

# STC Scholarship Recipients Recognized at 2026 Foundation Banquet

Southeastern Technical College (STC) scholarship recipients were honored at the annual Southeastern Technical College Foundation Scholarship Banquet held February 17, 2026, at the STC Economic Development Center in Vidalia.

STC President Larry Calhoun welcomed guests, congratulated students on their academic dedication, and expressed appreciation to the donors whose generosity makes scholarship opportunities possible.

Blythe Wilcox, Foundation Executive Director, said, “This evening gives us the opportunity to recognize and celebrate our scholarship recipients – students who have worked diligently. It is our privilege to honor them and those who make this possible.”

Wilcox highlighted the collective commitment behind the Foundation’s success. “I have the privilege of working alongside an outstanding group of Foundation Trustees who are deeply committed to helping STC students achieve their academic and career goals through scholarship support,” she stated. “I am sincerely grateful for their leadership, dedication, and service to STC and the Foundation.”

Wilcox expressed gratitude to donors. “Scholarships would not exist without the generous support of individuals and businesses in our service area, our trustees and board of directors, and STC employees,” she said. “We are especially proud that 100 percent of our full-time STC employees have consistently

contributed to the Foundation for many years. Each donor shares a common goal – to see our students succeed in their programs of study and go on to meaningful, successful careers.”

The following recipients attended the 2025-2026 STC Foundation Scholarship Banquet:

- ☐ **Bennette Andrews** – General Scholarship
- ☐ **Destini Bush** – Memorial Health Meadows Hospital Medical Scholarship
- ☐ **Diana Cabrera Nopal** – Gretchen K. Corbin Last Mile Scholarship
- ☐ **Tamia Cooper** – Part-Time Student Scholarship
- ☐ **Laura Delgado** – Gretchen K. Corbin Last Mile Scholarship; Summer Semester Scholarship
- ☐ **Sabrina McLeod** – Part-Time Student Scholarship
- ☐ **Wilder Peebles** – Gene Haas CNC Scholarship
- ☐ **Zykerriah Rogers** – Part-Time Student Scholarship
- ☐ **Kyleigh Rollins** – Gretchen K. Corbin Last Mile Scholarship
- ☐ **William Tanner** – Kathy Carpenter Memorial Scholarship
- ☐ **Callie Winfrey** – Kathy Carpenter Memorial Scholarship

Foundation Trustee Tres Herin, who represents Toombs County, and Elease Turner, who represents Emanuel County, attended, congratulated the scholars, and showed appreciation to all who support STC students. “This is one of our favorite events because we get to meet and celebrate students. We are blessed to be able to provide scholarships to our community,” said Herin.

Photo: STC Foundation Scholarship Recipients

(Back row, L-R) Laura Delgado, Bennette Andrews, Wilder Peebles, William Tanner, Destini Bush, Sabrina McLeod

(Front row, L-R) Diana Cabrera Nopal, Zykerriah Rogers, Tamia Cooper, Callie Winfrey, Kyleigh Rollins

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# **Southeastern Technical College Adult Education Names 2026 EAGLE Delegate and Teacher of the Year**

Southeastern Technical College (STC) is proud to announce two distinguished honors within its Adult Education Program: Alyssa Gailey has been selected as the College's 2026 EAGLE delegate, and Senecca Underwood has been named Adult Education Teacher of the Year.

## **Gailey Selected as 2026 EAGLE Delegate**

Alyssa Gailey has been chosen to represent Southeastern Technical College Adult Education at the Dinah Culbreath Wayne EAGLE Leadership Institute in Atlanta, Georgia. The Leadership Institute recognizes and honors students who have demonstrated superior achievement in adult education programs across the state.

Sponsored annually by the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) through its Office of Adult Education, the EAGLE (Exceptional Adult Georgian in Literacy Education) Leadership Institute celebrates outstanding adult learners.

Underwood nominated Gailey to serve as Southeastern Tech's 2026 EAGLE delegate. Both will represent STC Adult Education at the statewide competitions in March. The two-day event celebrating delegates' accomplishments also offers professional development

sessions focused on strengthening leadership, communication, and life management skills. Allison Barr, Instructional Lead for STC Adult Education, serves as STC's EAGLE coordinator.

"Adult education serves as a catalyst for social and economic mobility by equipping individuals with the skills and credentials necessary for meaningful participation in the workforce and higher education. The impact of adult education extends far beyond the classroom—it strengthens families, communities, and the broader economy," said Underwood.

"It has been a privilege to witness Mrs. Gailey's growth—not only academically, but in confidence, self-efficacy, and purpose. She inspires others through her strong work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to support her peers in the learning process."

Now a President's List student in Southeastern Tech's Business Management Program, Gailey is demonstrating her academic ability and a strong commitment to educational opportunities. She earned her GED in July 2025 and is working toward becoming a certified addiction recovery specialist.

"Obtaining my GED enabled me to pursue this goal," said Gailey. "I currently work at a nonprofit organization, where I continue to grow professionally while giving back to the community."

The EAGLE Award was the first statewide program in the nation to recognize and reward excellence among students enrolled in adult education. Since its inception in 1993, the program has recognized more than 1,600 outstanding students. In 2021, the TCSG State Board renamed the award the Dinah Culbreath Wayne EAGLE Award in memory of long-time adult education supporter and state board member Dinah Culbreath Wayne.

**Underwood Named Adult Education Teacher of the Year**

Senecca Underwood has been named STC's 2026 Adult Education Teacher of the Year.

Susan Cross, Executive Director of Adult Education, commented, "Our Adult Education Teacher of the Year and EAGLE student represent the very heart of Adult Education. Ms. Underwood's dedication, compassion, and belief in every learner create pathways to success, while our EAGLE recipient, Alyssa Gailey, reminds us that perseverance, courage, and a commitment to growth can change the course of a life. Together, they reflect what is possible when dedicated educators and determined students come together to pursue opportunity, purpose, and lifelong learning."

Underwood joined Southeastern Tech four years ago after serving two years as an adjunct instructor in the Adult Education Department. She teaches all High School Equivalency (HSE) subjects and English as a Second Language (ESL). She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Multidisciplinary Studies with minors in ESL and Bilingual Education, as well as a Master of Teacher Education. Fluent in Spanish, Underwood plays a vital role in expanding access to education for non-English-speaking individuals throughout the College's service area.

"Adult education plays a critical role in advancing workforce readiness, educational equity, and lifelong learning across our communities," said Underwood. "Supporting adult learners is both a professional responsibility and a profound privilege. Education is not defined by one's starting point, but by one's willingness to persist, adapt, and grow. I am honored to have been selected as the Adult Education Teacher of the Year. It's an honor to be recognized for the positive impact that HSE makes in the lives of students."

The Exceptional Adult Georgian in Literacy Education (EAGLE)

Program celebrates students who pursue excellence, demonstrating it in character, attitude, attendance, leadership, community involvement, and academic achievement. Adult Education teachers nominate students at the local level, and one student is selected to represent each program at the state Leadership Institute.

Individually and collectively, EAGLE delegates tell the Adult Education story in ways no one else can articulate. In addition to serving as role models and mentors, they serve as ambassadors for adult education.

With multiple ways to obtain a High School Equivalency, students may enroll in an Adult Education program at any time.

**Photo:** Southeastern Technical College's 2026 EAGLE delegate Alyssa Gailey and Adult Education Instructor Senecca Underwood, STC Adult Education Teacher of the Year 2026

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## **Hinman Scholars Named in STC Dental Hygiene Program**

On behalf of the Thomas P. Hinman Board of Trustees, Southeastern Technical College (STC) is pleased to announce that Dental Hygiene students Olivia Barnes of Tattnall County and Melanie Garcia of Toombs County have been selected as Hinman Scholars.

Scholarship recipients were selected based on scholastic

performance, earning the highest overall averages in their class. Each student received a \$500 scholarship.

“Receiving this award is an honor, and I’m deeply grateful for the recognition. It means so much to have my efforts acknowledged as I work toward a career in dental hygiene. This scholarship will assist me in continuing my education, and I am thankful for the encouragement and guidance from the faculty and staff who have supported me on this journey,” said Barnes.

Garcia said, “I’ve always been interested in the dental field, but my interest piqued after having my own children. Three of my four kids are missing their two front teeth. I wanted to be their personal ‘tooth fairy.’ I want to help people feel confident in their smiles, starting with my own family. I also value the flexible work schedule, which will allow me to balance career and family time. I am grateful to be part of the STC Dental Hygiene Program with hands-on, skills-based learning and a fast path to employment in a high-demand career. I am honored to be selected for this scholarship, which will help ease some expenses.”

The nonprofit Thomas P. Hinman Society has been granting scholarships to dental students since 1986, adding dental hygiene students in 1989. Since 2006, the Hinman Dental Society has awarded more than \$11 million in scholarships and financial support to universities and institutions associated with dental education.

The Hinman Dental Society sponsored its first Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting in 1912 with the motto, “Devotion to detail is the secret of success.”

Born in 1870, Thomas Hinman graduated from Southern Dental College in Atlanta with his Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1891. The following year, he joined the faculty of his alma mater and

became a professor of oral surgery. Dr. Hinman held high offices in many professional organizations, including the appointment by President Woodrow Wilson as the U.S. Delegate and Honorary Chairman of Section VIII of the Fourth International Congress of Dentists in London.

Today, the focus remains on providing the best possible continuing dental education for dentists and the entire dental team. The Hinman Dental Society comprises 800+ dentist members, primarily located in metropolitan Atlanta. The combination of outstanding education and hospitality has secured the position for the Hinman Dental Meeting as one of the top dental programs in the country. With the continued growth of meetings and exhibits, more than 13,000 dental professionals participated in the 2025 Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting.

Photo: Southeastern Technical College 2026 Hinman Scholars  
Melanie Garcia and Olivia Barnes

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## **Southeastern Tech 2026 Rick Perkins and GOAL Winners Announced**

Southeastern Technical College (STC) announces Linda Hairr, Cosmetology Instructor, as its Rick Perkins Instructor of the Year and Jessica Martinez-Ramos, an Associate of Science in Nursing Bridge Pathway student from Toombs County, as the

College's Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership (GOAL) winner.

The winners were announced by President Larry Calhoun at Southeastern Tech's 2026 Rick Perkins and GOAL Awards Ceremony on January 20, 2026, in Vidalia's Tattnall Auditorium.

"There's no higher honor than being nominated by peers. We have an exceptional facility and student body. Rick Perkins and GOAL are among the highest honors our college bestows. Mrs. Hairr and Ms. Martinez-Ramos will represent Southeastern Tech with excellence," said President Calhoun.

The Rick Perkins Award honors faculty for significant contributions to technical education through innovation and leadership in their fields. Associate of Science in Nursing Instructor Jennifer Gunter and Air Conditioning Instructor Vince Scott were finalists for instructor of the year.

"We are extremely proud of each of our nominees. We have amazing faculty. Each nominee is deserving, and each was chosen for that reason. Our faculty changes lives, one life at a time," said Teresa Coleman, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"For those who found me worthy, thank you. I'm humbled. At technical colleges, we teach skills that matter today and will matter tomorrow, from cosmetology to cybersecurity, to early childcare education, to healthcare. When asked why I chose to teach at a technical college, my answer is straightforward. Technical college changes lives. It changed my life. It changes the lives of my students, and it strengthens our communities and the industries that keep Georgia progressive. My own career is rooted in technical education. My journey began as a high school student in what we now know as Dual Enrollment. That experience gave me a skill set, but it also gave me confidence, direction, and a true understanding that technical education is powerful –

and it's transformative. Technical education also strengthens Georgia's economic future. Our state has become a hub for aerospace, automotive manufacturing, and film production. Those industries thrive because technical colleges supply a pipeline of highly skilled workers. When a student receives a technical certificate or diploma, it isn't just a personal win. It's an economic win for Georgia. It's a privilege for me to play a small part in that and witness students moving towards a better future," said Hairr.

GOAL, a statewide program of the Technical College System of Georgia, honors excellence in academics and leadership among the state's technical college students. GOAL winners are selected at each of the state's 22 technical colleges.

To be nominated, a student must have completed 12 credit hours, have at least a B average, and be in good standing at the College. Additionally, the student must recognize the impact of technical education on Georgia's economic health and be willing to serve as an ambassador for technical education.

"The GOAL program spotlights the outstanding achievements of students in Georgia's technical colleges. A screening committee of administrators at Southeastern Tech reviewed each nomination and conducted interviews with the students. After nominees were ranked, four finalists took part in another round of interviews and evaluations by a selection committee of representatives from local businesses and industry to compete to be Southeastern Tech's GOAL winner," according to Rebecca Ethredge, coordinator for the College's GOAL program. "That panel considered the students' academic achievement, personal character, leadership abilities, and enthusiasm for technical education."

Martinez-Ramos is a licensed practical nurse who works as a charge nurse at Oxley Park Health and Rehabilitation and also

works at Community Hospice. She is pursuing an Associate of Science in Nursing Degree through the Bridge Pathway and was nominated by Ginny Ennis. Martinez-Ramos stated, "Attending STC hasn't just shaped my career, but it has also expanded my worldview by allowing me to visit multiple countries and build connections with people from different backgrounds," saying that those experiences made her more open-minded, adaptable, and ready for the workforce. "Many thanks and much appreciation to everyone involved. I'd like to thank the judges who gave of their time to invest in students and wish all the nominees a successful future."

Southeastern Tech's other GOAL finalists were:

- Kelsey Adams, Healthcare Professional, from Wheeler County, nominated by Brad Hart

Adams has earned induction into two honor societies and says, "I chose technical education because it gives me a great education at an extremely affordable cost." Outside the classroom, Kelsey's interests include crocheting, singing, painting, bowling, reading, and spending time with family—activities that highlight her creativity and appreciation for balance in life

- Katie Bell, Dental Hygiene, from Jenkins County, nominated by Lori DeFore

Bell has been an STC student since the tenth grade at Jenkins County High School. She said, "I took advantage of the opportunity afforded to high school students to participate in STC's Dual Enrollment Program, and that enabled me to pursue my educational dreams and goals in a relatively short amount of time. Without the Dual Enrollment classes, I would not be 19 years old and enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program." Outside of her academic life, Bell enjoys reading, coaching softball, painting, and helping on the family farm.

- Jasmine Holmes, Associate of Science in Nursing, from Appling County, nominated by Rachel Sikes

Holmes said, " My career goals are grounded in helping others and providing assistance to newborn babies with special needs. Obtaining a nursing degree is not just about getting a job; it is about being able to serve others." While in high school, Holmes took Dual Enrollment classes, which allowed her to begin her declared major earlier than usual. She also earned a Phlebotomy Certification, which helped her get her current job. She enjoys reading, baking, and running.

Each TCSG (Technical College of Georgia) college representative will compete at the regional level in February, where three finalists from each of TCSG's three regions move to the state-level competition in Atlanta in April. State winners will serve as ambassadors for technical education in Georgia and as a voice of technical colleges, making many public appearances throughout the year. To make travel easier, the State GOAL Winner receives a grand prize of a new car provided by Kia Georgia, a statewide corporate sponsor of Georgia's GOAL program.

Chosen for GOAL recognition by their instructors were Olivia Barnes – Dental Hygiene student, Jaycee Bratcher – Dental Hygiene student, Melanie Garcia – Dental Hygiene student, Whitney Griffin – Associate of Science in Nursing student, Dylan Joyner – Welding and Joining Technology student, Rebecca Kirkland – Paramedicine student, Kathleen Perkins – Business Management student, Michele Turner – Health Care Management student, and Brooklyn Willis – Business Management student.

Photo: 2026 GOAL Student of the Year Jessica Martinez-Ramos, STC President Larry Calhoun, and 2026 Rick Perkins Instructor of the Year Linda Hairr

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# **Southeastern Tech Congratulates 2025 Fall Semester President's List**

Southeastern Technical College is proud to announce the 2025 Fall Semester President's List. These students earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher while enrolled in 12 or more credit hours for the semester.

**Appling County:** Shelli Carter, Isaac Edenfield

**Bulloch County:** Precious Swinney

**Candler County:** Kaitlyn Dekle, Mirian Nunez

**Dodge County:** Anthony Bedsole

**Effingham County:** Bralen Claridge

**Emanuel County:** Adriana Alvarez, Cheyenne Bowen, Denise Branch, Joshua Bush, Ashlyn Deloach, Nicole Gillis, Morgan Hall, Cherica Jones, Laci McRee, Mayra Ortiz, Haley Patel, Cleveland Phillips,

Destiny Williams

**Evans County:** Dylan Joyner, Baleska Murillo, Jacqueline Ramos-Herrera

**Jeff Davis County:** Olivia Duckett, Pierce Parlor

**Johnson County:** Jaxson Lee, Anna Ogletree

**Laurens County:** Christopher Joris

**Montgomery County:** Jaime Garcia – Sanchez, Taylor Helms, Carley Moxley, Grayson Osborne, Sandra Thigpen, Rebecca Tucker, Caroline, Williams

**Screven County:** Carla Derriso

**Tattnall County:** Brianna Johnson, Sylvester Melvin, Georgina Sanchez, Tracy Sanders, Connor Stewart, Belynn Thigpen, Samantha Varela Carreno

**Telfair County:** Sierra Parrish

**Toombs County:** Gustavo Agustin, Kelly Beverly, Maxon Beverly, Brittney Bryant, Colton Clifton, Jaden Collins, Chad Corner, Shelby Coursey, Kensley Davis, Micah Davis Brown, Jake Edge, Isaac Fontaine, Ruth Fontaine, Jakasia Futch, Alyssa Gailey, Katy Gonzales, Jan Gonzalez-Cruz, Camryn Halligan, Gabriella Hester, Summur Howell, Dewight Jones, John McDonald, Blanca Molina, Walker Moncus, Gavin Paul, Nathaniel Phillips, Ethan Powell, Luzmiriam Reyes Avila, Kasedie Rollins, Debra Strickland, Cristina Tinoco, Joey Todd, Wendy Zamorano, Abril Zuniga

**Treutlen County:** Jackson McCoy, Patrina Ricks

**Wayne County:** Layton Coleman

**Wheeler County:** Cameron Bridges, Gracey Hughes

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# **Cognia Accreditation Earned for STC Academy**

Southeastern Technical College (STC) is proud to announce that it has earned Cognia® Accreditation for the Southeastern Technical College Academy (STCA). Cognia is a nonprofit organization that provides quality assurance for schools, school districts, and education service providers.

“Accreditation as conferred by the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission provides Southeastern Technical College Academy a nationally recognized mark of quality for our school,” shared Larry Calhoun, Southeastern Technical College president. “It demonstrates to our community our commitment to excellence, our willingness to enact meaningful change based on evaluation and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of the students we serve.”

Cognia recognizes schools across the globe that meet rigorous standards focused on productive learning environments, equitable resource allocation, and effective leadership. To earn Cognia accreditation, a school must submit to internal and external review. Earning accreditation from the Cognia Global Accreditation Commission means that the school meets Cognia Performance Standards and maintains a commitment to continuous improvement. Schools in good standing can maintain their

accreditation for a six-year term.

Dr. Mark A. Elgart, president and CEO of Cognia, stated, “Cognia Accreditation is a rigorous process that focuses the entire school and its community on the primary goal of ensuring all students can flourish in engaging and equitable learning environments. We commend Southeastern Technical College for meeting high standards and making progress on key indicators that impact student learning.”

Cognia is the parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC), and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). Parents and interested community members can learn more about Cognia Accreditation at [cognia.org](https://www.cognia.org).

## **Southeastern Technical College Expands Opportunities for Students of All Ages**

Southeastern Technical College continues to broaden access to education with programs that serve high school students, adult learners, and individuals seeking career advancement. Whether learners are finishing a high school diploma, beginning college coursework, or gaining job-ready skills, STC offers multiple pathways to success.

### **Career Plus High School Diploma (CPH) Program**

Launched in August 2024, the Career Plus High School Diploma program gives adult learners a second chance to earn a high school diploma while preparing for a career. Students complete required high school courses online through the Technical College System of Georgia and receive in-person academic support from STC instructors. Along the way, they can earn industry-

recognized credentials that lead to immediate employment or further college study. The program's flexible, affordable structure helps students overcome common barriers such as scheduling and technology access.

The **Southeastern Technical College Academy** serves students enrolled in the CPH program. Adult learners ages 18 and older complete nine high school credits alongside two Technical Certificates of Credit. Credits may be awarded from previously earned high school coursework, STCA's high school classes, or portions of the GED. This flexible model provides multiple entry points and individualized pacing. STCA currently holds a 100% pass rate in high school courses.

"Earning this accreditation validates what we see every day: CPH changes lives," said Daphne Scott, CPH Coordinator. "Our students gain more than a diploma—they gain confidence, purpose, and a pathway to a better future. And those outcomes ripple throughout our community and beyond—supporting local businesses, strengthening families, and expanding economic opportunity."

### **Traditional Enrollment at STC**

STC continues to offer certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees in high-demand fields such as healthcare, business, technology, and industrial trades. Programs are developed with input from local employers to ensure graduates are workforce-ready. With affordable tuition, financial aid options, and dedicated faculty, STC provides accessible and high-quality higher education for learners seeking to enhance their skills.

### **Career Academy and Dual Enrollment**

STC is proud to have the new EDGE College and Career Academy, a partnership with Emanuel County Schools, that allows students to earn college credit while still in high school. Through the Dual

Enrollment program, students can take courses in career and technical fields, gaining hands-on experience and college-level learning without the cost of tuition. The Career Academy is designed to provide students a head start on their chosen career paths, whether they plan to enter the workforce right after graduation or continue their education.

## **A Place for Every Learner**

Southeastern Technical College's driving force is to prepare students for success in life and work, and is proud to offer multiple pathways to get there.

Located in southeast Georgia, STC serves Candler, Emanuel, Jenkins, Johnson, Montgomery, Tattnall, Toombs, and Treutlen counties. With campuses in Vidalia and Swainsboro, the College offers more than 90 programs.

## **About Cognia**

Cognia is a global, nonprofit improvement organization dedicated to helping institutions and other education providers grow learners, teachers, and leaders. Cognia offers accreditation and certification, assessment, and improvement services within a framework of continuous improvement. Serving 40,000 public and private institutions from early learning through high school in more than 90 countries, Cognia brings a global perspective to advancing teaching and learning.

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# **STC Foundation Hosts Annual Appreciation BBQ, Announces \$68,000+ Endowment for New Scholarship**

Southeastern Technical College and the Southeastern Technical College Foundation hosted their Annual Appreciation BBQ on October 7, 2025, celebrating the generosity and commitment of Foundation donors, trustees, and community partners who make educational opportunities possible for students across the region.

STC President Larry Calhoun expressed his gratitude, saying, “A big thank you to all who attended the STC Foundation Appreciation BBQ—our foundation donors, volunteers, and to Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and Foundation Executive Director Blythe Wilcox for orchestrating the event. The food was delicious, the weather and the setting were outstanding, and the camaraderie was exceptional.”

Donors were honored and the Mary Flanders Endowment Scholarship Fund, exceeding \$68,000, was announced.

The evening served as a celebration and a heartfelt “thank you” to those who help make STC’s mission possible. Guests included members of the STC Foundation Board of Trustees, STC Board of Directors, state legislators, and community partners.

President Calhoun recognized Georgia’s legislators for their strong advocacy for technical education statewide. Legislators in attendance were Senator Blake Tillery and Representative Leesa Hagan.

Attendees also heard inspiring words from Jason Colbert, Associate of Science in Nursing student and 2025 TCSG State GOAL Winner, and Kingston Ryals, Dual Enrollment student and Vidalia High School senior.

President Calhoun highlighted the college's strong outcomes, noting that 98% of STC graduates find employment within six months of graduation, and over 90% remain in the local community, strengthening the region's workforce.

The Foundation awarded over \$70,000 in scholarships and assistance to students in 2024, with 100% of STC faculty and staff contributing to the Foundation for over 20 consecutive years. President Calhoun said, "Your donations truly make a difference—often determining whether a student can stay in school or must leave to make ends meet."

"We are blessed to have a lot of generous folks in our area who contribute in numerous ways to the success of STC and technical education, not only locally but statewide. Whether financially, volunteering time, serving on boards and committees, or helping recruit and retain students, it all goes into making lives better in our communities. One of the key ways that supporters help is through their donations to the Foundation. These resources provide scholarships that enable our students to complete their programs, graduate, obtain great careers, and improve quality of life for us all," said President Calhoun.

### **New Scholarship Endowment Announced: The Mary Flanders Scholarship Fund**

The event also marked the announcement of a new scholarship endowment established by the family of Mrs. Mary Flanders, a longtime advocate for technical and adult education in Georgia.

Mrs. Flanders, originally from Swainsboro and now residing in

Savannah, served on the Technical College System of Georgia State Board of Directors for 20 years under Governors Perdue, Deal, and Kemp. Her leadership helped expand opportunities for adult learners and advanced the system's mission statewide.

"Mrs. Flanders was a member of Georgia's Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE)/Technical College System of Georgia State Board of Directors for 20 years, retiring in October 2023," stated President Calhoun. "Back when the GED was the only option, students had to earn a GED before enrolling in college courses. Now, thanks in no small part to Mrs. Flanders' efforts, adult education students have multiple pathways to success, allowing them to earn a high school equivalency or high school diploma through TCSG while taking college courses simultaneously. High school equivalency can now be earned through General Education Development, HiSet, or through specialized programs such as the STC Career Academy, Career Plus High School Diploma, Dual Achievement Program, or Cognia."

Here are a couple of lines from her retirement resolution: "Mrs. Mary Flanders has guided TCSG through an unprecedented era of achievement, including record enrollment, the production of a technically proficient workforce ready to fill skilled positions, and a more widespread appreciation for the importance of technical and adult education for building a better and more prosperous Georgia. She will always be remembered as a strong advocate for adult education, and she will be remembered more so for her friendship, wisdom, support, and true servant's heart. Mrs. Mary Flanders has proudly represented TCSG, leaving a legacy that will grow the future of technical education for generations to come, and has set an outstanding example for all who know her."

Mrs. Flanders has always been active in her community and throughout the state. Some of her many accomplishments include

teaching for five years while her husband, Dr. Flanders, was in medical school; serving as a member of the state board of The Garden Clubs of Georgia, chairing the restoration of the historic Rice Plantation, serving as chair of the Chatham County Republican Party for six years, chairing the Isle of Hope Community Association, co-chairing the Isle of Hope Music and Arts Festival, and owning Flanders Homes.

“It has been said that talent is evenly distributed, but opportunity is not,” said President Calhoun. “Mary continues to work tirelessly to ensure opportunities reach those who need them and deserve them. Her legacy will significantly impact students as the Mary Flanders Scholarship Fund will provide annual awards in perpetuity.”

“I didn’t do this alone and couldn’t have without my husband, Dorsey,” said Mrs. Flanders.

President Calhoun closed the evening with, “Thanks again for supporting Southeastern Tech. I can’t think of a better return on your investment than helping someone achieve their education.”

Photo (L-R): STC President Larry Calhoun, Mary Flanders, Dr. Dorsey Flanders

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# **STC Honors Longtime Assistant to the President, Twan Broughan, on Her Retirement**

After more than two decades of dedicated service, Southeastern Technical College (STC) is celebrating Twan Broughan, Administrative Assistant to the President, on her retirement, effective September 30, 2025.

Broughan began her career with STC in the financial aid and student affairs departments before serving the last 19 years as Administrative Assistant to the President. During her tenure, she worked under multiple administrations, supporting countless initiatives.

“Faith, family, and friends—that’s who she is,” said STC President Larry Calhoun. He estimated that in Broughan’s 19 years with the President’s Office, “Twan organized and transcribed minutes for approximately 160 board of directors’ meetings and 80 foundation board of trustees’ meetings. She has assisted at least 40 new board members in becoming state-certified, planned 20 legislative receptions, worked 20 annual barbeques, and attended 20 annual Technical College Directors Association of Georgia (TCDA) and Technical College Foundation Association (TCFA) Conferences. She has been a steady hand behind so much of what we’ve accomplished.”

Broughan graduated from East Georgia College and Georgia Southern University and spent 18 years in Atlanta working for JCPenney Catalog before returning home. She then earned a Computer Application Specialist Technical Certificate of Credit from Swainsboro Technical College, making her an alum.

Reflecting on her career, Broughan shared, “When I moved back home to Kite, Georgia, I had no idea where God would lead me. As it turned out, He led me to STC, first as a student and then as part of the STC family. This part of my life’s journey has been such an incredible one. It is not often that a person gets to have two unbelievable careers that they love.”

She added, “It’s been 21 years since I began working with an incredible team of caring people who focus on assisting students on paths to better their lives through learning occupational skills. This team soon became my second family and has helped me through a lot in my life, both the good times and some tough times. During cancer, many of them drove me to treatments. After a terrible car wreck, thinking about returning to work gave me a goal to walk again. I thank my STC family for the love and memories that I take with me.”

“This new chapter will be caring for my parents, whom I love dearly, and my grandchildren, whom God blessed me with,” said Broughan. “I pray for continued success for STC and the thousands of students whose lives will be changed through Southeastern Tech.”

A retirement celebration was held on September 24 in the Boatwright Auditorium on STC’s Swainsboro Campus, where colleagues, friends, and family gathered to honor Broughan’s 21-year career at the college.

Photo: Twan Broughan and STC President Larry Calhoun

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# STC Foundation Empowers Futures Through Fall 2025 Scholarships

The Southeastern Technical College Foundation (STCF) is proud to announce the awarding of fall 2025 scholarships, continuing its mission to provide financial support for students pursuing their education and career goals.

“Congratulations to all the fall 2025 STC Foundation scholarship recipients! We are honored to be able to reward these students for their hard work and determination, and we wish them much success as they continue to achieve their dreams,” said Blythe Wilcox, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and the STC Foundation.

The scholarships, made possible by the generosity of STC Foundation donors, provide essential financial resources that enable students to stay on track with their education.

“The STC Foundation would like to thank our donors who make these scholarships possible. Not only do they help STC students achieve their goals, but they also help create a skilled workforce for our local communities,” said Wilcox. “We are exceptionally proud that STC donors also include 100% participation from our employees giving to the Foundation campaign for well over 15 years.”

The following students have been awarded scholarships through the STC Foundation for the fall semester:

Bennette Andrews  
Scholarship

Toombs County

General

Amber Auman Scholarship	Toombs County	General
Jaqueline Balderas Student Scholarship	Appling County	Part-Time
Jaycee Bratcher Scholarship	Tattnall County	Medical
Chelsea Brown Student Scholarship	Emanuel County	Part-Time
Kensley Bruce Memorial Scholarship	Tattnall County	Jack Hill
Natalie Clifton Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship	Toombs County	Memorial
Tamia Cooper Student Scholarship	Emanuel County	Part-Time
Hailey Crosby "Sammy" Holton Memorial Scholarship	Tattnall County	Dr. Oscar
Letia Crumbly Scholarship	Tattnall County	General
Toland Davis CNC Scholarship	Emanuel County	Gene Haas
Micah Davis-Brown Scholarship	Toombs County	General
Laura Delgado Scholarship	Toombs County	Last Mile
Carter Gainous Betty Calhoun Scholarship	Candler County	Louie and
Melanie Garcia Jean Strange Scholarship	Toombs County	Shot and
Valeria Gonzalez Memorial Scholarship	Toombs County	Scott Meehan
Jamie Gunter Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship	Emanuel County	Memorial
Zury Jaramillo Memorial Scholarship	Appling County	Mae Jones

Ashley Jenkins Scholarship	Emanuel County	General
Alvin Jones Haas CNC Scholarship	Emanuel County	Gene
Christopher Joris Scholarship	Laurens County	Last Mile
Alexis Joris General Scholarship	Laurens County	
Sarah McBride Student Scholarship	Emanuel County	Part-Time
Jacey McClung Student Scholarship	Toombs County	Part-Time
Lindsey McLeod Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship	Tattnall County	Memorial
Yesenia Morales Scholarship	Appling County	General
Amanda Newton Meadows Hospital Scholarship	Toombs County	Memorial Health
Caleigh Page Scholarship	Toombs County	Medical
Wilder Peebles CNC Scholarship	Emanuel County	Gene Haas
Natalie Perez Time Student Scholarship	Tattnall County	Part-
Jessica Ramos Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship	Toombs County	Memorial
Chundrisica Roberson	Washington County	Medical Scholarship
Jason Rodriguez Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship	Tattnall County	Memorial
Zykerriah Rogers Student Scholarship	Bulloch County	Part-Time
Natalie Rucker Scholarship	Evans County	Medical
Camry Sanders	Toombs County	Memorial

Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship		
Millie Smith	Telfair County	
Medical Scholarship		
Jeremy Spikes	Laurens County	Gene Haas
CNC Scholarship		
Tamarietta Stevenson	Bulloch County	William J.
Peterson, Jr. Scholarship		
William Tanner	Johnson County	Kathy
Carpenter Memorial Scholarship		
Emma Tapley	Toombs County	Memorial
Health Meadows Hospital Scholarship		
Jordan Taylor	Bacon County	Vidalia
Campus Scholarship		
Michelle Thomas	Gwinnett County	Swainsboro
Campus Scholarship		
Michelle Waters	Emanuel County	General
Scholarship		
Harlee Whitley	Appling County	Medical
Scholarship		
Summer Williams	Jefferson County	President's
Scholarship		
Pamela Williamson	Jeff Davis County	Part-Time
Student Scholarship		
Callie Winfrey	Johnson County	Kathy
Carpenter Memorial Scholarship		

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the annual STC Scholarship Banquet in February, an event where students have the opportunity to personally thank donors, Foundation trustees, and community leaders. Additionally, the Foundation hosts its annual Appreciation BBQ each October to celebrate the lasting impact of community support.