

**10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**  
THE DIAMOND  ACADEMY OF  
AWARDS  
**2026**

Friday July  
17th, 2026

InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta by IHG  
3315 Peachtree Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30326

VIP Red Carpet & Reception 4:00 PM  
Diamond Awards Ceremony 7:00 PM



NOT ALONE FOUNDATION, INC.



———— BROUGHT TO YOU BY ————



LENOIR-RHYNE  
UNIVERSITY



EMORY  
UNIVERSITY



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## THE NOT ALONE FOUNDATION

# OUR MISSION

The Not Alone Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the awareness and prevention of kidney disease and enhancing the quality of life of sufferers by providing educational and medical resources and financial assistance for chronic kidney disease (CKD) and end-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients and their families. Using the platforms of entertainment, wellness, arts and design as mediums to help forward our mission, NAF educates, inspires and uplifts, working determinedly to confront and conquer this global epidemic.

In addition to the integration of our four core programs, NAF supports interconnected health initiatives such diabetes and high blood pressure awareness, as well as cancer prevention and integrative treatment.

The Not Alone Foundation Inc., in its efforts to combat this global epidemic with impacting the quality of life of affected individuals, we do the small things that make a big difference! NAF is pleased to also partner with other foundations /organizations as community and civically engaged partners to support other initiatives, missions, & visions that perpetuate service above self for the greater good of the community.

The Diamond Awards is a program designed to honor faces and images of excellence in the entertainment, corporate and creative industries for their professional accomplishments and contributions to our society on a local, state, or international level.







## THE NOT ALONE FOUNDATION

# OUR IMPACT

Every year, more than 100,000 Americans are diagnosed with kidney failure and more than 400,000 Americans suffer from (ESKD), which occurs when the kidneys are no longer able to function at a level needed for day-to-day life. The average estimated cost of a kidney transplant in the United States is more than \$250,000. The Not Alone Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Atlanta and dedicated to providing financial assistance and educational and medical resources for CKD and ESRD patients and their families.

The goals of the organization are two-fold: to help adult end-stage renal disease patients become members of the official kidney transplant list and to support the families of children and teens suffering from ESRD. The Not Alone Foundation was established by Mark Dodd, Morehouse College Alumnus following his own challenges to get on the official kidney transplant list. In addition to providing financial assistance for patients, the foundation also sponsors research and public education that promotes the prevention of diseases that can lead to kidney failure.







## THE NOT ALONE FOUNDATION

# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 10th Annual Diamond Awards.

The Not Alone Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Atlanta and dedicated to providing financial assistance and educational and medical resources for chronic kidney disease (CKD) and end-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients and their families.

The goals of the organization are two-fold:

- To help adult end-stage renal disease patients become members of the official kidney transplant list
- To support the families of children and teens suffering from ESRD. The Not Alone Foundation was established by Mark Dodd, Morehouse College Alumnus and The University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. Mark Dodd while awaiting the challenges to get on the official kidney transplant list, managed to provide financial assistance for patients. The foundation also sponsors research and public education that promotes the prevention of diseases that can lead to kidney failure.



**MARK DODD**

Chairman - The Not Alone Foundation



THE  
DIAMOND



2022

*Proud*





## THE NOT ALONE FOUNDATION

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the board of trustees, senior leadership, and staff of the Not Alone Foundation, Inc, I welcome you to the 10th Annual Diamond Awards! The Not Alone Foundation is committed to embracing the needs of individuals that aligns with our mission, vision, and initiatives provided by the foundation.

As President of the foundation, I am humbled to serve; and dedicated to continue my commitment to the community through this distinguished charity.

As we celebrate the 10th Diamond Awards we pause to end the holiday season with acknowledgement of the Christmas season as we give to those less fortunate. The leadership of the foundation is proud to pay tribute to the global face of civil rights, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s. day of service and birthday as a community production through the Diamond Awards that is the vehicle that introduces the celebration of Black History month; Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion professionals; Essential Workers as Heroes; and our slate of luminaires that will be honored during this 10th Annual Diamond Awards presentation!



**ROBERT JACKSON**

President - The Not Alone Foundation





## THE DIAMOND OF THE SOUTH

# ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Atlanta, Georgia, founded in 1837 as the end of the Western and Atlantic railroad line (it was first named Marthasville in honor of the then-governor's daughter, nicknamed Terminus for its rail location, and then changed soon after to Atlanta, the feminine of Atlantic - as in the railroad).

Today the fast-growing city remains a transportation hub, not just for the country but also for the world: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is the world's busiest in daily passenger flights. Direct flights to Europe, South America, and Asia have made metro Atlanta easily accessible to the more than 1,000 international businesses that operate here and the more than 50 countries that have representation in the city through consulates, trade offices, and chambers of commerce. The city has emerged as a banking center and boasts the third largest concentration of Fortune 500 companies in the country.

Atlanta is the capital city of the Southeast, a city of the future with strong ties to its past. The old in new Atlanta is the soul of the city, the heritage that enhances the quality of life in a contemporary city. In the turbulent 60s, Atlanta was "the city too busy to hate." And today, in the 21st century, Atlanta is the "city not too busy to care."



INTERCONTINENTAL  
BUCKHEAD

THE OFFICIAL HOST HOTEL FOR 2026

# INTERCONTINENTAL BUCKHEAD

This year we are proud to be hosting the 20th Anniversary of The Not Alone Foundation and the 10th Anniversary Academy of the Diamond Awards at the InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta by IHG.

The Academy of the Diamond Awards Crown Jewel VIP Red Carpet Experience and Reception will begin at 4:00 PM in the Trippe Ballroom. The Academy of the Diamond Awards will be hosted in the Venetian Ballroom at 7:00pm.

## **INTERCONTINENTAL BUCKHEAD ATLANTA ADDRESS:**

3315 Peachtree Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30326





## THE DIAMOND AWARDS

# THE PROGRAM

Americolor Opera singers have prepared the following selections:

### OPENING SELECTION:

**"Gloria" from The Revere Mass, Sharon J Willis**

Juliet V. Anderson, Soprano

### OPERA / MUSIC SELECTION:

**"Pink Lady Trio" from The Pink Lady Opera**

Reisha Lauren, Leslee Christopher, and  
Theophania Darnice, Cast

**"Wade" from Sunday Morning, Willis**

Reisha Lauren, Soprano

### GRAMBLING TRIBUTE:

**"Wasn't That a Wide River," arr. Harry T. Burleigh**

Michael McBride, Baritone

**"Behold that Star," from 3kings and a PRINCE, Willis**

Reisha Lauren, Sharon J Willis, and Juliet V. Anderson, Sopranos  
Phyllis Beatles, Pianist







## HONOREE HIGHLIGHT

# K. WHITNER

K Whitner is a business litigator who handles complex civil corporate matters representing clients in state and federal courts and arbitrations around the country. His wide-ranging substantive experience includes contract disputes, business torts, franchise, antitrust and competition, and securities fraud class action related matters. He serves as co-chair of the firm's Complex Litigation & Arbitration practice. Consistently recognized for his legal excellence, William is routinely identified by Euromoney's Benchmark Litigation Guide as a Litigation Star, by Lawdragon as one of the 500 Leading Litigators in America, by Best Lawyers, by Super Lawyers as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers in Georgia", by Franchise Times as a "Legal Eagle", and by Savoy Magazine as one of "The Most Influential Lawyers" in America.

He has an established record of success counseling clients on their most sensitive matters and successfully resolving disputes at every stage of litigation.

### Accolades:

- Most Influential Lawyers, Savoy Magazine (2015 and 2024)
- Recommended for Commercial Disputes, Legal 500
- Litigation Star, Euromoney's Benchmark Litigation Guide
- 500 Leading Litigators in America, Lawdragon
- Best Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers in Georgia and Best Lawyer Atlanta Lawyer of the Year (2014 and 2017)
- Top 100 Attorneys in Georgia, Super Lawyers
- Leading Litigation Lawyer, Euromoney's Benchmark: America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys
- Legal Elite, Georgia Trend's
- Legal Eagle, Franchise Times
- Top 50 Movers and Shakers in Atlanta Sports, Atlanta Business Chronicle
- The International Who's Who of Franchise Lawyers

### Education:

- Yale Law School, J.D., 1996 (Served on the Journal of Yale Law and Policy Review and as a member of the Moot Court Board and Barristers' Union Trial Board).
- Georgetown University, B.A., 1993.





## HONOREE HIGHLIGHT

# ROBERT L. JENKINS, JR.

Robert L. Jenkins, Jr., a native of Charleston, South Carolina, is a graduate of historic Howard University located in Washington, District of Columbia. At Howard University, Mr. Jenkins obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in history. He received his Juris Doctor from the National Law Center at the George Washington University. As a collegiate Mr. Jenkins served as a Capital Hill Aide to the Honorable Arthur P. Ravenel of the United States House of Representatives. Upon graduation, he served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Ulysses B. Hammond, Executive Officer of the District of Columbia Courts. As Law Clerk to the Executive Officer, Mr. Jenkins served as an intra-governmental liaison between the District of Columbia Courts and the District of Columbia City Council, and the United States Congress. In addition, Mr. Jenkins duties included assisting the Executive Officer in the day-to-day administrative operations of the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Jenkins actively handles a variety of criminal defense matters representing juvenile and adult clients. He has spent his entire career as an attorney principally defending citizens charged with offenses in federal and state courts. He has successfully defended individuals accused of drug-related offenses, sexual assaults, tax violations, as well as capital murder. In 1998 Mr. Jenkins' professionalism and accomplishments as a trial advocate were recognized with his election to the George Mason American Inns of Court as a Barrister. Since 2017 he has been listed among the top criminal defense attorneys in the Washington, DC area by the Washingtonian Magazine. He is a member of the Virginia State Bar and has been admitted to practice before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, United States District Court for the Districts of Colorado, Eastern District of Virginia, and District of Columbia.

Mr. Jenkins has appeared as a legal commentator on local and national television shows such as MSNBC Live. He has been featured on the reality series American Greed. Mr. Jenkins has been quoted in the both the Washington Post and Washington Times. He also routinely lectures as a Virginia Continuing Legal Education speaker on federal criminal defense issues.





## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

# XERNONA CLAYTON

Xernona Clayton as an American civil rights leader and broadcasting executive. During the Civil Rights Movement, she worked for the National Urban League and Southern Christian Leadership Conference, where she became involved in the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Later, Clayton went into television, where she became the first African American from the southern United States to host a daily prime time talk show. She became corporate vice president for Turner Broadcasting.

Xernona Clayton has been honored worldwide for her contributions to humanity, which includes: Bronze Women of the Year for Human Relations, 1969; Communications Woman of Achievement Award by the Atlanta Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television, 1984–85; First Black woman to receive The Trailblazer Award by the Greater Atlanta Club Business and Professional Woman; Superior Television.

Named one of Georgia's Most Influential Women 1984 and Black Georgian of the Year 1984; being included in Leadership Atlanta, Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, 1971; named Bethune-Tubman Woman of the Year Award, Chicago, 1985; Named Woman of the Year by Black Women Hall of Fame foundation, 1985; T; named one of the nation's Top 100 Black Business and Professional Women by Dollars and Sense Magazine, 1985; being one of Seven Atlanta honorees for Black Achievers Award by the Equitable, 1986; being inducted into the Academy of Women Achievers by the YWCA, 1986; Communications Award by the OICs of America, 1986; American Spirit Award by the United States Air Force Recruiting Service, 1987; and receiving the President's Award by the National Conference of Mayors, 1983.





ARCHITECT OF EXCELLENCE

## THE XERNONA CLAYTON HUMANITARIAN HONOR

# MS. TERRI M. LEE

The Highest Honor of The Academy of the Diamond Awards is the Xernona Clayton Humanitarian Honor.

This year's 2026 Honoree is Ms. Terri M. Lee, President & Chief Executive Officer of Atlanta Housing.

"Recognizing extraordinary individuals whose lives embody the compassion, courage, servant leadership, and unwavering commitment to humanity that define the enduring legacy of civil rights icon Ms. Xernona Clayton."

Reserved for extraordinary women and men whose lives have become instruments of hope, justice, compassion, and transformational service, The Xernona Clayton Humanitarian Honor stands among the Academy's highest distinctions. Established in perpetuity to preserve the enduring legacy of civil rights icon, humanitarian, and global bridge-builder Ms. Xernona Clayton, this honor recognizes individuals whose leadership transcends profession to restore dignity, expand opportunity, uplift humanity, and leave an indelible imprint upon the world. It celebrates those who do not simply witness history—they change its course through courage, conviction, and an unwavering commitment to the human spirit.

### **The Embodiment of Excellence**

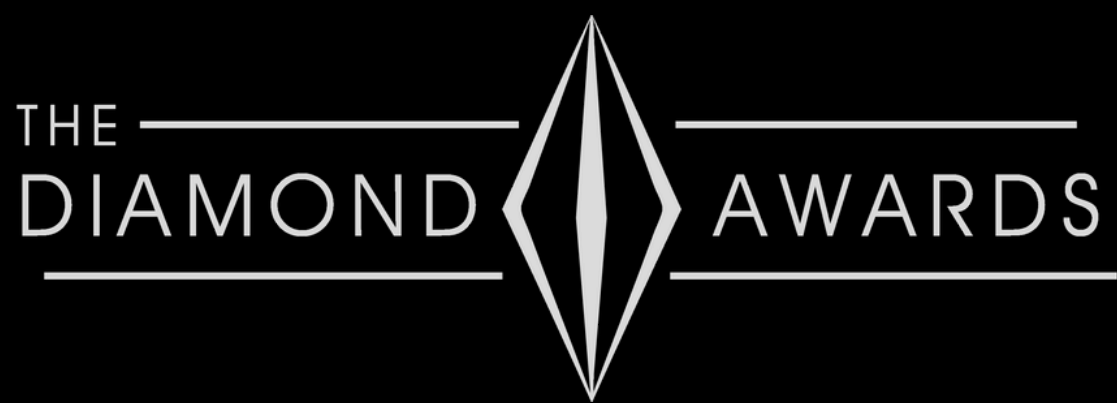
Honoring extraordinary individuals whose lives have transformed communities, elevated professions, and inspired generations through unwavering purpose and distinguished service.



**THE DIAMOND AWARDS**

**FEATURED HONOREES  
& DISTINGUISHED  
PARTICIPANTS**





## THE DIAMOND AWARDS MOST DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITIONS

# DISTINGUISHED HONORS

The Academy of the Diamond Awards reserves its highest honors for extraordinary individuals whose lives have profoundly influenced humanity through visionary leadership, distinguished service, artistic achievement, humanitarian commitment, scholarship, innovation, and enduring civic impact. These prestigious recognitions represent the Academy's highest expressions of gratitude and esteem. Bestowed only upon individuals whose influence extends far beyond professional accomplishment, they celebrate lives that have transformed institutions, strengthened communities, inspired generations, and illuminated the world through purpose, compassion, and servant leadership. The honors that follow represent the most distinguished recognitions conferred during the 2026 Academy of the Diamond Awards.

## CIVIL RIGHTS, HUMANITARIAN & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP



**MS. TERRI M. LEE**

President & Chief Executive Officer,  
Atlanta Housing



**MS. XERNONA CLAYTON**

Founder, The Trumpet Awards;  
Civil Rights Icon and Namesake of The  
Xernona Clayton Humanitarian Honor

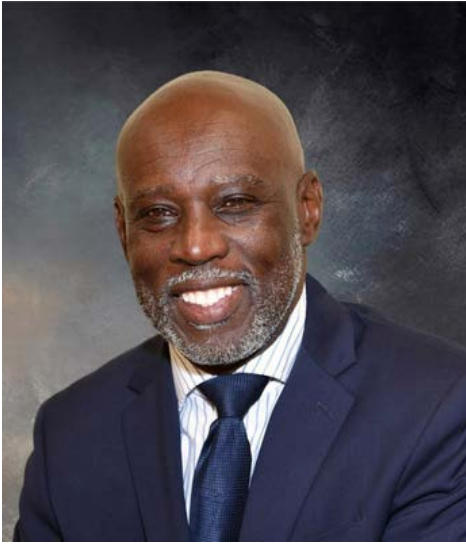
**American Civil Rights Leader  
Lifetime Achievement Award**



**APOSTLE DWIGHT KEVIN  
BUCKNER, JR.**

The Generation of Hope Church  
**Faith, Humanitarian & Community  
Leadership Lifetime Achievement Award**

## HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP



**ALVIN WASHINGTON**

Chancellor  
Southern University Law Center



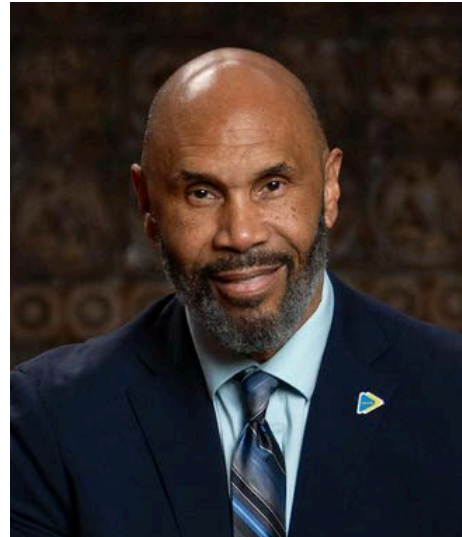
**PROFESSOR DENSIL A.  
WILLIAMS**

Principal  
The University of the West Indies  
**Executive Leadership in Higher Education  
Presidential Award**



**MARTIN LEMELLE, JR.,  
D.B.A.**

President, Grambling State University  
**Executive Leadership in Higher Education  
Lifetime Achievement Award**



**DR. DARNELL HUNT**

Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost  
University of California, LA (UCLA)  
**Executive Leadership in Higher Education  
Crown Jewel Award**



## HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP



**DR. ANTWON D. WOODS**

Dean, School of Business, Alcorn State University

**Executive Leadership in Higher Education Presidential Award**



**DR. DERRICK V. WARREN**

Dean, Thomas and Joyce Moorehead College of Business, Grambling State University



**DR. A. CLINTON MYLES**

Provost  
Talladega College



**DR. KEITH A. ALFORD**

Dean  
School of Social Work  
University at Buffalo

## HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP



**DR. ANUMANTHA  
KANTHASAMY**

Distinguished Professor  
and Neuroscientist  
University of Georgia



**DR. ERIC M. BRIDGES**

Honors Program Director,  
Professor of Psychology, and  
Faculty Athletic Representative,  
Clayton State University

## LAW, GOVERNMENT & JUSTICE



**K. WHITNER**

Partner & Global Co-Chair  
Complex Litigation Practice Group  
Paul Hastings LLP



**ROBERT L. JENKINS, JR.**

Senior Grand Vice Polemarch  
Federal Criminal Defense Attorney

**Law, Public Policy & Legal Excellence  
Presidential Award**



**CHIEF JUDGE CHRISTOPHER  
E. WARD**

Municipal Court of Atlanta



**JABARI BARNER**

Attorney

## K-12 EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP



**DR. MARK A. SULLIVAN**

Superintendent  
Birmingham City Schools



**DAN SIMS**

Superintendent  
Bibb County School District



## ARTS, MUSIC & CULTURE



**CALLIE DAY**

Internationally Acclaimed Soprano  
**Arts, Culture & Creative Excellence  
Presidential Award**



**DR. SHARON J. WILLIS, D.M.A.**

Founder & Director  
Americolor Opera Alliance  
**Arts, Culture & Creative Excellence  
Lifetime Achievement Award**

## **BUSINESS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP & ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP**



**AGU UKAOGO**

President & Chief Executive Officer,  
D2NeXt Investments; Luxury Real  
Estate Advisor, Wealth Strategist  
and Entrepreneur



**CHANNING BAKER**

Chief Executive Officer  
Evolve Contractors

## ATHLETICS



**JAMES M. DUBOSE, JR.**

Director of Athletics  
Elizabeth City State University

**Intercollegiate Athletics Leadership  
Presidential Award**

## PUBLIC SAFETY & PUBLIC SERVICE



**SHERIFF REGINALD B.  
SCANDRETT**

Sheriff, Henry County  
Georgia

## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP



**PROFESSOR SHONTRAI D.  
IRVING, J.D., M.B.A., M.C.J.**

Clinical Associate Professor of Business Law  
Purdue University Northwest

**Law, Public Policy & Legal Excellence  
Presidential Award**



**JASON MALLOY**

Registered Athletic Administrator (RAA)  
Athletic Director

MIAAAA 1st Vice President

MHSAA Representative Council Member  
John Glenn High School



**MAYOR EDDIE LOWE**

Mayor  
Phenix City, Alabama





**CELEBRATING 125 YEARS**

**GRAMBLING STATE  
UNIVERSITY TRIBUTE**









GRAMBLING  
STATE UNIVERSITY®

**CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY**  
**- OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE -**



# NOURISHED HERE. NOTICED EVERYWHERE.

For 125 years, Grambling State University has prepared generations of leaders, innovators, and changemakers. Our alumni have carried the Grambling State spirit from classrooms and boardrooms to communities around the world.

It's not only the G you wear — it's the leadership you show, the resilience you carry, and the excellence you embody that make the world take notice of what it means to be a Tiger.

As we celebrate this multiversary moment, you remain our living legacy — honoring our past, shaping our future, and showing the next generation what's possible.



View  
the 2024-  
25 Annual  
Report



GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY  
**MULTIVERSARY**

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gram.edu





# EXPANDING PATHWAYS | EMPOWERING POSSIBILITY

**At Grambling State University, our purpose has always been rooted in creating opportunity.**

For 125 years, that commitment has opened pathways for generations of students to pursue their ambitions and transform their lives. Every scholarship awarded, partnership formed, program strengthened, and facility enhanced represents meaningful progress. It brings a student closer to graduation, creates new possibilities for a family, and extends Grambling State's impact into communities around the world.

As we celebrate this multiversary moment, we are also preparing for what comes next. The investments made today will advance academic excellence, expand access, foster innovation, and provide transformative experiences that prepare students to lead in a changing world. Your support helps remove financial barriers and provides students with the resources, opportunities, and encouragement they need to succeed. It ensures that Grambling State remains a place where talent is recognized, potential is developed, and purpose takes shape.

**Join us in connecting purpose with vision and vision with impact. Invest in the future of Grambling State University today.**



View  
the 2024-  
25 Annual  
Report



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**MULTIVERSARY**

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GRAMBLING UNIVERSITY

**CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

OF ITS WORLD FAMOUS MARCHING BAND AND TIGER ATHLETICS





# A CENTURY OF SOUND

Since 1926, the World Famed Tiger Marching Band has transformed musicianship, precision and showmanship into a cultural force recognized around the world.

From Grambling to presidential inaugurations, international stages and a record six Super Bowl halftime appearances, the World Famed has carried the sound and spirit of Tiger pride across generations.

The performances are legendary. The standard is unmistakable. The legacy is still marching.

100 



A full-page photograph of Dr. Nikole Roebuck, a Black woman with short dark hair styled in a bun, wearing a black tuxedo jacket over a black sequined top and black trousers. She is wearing white gloves and has her right arm raised in a gesture. She is standing on a green football field with a blurred crowd in the background.

# HISTORY MADE. LEGACY IN MOTION.

As Grambling State University's first woman Director of Bands, Dr. Nikole Roebuck has made history while advancing the tradition of the World Famed Tiger Marching Band.

Under her leadership, students are challenged to perform with precision, lead with confidence, and represent Grambling with pride.

As the World Famed celebrates 100 years, Dr. Roebuck continues to honor its legacy and lead the band boldly into its next century.





Grambling State University Athletics

# FAN FEST



**August 15, 2026**

**Meet and Greet**

**Kid's Zone**

**Football Scrimmage**

**Performances by  
the World Famed  
Tiger Marching  
Band and Orchesis  
Dance Company**



**100**

GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY  
ATHLETICS

**Football, Women's Soccer, Women's Volleyball & Cross Country**



# 126 GRAMBLING TIGERS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



HOME  
VS. CLARK ATLANTA UNIV.  
**AUG. 29**



HOME  
VS. CENTRAL STATE  
**SEPT. 05**



AWAY  
VS. TCU  
**SEPT. 12**



NEUTRAL  
VS. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M  
**SEPT. 26**



HOME  
HOMECOMING  
VS. ALCORN STATE  
**OCT. 03**



HOME  
VS. JACKSON STATE  
**OCT. 10**



AWAY  
VS. ALABAMA A&M  
**OCT. 17**



AWAY  
VS. TEXAS SOUTHERN  
**OCT. 31**



HOME  
VS. ARKANSAS PINE-BLUFF  
**NOV. 07**



AWAY  
VS. BETHUNE COOKMAN  
**NOV. 14**



NEUTRAL  
VS. SOUTHERN  
**NOV. 28**







**CELEBRATING**

**50<sup>TH</sup>**

**ANNIVERSARY**

**OF THE THOMAS & JOYCE MOOREHEAD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**



**GRAMBLING**  
STATE UNIVERSITY®

College of Business





# BECOME SOMETHING **MORE**

**The right place isn't just where you learn  
— it's where you rise.**

At Grambling State University's Thomas & Joyce Moorehead College of Business & Entrepreneurship, you'll discover that your ideas can become ventures, your ambition can become leadership and your education can take you far beyond the classroom.

For 50 years, the College has prepared students to succeed in business and become the innovators, problem-solvers and entrepreneurs their communities need. Through AACSB-accredited programs, hands-on learning, industry partnerships and national competitions, students gain the knowledge, confidence and experience to lead in an evolving global economy.

**Join a nationally recognized community where potential is developed,  
innovation is encouraged and bold ideas are given room to grow.**



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# EXCELLENCE HONORED.

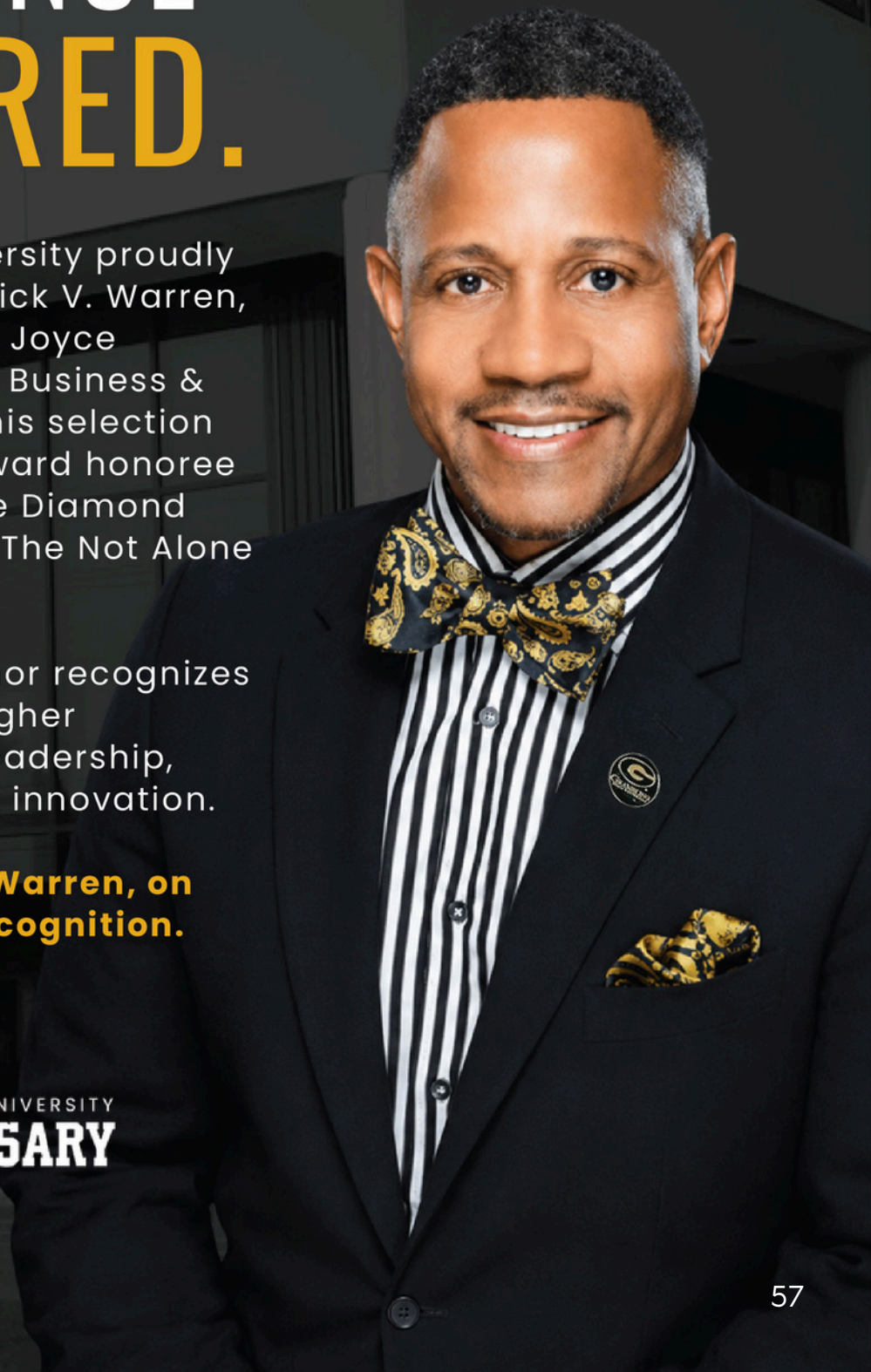
Grambling State University proudly congratulates Dr. Derrick V. Warren, Dean of the Thomas & Joyce Moorehead College of Business & Entrepreneurship, on his selection as a 2026 Diamond Award honoree by the Academy of the Diamond Awards, presented by The Not Alone Foundation, Inc.

This distinguished honor recognizes his contributions to higher education, business leadership, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

**Congratulations, Dr. Warren, on this well-deserved recognition.**



GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY  
**MULTIVERSARY**





**THE DIAMOND AWARDS**

**OFFICIAL DIGITAL  
COMMEMORATIVE  
EDITION**





## EXPRESSIONS OF ESTEEM

# COMMEMORATIVE COLLECTION OF CONGRATULATIONS

Great accomplishments are rarely achieved alone. They are encouraged by mentors, celebrated by colleagues, strengthened by institutions, and remembered by communities. The following pages present a distinguished collection of commemorative tributes and congratulatory messages honoring the remarkable women and men whose leadership, scholarship, creativity, service, and humanitarian contributions have earned recognition as 2026 Diamond Award Laureates. Together, these expressions stand as a permanent record of gratitude, admiration, and celebration for lives that continue to illuminate the world.

*Congratulations to*  
**DR. ANTWON D. WOODS, DEAN**

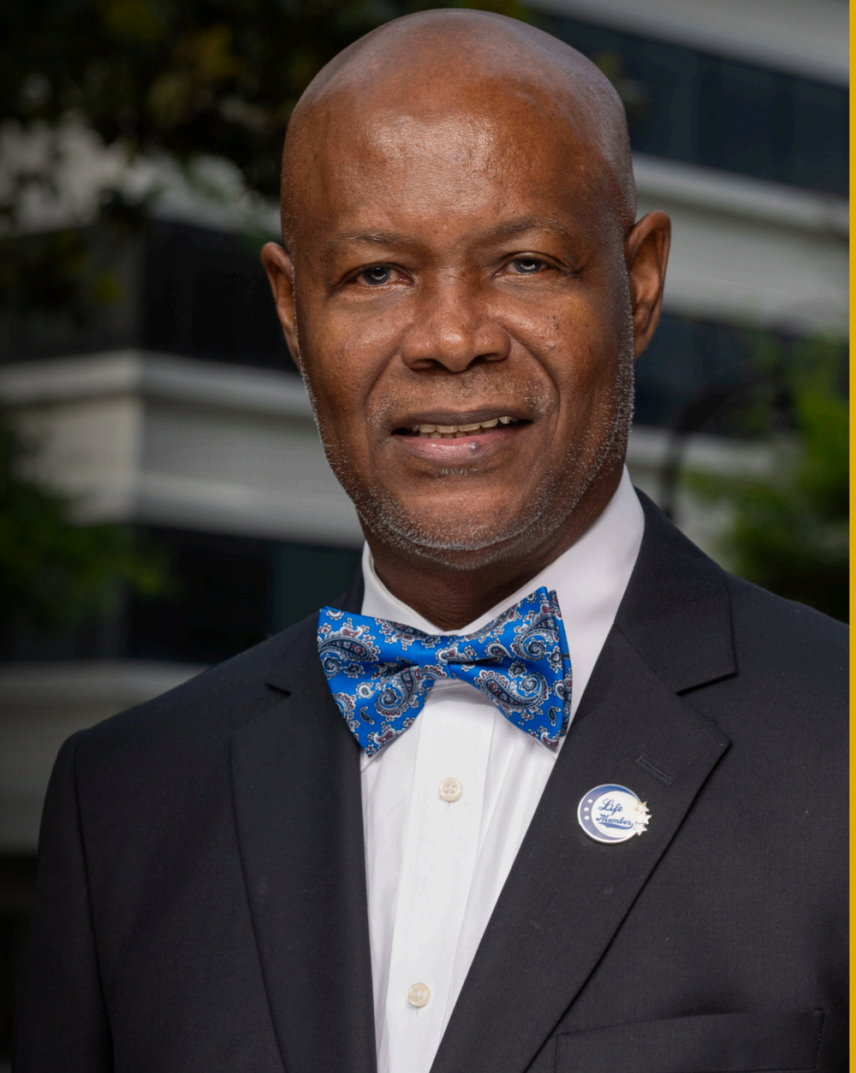
**School of Business | Alcorn State University**

Your vision for Alcorn has uplifted  
the education value of the School  
of Business and it's graduates!

*Ado Ellzey*

**ADO ELLZEY, MBA**

School of Business  
Executive Advisory Board  
Class '79







## **Congratulations to Dean Keith A. Alford, PhD:**

an esteemed leader, longtime educator, innovative researcher, unwavering advocate — and now Diamond Award: Crown Jewel Excellence in Social Work Leadership, Human Rights Advocacy & Transformational Education recipient. We're proud to celebrate your trailblazing impact!





*Congratulations*

**DR. DERRICK  
WARREN**

— ON BEING HONORED WITH THE —  
**ACADEMY OF THE DIAMOND  
AWARDS**

Presented by  
**THE NOT ALONE FOUNDATION**

During its 10th Anniversary  
Black-Tie Ceremony

  
**JULY 17, 2026**  
ATLANTA INTERCONTINENTAL  
BUCKHEAD

*Dr. Warren, your leadership, vision, and unwavering commitment to excellence continue to transform lives and elevate Grambling State University. From empowering students in the College of Business to inspiring innovation, entrepreneurship, and opportunity, you lead with purpose and passion. Your impact extends far beyond the classroom—shaping the future, building partnerships, and making Grambling stronger every day.*

**GRAMBLING ALUMNI EVERYWHERE ARE PROUD OF YOU!**

*Thank you for your service. Thank you for your leadership.  
Thank you for making a difference.*



With Tiger Pride and Deepest Appreciation,

*Dr. Tammy Richardson*

**17TH NATIONAL PRESIDENT**  
GRAMBLING UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.





# *Congratulations*

## Professor Densil A. Williams

2026 Diamond Award Laureate



### RECIPIENT OF THE CROWN JEWEL

Presidential Diamond Award for Excellence in  
Global Higher Education Leadership, International  
Business Scholarship, Innovation &  
Caribbean Economic Transformation

The UWI Mona Campus proudly congratulates Professor Densil A. Williams on this distinguished international recognition. This honour reflects his outstanding leadership, scholarship, innovation, and enduring contribution to higher education and Caribbean development.

*With pride and warmest congratulations*



*Congratulations to*  
**DR. DERRICK WARREN**

Dean, Grambling State University  
2026 Diamond Award Honoree

*Brian D. Adams*

**BRIAN D. ADAMS**





**ARUMIK  
CONSULTING**  
CONNECTING PIECES OF YOUR WORLD

# *Congratulations!*

## **DR. ANTWON WOODS**

**on the 2026 Presidential Diamond Award for Transformational  
Academic Leadership, Institutional Innovation & Student Success.**

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