



CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY'S 2026 COHORT OF

Outstanding
Leaders Under 40

AWARDS GALA



Black Tie Brilliance

SPONSORSHIPS

Thursday, November 19, 2026
Claflin University • Orangeburg, SC 29116

Dear Sponsor,

We invite you to partner with us for the 2026 Outstanding Leaders Under 40 Awards, a prestigious celebration honoring Claflin University alumni who are transforming industries, serving communities, and inspiring change across the nation.

This highly anticipated black-tie affair spotlights exceptional young professionals who embody Claflin's unwavering commitment to excellence, leadership and service. These honorees are not just rising stars, they are trailblazers who represent the promise of what's possible when education, passion and purpose align. However, this evening is about more than recognition, it's about reinvestment.

Proceeds from the gala directly support scholarships and leadership development initiatives for current Claflin students. Your sponsorship will help eliminate financial barriers and create life-changing opportunities for the next generation of visionaries, scholars, and change agents.

By partnering with us, your organization will not only be associated with innovation, legacy and empowerment. You will be part of a movement that affirms Claflin's proud tradition of producing global leaders. Together, we can ensure that the future shines even brighter. Enclosed, you'll find our sponsorship package, which outlines meaningful opportunities for brand visibility, community impact, and connection with a network of mission-driven professionals.

We would be honored to collaborate with you and are happy to answer any questions as you consider joining us for this extraordinary occasion.

With sincere appreciation,



Willie Jude II
Vice President
Institutional Advancement



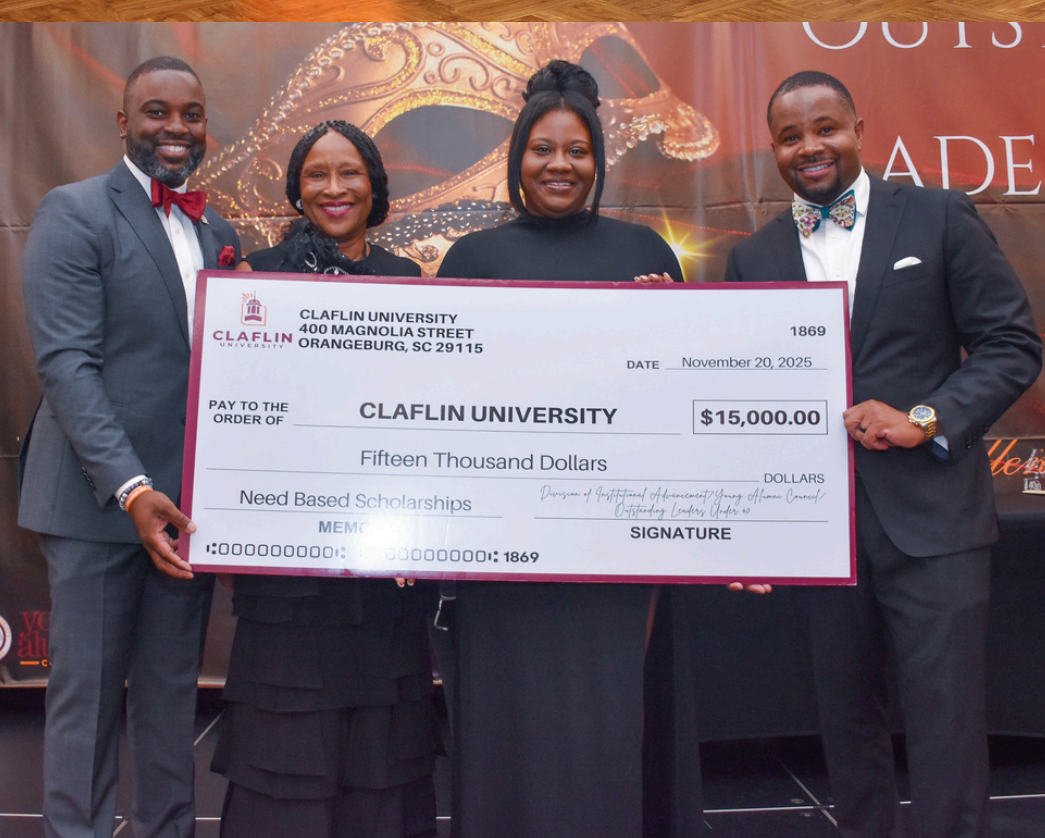
Jamila Rasheed
President
Young Alumni Council



Zelda M. Lee
Director of Annual Fund & Alumni Relations



**young
alumni**
— COUNCIL —



SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

PRESENTING SPONSOR: \$15,000

- Exclusive Naming Rights: Presenting sponsor. “Presented By” status throughout the event.
- Premier placement of logo and hyperlink on Claflin University’s YAC webpage.
- Premier logo on all event signage and advance promotion.
- VIP Experience: One full table and premium seating at the event & after-party (10 tickets).
- Press | Media: “Presented By” status on all media mentions. Press release announcing sponsorship. Sponsorship recognition on social media posts.
- Speaking Opportunity: Opening or closing remarks at the event. (2 minutes). 30-sec video welcome message on Claflin University’s YAC social media.

PLATINUM SPONSOR: \$10,000

- Branding Opportunity: Logo displayed in the ballroom and on event signage
- Logo and hyperlink on Claflin YAC webpage.
- Press | Media: Sponsorship Recognition on social media posts.
- 40 Under 40 Event Experience: One full table (10 tickets), premium seating, and tickets to the after-party.

GOLD SPONSOR: \$5,000

- Branding Opportunity: Logo displayed on event signage.
- Logo and hyperlink on Claflin YAC webpage.
- Press | Media: Sponsorship recognition on social media posts.
- 40 Under 40 Event Experience: One full table (10 tickets), and tickets to the after-party.

SILVER SPONSOR: \$3,000

- Branding Opportunity: Logo displayed on event signage.
- Press | Media: Sponsorship recognition on social media posts.
- 40 Under 40 Event Experience: Half table (5 Tickets) and tickets to the after-party.



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ALTERNATIVE SPONSORSHIPS

THE ENCORE SPONSOR: \$3,000

- Sponsor the after-party celebration following the awards.
- Exclusive naming rights (e.g., “The Encore presented by [Sponsor]”).
- Mention by DJ/host throughout the night.

BLACK CARPET SPONSOR: \$2,500

- Sponsor the black-carpet experience, which includes branded step-and-repeat backdrops, media coverage, and on-site interviews.
- Logo included on step-and-repeat backdrop.
- Brand mention in red carpet promotions.
- On-air sponsor shoutout in interviews.

RAISE THE GLASS SPONSOR: \$2,000

- Sponsor the bar area during the awards ceremony, which includes signage and custom cocktail branding.
- Signature cocktail named after sponsor.
- Bar area signage.

PROGRAM SPONSOR: \$500 - \$1,000

- Sponsor the printed & digital event program distributed to all attendees.
- \$1,000-Full-page ad in the program booklet & logo on after-party flyer.
- \$500- Half-page ad in the program booklet & logo on after-party flyer.



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SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Company Name: _____
Contact Person/Title: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____

I/my company will sponsor the Claflin University's 40 Under 40: Outstanding Leaders Under 40 Award at the following level:

\$15,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	
Presenting Sponsor	Platinum Sponsor	Gold Sponsor	Silver Sponsor	
\$3,000	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$1,000 or \$500	\$150
Encore Sponsor	Black Carpet Sponsor	Raise the Glass Sponsor	Program Sponsor	Individual Ticket

I/We cannot support the Outstanding Leaders Under 40 at the suggested sponsorship level, but would like to enclose a donation of \$_____ to support need-based scholarships at Claflin University.

METHOD OF CONTRIBUTION

Please make your donation payable to Claflin University Division of Institutional Advancement and place 40 Under 40: Outstanding Leaders Under 40 Award in the memo line.

- ☐ Check (please enclose) ☐ Money Order (please enclose)
☐ Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Cardholder Name: _____
Card Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____ / _____ CSC# (3 digit security code on back of card) _____

Please mail a check and the completed sponsorship commitment form by **November 2, 2026**, to:

Attn: Willie Jude II, Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Claflin University
Tingley Hall, 3rd Floor
400 Magnolia Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115

*To purchase sponsorship or individual tickets online, visit <https://www.claflin.edu/outstanding-leaders-under-40>. For more information, contact Willie Jude II at 40Under40Awards@claflin.edu or 803.535.5347.





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