

SECURE THE VOTE



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Young Men of Honor Travel Historic Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor



I wanted to take a moment to share a powerful and life-changing experience that our young men of Young Men of Honor recently had. What began as a simple train ride from Savannah to Charleston became so much more—it

became a journey into identity, culture, and purpose. As our young men traveled along the historic Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, they were able to connect with a legacy that is deeply rooted in strength, resili-

ence, and history. This experience allowed them to see themselves reflected in the stories of those who came before them. During the trip, they visited the International African American Museum, where history came alive in a mean-

ingful and impactful way. They also stood on the sacred grounds of Mother Emanuel AME Church, where they reflected on faith, unity, and perseverance.

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MiQuan Green Announces Candidacy for Georgia House District 165

Savannah native, entrepreneur, and community leader MiQuan Green has officially announced his candidacy for Georgia House District 165, launching a campaign centered on expanding economic opportunity, supporting working families, and delivering community-driven leadership rooted in real-life experience.

Green's story began long before recognition and business success. At just 12 years old, he started his first business to help support his family. That determination grew into what is now MiQuan Green Enterprises, the parent company of MGreen Productions, MGreen Staffing, and MGreen Creative, companies that have earned statewide respect and recognition, including honors from Georgia Public Broadcasting.

A former Career and Technical Student Organization State President, Green has spent years building bridges between students, educators, working families, business leaders, and elected officials across Georgia and throughout the country.

"I'm running because I know what it feels like to face real challenges and still keep pushing forward," said Green. "I've built businesses from the ground up, created jobs, and worked alongside families trying to make ends meet. Now I'm ready to take that same commitment to the State Capitol."

Green's leadership



MiQuan Green

has earned recognition from national and state leaders including Barack Obama, Nathan Deal, and Brian Kemp, reflecting his ability to bring people together across communities and across differences.

His campaign will focus on expanding support for small businesses, strengthening workforce development, investing in safer and stronger neighborhoods, and building stronger connections between government and the communities it serves.

The campaign is now underway, with plans for grassroots engagement across District 165 as supporters begin organizing neighborhood by neighborhood.

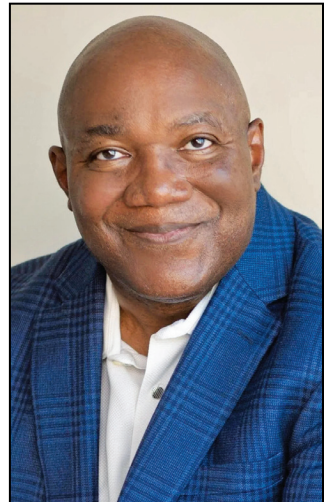
For more information, visit greenforga.com.

Historic Savannah Foundation to Host Panel Discussion About New Architecture in Savannah's Historic Districts on Thursday, April 16th



Ellen Harris

Historic Savannah Foundation will host a special panel discussion titled "Designing the Next Layer of History: New Architecture in Savannah's Historic Districts" as part of the 2026 HSF Lecture Series, "The People, Places and Stories That Define Savannah." The panel discussion will



Shedrick Coleman

take place on Thursday, April 16th at the Murray C. Perlman and Wayne C. Spear Preservation Center, located at 323 E. Broughton St. in Savannah, GA. Attendees are invited to attend a wine reception at 5:30 PM followed by the panel discussion at 6 PM.

Moderated by Ellen



Neil Dawson

Harris of Ethos Preservation, this panel discussion will feature architects Shedrick Coleman of ShEDDArchitecture, Neil Dawson of LS3P, and Patrick Phelps of Hansen Architects. The panel will explore the opportunities and constraints of designing new construction in Savannah's



Patrick Phelps

historic districts and consider whether the review process can evolve to produce more thoughtful buildings that contribute to Savannah's architectural legacy.

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Gold Dome And Beyond: Injury Time

By League of Women Voters of Georgia



The 2026 legislative session ended in the wee hours of Friday morning with so much unresolved it may take a special session to finish things off. A lot of little things were passed but several big ones were never called to a vote.

Elections Bills Fail

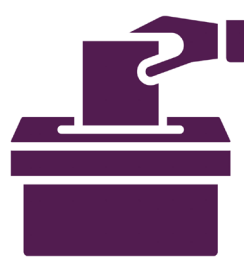
SB214 and HB960 both failed to get a vote. Both bills would move Georgia to hand-marked ballots but the first on a more reasonable timeline, and the second with a broader, more excessive mandate. The changes in SB214 would have given everyone time to implement them, only taking effect in 2028. HB960 included provisions that virtually invited legal action and a rushed deadline to change out voting equipment and redesign ballots. Now, legislators will either have to hold a special session to decide what to do or the Secretary of State's office will have to figure out how to remove QR codes from ballots and change the scanning procedure by July 1st of this year with no money allocated. Meanwhile SB189 which

passed in 2024 will face continued court challenges of its own. A federal judge dismissed a lawsuit challenging provisions in that law that make it easier to challenge voter registrations, and which potentially disenfranchise unhoused voters.

Either way, one clear lesson from this session and from the failed efforts to pass the SAVE Act in Congress says that some politicians intend to make it more difficult, more confusing and, potentially, more expensive to vote.

The session may have ended but the fight to protect free, fair and open elections has not.

Visit The Savannah Tribune's website for the full report from the League of Women voters of Georgia at <https://bit.ly/4bVN0qx>.



SSU Alumna & Higher Education Leader Dr. Quianna Lavant to Serve as 2026 Honors Convocation Speaker

Savannah State University (SSU) is proud to announce that distinguished alumna and higher education leader Dr. Quianna Lavant will serve as the keynote speaker at SSU's annual Honors Convocation on Thursday, April 9th. The ceremony will take place at 9:30 AM in Tiger Arena on the SSU campus.

A 2015 graduate of Savannah State University and proud native of Albany, Georgia, Dr. Lavant currently serves as Dean of Students at Midlands Technical College in Columbia, S.C., where she leads strategic initiatives to enhance the student experience across eight campuses. Most notably, she spearheaded the development and launch of three campus food pantries to address food insecurity and better support student well-being beyond the classroom.

"Welcoming Dr. La-



Dr. Quianna Lavant

vant back to her alma mater is a significant moment for our campus community," said SSU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Marcus S. Cox. "Her journey from an SSU student to a transforma-

tive leader in higher education serves as a powerful example for our students. We are proud of her achievements and grateful she is returning to share her expertise and vision with our scholars."

As a first-generation college student, Dr. Lavant's professional journey includes impactful roles at Clark Atlanta University, Mercer University, Florida A&M University, and Albany Technical College. She was previously recognized as a member of the inaugural Savannah State University 40 Under 40 Class. She is also a noted TEDx speaker and executive producer of TEDx Chancellors Creek.

"Savannah State helped shape not only who I am, but what I stand for, said Lavant. "As a first-generation student, I understand the power of opportunity and the responsibility that comes with it. My mission is to ensure that every student is not only given access, but is fully supported, seen, and empowered to succeed beyond what they thought possible."

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Effective Communication Between Parents and Professionals

Effective Communication Between Parents and Professionals will be presented by Maranda Porter on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 12:00 PM at St. Frances of Cabrini Catholic Church Parish Hall, 11500 Middleground Road, Savannah, Georgia 31419.

Learn how to navigate Georgia's NOW and COMP Waivers in this informative workshop designed for families and caregivers of individuals with developmental disabilities. We'll break down what these waivers are, who qualifies, how to apply, and what services they cover. Attendees will gain practical guidance on the application process, understanding the waiting list, and how to advocate for the supports their loved ones need to thrive.



Maranda Porter

Please register at <https://bit.ly/4c5Dz6G>.



Saad & Shaw



Set. Ready. Go. – Not So Fast!

What To Look Out For When Seeking A Nonprofit Fundraising Job

A career in fundraising is often rewarding, with opportunities for growth and advancement. But finding the "right" position can be a challenge. As with so many professions, the right position differs from person to person. The ideal job for one can be a nightmare for another. Variables that influence one's experience include personal temperament, area of expertise, management style, size and type of organization or institution, culture, geography, and more. We offer the following as suggestions for things to look out for when seeking a nonprofit fundraising position.

Take the time to do your homework before committing to a new position or organization. Research as much as you can prior to your interviews so you can ask appropriate questions and listen for information and insights that will inform your negotiations and decision. Here are the types of things you want to be aware of before you sign the dotted line.

Is the board functional or dysfunctional? Especially in the area of fundraising. Does the organization have a culture of fundraising that includes working with volunteer fundraising leaders, especially members of the board? What is the turnover rate for volunteer leadership and staff? Are they looking for one person to raise all the money so others can do the important work? How do you know this? Are your sources reliable?

Are you able to understand the CEO's or executive director's vision for the organization or institution, and the path they are seeking to chart? Do they have fund development experience? If yes, what type? Are they comfortable cultivating and soliciting major donors? Do they know how to set fundraising goals, manage

progress, and evaluate results? What are their expectations of you, and what resources will be provided to support your work? Related to this, is there a development team, or will you be the only full-time development staff within the organization? Were you offered the opportunity to meet with team member or board members during the interview? Are there well-defined roles and responsibilities for fundraising staff and board members? Is the interviewer willing to share information about their data management system and processes, and the technology available to support your work? What about the case for support? Is your potential employer working with a fundraising case? Does it clearly communicate fundraising priorities and related financial goals?

What do you know about the organization? What is the "word on the street" and what does an online search yield? Do you know how the giving community views the organization? Have they received grants from local philanthropists and public agencies? Do they have a history of lead gifts and major gifts? What about the actual work they engage in? Is the organization and its people respected? Are they making an impact? We recommend taking the time to learn as much as you can before you accept a position. Honestly assess both potential employer and what you will bring to the job. Don't let reputation, money, or benefits cloud your judgement.

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Savannah Native Leads Atlanta Lady Hawks to Gold and Statewide Honors

Savannah native Stefanie Batiste, Founder and Owner of the ATL Lady Hawks, is making history on and off the court. The Atlanta-based senior women's basketball team recently earned national recognition at the 2025 National Senior Games in Des Moines, Iowa, where the 50-54 division captured the gold medal in their division. The 55-59 team placed 6th in the nation, while the 60-64 team finished 4th.

Following their national success, the ATL Lady Hawks were honored at the Georgia State Capitol with a House Resolution and the prestigious Outstanding Georgia Award. The honors were presented by State Representative Carl Gilliard and the State of Georgia, recognizing the team's achievements and community impact.

The ATL Lady Hawks are more than a basketball team they represent a powerful movement of women over 50 who continue to compete at a high level while inspiring others to live active, purpose driven lives. The team includes former WNBA players and Olympians, showcasing elite talent and determination.

Rooted in sisterhood, the ATL Lady Hawks are built on unity, support, and a shared commitment to excellence both on and off the court.

This moment is especially meaningful for Savannah, as both Founder Stefanie Batiste and player Contressa Tolbert are proud Savannah natives and alumni of Alfred E. Beach High School.

Now, the team is preparing for the 2027 National Senior Games in Tulsa, Oklahoma, continuing their mission to break barriers and redefine what it means to age with excellence.



From Savannah to the national stage, the ATL Lady Hawks prove that passion, sisterhood, and greatness have no limits.

Historic Savannah Foundation to Host Panel Discussion About New Architecture in Savannah's Historic Districts on Thursday, April 16th

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Designing new buildings in Savannah's National Historic Landmark District – as well as other designated historic districts – requires architects to balance contemporary needs with the city's historic character. Navigating compatibility criteria and design standards can present challenges, raising important questions about creativity, context and regulation.

"We're thrilled to host this distinguished panel of local architects and preservationists for our April HSF Lecture," said Historic Savannah Foundation President and CEO Collier Neeley. "We cordially invite the community to join us for an important discussion about new construction in Savannah's historic districts."

Historic Savannah Foundation's 2026 Lecture Series continues in May with Kim

Trent discussing "Revolving Funds and the National Preservation Projects Network" on Thursday, May 21st as part of HSF's National Preservation Month celebration in May. For more information about upcoming HSF Lectures, please visit myhsf.org/events/lecture-series.

Historic Savannah Foundation's Lecture Series is open to the public. Reservations are recommended, as space is limited. Attendance is free for Historic Savannah Foundation members and \$15 for non-members. Both members and non-members may reserve their spot by visiting myhsf.org/events/lecture-series. Please contact Kendall Graham at kgraham@myhsf.org for more information about the HSF Lecture Series.



"THAT'S WHY I CHOOSE TO PRACTICE AT ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER."

E. Jerry Cohn Jr, MD FACS – Vascular Surgery

RUSS LANIER - STATESBORO, GA

Those who've seen Russ in one of his popular local bands would never know that he's a lifelong diabetic. After experiencing unusual foot pain, Russ was referred to Dr. E. Jerry Cohn who found the foot condition severe enough to warrant possible amputation.

Dr. Cohn performed an artery bypass in the region's only state of the art operating room with advanced endovascular imaging at St. Joseph's/Candler, which allows physicians optimal surgical options. Russ lost only his big toe. Today, Russ is grateful for the care he received at St. Joseph's/Candler and is back to wowing audiences throughout southeast Georgia.