

The Rudolph W. Snowden Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc. (RWSMSF) was established and incorporated by Mu Nu Chapter on March 6, 1978, in the State of Maryland.



RWSMSF honors the memory of **Rudolph W. Snowden** who was the principal founder and a charter member of Mu Nu Chapter, an unincorporated association of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. RWSMSF aims to increase the number of African American males attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and to assist in the preservation of HBCUs by providing financial incentives to qualifying and deserving Montgomery County Public Schools (Maryland), African American male, graduating high school seniors enrolling at HBCUs.

RWSMSF annually considers scholarship applications from qualifying and deserving applicants who plan to attend HBCUs. Final issuance of scholarship awards is contingent upon award selectees providing verification of their enrollment from their chosen HBCU for the academic year immediately following their award selection.

The RWSMSF Board of Directors (the "Board") may annually select one or more awardees and award scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each. Awardees may apply their scholarships toward tuition, fees or other expenses.

RWSMSF is an authorized nonprofit in the State of Maryland and an IRS-approved section 501(c)(3) charitable organization eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions under Tax Identification No. 52-1102842.



Newsletter of the Rudolph W. Snowden Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.

July 2026

info@rwsmsf.org | www.rwsmsf.org



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Greetings friends, family, supporters and sponsors – one and all. On behalf of the RWSMSF Board of Directors and our Corporate Members, please accept this edition of “the Scholar”.

We continue into the summer as we steadily approach another school year beginning Fall 2026. We completed our 2026 scholarship cycle in June with a number of accomplishments for this year that included our most in annual scholarships (\$38,600), our most awardees (11) in a cycle, our most HBCUs (9) in a cycle, and the most HBCUs representing the most states (7) plus the District of Columbia for a cycle. With your help, we continue to make an impact.



This year also saw the establishment of several committees and the appointment of valued chairmen to lead key areas and efforts intended to help strengthen RWSMSF moving forward. We recognize and thank the Budget Chairman (and Immediate Past President) Robert J. Jamison, Jr. for his efforts in helping us to ensure sound fiscal management practices while also thanking Fundraising Chairman (and Vice President) Brandon Ledyard for leading several efforts that raised revenue to help ensure we can continue to provide meaningful financial support to amazing young scholars attending HBCUs. A special thank you to Technology Chairman Bro. Weyden Wedderburn for his re-design of the RWSMSF logo and helping to deploy our first electronic scholarship application.



I invite you to continue to participate in the positive impact that RWSMSF is having by supporting our various fundraising initiatives. We especially appreciate recurring donors who commit to making automatic monthly donations that add up over the course of the year for a significant impact. Please visit our website for more information and to donate. Thank you and continued blessings.

Sincerely,

Troy

Troy Manigault | President | RWSMSF

LEADERSHIP | The Board

The following are the RWSMSF Board of Directors members and the Committee Chairmen. The Board is made up of elected officers while the chairman are appointed by the President from among the members of the RWSMSF Corporate Membership – i.e., Mu Nu Chapter volunteers. The RWSMSF Corporate Members are the financial members of Mu Nu Chapter (Montgomery County, MD), an unincorporated association of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

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SCHOLARSHIP

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TECHNOLOGY

Bro. Weyden Wedderburn

HISTORY | “JUNETEENTH”: A CELEBRATION OF REMEMBRANCE



RWSMSF again hosted a *Juneteenth* fundraising effort to help raise monies for scholarships. We thank all who donated and continue to support us by providing financial assistance to deserving students while helping to support HBCUs. Read about *Juneteenth* below.

Excerpt following from the National Museum of African American History & Culture website.

Freedom's Eve and Watch Night Services

On “Freedom’s Eve,” or the eve of January 1, 1863, the first Watch Night services took place. On that night, enslaved and free African

Americans gathered in churches and private homes all across the country, awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. At the stroke of midnight, prayers were answered as all enslaved people in Confederate States were declared legally free.

Union soldiers, many of whom were black, marched onto plantations and across cities in the south reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation spreading the news of freedom in Confederate States. Only through the [Thirteenth Amendment](#) did emancipation end slavery throughout the United States.



Emancipation Day celebration, June 19, 1900 held in "East Woods" on East 24th Street in Austin. Credit: Austin History Center.

Understanding the Significance of June 19, 1865

But not everyone in Confederate territory would immediately be free. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control. As a result, in the westernmost Confederate state of Texas, enslaved people would not be free until much later.

Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state, were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "[Juneteenth](#)," by the newly freed people in Texas.

OUTREACH | HBCU College Fairs

RWSMSF continued to participate in several college fairs annually. Since the January 2026 newsletter edition, we again participated in the annual Montgomery County Public Schools HBCU College Fair on February 13th. We shared our scholarship information and discussed the application process with students and parents.

We look forward to participating in additional college fairs this year, including those hosted by Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Rockville, MD and Kingdom Fellowship AME in Calverton, MD. Please visit their respective websites for more details concerning dates, registration and more.



SCHOLARS | 2026 Scholarship Awardees

We are pleased to announce this year's **Scholarship Awards** to the following for a combined total of **\$38,600**. We look forward to the day they transition from HBCU students to HBCU graduates.

Congratulations...



JOSEPH CECIL
Seneca Valley H.S.
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Major: Agri-business



MATTHEW DUKES-ATKINS
Springbrook H.S.
Howard University
Major: Finance



NICHOLAS ESPY
Winston Churchill H.S.
Howard University
Major: Computer Information Systems



JOSHUA GIBSON
Richard Montgomery H.S.
Howard University
Major: Electrical Engineering



JACKSON HAYTER
Walter Johnson H.S.
Morehouse College
Major: Civil Engineering



CALEB KIMBALL
Sherwood H.S.
Hampton University
Major: Accounting



SCHOLARS | 2026 Scholarship Awardees (continued)

And congratulations...



TAEVION McMULLIN

James Hubert Blake H.S.

Morgan State University

Major: Screen writing & Animation



NATHI MNCUBE

Springbrook H.S.

North Carolina A&T University

Major: Mechanical Engineering



CHRISTIAN MUSGROVE

Northwest H.S.

Xavier University

Major: Biology (Pre-med)



CARTER SWAIN

Paint Branch H.S.

Tuskegee University

Major: Aviation Science



OBATUNDE WILLIAMS

Springbrook H.S.

Lincoln University

Major: Biochemistry



SCHOLARS | 2026 Graduates

We are pleased to announce this year's [Graduation Awards](#) to the following in a combined total of **\$2,000**. The only thing better than being an HBCU student is being an HBCU graduate.

We congratulate HBCU Graduates...



EDWIN LEWIS II

2022 RWSMSF Awardee | Northwest H.S.

Morehouse



Bachelor's | Software Engineering (major) &
Mathematics (minor)
Graduated Cum Laude

"My experience at Morehouse was truly incredible. The friendships I built, the knowledge I gained, and the lessons I learned have had a lasting impact on me. I am especially grateful for the scholarship support I received, which made it possible for me to attend Morehouse and have such a meaningful experience. The opportunities and growth I experienced over the past four years would not have been possible without that support."



MYLES MANOR

2022 RWSMSF Awardee | Watkins Mill H.S.

North Carolina A&T



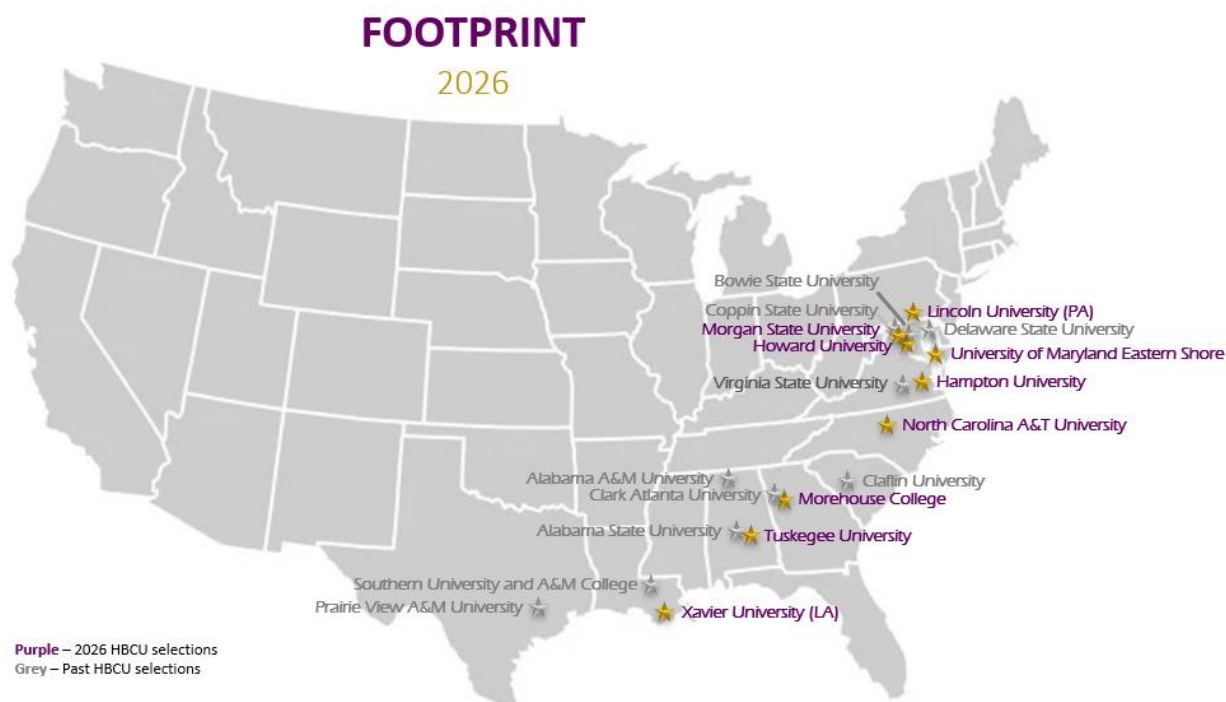
Bachelor's | Journalism & Mass Communications
(major) | Entrepreneurship (minor)
Graduated Magna Cum Laude

"It's hard to convey the true impact of the HBCU experience... I'm proud to call myself an alumnus of an HBCU with a legacy of excellence."



FOOTPRINT | HBCU Awardee Selections

The 2026 scholarship awards cycle marked an exceptional year with eleven (11) incredible scholars who selected nine (9) HBCUs across six (6) states plus the District of Columbia (**see** SCHOLARS) – Alabama (*Tuskegee University*), District of Columbia (*Howard University*), Georgia (*Morehouse College*), Louisiana (*Xavier University*), Maryland (*Morgan State University* & *University of Maryland Eastern Shore*), North Carolina (*N.C. A&T State University*), Pennsylvania (*Lincoln University*), and Virginia (*Hampton University*).



We are exceptionally proud to be able to continue to assist young African American males and our HBCUs. YOU help to make it possible through your financial support and your prayers. YOU are making an impact. Thank you!!

CONGRATULATIONS | Leadership Uplifting Youth by Improving Education



We offer our hearty CONGRATULATIONS to Board member Bro. Dr. Shawn Joseph on his appointment in May 2026 as the permanent superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS). He had served as Interim Superintendent since July 2025.

Bro. Dr. Joseph leads PGCPS, Maryland's second-largest school system, with a track record of success. His long list of accomplishments just during his interim capacity leading PGCPS includes reducing the number of teacher vacancies by more than 50%, finalizing three important union contracts, dramatically reducing immunization noncompliance cases and restoring nearly \$20 million in state funding, and partnering with local HBCU Bowie State University to streamline admissions that led to more than 600 scholarships totaling \$1.6 million for students.

CONGRATULATIONS | Leadership... (continued)

Bro. Dr. Joseph's public education experience exceeds 30 years in such roles as teacher, principal, district leader and superintendent. He formerly served as superintendent of Metro Nashville Public Schools in Tennessee, as well as the Seaford School District in Delaware. He is currently an assistant professor at Howard University, co-director of the AASA/Howard University Urban Superintendents Academy and author of "The Principal's Guide to the First 100 Days."

Bro. Dr. Joseph earned his doctorate in administration and policy studies from George Washington University. He earned a master's in reading education from Johns Hopkins University, and a bachelor's in English education from HBCU Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. CONGRATULATIONS to Bro. Dr. Joseph—our Board member and friend, and an avid support of RWSMSF.

DONATE | Please & Thank You!

The Board of Directors sincerely thanks all Mu Nu Brothers for their annual contributions to RWSMSF. The Mu Nu Foundation, Inc., (MNF) as a nonprofit organization established by the Mu Nu Chapter annually donates \$40 each based on the number of financial members of the Mu Nu Chapter. We thank MNF for their continued support of our young African-American males and our HBCUs. And thank you to the financial Brothers of Mu Nu Chapter who make the MNF donation possible.



Please continue to support and refer others to support our African-American males in their pursuit of higher education and supporting our beloved and important HBCUs by donating and asking your family and friends to join/match your donations via any of the following methods:

- Zelle: info@rwsmsf.org
- Cash App: [RW SNOWDEN](#)
- Check: Payable to "RWSMSF, Inc." and mailed to
R.W. Snowden Memorial Scholarship Fund, Inc.
P.O. Box 10607
Silver Spring, MD 20914

RWSMSF offers the option for recurring donations that allow you to spread your donation across a small extended time period to have a large impact at the end of the year.

Please remember that RWSMSF is an authorized nonprofit in the State of Maryland and an IRS-approved [section 501\(c\)\(3\) charitable organization](#) eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions under Tax Identification No. 52-1102842. Donors receive a thank you notification that can be used with annual tax filings. Thank you in advance for your donations.

MAJOR EVENT | 2026 “HBCU Homecoming Fish Fry” Fundraiser

Get hooked on great food for an even greater cause!

Join us for the RWSMSF “HBCU Homecoming Fish Fry” Fundraiser on [Saturday, September 26, 2026](#), from [1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.](#) at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 608 N. Horners Lane, Rockville, MD.

Enjoy a delicious meal featuring fried fish, green beans, mac and cheese, dessert, and a drink, while helping to raise monies to provide scholarships for young men pursuing their education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Meal Prices are \$25 each for Advance Purchase and \$30 each On-site Purchase (while supplies last). You may purchase meals in advance by scanning the QR code on the flyer and help make a lasting impact on the next generation of HBCU scholars. If you wish to donate in lieu of purchasing meals, then please visit our website at www.rwsmsf.org or see the **Donate** section that follows in this newsletter.

Contact Major Events Chairman Vershaun Terry at (443) 763-0968 or Fundraising Chairman Brandon Ledyard at (704) 430-7090 if you have questions. Thank you in advance for your support. We look forward to serving you, because...

Together we're serving more than a meal, we're investing in futures.