



"Tea Bags of Love"



9th Annual
"COLLEGE TRUNK PARTY"

www.teabagsoflove.org

FACT SHEET

Historical Evolution

The Bobcat International Women's Career Mentoring & Scholarship Initiative was founded in 2015 by Barbara Washington in honor of her mentor, Marriott hospitality executive Alice Spivey. The inaugural "TeaBags of Love" Career Mentoring Forum, held at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark and emceed by former KMOV-TV news anchor Vicki Newton, brought together 500 mentor-mentee pairings and honored high-profile women from across the country with the prestigious "TeaBags of Love" Award. An official Mascot "TeaGirl" welcomed guests, and journalism and communications interns from Maryville University, St. Louis University and Webster University received a \$1,500 scholarship. Washington later introduced the HotTopic TeaTalk at the London Tea House, hosting national tea-style mentor-mentee conversations with participants from 21 major U.S. cities. The initiative eventually evolved into its signature event, the International Women's Day "TeaBags of Love" College Trunk Party. The gathering was first held at West Chase and later at Benjamin F. Edwards & Company before moving to its current home at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, where Leah Hill, meteorologist for KMOX-TV First Alert 4, serves as emcee. The College Trunk Party Class of 2026 includes students from Hazelwood, Jennings, McCluer, Pattonville, Ritenour and Riverview Gardens, who will be recognized as School Partner Mentor Memorial Honorees. Ambassadors adopt each student and rally friends and associates to fulfill their Amazon wish lists. National businesswomen deliver virtual motivational send-off remarks, while parents and school partners decorate tables to showcase school pride. Guided by its theme of "loving, caring and sharing," the initiative encourages young women to build confidence and discover their God-given talents for personal and professional success.

TRUNK PARTY DATE & TIME

Sunday, March 8, 2026 | 2:00 p.m. to 4 p.m.

LOCATION:

Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel (In the Lindbergh Room)

10700 Pear Tree Ln. | St. Louis, MO 63134 | 314.423.9700

MOTIVATIONAL COLLEGE SEND-OFF PRESENTERS

- Penny Davis, civic leader/community, Grand Canyon State of Arizona
- Calleen Herbert, director, office of community, engagement and service, North Carolina Central University, Tar Heel State of North Carolina
- Janice Huff, chief meteorologist, WNBC-TV/NBC4 New York, NBC, The Big Apple
- Natasha McCoy, founder & owner, NM2C LLC Representing The Big Easy of Louisiana
- Lyubov Strauss, owner & web designer, RLS Design Digital, The Silver State of Colorado
- Lisa Tompkins-Brown, president, Tenacity Solutions, LLC, District of Columbia

COLLEGE TRUNK PARTY CLASS OF 2026

- Trinity Moore, Hazelwood High School
- Mariah Tianna Mosley, Jennings High School
- Nhyla Warren, McCluer High School
- Nhyla Warren, Pattonville High School
- Madison "Maddie" Miller, Ritenour High School
- Jayla Carter-Sennie, Riverview Gardens High School

EMCEE

Leah Hill, meteorologist
KMOV-TV, First Alert 4

FACILITATOR

Eleanor Higgins, consultant
E-Xcellence Coaching & Consulting



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WHO'S WHO...

COLLEGE TRUNK PARTY AMBASSADORS:

- Brenda Conway, senior real estate representative, retired, Ameren Missouri
- Beverley Foster, sales training manager, Xerox Corp.
- Attorney Tonya Page, managing partner, Page Law LLC
- Attorney Keisa Johnson Monroe, associate general counsel, Elevance Health (formerly Anthem Inc.)
- Sara Moulder, counselor, Parkway School District
- Lisa Nichols, CEO & co-founder, Technology Partners Inc. & author, Something Special
- Nancy Weaver, Ph.D., MPH, CEO, Supporter Over Silence for Kids LLC

SCHOOL PARTNERS: Hazelwood East, Jennings, McCluer, Pattonville, Ritenour, and Riverview Gardens.

MENTOR-MENTEE PAIRINGS: Seasoned and emerging businesswomen dressed in their favorite international attire.

TEABAGS OF LOVE HONOREE: Blanch Marie Touhill, Ph.D., chancellor emeritus and professor of emeritus, University of Missouri — St. Louis

BOBCAT SCHOOL PARTNER MENTOR MEMORIAL HONOREES:

- Barbara Smith Brack, community leader & philanthropist
- Dr. Anne E. Price, former superintendent, elementary education, St. Louis Public Schools
- Dr. Mary Ellen Buford, former principal, City Academy
- Hildred Lavetta Charmaine London, co-founder & owner, London and Sons Wing House Inc.
- Ida Goodwin Woolfolk, former assistant superintendent, St. Louis Public Schools
- Thelma V. Cook, executive assistant to the vice president of corporate affairs and director of corporate community relations, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

OUR MISSION

To connect emerging professional women from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds with seasoned executives for career mentoring and college-level experiences, and to provide college scholarships and college Wishlist support that aid their freshman journeys and foster the development of future leaders in communications, journalism and the nonprofit sector.

WAYS TO SUPPORT

SUBMIT DONATIONS TO: Bobcat International Women's Career Mentoring & Scholarship Initiative (BIWCM&SI), c/o Barbara A. Washington, CSEP, *principal & founder* 10829 Chase Park Ln., #D, Creve Coeur, Missouri 63141 or go online to: www.teabagsoflove.org.

Contact: Barbara A. Washington, CSEP at 314. 478.2229 or email at: bobcat_1955@sbcglobal.net

