



Fourth-grader Christopher Fulgham, 10, tests his 3D hologram project during the 2016 Mississippi Region II Science and Engineering Fair at Jackson State University.

Education

# PRIVATE AND PUBLIC OPTIONS FOR K-12 & BEYOND

The Jackson metro area includes seven public school districts and numerous private school options for families with children in K-12. The Jackson area could also be considered something of a "college town," with 12 colleges and universities offering everything from two-year and vocational programs to medical degrees.

# **EDUCATION**







# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND IN JACKSON

# BY CAROLYN W. MEYERS, PRESIDENT OF JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

When I first arrived in Jackson, I was filled with anticipation and excitement at having been selected the 10th president of Jackson State University. Though the conditions were rainy and icy, I received the warmest reception when I stepped onto the historic JSU campus. I knew I had reached a special place in the heart of a special city.

As I became more familiar with my surroundings and forged new friendships, I noticed something unique about the area — the number of post-secondary institutions here. Of course my focus remains squarely on Jackson State, its development and unique designation as Mississippi's Urban University. But I was pleasantly surprised to discover the local educational partners and institutions who share our commitment to increase degree attainment in Mississippi.

Every great American city has a great university. Metro Jackson is fortunate to have several distinguished institutions of higher education. There are myriad opportunities, from private Tougaloo College, Belhaven University and Millsaps College to Hinds and Holmes community colleges. Professional degree opportunities abound, with the University of Mississippi Medical Center and Mississippi College. Jackson State has added to the educational landscape with the opening of our downtown and Madison campuses.

In my first speech to JSU faculty and staff in 2011, I shared "Lessons Learned from the Ark," adapted from the work of Children's Defense Fund President Marian Wright Edelman.

First, we are all in the same boat. Academics is our core business. We are united in our values of tradition, excellence, service and responsibility.

Second, we should travel in pairs — as groups of collaborators, enablers, across college and university boundaries, across states and across oceans as we push the limits of knowledge transfer. We are each blessed to have many people, organizations and volunteers working with us as we educate the next leaders of our state, nation and world.

Each of the institutions of higher learning in this area is committed to developing the intellect while nurturing the souls and fueling the determination of students. Together we are investing in a bright future for our city, state, nation and planet. Come and explore the excitement, the opportunities and the wonder of metro Jackson with us. I promise you that, as I was, you will be delightfully surprised.

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# **EDUCATION**

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midtownpublic.org **REIMAGINE PREP** 601-941-0844, reimagineprep.org

# **PRIVATE & PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS**

» Canton Academy: cantonacademy.org » Central Hinds Academy: centralhinds.com » Christ Covenant School: christcovenantschool.com » Clinton Christian Academy: clintonchristianacademy.org » East Rankin Academy: eastrankinacademy.org » The Education Center School: educationcenterschool.com » First Presbyterian Day School: fpds.org » Hartfield Academy: hartfieldacademy.com » Hillcrest Christian School: hillcrestchristian.org » Jackson Academy: jacksonacademy.org » Jackson Preparatory School: jacksonprep.net » Madison-Ridgeland Academy: mrapats.com



Rachel Heard, center, associate professor of music at Millsaps College in Jackson, works with piano student Elizabeth Wang at Heard's campus office.



Kindergarten teacher Dru Davis helps student Katie Beth Beatty on the first day of school at Madison Avenue Lower Elementary School in Madison.



Fifth-grader Robert Miller competes in the annual JPS Open Doors Scrabble Tournament at the Jackson State University Mississippi e-Center.



Gamarion Stewart, 8, improves his math and computer skills during a GoNoodle activity in Patricia Smith's second-grade classroom at Brown Elementary in Jackson.



Fifth-grader Miracle Fitzgerald plants vegetables at Poindexter Elementary School in Jackson as part of a project to teach students about vegetables and where they come from.



Millsaps College students participate in an interactive theater event on gender and conflict called The Peace Room, aimed at testing students' ability to merge classroom learning with real life problem solving.



FIL F

A student contorts his body struggling to follow the movement of his partner's hand as freshmen play a game of Columbian Hypnosis at Millsaps College in Jackson. The game led to discussion about how men and women resolve trust issues.

» Mt. Salus Christian School: mtsalus.net » New Summit School: newsummitschool. homestead.com » Park Place Christian Academy: ppcaonline.com » Rebul Academy: rebulacademy.org » St. Andrew's Episcopal School: gosaints.org » St. Anthony Catholic School: stanthonyeagles.org » St. Augustine: augustinems.com » St. Joseph Catholic School: stjoebruins.com » St. Richard Catholic School: saintrichard.com » The Redeemer's School: theredeemersschool.org » Tri-County Academy: tricountyacademy.org

### **COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

» Antonelli College:
antonellicollege.edu
» Belhaven University:
belhaven.edu
» Hinds Community College:
hindscc.edu
» Holmes Community College:
holmescc.edu
» Jackson State University:
jsums.edu



FILE

A Mississippi College cheerleader rallies the home crowd on September 19, 2015, at Robinson-Hale Stadium at the school's Clinton campus.

- » Millsaps College: millsaps.edu
- » Mississippi College: mc.edu
- » Strayer University: strayer.edu
- » Tougaloo College:
- tougaloo.edu
- » University of Mississippi
- Medical Center: umc.edu
- » University of Phoenix:
- phoenix.edu
- » Virginia College: vc.edu

# **SPOTLIGHT ON COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

### **BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY**

#### belhaven.edu

Belhaven University is a Christian liberal arts university located in Jackson's Belhaven neighborhood. It offers 27 undergraduate majors and a 12:1 student to faculty ratio for the traditional undergraduate program. For non-traditional, working adults, Belhaven offers adult and graduate degree programs in Jackson and other cities throughout the South. Accredited online degree programs are also available. Belhaven is one of 36 schools in the U.S. to be nationally accredited in all four of the arts: dance, music, theatre and visual art.

# JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

#### jsums.edu

Jackson State University is Mississippi's Urban University, located in the capital city. Designated as a high research activity university, Jackson State offers comprehensive economic development, healthcare, technological and educational initiatives. It has 9,508 students, making it the fourth largest institution of higher learning in Mississippi. JSU offers more than 90 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs ranging from art to urban studies.

# **MILLSAPS COLLEGE**

# millsaps.edu

Millsaps College is a private liberal arts college that Forbes.com named the Best College in Mississippi. Professors and staff members create a dynamic and transformative student experience through a unique combination of the humanities, sciences and business education on a beautiful campus, enhanced by co-curricular opportunities in the capital city — and around the globe through international study programs and partnerships. The college is known for the strength of its pre-professional programs in medicine (including dentistry, nursing and veterinary medicine), law, engineering and ministry.

#### **MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE**

#### mc.edu

Located in Clinton, Mississippi College is a private Christian university of liberal arts and sciences. It is affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention and offers 80 undergraduate areas of study, 16 graduate degrees, and doctorates in jurisprudence, educational leadership and professional counseling. Founded in 1826, MC is the state's oldest institution of higher learning and largest private university. MC promotes the spiritual, social, emotional and physical development of its students and encourages them to utilize their skills, talents and abilities as they pursue meaningful careers, life-long learning, and service to God and others.

#### **TOUGALOO COLLEGE**

#### tougaloo.edu

Tougaloo College is a private, historically black liberal arts college accessible to all persons. Founded in 1869 by the American Missionary Association, Tougaloo College was chartered on the principles that it "be accessible to all irrespective of their religious tenets, and conducted on the most liberal principles for the benefit of our citizens in general." The college offers 29 majors, six of which allow students to add emphases such as accounting, business administration, community health, computer science, health education, journalism, recreation for special populations, and social work.