala
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Exclusive acknowledgment during dinner program, including company video profile
- ◆ Speaking role during the gala program
- ◆ Admission for all guests to VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$50,000 VIP RECEPTION SPONSOR:

- ◆ Priority reserved seating for 16 guests (two tables) at dinner/gala
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Title sponsorship for the VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Speaking role at VIP Reception
- ◆ Admission for all guests to VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$25,000 PRESIDENTIAL SPONSOR:

- ◆ Priority reserved seating for 8 guests (one table) in a premium location at dinner/gala
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Exclusive acknowledgment during dinner program, including company video profile
- ◆ Admission for all guests to VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$20,000 EXECUTIVE SPONSOR:

- ◆ Priority reserved seating for 8 guests (one table) in a premium location at dinner/gala
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Exclusive acknowledgment during the dinner program
- ◆ Admission for all guests to VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$15,000 ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR:

- ◆ Priority reserved seating for 8 guests (one table) in a premium location at dinner/gala
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Exclusive acknowledgment during the dinner program
- ◆ Admission for all guests to VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$10,000 EIGHTEEN FIFTY-SEVEN (1857) SPONSOR:

- ◆ Priority reserved seating for 8 guests (one table) in a premium location at dinner/gala
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Admission for all guests to VIP Pre-Reception
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$5,000 HORNET SPONSOR:

- ◆ Reserved seating for 8 guests (one table) at dinner/gala
- ◆ Admission for four guests to the VIP Reception
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)
- ◆ Valet Parking for all table guests

\$2,500 TABLE SPONSOR:

- ◆ Reserved seating for 8 guests (one table) at dinner/gala
- ◆ Admission for two guests to the VIP Reception
- ◆ Company logo placement/recognition in all printed and online materials (date sensitive)

INDIVIDUAL TICKET:

- ◆ \$200 – Seating for one at the dinner/gala
- ◆ \$300 – Seating for one at the dinner/gala and valet parking for one and admission to the VIP Pre-Reception for one





HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS

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THE INAUGURATION OF DR. LATONIA COLLINS SMITH
AT HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

HARRIS-STOWE
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