



THE 2023 ANNUAL

# Jazz Under the Stars

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 | 7:00 PM

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY HARKNESS HALL QUADRANGLE

223 JAMES P. BRAWLEY DRIVE, SW | ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

FEATURING

*Dianne  
Reeves*





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*Welcome*

The Clark Atlanta University Guild welcomes you to  
the 2023 Jazz Under The Stars!

Featuring five-time Grammy winner

*Dianne Reeves*

Also featuring, The Clark Atlanta University Jazz  
Vocal Ensemble and CAU Alumni Jazz Orchestra



May 6, 2023



Greetings,

I am honored and pleased to welcome you to the 29th annual “Jazz Under the Stars” Scholarship Benefit Concert.

First, I would like to personally acknowledge and thank the Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Guild members for their dedication and commitment to making this annual event a tremendous success. Your partnership with the University’s leadership and staff is a true testament of your willingness to help move the University’s fundraising efforts forward for the gifted and talented students we serve.

I am grateful to the CAU Guild for its continued vision in sponsoring this wonderful affair which has become an Atlanta spring tradition and signature fundraising event for the University. Since its inception in 1992, the CAU Guild, founded by former Clark Atlanta University first lady, Judge Brenda Hill Cole, has raised more than \$2.9 million to provide financial assistance to CAU students majoring in performing arts, creative writing, drama, film, and music. For the past 31 campaigns and years the Guild has hosted, the “Jazz Under the Stars” Benefit Concert as an evening of community engagement, fun, fellowship, and fundraising. The Harkness Hall Quadrangle comes to life each year by featuring popular talents such as Rachelle Ferrell, Lalah Hathaway, Will Downing, Jr., and Jeffrey Osborne, to name a few.

This year, with great excitement, I am pleased to announce our headliner: Grammy award winner and American jazz singer Dianne Reeves. Dianne is the recipient of numerous awards including: Monterey Jazz Festival’s Jazz Legends Award, The National Endowment for the Arts the highest honor for jazz in the U.S. – Jazz Master, and an honorary doctorate from the Julliard School.

Finally, the CAU board of trustees, students, faculty, staff, first lady Dr. BaShen Bacon French and I thank you for spending this special evening with us and investing in the future of the scholars we serve.

*George T. French, Jr.*

George T. French, Jr., Ph.D.  
President



*Greetings from the President*





May 6, 2023

Dear Friends and Family,

You are amazing! As I reflect on the generosity of thousands of you throughout the years, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for your continued support of Jazz Under the Stars! This is the 31st year anniversary of the Clark Atlanta University Guild. We are honored to feature this annual inspiring benefit concert. In keeping with tradition, the CAU Guild will feature yet another extraordinary and gifted musician by bringing you the unequivocal artistry of Dianne Reeves and her fantastic quartet. In addition, gracing the JUTS bandstand — you will hear from the talented CAU Jazz Vocal Ensemble and the renowned CAU Jazz Orchestra, under the direction of James H. Patterson.

Since our founding 31 years ago, we have raised over \$2.9 million in scholarships for Clark Atlanta University scholars of the arts, in collaboration with donors like you.

Congratulations to the Guild officers and members for your loyal and dedicated work. Sincere thanks to our sponsors and all our guests for your generous support to ensure we meet our mission of offering scholarships to deserving students in the disciplines of art, fashion, design, theatre, film, and mass media art television at Clark Atlanta University —

**One Exceptional University!**

Yours truly,

Brenda Hill Cole  
Founder  
Clark Atlanta University



*Greetings from the Founder*





May 6, 2023

Hello Friends of the Guild!

Welcome back to Jazz Under the Stars and welcome into the fold for all those experiencing this great tradition for the very first time. Your financial contributions raise critical funds to support the brilliant minds of young adults matriculating through the studies of arts, fashion, film, design, theatre, and mass media at the amazing Clark Atlanta University. Collectively we are contributors to ensuring that the next generation of artists can reach their greatest potential. Gratitude is an understatement for just how thankful we are as the Clark Atlanta University Guild. We appreciate your commitment to support our mission of generating scholarship funds for deserving CAU scholars as we celebrate our 31st year anniversary of the CAU Guild and feature the annual Jazz Under the Stars benefit concert.

Tonight, we pay tribute to the Clark Atlanta University Guild Founder, Judge Brenda Hill Cole for her vision and celebrate the outstanding contributions of the entire CAU Guild membership!

On behalf of the Guild, students, faculty, and staff at Clark Atlanta University, we encourage you to sit back, break bread and dine, renew, and enjoy this beautiful American classical music--called Jazz. Then hold on to your seats—as we hear all our favorite tunes by five-times Grammy Award winning vocalist, Dianne Reeves!

Cheers and enjoy!

Jacquelyn Butts Thornton, MSA, CEHA  
Chair, Clark Atlanta University Guild  
Clark College 1988 Alumna



*Greetings from the Chair*

## MISSION

The Mission of the Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Guild is to support scholarships for students in art, music, film, fashion, theatre, and mass media art television programs.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Clark Atlanta University Guild is to develop a diverse group of volunteer women who will commit their time and resources to build awareness of the University's art, music, theatre film and mass media art television programs. Specifically, the Guild will actively raise scholarship funds for students participating in the art, music, drama and film at the University. While there may be several events in which financial support will be solicited, the Guild's primary fundraising event is its annual "Jazz Under the Stars" concert which has culminated into raising over 2.9 million.

## BACKGROUND

Founded in 1992 by former Clark Atlanta University First Lady, Judge Brenda Hill Cole, the CAU Guild seeks to increase awareness of Clark Atlanta University's unique contributions to the cultural life of Atlanta and the Nation. Guild members include women of CAU faculty, staff and alumnae of the University, as well as some of Atlanta's most influential community and business leaders who are advocates for the university and its performing arts program.

### FOUNDING CHAIRPERSON

Brenda Hill Cole

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Lilian Lewis  
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# Officers & Members

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Debra Williams  
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Gina Wyatt  
Carolyn Young



THE 2023 ANNUAL

# Jazz Under the Stars

*Mistresses of Ceremony*

JOLENE BUTTS-FREEMAN

Associate Vice President of Communications • Media Relations for CAU

DEBB MOORE

WCLK 91.9 FM Radio Host

*Program*

VIRTUAL & OPEN SILENT AUCTION  
PERFORMANCES

Clark Atlanta University Jazz Vocal Ensemble  
Garnetta Penn, Director

Clark Atlanta University Alumni Jazz Orchestra  
James H. Patterson, Director

WELCOME

President George T. French, Jr., Ph.D.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF  
SPONSORS AND CAU GUILD MEMBERS

GREETINGS & PURPOSE

Jacquelyn B. Thornton, Clark Atlanta University Guild Chair

Judge Brenda Hill Cole, Clark Atlanta University Guild Founder

LIVE AUCTION AND DONATE TO GIVE TO FILL THE STAR

FEATURED ARTIST

*Dianne Reeves*

Five-time Grammy winner DIANNE REEVES is the pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world. As a result of her breathtaking virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B stylings, Reeves received the Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for three consecutive recordings – a Grammy first in any vocal category.

Featured in George Clooney's six-time Academy Award nominated *Good Night, and Good Luck*, Reeves won the Best Jazz Vocal Grammy for the film's soundtrack.

Reeves has recorded and performed with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. She has also recorded with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Daniel Barenboim and was a featured soloist with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic. Reeves was the first Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the first vocalist to ever perform at the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Reeves worked with legendary producer Arif Mardin (Norah Jones, Aretha Franklin) on the Grammy winning *A Little Moonlight*, an intimate collection of standards featuring her touring trio. When Reeves' holiday collection *Christmas Time is Here* was released, Ben Ratliff of *The New York Times* raved, "Ms. Reeves, a jazz singer of frequently astonishing skill, takes the assignment seriously; this is one of the best jazz Christmas CD's I've heard."

In recent years Reeves has toured the world in a variety of contexts including "Sing the Truth," a musical celebration of Nina Simone which also featured Lizz Wright and Angelique Kidjo. She performed at the White House on multiple occasions including President Obama's State Dinner for the President of China as well as the Governors' Ball.

Reeves' most recent release *Beautiful Life*, features Gregory Porter, Robert Glasper, Lalah Hathaway and Esperanza Spalding. Produced by Terri Lyne Carrington, *Beautiful*

*Life* won the 2015 Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance. Reeves is the recipient of honorary doctorates from the Berklee College of Music and the Juilliard School. In 2018 the National Endowment for the Arts designated Reeves a Jazz Master – the highest honor the United States bestows on jazz artists.



*Dianne Reeves*  
BIOGRAPHY



# JOLENE BUTTS-FREEMAN

Jolene Butts Freeman is a native Atlantan. She was born in East Point, Georgia and was raised in Southwest Atlanta. She attended Benjamin E. Mays High School and graduated with honors in the top 10 percent of her class. After graduating from Mays, Jolene attended Clark Atlanta University where she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism/Communications.

She went on to further her education at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism where she earned her Masters Degree in Broadcast Journalism in the accelerated one year program. Jolene was the first in her class to land a job in the broadcast television industry. She got her start as a general assignment reporter in Albany, Georgia at WALB-TV.

Like most journalists, Jolene continued to gain experience and move up the ranks in the industry. She worked as a video journalist at CNN, assistant producer, general assignment reporter and news anchor at WAPT-TV in Jackson, and Meridian, Mississippi and FOX 24 News in Macon, Georgia. She landed her dream job as a television reporter at WSB-TV where she became an Emmy Award winning journalist for a story she covered called "Yerkes Protest". Additionally, she worked as a television reporter for CBS 46 in Atlanta.

Jolene also has experience in education. She has worked and continues to serve as an adjunct professor at Clark Atlanta University where she teaches media courses and shares her "Real World Media Experiences" with her students in the Clark Atlanta Mass Media Arts Department.

She transitioned from broadcast television into the world of public information and media relations. Jolene served as the official spokesperson and Public Information Officer for several public safety agencies including the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office and the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department where she worked with mayors, elected officials, and executive leadership. While employed for these agencies, Jolene has successfully handled large media crises in Metropolitan Atlanta, and has conducted media training for public safety employees in an effort to teach them the dos and don'ts of emergency communications. She worked for Fulton County Government as a communications manager for more than 12 years handling communications efforts to include everything from writing, developing annual reports, video producing, show hosting, and social media. These experiences have lead Jolene to accomplish yet another life's goal as she has recently been named the Associate Vice President of communications and Media Relations at Clark Atlanta University.

Jolene has won numerous awards for her work in communications and public information from both the National Association of County Information Officers and the International Association of Business Communicators. She uses her vast media background as well as her skills as a professional photographer to tackle projects that have lead to her winning such awards. She is active in several organizations including; Clark Atlanta University Mass Media Arts Alumni Society and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated where she is a member of the Kappa Omega Chapter and serves as the chapter's vice president.

She is the mother of two beautiful children, Jazmine Rachel Freeman and Jerry Emanuel Freeman "Tripp", both of whom attend Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Jolene considers her kids to be her biggest accomplishment in life.



Mistresses of Ceremony

# DEBB MOORE

Debb Moore is a trusted, creative veteran radio host who has cherished the opportunity to assist in fostering the sounds of America's only indigenous art form - Jazz! During her broadcast career, she has produced and hosted popular Jazz programs heard throughout metro Atlanta and worldwide via the internet - always hoping at least one new set of ears joins the musical caravan and are able to perceive and enjoy the rich and vast history and sound of what is known affectionately as Americas' Classical Music - Jazz!

Debb has become known for her prepared, articulate, insightful, candid, humorous, and hard-to-get interviews with some of the world's greatest artistic voices and most talked about talents in all genres of entertainment. They include trailblazers such as world-renowned photographer Gordon Parks, Jazz saxophone legend Sonny Rollins, the multitalented Wynton Marsalis, the mesmerizing storyteller Abbey Lincoln, music impresario Quincy Jones, award-winning actresses Ruby Dee, Angela Bassett, Public Television host Tavis Smiley and producer/director Julie Dash - to name only a few. Recently, she produced and facilitated a riveting panel conversation with 3 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Jazz masters - DeDe Bridgewater, Dianne Reeves, and Terri Lynne Carrington, for the inaugural Jazz Music Awards show. Listening to one of her broadcasts/interviews have often been described as "soothing and inviting as if sitting across the kitchen table sipping a cup of tea with your favorite person."

Debb also taught a daylong workshop during the 2006 National Black Arts Festival, holding down the attention of excited festival goers during the class titled "Jazz Music is What I Want 2 Know," it was attended by multi-generational gender ethnicities and celebrities in town for festival activities! Debb has produced several national programs including "Four Divas of Jazz," spotlighting the storied lives and careers of Ella Fitzgerald, Carmen McCrae, Billie Holiday, and Sarah Vaughan, the weeklong Duke Ellington centennial "Duke @ 100" and Louis Armstrong titled "Looking @ Louis," and most recently "On The Sonny Side of Harlem" (2018), all of which drew rave reviews from an enthusiastic world audience! Debb has not limited her broadcasting skills to only radio but has hosted television shows and has moderated several Jazz Times magazine convention panels and has served as a moderator/panelist with the International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE) conferences. Debb continues to explore and expand her broadcasting prowess as a voice-over artist and looks forward to doing movie animation, documentaries, and commercials.

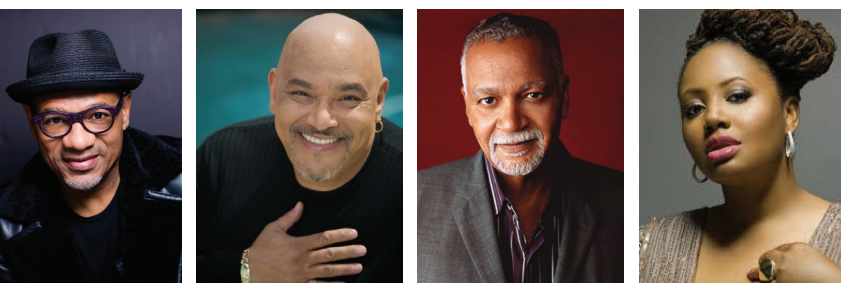
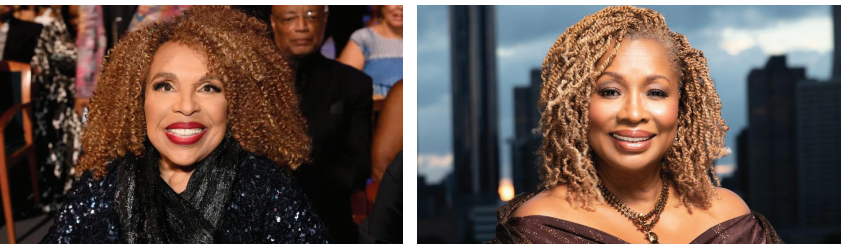
Debb graduated from Clark College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Journalism. She is also a soror of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Debb is a former Miss Black Atlanta and an Atlanta City Council legislative aide where she worked tirelessly with the community. Debb also visits local elementary and middle schools and

encourages children to embrace and live multidimensional lives by understanding and developing their interest in music, art, and culture and learning to become critical thinkers so they can grow to become productive, contributing, and engaged members of society. She loves interesting people, history, laughing, reading, walking, serving, and helping people. Debb's website: Debb Moore.com is under construction. Her favorite word is "peace."



Mistresses of Ceremony





# Jazz Under the Stars

## ARTISTS & MC's

- 1996 NANCY WILSON
- 1997 JEFFREY OSBORNE
- 1998 ROBERTA FLACK
- 1999 ROY AYERS & JAMES MOODY
- 2000 KATHLEEN J. BERTRAND
- 2001 GERALD ALBRIGHT
- 2002 WYNTON MARSALIS
- 2003 KIRK WHALUM
- 2004 JAMES MOODY QUARTET  
(CHARLY VALENTINE)
- 2005 RAMSEY LEWIS (GLORIA LYNNE)
- 2006 MARLENA SHAW
- 2007 BRANFORD MARSALIS
- 2008 JOE SAMPLE
- 2009 PATTI AUSTIN
- 2010 CAU JAZZ ORCHESTRA &  
JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE
- 2011 TERRENCE BLANCHARD
- 2012 RACHELLE FERRELL
- 2013 RAMSEY LEWIS
- 2014 LALAH HATHAWAY
- 2015 NAJEE (KATHLEEN BERTRAND)
- 2016 MAYSA
- 2017 PHIL PERRY
- 2018 GERALD ALBRIGHT FEATURING  
SELINA ALBRIGHT
- 2019 REGINA CARTER
- 2021 ERIC BENÉT
- 2022 JEFFREY OSBORNE



# ARTISTS & MC's

1996 ANGELA ROBINSON  
1997 AMANDA DAVIS/DEBB MOORE  
1998 KENNY LEON/  
CAROL MITCHELL-LEON  
1999 MONICA KAUFMAN  
2000 KATHLEEN J. BERTRAND  
2001 ANGELA ROBINSON  
2002 MONICA KAUFMAN PEARSON  
2003 CAROL MITCHELL-LEON  
2004 AMANDA DAVIS  
2005 ANGELA ROBINSON  
2006 AMANDA DAVIS  
2007 AMANDA DAVIS  
2008 CARL ANTHONY

2009 DEBB MOORE  
2010 MORRIS BAXTER  
2011 CARL ANTHONY  
2012 LEATRICE ELIZY  
2013 MONICA KAUFMAN PEARSON  
2014 KATHLEEN J. BERTRAND  
2015 DEBB MOORE  
2016 JOYCE LITTEL  
2017 AMANDA DAVIS  
2018 TAWANDA BLACK  
2019 JOYCE LITTEL  
2021 JOLENE BUTTS-FREEMAN  
2022 JOLENE BUTTS-FREEMAN

## *CAU Guild Scholarship Recipients*

Eyanla Antoniece McFarland  
Jenayah K. Lewis  
Jenesis A. Crump  
Takeyra Rashelle Cohron  
Mya I. Abdullah  
T'Kyzha Monai McKinzy  
Bria D. Hickman-Graze

Henrietta Dwumfuor  
Kenneth Hoursey  
Cameron Barnes  
Aaliyah Bree Gaffney  
Acacia G. Lofton  
Soniah Hope Rodney  
Phoenix Marie Alexander





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*Jazz Under  
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**91.9**

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*Jazz Under the Stars*



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THE ATLANTA VOICE CONGRATULATES THE  
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ON ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL

*Jazz Under the Stars*

MR. & MRS. AL B. & CHERI REID  
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THE 2023 ANNUAL

# *Jazz Under the Stars*





**Protecting the Institutions that create the  
leaders of tomorrow.**



Partners Risk Strategies is proud to Support Clark Atlanta University.



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***PROTECTING & RESTORING THE  
NATURAL WORLD.***

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**TURNER**  
**FOUNDATION**  
**INC.**





A group of people are seen from behind, looking out over a festival at sunset. A person on the left holds a Coca-Cola bottle high, while another person in the center holds one lower. A third person on the right has their arm around the person in the center. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun, creating a bokeh effect in the background.

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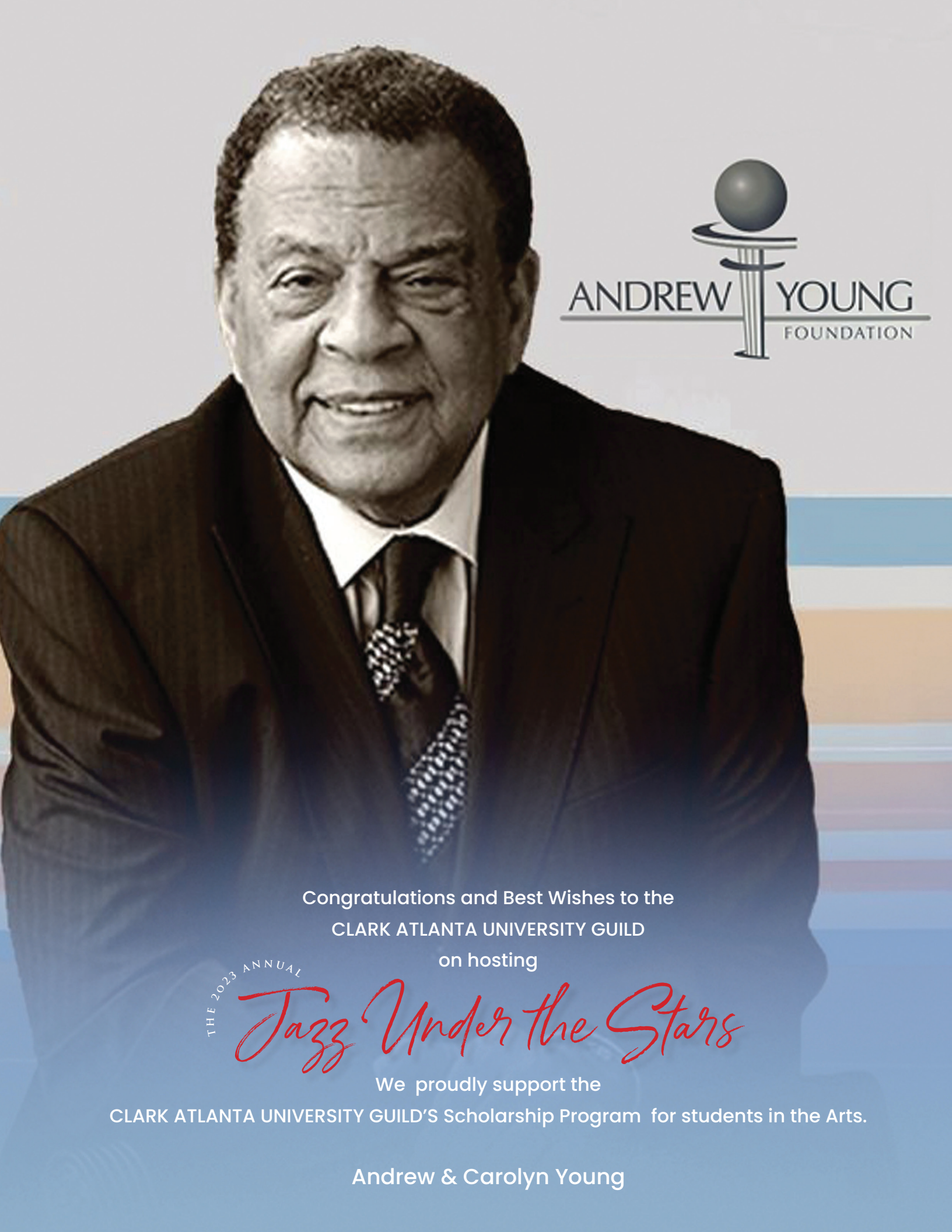


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Andrew & Carolyn Young



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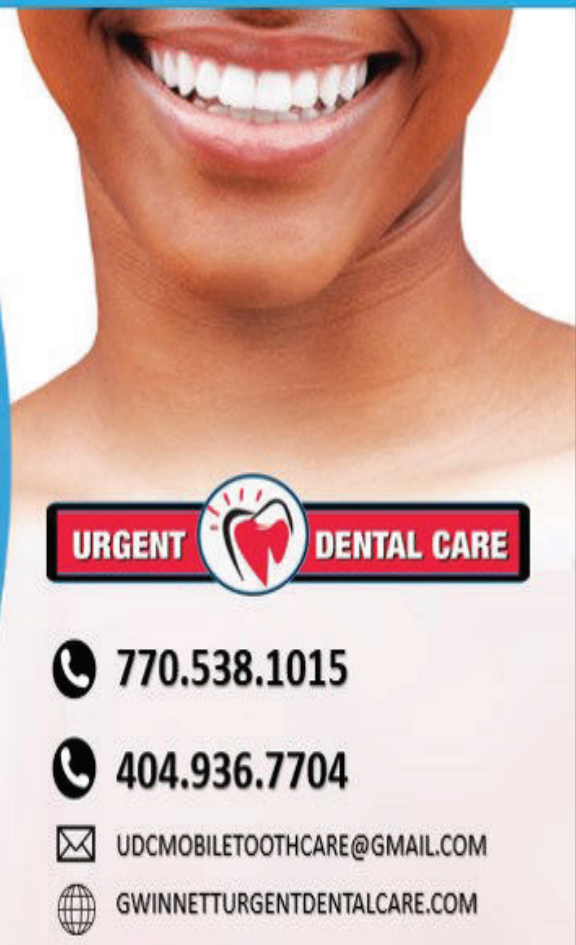


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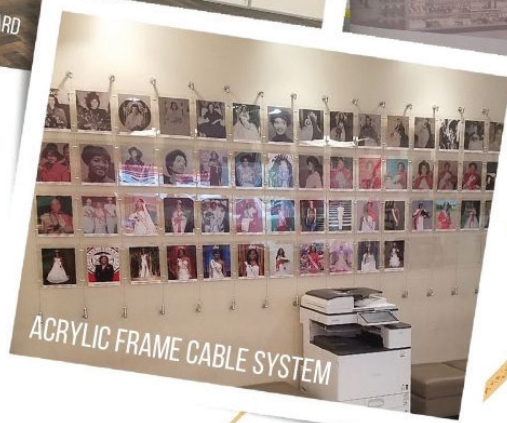
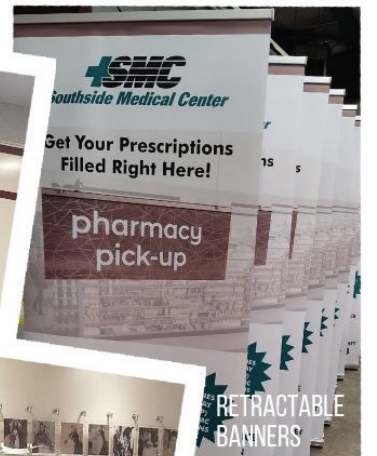
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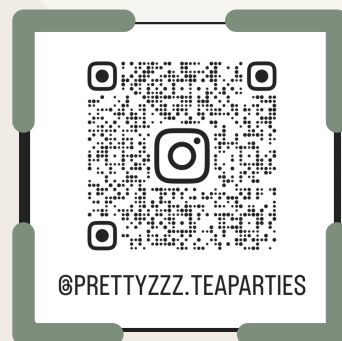
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# Celebrating Class of 3's and 8's



**18**  
May

**7:00 PM**

**9:30 PM**

**Board of Directors/Executive Committee**

Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel

**Hospitality Suite**

Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel

**10:00 AM**

**Baccalaureate**

Epps Gymnasium

**12:30 PM**

**Alumni Service Awards Luncheon**

Thomas Cole Research Building

**3:00 PM**

**CAUAA General Body Meeting**

Thomas Cole Research Building

**6:00 PM**

**Memorial Service and Reception**

Woodruff Library: Virginia Lacy Jones  
Exhibition Hall

**9:00 PM**

**Panther Alumni Class Mixer**

Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel

**8:00 AM**

**Graduation**

Panther Stadium

**12:00 PM**

**Alumni Cookout**

Alumni Trailer

**6:00 PM**

**Life Member Pre-Reception**

Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel

**7:00 PM**

**Alumni Recognition Banquet**

Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel



**19**  
May



**20**  
May

## May Weekend 23

"Building Better Together"

Register



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