



Presents

the

Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr.



Research & Leadership Fellowship

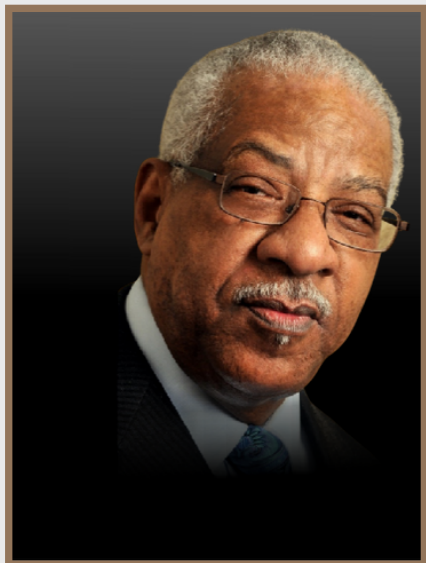
You have take a chance on some things... You have to have a vision for what it might be, what it could look like, what perhaps it ought to be like...

-Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr.

Sponsorship Packages and Opportunities

Calvin Briggs: (c) 205.792.2826, (e) cbriggs@southernstemcenter.org

About Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr.



Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr., the founding president of Clark Atlanta University, earned his B.S. degree from Wiley College, Summa Cum Laude and his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Chicago. He studied with Dr. P. E. Eaton and they were the first chemists to synthesize Cubane in 1964. The synthesis of Cubane, a highly strained cubic carbon-based molecule, was thought at one time to be impossible, much like the consolidation of Clark College and Atlanta University. However, Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. achieved impossible feats throughout his administrative, academic, and scientific career including, but not limited to, presidential appointments at West Virginia State College, Interim Chancellor of The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and Interim President of The Interdenominational Theological Center.

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About The TWCF

The Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Research & Leadership Fellowship Award (TWCF), will be awarded to a deserving student attending a Historically Black College or University (HBCU). The recipient must seek to engage in STEM research and demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities. The award will include a summer research experience with STEM industry and/or education partners or national research laboratories and access to an appointed STEM mentor to provide academic, social and career guidance.



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Event Details



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Location & Attire

The Atlanta Commerce Club
191 Peachtree St NE 49th Fl.,
Atlanta, GA 30303

Attire: Business/Business Casual



Date & Time

Thursday, October 19, 2023
5:00pm - 8:00pm



Agenda

Welcome & Overview
Introductions & Greetings
Cole Family Remarks
Donation Presentations

Event Highlights

The 2nd Annual Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Research & Leadership Fellowship Reception brings awareness and opportunities to support the need to increase participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) college and career pathways among minoritized populations. More specifically, to support emerging graduate students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) seeking graduate degrees in STEM fields.

In 2022, Judge Brenda Cole and Thomas W. Cole, III, in partnership with the Southern Center for Broadening Participation in STEM, launched the Inaugural Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Research & Leadership Fellowship. The Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr., Innovative Leadership, Education and Science Research Fellowship Award, will be awarded to a deserving student attending a Historically Black College or University (HBCU).

The recipient must seek to engage in STEM research and demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities. The award will include a summer research experience with STEM Industry and/or education partners or national research laboratories and access to an appointed STEM mentor to provide academic, social and career guidance.



Thomas W. Cole, III (L), Micah & Novan Briggs (C), Judge Brenda Cole (R). October 12, 2022
Inaugural Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Fellowship Reception



Judge Brenda Cole & Dr. Calvin Briggs; October 12, 2022

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Sponsorship Packages



The Southern Center offers 5 levels of sponsorship for the Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Research & Leadership Fellowship. Each level provides its sponsors with reception tickets and sponsorship acknowledgments.



Platinum Sponsorship \$10,000

Reception Tickets (10)
Custom Art (16x20 Canvas) (2) | Lapel Pins
Primary Logo Placement: Website | Event Literature |
Social Media | Correspondences | Invitations |
Marketing Reel



Gold Sponsorship \$5,000

Reception Tickets (6)
Custom Art Print 16x20 Canvas | Lapel Pins
Secondary Logo Placement: Website | Event Literature
Social Media | Marketing Reel



Silver Sponsorship \$2,500

Reception Tickets (4)
Custom Art Print 16x20 Canvas | Lapel Pins
Base Logo Placement: Website | Event Literature



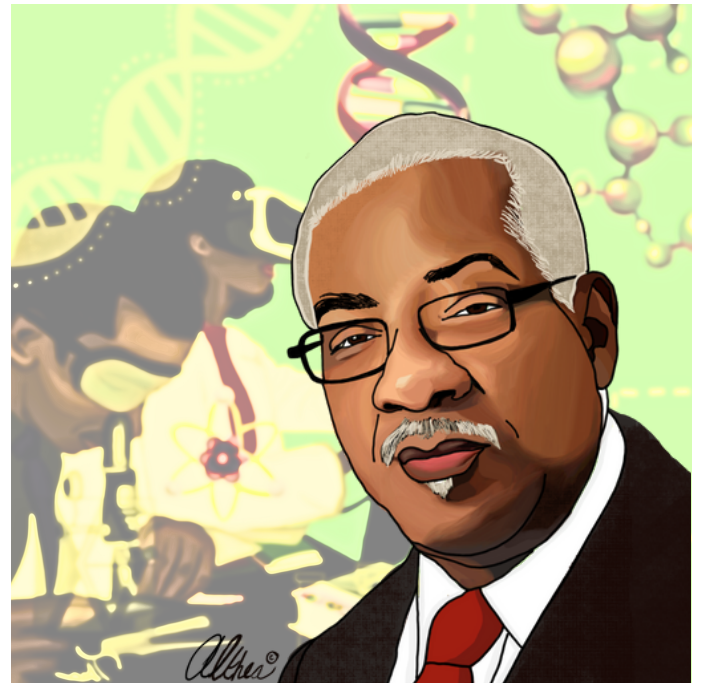
STEM Champion Sponsorship \$1,500

Reception Tickets (2)
Art Print (2) | Lapel Pins
Sponsorship acknowledgement on website and
event literature



STEM Advocate Sponsorship \$500

Reception Tickets (2)
Lapel pins (2)
Sponsorship acknowledgement on website and event
literature



Custom art created by Micah Althea Briggs
"A Vision for the Future"

Payment Methods

(credit cards, debits, PayPal)

Sponsorships and donations can be purchased through the online payment portal via the Center's website: www.southernstemcenter.org and click "Donate."

Checks can be mailed to:

The Southern STEM Center
1 Chase Corporate Center, Suite 400
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

Contact

For further information contact
Dr. Calvin Briggs:
(e) cbriggs@southernstemcenter.org
(c) 205.792.2826

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CALVIN BRIGGS, ED.D.

Founder & President
Southern STEM Center

The Southern Center for Broadening Participation in STEM is a minority-led non-for-profit organization, established to enhance education research, leadership, and policy to “create new possibilities in STEM college and career pathways for all students,” specifically, the underserved, underprepared, and marginalized. The Southern Center promotes STEM research and workforce development, creating a culture of innovation, collaboration, and academic excellence among K-20 education, industry, higher education, policy makers, and state education agencies.

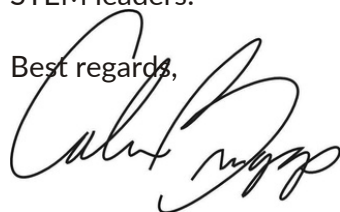
Currently, The Southern Center works to increase student interest, recruitment, and retention in STEM college and career pathways. We are building capacity among students of color who will enter into the STEM pipeline. Statistics show that students of color, particularly African Americans, are underrepresented in STEM professions across the nation ([National Science Foundation](#)). This is due to a variety of factors that include environmental and socio-economic barriers, such as, lack of exposure to STEM careers and mentorship. In addition, a lack of system support in the area of academic and career advisement, and instruction (i.e., guidance counselors, professional mentors, systemic bias, and racism).

People of color are especially underrepresented in STEM graduate enrollment, according to an article by the [Diversity in Higher Education](#). The TWCF will enhance STEM undergraduates transition into graduate school attracting qualified students of color. Likewise, the Fellowship award will lessen the financial burden of those students who will be entering the graduate school pipeline.

Studies show that the typical full-time, year-round STEM worker earns approximately \$54,745 while a similarly educated non-STEM worker earns \$40,505, or 26% less, ([Pew Research](#)). Our programs, [STEM Enrichment Experience \(SEE\)](#), [STEM Virtual Scholar and Medical Scholarship Award](#), and the [STEM Bridge Programs](#) provide in-and-out of school enrichment opportunities increasing student interest and retention in STEM college and career pathways. The Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Research and Leadership Fellowship will bridge the STEM research and leadership gap for undergraduates seeking a graduate education in STEM.

As a 1993 initiate of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., a 1994 graduate of Clark Atlanta University, a mathematician, and a STEM advocate, establishing the Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr., Research and Leadership Fellowship is of great significance and priority. Dr. Cole was a mentor, a father-figure, my fraternity brother, and our “Forever President.” Join me in furthering his legacy through the next generation of STEM leaders.

Best regards,



Our Team



Calvin Briggs, Ed.D. | CEO & Founder

AA, Art, Brookdale Community College, 1990
 BA, Art & Mathematics, Clark Atlanta University, 1994
 M.Ed., Secondary Mathematics Education, Alabama State University, 2005
 Ed.D., Educational Leadership, Policy, and Law, Alabama State University, 2014

Dr. C. Briggs is a STEM advocate promoting data-driven policy and instructional best practices that increase interest, retention completion, and leadership in STEM college and career pathways



Samantha Elliott Briggs, Ph.D. | Vice President of Research and Institutional Programs

BA, Early Childhood Education, Clark Atlanta University, 1994
 MA, Women & Gender Studies, University of Alabama, 2001
 Ph.D., Instructional Leadership in Social and Cultural Studies, University of Alabama, 2008

Dr. S. Briggs has 30 years experience as an urban schoolteacher, university professor, curriculum writer, grant writer, external evaluator, education consultant, director of federal and non-profit education programs, and vice president of a cultural museum and institute. Her research focus includes gender, race, HBCUs and STEM.



Jamil Elliott | COO

BA, Business Administration and Management, Morehouse College, 2008
 MBA, Supply Chain and Operations Management, Georgia State University, 2012
 Certified Six Sigma Green Belt - American Society for Quality License# 13159

Jamil's project management and logistic experiences with Ford Motors, Home Depot, and Illumina, Inc. support the Southern Center's mission to provide substantive STEM programming and leadership.



Mrs. Delphine Thirkill | Mathematics & Outreach Specialist

BA, Mathematics, University of Missouri
 MA, Mathematics, University of Missouri

A Certified Mathematics teacher, Mrs. Thirkill's ability to engage students and increase their knowledge and understanding of mathematics is fueled by her love for mathematics and all things STE. Mrs. Thirkill's infectious personality makes her an essential part of the Southern Center's Team.



Micah Briggs | Senior Graphic Designer

BA, Fine Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2019
 Driven by her desire to create, Micah has led creative projects for the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Complete College America, the American Society of Chemistry, and HELLO TANA



Calvin Briggs, Jr. | Visual Designer

BA Candidate, Mass Media Arts | Film, Clark Atlanta University, 2025
 Calvin continues to hone his videography, photographic, and editing skills as a student at Clark Atlanta University. His credits include: Podcast Videographer/Recurring Guest, *Nerd-ish*; Research Intern, Alabama Public Television assisted in the creation of Emmy-nominated documentary, *Shuttlesworth*.

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The Southern Center is a 501(c)3 Organization. All donations support the Center's programs, operations, and Initiatives.

- Fellowships
- Summer Enrichment
- Outreach
- Research
- Policy Guidance



Servant Leadership

Data-driven decisions that provide co-designed community solutions



Diversity & Equity

Increasing engagement opportunities for underrepresented populations in STEM college & career pathways



Advocacy

Advocating for policies, resources, and culturally responsive learning opportunities

