

CSLC HIPPY SALUTES

Ms. Lula's Legacy



HIPPYUSA
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters

*Lula Friar's Legacy:
Highlighting the impact she
had on HIPPY and the
community, emphasizing the
continuation of her work
through the fundraising
efforts.*

A Memorial Tribute



Ms. Lula Mae Friar

(1951–2020)



Lula Mae Friar was born on December 31, 1951, in the Busy Bee Community of Lexington, Mississippi, in Holmes County. As the fourth of 10 children to her Christian parents, Odessa and Abbie Wright Friar, both now deceased, she treasured her family deeply. Two of her siblings, Dessa Ree Friar Gibson and Marion Henry “Melvin” Friar, preceded her in death.

A woman of profound faith, “Ms. Lula” (as she was affectionately known) lived by the motto of “sending up timber every day,” embracing praise, worship, daily Bible study, and a dedication to her family and community, especially the youth. A gifted gospel singer, she often sang through life’s challenges, proclaiming, “God is keeping me.”

Ms. Lula succumbed on July 12, 2020, after battling COVID-19, at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

A lifelong member of Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church in Lexington, she held numerous roles, including choir president, youth coordinator, and trustee.

Educationally, she graduated from Lexington Attendance Center (LAC) in 1969, where she was a majorette. She earned a choir scholarship to Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi, graduating from Rust, summa cum laude, in 1974 with a degree in elementary education.

Her teaching career began in 1975 at Sharkey County Elementary School and continued at Goodman-Pickens Elementary (GPE), where she dedicated 34 years to education. Ms. Lula was instrumental in student achievement efforts and held various leadership positions, including chair of the Teacher Support Team, and she assisted with the 504 programs. She was also honored as the Holmes County School District’s 2004 Teacher of the Year.

Beyond the classroom, Ms. Lula mentored twirlers for JJ McClain High School Band and later for HCCHS “Prancing Jags,” earning the title of “Band Mother.” A passionate band booster, she traveled extensively with the award-winning band, even after her retirement as an educator. After retiring, she also continued her educational service at the Community Students Learning Center (CSLC), a 501 c 3 non-profit, where she served as its Education Director for various programs and services.

She is widely recognized for spearheading the establishment of Mississippi’s only HIPPY program site at CSLC in Holmes County, Mississippi. HIPPY stands for Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters. She also diligently served as the Housing Advocate/Coordinator for the CSLC Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas/Bank Plus Affordable Housing Program which helped low-income families in various communities with needed housing rehab. Ms. Lula faithfully served as the CSLC HIPPY Coordinator and Housing Coordinator until she was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Known for her passion for family, education, care and dedication, she cherished her children and grandchildren, leaving behind one daughter, LaTannica Friar (Denham Springs, La.); one son, Fredrick Friar (Lexington, Denham Springs, La.); five granddaughters, one goddaughter, and a loving community of mentees. Her favorite scriptures were John 3:16 and Proverbs 3:5-6.

Remembering My Mother

To My Mother, Lula

You were the true definition of a woman—mother, sister, aunt, cousin, teacher, co-worker, and friend. You lit up every room you walked into and never met a stranger. You were the most supportive person I have ever known, and I'm grateful you instilled that same trait in me.

No matter the miles or distance, you never missed a moment. Oh, how I miss my biggest cheerleader. Whenever I visited and had to leave, we would talk the entire ride back, or you'd call just to make sure I made it home safely. And every morning on my way to work, we talked. If we didn't, which was rare, you'd call right in the middle of my class and say, "Tan, now why you ain't call me? I almost overslept!" I miss that too. There's truly nothing like a mother's love.

Fred may have been older, but when it came to him, or any responsibility, you stepped in without hesitation. You were the real MVP.

And those grandkids? There was nothing you wouldn't do for them. You fussed, spoiled, and loved all at once. Your sisters and brothers meant everything to you. Y'all's bond was so strong, so admirable. You could always depend on each other.

And anybody who knew you knew you didn't play about that band! Wherever they went, you were right there. I remember when I first became a twirler, there were only two of us back then, you supported us at every single competition. You were so dedicated they made you the official twirler sponsor. That was over 20 years ago, and your love never wavered. Year after year, the team grew and so did your passion. Every girl who came through that team loved you and still does.

Let's not forget your 30 years as a dedicated teacher. Your passion for education was unmatched. The world needs more teachers like you. I try to be one but I'm not quite as good. However, they tell me I am. I became Teacher of the Year, just like you did. I believe it was in that moment I really realized I'm like you in more ways than I realized, and really stepped in your footsteps. Your dedication lives on.

You were so proud of your HIPPY babies. Oh, how you loved those kids! We'd be out and about, and you'd spot a child, stop what we were doing, and sign them up if they were eligible. You believed education was everything, and you were right. HIPPY helped students reach higher grades, better test scores, and even college success. You made a real difference.

You didn't just buy toys for my kids at Christmas, you brought books too. You knew the value of reading. You'd always say, "Education is the key." And now, we see exactly what you meant.

Ma, you truly left an impact on so many lives. You are deeply loved and missed. May you continue to rest in peace and love.

Until we meet again, Beautiful,

Love,

Your "Tan"



Reflections of Ms. Lula as ...



A Daughter



A Mother



A Grandmother



A Sister



A Cousin



An Aunt

Reflections of Ms. Lula as ...



A Niece



An Educator



A Godmother



A Coworker



A Sister-in-Law



A Sponsor/Mentor



A Devoted Church Member

Reflections of Ms. Lula as ...



Son-in-Law

Ms. Friar wasn't just a mother in law, she was a supportive one. She didn't play when it came to Tan or her grandbabies. She always told it like it was, but in the kindest way. She will definitely be missed. Keep resting, Ms. Friar. I still got your girls.



Maternal Niece



My grandma and I were so close, wherever she went, I followed. Especially when it came to traveling with the band, we were inseparable. She wasn't just my grandmother; she was my friend, and my part of my heart. I'll never forget when I took my 3rd grade test and she tricked me into thinking I failed. She didn't play when it came to education, and I knew if I didn't take it seriously, I'd be in trouble. Well of course I passed it the first time! But that's just who she was strong, wise, and always pushing me to be my best. I miss you so much, Grandma. I miss coming to your house, hearing your voice, and feeling your presence. I still think about you all the time. Why did you have to leave? Love you always and forever.

Kayden

Granddaughter



I was only one, almost two years old, when you passed away. I don't remember much, but I do know you were an inspiration to so many people. Mom tells me stories all the time—like how I would come and jump on your bed, and you'd call her saying, "Come get this girl!" For Christmas, you didn't just give me toys, you gave me books too. You believed in learning, even when I was little. And I hear I kept you on your toes! Like the time I played in the grease and got it all over myself and your furniture. Sounds like I gave you a run for your money! I wish I had more time with you. Just a little longer to make more memories. But until we meet again...

With all my love, Your busybody,

Kaylee

Granddaughter



Community Students Learning Center
HOME INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS OF
PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS (HIPPI) FUND FEST
BIKE, CAR, AND TRUCK SHOW



June 7, 2025 | 12 Noon – 5 p.m.

“In Relentless Pursuit of Perfection in Education and Knowledge”

Program Guide:

Evangelist Johnnnny Delaney

Opening Remarks..... Ms. Kathi Wilson
ScriptureAaliyah A. Greer – 2020 HIPPI Graduate
Invocation Rev. Walter Eskridge, Jr., Pastor, Lebanon MBC
Welcome.....Antwan Clark
CSLC Motto/Creed..... HIPPI Coordinator Lubertha Mosely & HIPPI Students/Graduates
History of Bikers with HIPPI program.....Dr. Nathaniel Christian, Pastor, Durant MBC
The Lula Mae Friar HIPPI Memorial FundDr. Gail H. Marshall Brown
Presentation of The HIPPI Prince and Princess.....Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Greer, CSLC Founders
The Blessings of the Bikes..... Gerald Leggea, President
& Al Beard, Vice President – CMA, Batesville MS
Expressions of Gratitude to the Bikers, Corvette, Show Trucks
& Other HIPPI Supporters Lubertha Mosley, CSLC HIPPI Coordinator
Remarks/Responses from the Bikers, Corvette, Show Trucks Anyone Who Desires
Closing Remarks/Expressions of Gratitude..... Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Greer, CSLC Founders

333 Yazoo Street, Lexington, MS. 39095
Phone (662) 834-0905 | Fax (662)834-006

History of Bikers with CSLC-HIPPY Program



HISTORY

The Community Students Learning Center (CSLC) held its first HIPPY Fund Fest and Motorcycle Show on November 2, 2019, in Lexington, Mississippi. The event was the idea of longtime biker and CSLC/HIPPY volunteer Ida Walls and was co-coordinated with CSLC Education Coordinator Lula Friar to raise funds for the center's vital HIPPY program—an international, research-based early childhood literacy initiative. Since helping establish HIPPY in Holmes County in 2009, Ms. Friar had worked tirelessly to support early learning for rural children. Bikers from across Mississippi rallied behind the cause, and the event quickly expanded to include Corvette and Truck Clubs. Except for 2020—the year Ms. Friar passed away from COVID-19—the fundraiser has been held annually. Now in its sixth year, the event has helped support over 100 CSLC HIPPY children, thanks to the ongoing generosity of motorcycle, car, and truck clubs, as well as corporate and community donors.



The Success of the CSLC HIPPY Program

Academic Progress for H.I.P.P.Y Class of 2011

Academic Progress for H.I.P.P.Y C/O 2012



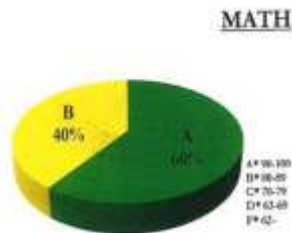
A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



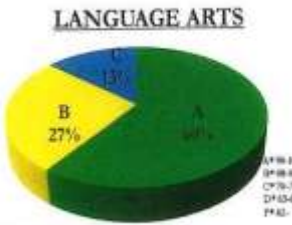
A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-

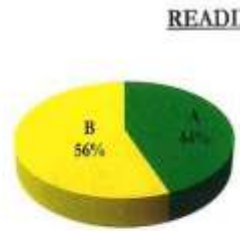
SOURCE: DISTRICT PROGRESS REPORT PROVIDED BY PARENTS

Academic Progress for H.I.P.P.Y Class of 2013

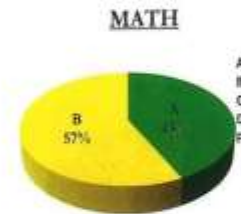
Academic Progress for H.I.P.P.Y Class of 2014



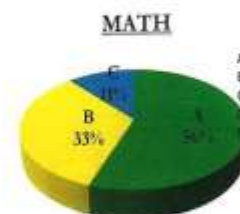
A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



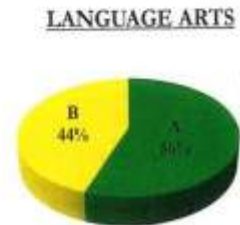
A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-

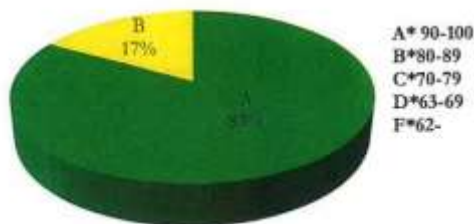


A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-

SOURCE: DISTRICT PROGRESS REPORT PROVIDED BY PARENTS

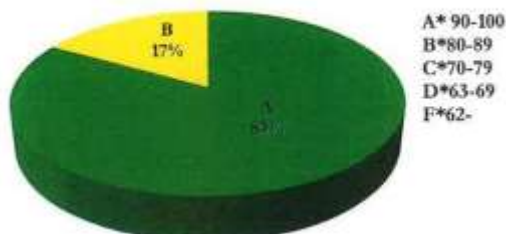
Academic Progress for H.I.P.P.Y Class of 2015

READING



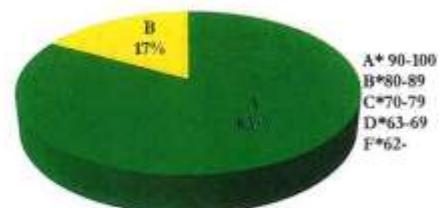
A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-

MATH



A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-

LANGUAGE ARTS

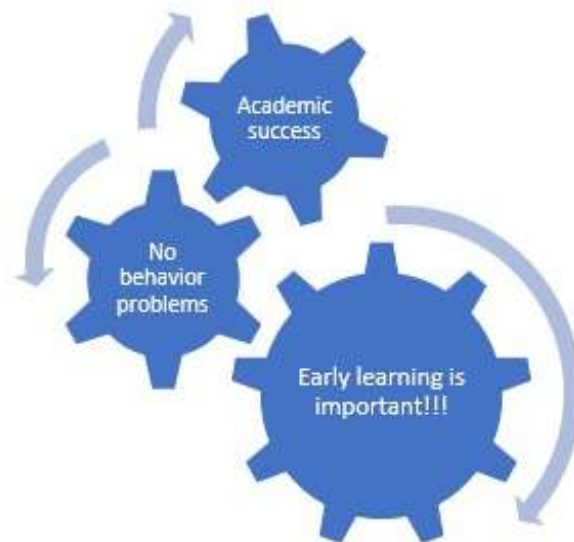


A* 90-100
B* 80-89
C* 70-79
D* 63-69
F* 62-

SOURCE: DISTRICT PROGRESS REPORT PROVIDED BY PARENTS

The Success of the CSLC HIPPY Program

HIPPY Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters		
HIPPY is a research-based program for 3, 4, and 5 year olds	HIPPY empowers parents to become the child's first teacher	HIPPY helps vulnerable students achieve long-term academic success



H.I.P.P.Y. students consistently score above non-HIPPY students in reading, math, and language arts, and therefore, have a higher graduation rate than non-HIPPY students. CSLC's HIPPY program is unique in its approach. It uses a research-based model that works with families in the home, empowering parents in their crucial role as their child's first and most influential teachers. The program curriculum helps parents introduce their children to the skills, concepts, and experience with books that together constitute school readiness for young children.



CSLC HIPPY Graduates' Pictures



CLASS of 2011



CLASS of 2012



CLASS of 2013



CLASS of 2014



CLASS of 2015



CLASS of 2016



CLASS of 2017



CLASS of 2018

CSLC HIPPY/After-School/Summer Graduates Give Back

2019 CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY Graduates



Xavier Landfair



Tabrina Lowery



Leniiiah Powell



Tierra Smothers



Bryson Simpson



Tavior Smart

2020 CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY Graduates



Lauren Anderson



Landon Boyd



Ka'Mayah Corbitt



O'Kemas Gordon, Jr.



Aaliyah Greer



Cayleb Harmon



Taylon Jefferson



Micah Lowe



Javon Meeks



Taraji Primer



Zayleigh Porter



Zoey Robertson



Morghen Smart



Brezanni Thomas



Jordyn Wade



Iviona Weatherly



Zuri Wilson



2021 CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY Graduates



Avden Friar



Nia Simone Haynes



Sylas Green

CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY's 2023 Graduation Class



Zyle Chambers



Ryrin Coleman



Ma'Kenzie Friar



Quinton Grixshon



Kristian Kimbrough



Keenan Mason



Princess Parks



Erick Patton, Jr.



Kenzie Taylor



Michael Wade



THE 2022 CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY GRADUATION CLASS



Alayna Boyd



Raylin Dixon



Imari Lewis



Aubree Rule



Quran Stingley



George Timms

Not Shown:

Karson McGee
London Williams

Christopher Truss
Karmen Young

CSLC HIPPY/After-School/Summer Graduates Give Back

CSLC MS PIRC HIPPY 2024 Graduation Class



Karleigh Dixon



Trinity Saffold



Kaylee Hodges



Dillon Randle



Jaziya Walden



Ryan Barlow



Javaria Thompson



Arielle Oliver

CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY's 2025 Graduation Class



Justin Campbell, Jr.



A'Vah Dixon



Christian Dixon



Messiah Jackson



Faith Moore



Rylan Reeves



Damarian Williams



Jamarion Williams



Layla Wilson



Kamauri Wade

This Program is Dedicated In Memory of



Ms. Luke Mae Friser
(1985-2021)



Ms. Antaviv Green
(1990-2021)

CSLC MS-PIRC's First HIPPY Coordinator who passionately devoted her life to the program and to education for more than 35 years.

An outstanding and extremely dedicated CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY parent who strived to help the program in any way she could.

CSLC HIPPY/After-School/Summer Graduates Give Back



Rh'Tasia Greer attended the HIPPY program for two years under the leadership of Ms. Lula Friar. Since Rh'Tasia joined HIPPY, she has made exceptional progress in her schoolwork. Under Ms. Friar leadership, Rh'Tasia has learned to open up and express herself. She started asking more questions to get a better understanding of her lessons. Rh'Tasia graduated from HIPPY Program in 2014, she is now a senior in high school at Holmes County Central High. Since the help of Ms. Friar and HIPPY, Rh'Tasia has become and continued to be an A and B student. We would like to say thanks to Ms. Friar and the HIPPY Program. This would not be possible without YOU!



Sundai Moore is a 16-year-old junior at Holmes County Central High School. She has maintained A/B Honor Roll throughout her academic history. She plans to attend college and become a physical therapist. A HIPPY graduate.



Hailey Kimbrough Jordan was an afterschool tutorial student and HIPPY kid. Hailey is an honor student and presently in the Technology Camp at Jackson State University for the Summer.



Le'Baudrio Bridgeford attended CSLC's Summer Enrichment Program. Ms. Lula Friar was a beacon of joy and leadership, and I appreciate her for not only being so involved with HIPPY, but working tirelessly to maintain it. Through this program and by proxy through her, I was able to fill my summers with enrichment that kept me ahead of the curve in my elementary years. She lived an accomplished life and may her contribution to the Holmes County community never be forgotten.
-Le'Baudrio Bridgeford

CSLC HIPPY/After-School/Summer Graduates Give Back



Jestiny Johnson- My name is Jestiny Johnson. I remember attending the summer camps and programs as a little girl looking up to my mentors. I am currently a college graduate, from Holmes Community College with a degree in Business Administration. I graduated from Murrah High School in 2023, eager to take on the world and receive everything God had in store for me. I am currently a lead 4-year-old teacher! Looking back on the memories, I couldn't tell you I would be where I am today but I am thankful and grateful for this program of many that set a solid foundation for me and my future. In memory of my aunt Lula, I know that she would be proud of me now just as much as she was then! I am appreciative for her love and her support throughout all of her years here on this earth.



Danzel Williams is currently working in Durant, Mississippi. He is originally from Durant and grew up in the local community. Denzel attended J.J. McClain High School and earned his high school diploma from Old Dominion Christian School. He attended the CSLC Summer Camp, which helped him develop leadership skills.



Deon Williams is the owner of Williams D&B Trucking, a successful trucking company. He has three children. Deon grew up in Durant Mississippi, and attended J.J. McClain High School. He earned his high school diploma from Old Dominion Christian School. Additionally, he attended the CSLC Summer Camp, which was an important part of his youth experience.



Angeneka Meeks graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in Forensic Science. She is a Drill Sergeant in the Army Reserve, and she works with the Mississippi Youth Challenge Program in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Angeneka's days are filled with joy by Oakland, her bouncing, baby boy.

CSLC HIPPY/After-School/Summer Graduates Give Back



Carlve Kimble just completed her freshman year at Northeast Community College in Booneville, MS where she maintains a 3.0 GPA majoring dental hygiene. Attended the CSLC Summer Enrichment Program and was a HIPPY graduate.



Kaylee Kimble will be a senior this fall when enroll into Blytheville High School, last year she went to Europe and Germany, Switzerland and Austria with the French Club and this she will be going to Washington DC with a rising senior program Attended the CSLC Summer Enrichment Program and was a HIPPY graduate.



Donovan Mitchell is currently working as a Special Assistant Attorney General in The Public Integrity Division of the Mississippi Attorney General's Office. He prosecutes felonies across all 82 counties. He is married to Amber Mitchell and they have 3 children, Donovan II, Dylan, and Aryn. Participated in the CSLC play "The Life and Time of Robert G. Clark"



Destiny Smith, 24, is a passionate beauty entrepreneur and the visionary behind Pure Lavish Cosmetics, a thriving makeup brand she launched in February 2022. With a love for beauty and empowerment, Destiny turned her creativity into a business that reflects excellence, confidence, and purpose.

In 2024, she proudly graduated from esthetician school, further equipping herself with the skills and knowledge to enhance her brand and serve her clients with professionalism and care. Destiny is also a dedicated wife to Joshua Hammond and a proud mother of two beautiful children, Kennedi and Khyren, who continue to inspire her daily. Destiny credits much of her leadership and entrepreneurial spirit to the Community Students Learning Center, where she was first exposed to the values of hard work, discipline, and vision from a young age. Their guidance played a significant role in shaping her journey, and she remains deeply grateful for their support. Through Pure Lavish Cosmetics, Destiny Smith is more than a business owner—she's a role model and trailblazer redefining beauty and business in her own unique way.

CSLC Afterschool Graduates Give Back



Deshun Hairston is an Airport Operations Specialist at Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport—and a proud Lexington, Mississippi native—who grounds every decision in four core principles: **integrity, respect, courage, and accountability**. With a Master of Commercial Aviation and a bachelor's in Aviation Management from Delta State University, Deshun couples academic rigor with front-line experience overseeing FAA Part 139 inspections, wildlife mitigation, and crisis-management planning. His earlier tenure at Rapid City Regional Airport sharpened his eye for risk and safety, while his current side role evaluating AI-generated writing for Outlier keeps his communication skills sharp. Certified as an Airport Security Coordinator and FEMA ICS responder, Deshun also chairs safety committees and has led organizations such as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Men of Excellence Leadership Group. Whether optimizing airfield operations or inspiring industry peers, he brings a Lexington-bred work ethic—and those four guiding principles—to deliver clear, actionable insights on operational excellence and resilient leadership.



Shakemia M. Anderson was an After-school student at CSLC. She graduated from J.J. McClain High School in 2016 as an honor student. She graduated from Hinds Community College in 2018. After which, she graduated Jackson State University in 2023 with a Bachelor in Accounting. She worked at Trustmark Bank as a head teller and later supervisor. She is currently employed with the State of Mississippi. She is the mother of Layla Wilson, a CSLC-HIPPY kid.



I am **Tia Mason**, an alumna of Jackson State University. I received my Bachelor's degree in April 2016 in Criminal Justice. I also have a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning with a concentration in Community Development and Housing. I am a current Ph.D candidate in Urban and Regional Planning with a concentration in Environment and Land Use. I currently work for the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office as a Program Specialist in the Public Lands Division. During my junior year of college in 2015, I started off as an intern in the Public Lands Division and due to my hard work and dedication, I was offered a permanent position right after graduation. This year makes 10 years that I've worked for the state, and I'm blessed to have that opportunity. I am currently married and have two sons and a bonus daughter. They are the reasons I continue to push for the importance of education and building a solid foundation. I urge each of you to work hard, be humble, never give up, and let God lead the way.



Jestin Johnson is a HVAC Tech/Installer. He made this donation to honor his dear Aunt Lula. Thank you for teaching me the value of education and being a great example for me and others.

Ms. Friar's Twirlers Band Members and Supporters Give Back



LaTannica Friar -- I was one of the first twirlers to start at JJ McClain (now Holmes County Central) and from the very beginning, my mom was right there with me. She came to every single competition, always cheering the loudest. What started as her supporting me quickly grew into a passion of her own. Even after I graduated high school, she never stopped showing up. She was my biggest fan, my cheerleader, and truly the heart behind everything I did. But she wasn't just there for me, she became everyone's band mom. She encouraged, supported, and loved all of us like we were her own. Her presence lit up every practice, every game, and every competition. She made sure none of us ever felt alone.

Her legacy is in the music, the memories, and the lives she touched. We'll carry her love and spirit with us always.



I am **Kadisha Clark** a 37-year-old native from Lexington, Mississippi in Holmes County. I was blessed to be a twirler under the leadership of my Sweet TT, Lula Friar, from the years 2003-2006. Under her wing, I learned the importance of valuable things that would mold me into the person I would later become in the real world. It was not all about dancing or twirling. It was also about respect, learning how to treat others, and also learning that even though you were a part of an organization....it showed leadership. Through twirling, I learned to respect myself and others. I learned to be kind to others. And I learned to stick with my people. My Sweet TT was like another mother to me, although she was there while my mom was, she still never skipped a beat. When I got older with kids, she also didn't miss

a beat with them.



I am **Tiesha Gibson**, who was a dedicated twirler for many years under the loving guidance and leadership of my special aunt, Lula Friar. Her mentorship instilled in me discipline, grace, and confidence that continue to shape who I am today. I am currently a registered nurse and hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. My passion for helping others is rooted in the same dedication and heart I once brought to the field as a twirler.



Aisha Powers had the pleasure of being a twirler/majorette in the Holmes County Central High School Band in the years of 2015-2018. She graduated from Alcorn State University, and she is now working as a Teacher at S.V. Marshall Middle School. Last but not least, this money is donated in the loving memory of Ms. Lula Friar.



My name is **Andrika Wyatt**. I'm an alumni of Jacob J. McClain High School. I was a twirler in the band under the administration of Lula Friar. I graduated in 2013 with honors and received a scholarship to Rust College for the band. This donation is given in loving memories of Ms. Friar.

Ms. Friar's Twirlers Band Members and Supporters Give Back



Nyrobie Price -- I attended McClain in 2002 and had the honor of being a majorette in the band. I attended North Harris College in Houston, Texas. I am currently employed at Nissan. Some of my most cherished memories come from the time and dedication Miss Lula Friar poured into us. Her guidance, strength, and passion made our journey unforgettable. I am truly grateful for everything she did—her legacy will live on in all of us who had the privilege to learn from her. Thank you, Miss Friar!



Kenya Hodges- is an Alumni of Jacob J. McClain High School from the graduating Class of 2013. During her early preparations for completing her Carnegie units from JJMH, Kenya began her collegiate preparatory classes at Holmes Community College in Goodman, Mississippi. This enabled her to familiarize herself with the collegiate expectations for success. Kenya was a proud member of the J.J. McClain High School marching band as a twirler. Upon graduating from JJMH, Kenya received a band scholarship from Alcorn State University where she represented the Braves as a Golden Girl. After one year at Alcorn State University, Kenya transferred to Mississippi State University where she continued her studies in the field of Agricultural Education. While attending MSU, her hours of studies were not in vain, Kenya was blessed to receive her Associate of Arts from Holmes Community College in December 2018. In 2019, Kenya received her Bachelors of Science from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in Agriculture Education from MSU. Her love for children enabled her to become employed with the Holmes County School District as an elementary teacher in the third grade. She enjoyed engaging with the young minds daily basis. Later, she worked as an inpatient/outpatient clerk with Mallory Community Health Center; having a working relationship with patients and staff throughout Holmes County. Her quest was not to end there. In February 2022, her dream was fulfilled by becoming a part of the United States Armed Forces. Kenya A. Hodges is now and for the past three years been a proud representative of the U. S. Air Force. She is honored to not only represent our Nation but her home town of Lexington, Mississippi.



Abbie Clark- Hi my name is Abbie Williams. I attended J. J. McClain High School where I had the pleasure of being on the twirler squad under the direction of lovely aunt, Lula Friar from 2001 to 2008. I carried on my talent to Alcorn State University where I received a twirling scholarship. My aunt inspired me to live by the scripture, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)



Joslyn Epps is a 2002 High School Graduate of J.J. McClain High. Aspirations of being a physical therapist led her to Alcorn State University, where she obtained a B.S. in Biology. Currently, she is an Assistant General Manager/ Training Coordinator for special venue concepts for Jackmont Hospitality. Along with her day-to-day job, she owns a hospitality consulting firm, Antidote Hospitality Group LLC. She assists restaurateurs in restructure, brand development, and efficiency. The most difficult and rewarding task is being the mother to her 3-year-old son Chioke Tamir. He leads a full life that makes sure she is always busy. She plans on tackling the insurance industry and expand her hospitality business to be the foundation of generational wealth for her family.

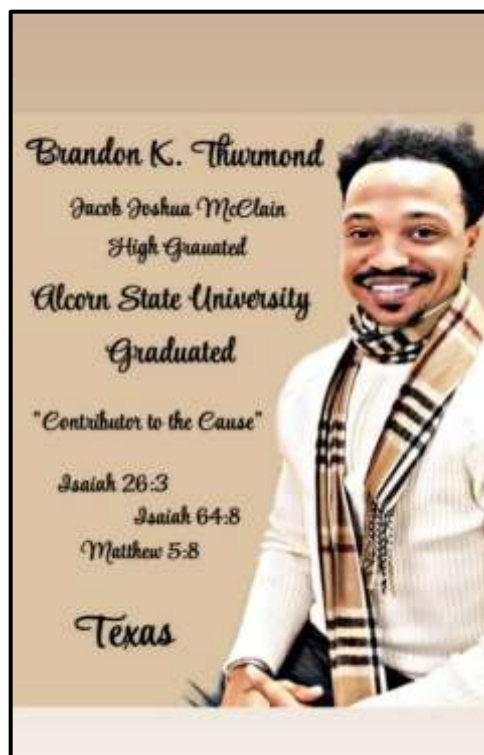
Ms. Friar's Twirlers Band Members and Supporters Give Back



My name is Kordel Carter. I am a 2018 graduate of Holmes County Central High School. I was Mr. HCCHS 2018-2019, a member of the marching band, and a participant in the tutoring program at the Community Students Learning Center. I also was a recipient of the CSLC Scholarship in 2018. Since then, I have obtained my Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Southern University in 2023, and most recently received my Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Louisiana State University Shreveport in May 2025. I currently serve as the Head Director of Bands and Fine Arts Director at St. Helena College and Career Academy in Greensburg, Louisiana. I am thankful for the mentoring, love, and support from Ms. Lula Friar and support from the Community Student's Learning Center throughout my journey.



Karl Carter is a graduate of Holmes County Central High School (HCCHS). He was a member of the HCCHS Marching band 2014-2017 under the guidance of band director, Stefan Mathis. He is currently the director of bands at Velma Jackson High School.



CSLC After-School & Scholarship Recipients Gives Back



Katlyn Greer is an experienced University of Georgia ambassador in Athens, Georgia. She is majoring in nutritional science and pre-dental. She enjoys facilitating field trips with kids from Clarke County School District. Katlyn volunteers regularly at Sparrows Nest Homeless Shelter and the UGA campus kitchen. She currently has a 3.94 GPA. Attended the CSLC Summer Enrichment Program and was a HIPPY graduate.



D'angela Meeks graduated with a Bachelor's degree in English Education from the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff in December, 2020. She lived and worked in a Oikinawa, Japan for several years. She is currently working for the Social Security Administration, enjoying time with family and friends and receiving the best that life has to offer. Attended the CSLC Summer Enrichment Program.



I am **Destynee Hemphill** who obtained an Associate of Applied Science degree in Physical Therapy. I've attended many camps and events with the CLSC. Being awarded a scholarship from CLSC in Ms. Lula Friar's honor was so special to me!! Even though she was my cousin but being able to carry on her legacy is major!! Now as I continue on with my life, I will continue my education at the University of Southern Mississippi!! Go Eagles!!



Meet **Charity Smith**, 22, a proud Lexington, Mississippi native and 2020 graduate of Holmes County Central High School. She recently graduated from Tougaloo College (2024) and now teaches 8th grade English at Highland Oaks Middle School in Memphis.

Charity is also the founder of EMPOWER her Faith, a virtual women's ministry, and is currently pursuing her graduate degree in education.

She credits the Community Students Learning Center for shaping her early years through tutoring and mentorship. "It's a joy to now give back to what once gave to me," she says. We're proud to celebrate Charity and all she continues to accomplish.

CSLC After-School & Scholarship Recipients Gives Back



My name is **Steven Burns Jr.**, and I was honored to receive a scholarship from the Community Student Learning Center (CSLC) in 2019. The scholarship helped me buy books for college, which made a big difference. Being part of the CSLC summer enrichment program also gave me important tools and skills that helped me succeed in school and beyond.

Thanks to that support, I went on to graduate from the University of Southern Mississippi with a degree in Cybersecurity and IT Networking. I'm now working in the IT field and continuing my education, currently pursuing my master's degree in Cyber Law at Texas A&M.

I'm truly grateful for everything the CSLC has done for me. In loving memory of Miss Lula, and the CSLC family, I just want to say thank you for believing in me and helping me build a better future.



Carlos Clark graduated from Holmes County Central High School in Lexington, Mississippi in May 2024 and graduated from Holmes Community College in Goodman, MS, May 2025 with a Technical Degree in Welding and Cutting Technology. His future plans are to work in his field of study very soon.



Tyrekus Mayze was the recipient of the Lula Mae Friar award. He is a graduate of Mississippi Delta Community College. Tyrekus is certified in Fiber Optic Construction.



Reginald Friar is 20 years old. Reginald is from Lexington. He graduated from Holmes County Central High School in 2023. After high school, he attended Delta Technical College, where he took a CDL class, and he graduated from Delta Technical College on May 2, 2024. Now, he works at Amazon and helps his dad haul cars, boats, tiny houses, RVs, and campers. He is also the Vice President/Driver for Friar Transportation. Reginald is a 2011 graduate of the HIPPY program.

CSLC After-School & Scholarship Recipients Gives Back



Olexis Haymon, a 28-year-old Family Nurse Practitioner, works at Mallory Community Health Center. She was a recipient of the CSLC scholarship year of 2015. The scholarship assisted her with financial obligations to further her education after graduating from Holmes County Central High School. “I am very grateful for the CSLC and the great works that is done for Holmes County and the youth,” she said.



Derrick Smith, 21, is a young professional with a clear vision and unstoppable drive. A proud native of Lexington, Mississippi, Derrick graduated from Holmes County Central High School, where he was known for his dedication both on the football field and in the classroom. After completing CDL school and earning his commercial driver’s license, Derrick began his career as a truck driver, demonstrating strong work ethic and discipline. In addition to his work on the road, he is also a skilled music engineer, using his creative talents to produce and refine sound in the studio. With his eyes set on the future, Derrick is currently preparing to enter the real estate industry—adding another powerful layer to his growing professional portfolio. Derrick is especially grateful to the Community Students Learning Center for laying the foundation of leadership, integrity, and determination that continues to guide his journey. Their investment in his growth has helped shape him into the man he is today. From trucking to music and soon real estate, Derrick Smith is a young man on a mission—committed to excellence, growth, and making a lasting impact.



Keyon Friar, Jr. is a 2024 graduate of Holmes County Consolidated School. Upon graduating from high school Keyon further his education at Holmes Community College where he recently graduated with a degree in Auto Collision Repair. He plans to continue his studies in Auto Repair Collision in hopes of one day opening his own Auto Repair Service business.

CSLC After-School & Scholarship Recipients Gives Back



Crystal B. Southern was a CSLC Scholarship Award recipient. She attended University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. She majored in Biology with double minors in Chemistry and Spanish. She is currently employed at Holmes Community College in administration.



I am **Shankeya Cobbins**, a winner of the CSLC Scholarship Awards Essay Competition. I am currently working at the Wisconsin Department of Revenue as a Revenue Agent. I specialize in collections to ensure taxpayers are compliant in filing their taxes and making payments. I also handle accounts for delinquent taxpayers and provide customer service to answer any questions that taxpayers may have in regards to their personal taxes and tax law.



Cierra L. Pickens was a winner of the CSLC Scholarship Award recipient. Ceirra Pickens attended Jackson State University. She currently works at the Mississippi Department of Revenue.



I am **Kareem Spann**, a former student of the Community Students Learning Center. Married, I am the parent of four. I hope my children will also benefit from CSLC's enriching programs. I am currently employed at Nissan and would like to express my gratitude to the Community Students Learning Center staff for their contribution to my success.

CSLC-HIPPY Fund Fest and Other Reflections



CSLC-HIPPY Fund Fest and Other Reflections



Recognition and Special Thanks to Corporate Supporters/Community Donors

BankPlus is proud to have partnered with Community Students Learning Center (CSLC) for over 15 years. Our shared commitment to enrich lives and build strong communities has made this collaboration especially meaningful.

While our work with CSLC began through the Affordable Housing Program, we have also proudly supported the HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Parents of Youngsters) Program for more than a decade. HIPPY equips parents with the tools and confidence to become their child's first teacher—an approach that aligns closely with our mission.

We fondly remember the dedication of Lula Friar, CSLC's former Education Coordinator, whose passion for early childhood education helped shape the program's local success.

Her vision lives on through the achievements of the students and families who have benefited from HIPPY in Holmes County.

Thanks to this program, hundreds of students have successfully progressed through elementary school, middle school, high school, and even college—milestones that might not have been possible without HIPPY's early foundation.

BankPlus remains committed to this program in Lula's memory and in celebration of the continued educational progress it fosters. We applaud CSLC for their lasting impact and are honored to support their efforts.



In 2012, BANKPLUS presented a check to the Community Students Learning Center in the amount of \$5,000 to support the organization's Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program.

*Recognition and Special Thanks
to Corporate Supporters/Community Donors*



Wal-Mart Donated \$1,000



Entergy Donated \$2,500



**Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church
23040 MS-17, Lexington, MS 39095**

Pastor Walter Eskridge, Jr.

Service starts every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Service starts every 2nd & 4th Sundays at 8:30 a.m.



**Mt. Olive MB Church
53 Rosebank Mt Olive Road**

Lexington, MS 39095

Bishop Raymond T. Carter, Pastor

*Recognition and Special Thanks
to Corporate Supporters/Community Donors*



IN HONOR OF THE LATE LULA FRIAR

Sponsor: Lawrence McKennie
662-739-9057



*Recognition and Special Thanks
to Corporate Supporters/Community Donors*



Leslie Greer, Owner



Ivey Stokes, Founder



Philip Boyd, Owner

*Recognition and Special Thanks
to Corporate Supporters/Community Donors*

- Congressman Bennie Thompson
 - Attorney Bryant Clark
 - Sam Buchanan
 - Michael Brown Fresh Start
 - Earline Wright Hart
 - Lillie Benson
 - Lawrence McKinney
 - DC Riders
 - Hubert Hudson
 - Lonnie Hoover
 - Selma Anderson
 - Johnny Durham
 - Don Spann
 - Louise Shavers- NCDA
 - Donald and Valorie Young
 - Sinatra and Kimberly Clayton
 - Evelyn Lloyd
 - Michael Jackson
 - Rosemary Timms
 - Zenobia Cockrell
 - Leroy Riley
 - Loloverne Williams
 - LaTannica Friar and Derrick Hodges
 - Compro Tax Dudley
 - Pastor Danny Johnson
 - Porter and Sons Funeral Home
 - Mr. & Mrs. Tracy Harris
 - Beth Flower Shop
 - Supervisor James Young
 - Supervisor Steve McClellan
 - Sherri Reeves
 - King Riders
 - Ethel Bailey
 - Willie McGriggs
 - Cordell Walker
 - Help Meet, LLC
 - Durant Mayor John Haynes
 - Randy and Rochelle Webster
-
- Earl Blackmon & Judge Jannie Lewis-Blackmon
 - Mississippi/Tennessee Travelers Club (Robert Williams)
 - Academic Technologies (Philip Boyd)
 - Poplar Springs United Methodist Church
 - Porche Frizell Dixon: In Honor of Lauree Frizell
 - J.D. Harmon
 - Janie Friar



Gwendolyn Boyd,
CSLC Receptionist
folding HIPPY Fund
Fest Booklets

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

For your past, present and future generosity to our programs and services



We extend our deepest gratitude to each of you. To our business partners, car-truck-and-motorcycle clubs and enthusiasts, former students, friends, churches, and community supporters—thank you! Your generosity, encouragement, and faithful support continue to uplift our efforts to serve CSLC HIPPY children and families in Holmes County and now, in Hinds County. Your belief in our vision and the legacy that CSLC HIPPY Coordinator, Ms. Lula Mae Friar, left behind has empowered us to provide vital programs and services to those in need.

- **Our Visionary Donors:**

Your financial contributions have fueled our CSLC HIPPY Program, enabling us to reach and serve more children and families.

- **Our Dedicated Staff/Volunteers:**

Your time, energy, talents, and skills have been invaluable in delivering our services and creating positive change.

- **Our Community Partners:**

Your collaboration and shared resources have strengthened our impact and expanded our reach within the community.

- We are especially grateful to **HIPPY USA** for its guidance and direction; to our amazing **CSLC HIPPY parents**, who entrust us with guiding their preschoolers on a path toward early learning success.



CSLC Founders Leslie & Beulah Greer

*As we move forward, please continue to stand with us! Be a part of our journey. Every contribution, large or small, helps sustain the CSLC HIPPY Program and ensures that our early learners are school-ready. For more than 22 years, the Community Students Learning Center, a non-profit organization, has served our communities partly through your kind support. Please continue. To donate, please visit: <https://www.communitystudentlearning.org> and click **Donate**. You may also make a check or money order payable to: "Community Students Learning Center."*

COMMUNITY STUDENTS LEARNING CENTER

333 Yazoo Street | Lexington, MS 39095

(662) 834-0905 | (662) 834-0906 | Email: communityle93550@bellsouth.net

OTHER PROGRAMS INCLUDE: Affordable Housing, Small Business Assistance, Community Involvement (STOP Grant), and Mental Health Awareness (ROAD Grant)