©anuary 16, 2015


## MENAbs

 FINE ART BENEFITAND
"Family Walk" by Stacey Brown

## at the <br> ©lippodrome



Altria's companies are proud to support organizations that prepare young people for a bright future, and help to prevent risky behaviors, like underage tobacco use.

From improving academic performance to extracurricular activities with caring adults, these programs are helping kids develop positive life skills.

Today's child is tomorrow's leader and deserves every opportunity to succeed.
Altria salutes MEGA Mentors and the 4th Annual Art Benefit and Sale.

Altria

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



## Dear Supporters and Friends,

MEGA Mentors is pleased to host the fourth annual MEGA Mentors Fine Art Benefit and Sale at the historic Hippodrome Theater. Each year, the benefit has grown in patrons, supporters and the diversity of the art. We are proud that this event has become one of the best art exhibits on the East Coast. I hope that this year will be even more enjoyable and that you will support the MEGA Mentors Program through the purchase of art and a diverse selection of great items from the silent auction this evening.

Our vision is to make a positive, measurable difference in the lives of African American and other under-represented students in Chesterfield County Public Schools. We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to have an equal and quality education. We believe in working with public organizations, corporate partners and private non-profit organizations to bring resources and attention to the needs of students, so they achieve greater success in school and in life. Finally, we believe "it takes a village to raise a child." Because of these beliefs, MEGA Mentors is committed to the mission of "Enhancing student success by providing positive experiences and role models to mentor, tutor, and teach life and leadership skills."

Based on the four principles of RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, EFFORT and ACHIEVEMENT, the MEGA Mentors program builds student hope, self-efficacy, self-regulation and a desire to achieve. Over time, studies have indicated that these changes will improve attendance and academic performance, and decrease discipline issues.

Our numerous contributors, sponsors and volunteers have enabled MEGA to grow very quickly over the past year. Currently, 100 volunteer mentors and tutors are serving 530 students in seven schools. We thank all the administrators, teachers, counselors, students, and mentors for believing in the MEGA mission and making a tremendous difference in the lives of the students.

Your involvement and support has made this growth possible. Tonight, your participation and tax-deductible contributions will enable us to continue the work and help students be the very best that they can be. To learn more about MEGA, please visit www.MEGAmentors.org, or the Chesterfield Public Education Foundation website, www.cpefound.org.

Our students thank you. The schools we serve thank you. And on behalf of all of the volunteers at MEGA Mentors, I thank you.

Please enjoy the event, our featured artist, Stacey Brown, the spectacular artwork of other internationally renowned artists and the extraordinary silent auction, while you are surrounded by great music, great food, great friends, and the amazing ambience that is the historic Hippodrome Theater.

Again, thank you for helping change lives, one student at a time.

# MEGA OCCASION 



The 2015 Fine Art Benefit and Sale (FABS) marks the 4th annual fundraising event for MEGA Mentors hosted at the Hippodrome Theater. Held in conjunction with the Freedom Classic Festival, FABS is the premiere event on Friday evening that includes a weekend of festivities that culminate on Sunday afternoon with a basketball clash between CIAA rivals Virginia Union and Virginia State Universities.

We have expanded our array of traditional art, contemporary, abstract, originals and prints to offering options for the novice art enthusiast to the most sophisticated collector who's seeking to expand their collection. In addition, we have added a Silent Auction that includes not only art, but a diverse collage of fabulous gifts for your bidding pleasure. And that's not all, we are featuring live musical entertainment, the poetic spoken word, and inviting food and refreshments.

By supporting FABS you will directly impact the future of students in Chesterfield County Public Schools. This event is made possible by the generous donations of our signature sponsors, patrons, volunteer mentors, school coordinators and administrators, and the local and national art community who continue to come to Richmond to showcase their work.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2015

## Fine Art Benefit and Sale Hosted by MEGA Mentors <br> The Hippodrome Theater, 7pm

Featured Artist and Guest Speaker, Stacey Brown
For those looking for a fresh and unusual approach to a visual medium, you've found it in the eclectic collection of original paintings created by tonight's guest. Hear about his journey and how he's used his visionary artistic talent to fulfill his true passion, fine art. Original works, acrylic paintings, water colors and commemorative posters are available for sale.

## Silent Auction Viewing

A diverse collection of unique gifts, sports packages and art will be displayed in front of the theater stage. Silent Auction forms are available at the registration table.

## Public Viewing

Preview the artwork of featured artists Stacey Brown, Woodrow Nash, Heather Moss, Mark Richardson, Debra Shedrick, Phyllis Stephens, Lobyn Hamilton, Charly Palmer, David Glover and others. Original paintings, limited edition prints and sculptures are for sale.

## Spoken Word

Hear the inspirational and thought provoking expressions of Ayo Morton.

## Musical Guest

From a smooth ballad to a funky groove, please experience JTucker as he uses his gifts and talents to calm and lift your spirits.
All art is coordinated by Fine Art Images, WaterKolours Fine Art, and Manifestationz Art Gallery.
Emcee for the evening is Phil "Philly Phil" Daniel from Richmond's highest rated nighttime show "The Quiet Storm" on WKJS-FM 99.3/105.7FM.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2015

## Freedom Classic Festival Richmond Coliseum, Doors Open at 4pm

Richmond area rivals Virginia State and Virginia Union Universities battle it out on the basketball court. Additional festival activities include the Freedom Art Expose', a heart-pounding drumline competition, and an informative college fair.

MEGA students and parents will experience the college activities and game compliments of the Freedom Classic.

# Fine Art Images 

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## YOUR SOURCE FOR

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## STACEY BROWN



Our 2015 Fine Art Benefit featured artist, Stacey Brown, offers an array of original painting and eclectic pieces under the moniker "Fine Art for Fine Living". Brown attended the Art Institute of Atlanta and currently resides in Atlanta, Georgia. His specialties are original watercolor paintings, art on glass, as well as sculpture.

A contemporary artist, Brown incorporates colors that reflect his surroundings and captures the essence of everyday life. His work has garnered popular attention through features in the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Décor Magazine, Jezebel, and Uptown Magazine. He has been a featured artist on both the nationally syndicated Tom Joyner radio talk show and the Fantastic Voyage Cruise. His work is in the private collections of Verizon Wireless, Nationwide Insurance, and Liberty Bank and Trust. In addition, he created an original mural for the Sweet Georgia's Juke Joint Restaurant located in downtown Atlanta.


## WATERK OLOURS <br> A Gallery



- Charlie Palmer
- David Glover

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## OTHER ARTISTS....

## HEATHER MOSS



## LASHAUN BEAL



## LOBYN HAMILTON



OTHER ART ON DISPLAY BY
DAVID GLOVER, WOODROW NASH, CHARLY PALMER, MARK RICHARDSON, DEBRA SHEDRICK, PHYLLIS STEPHENS AND LEE WHITE

## SILENT AUCTION

## ART

1) Framed and signed limited edition print by actor Tim Reid
2) Framed, signed and numbered stone lithograph by George Hunt
3) Sculptures by Thomas Blackshear ("Midnight", "Night and Day")

## FABULOUS GIFT ITEMS AND BUSINESS PACKAGES

1) Fur and Silk Scarf
2) Samsung 40 " LED 1080p Smart TV
3) Spa Package at Red Door
4) Fantastic 38 passenger River Cruise by Richmond Canal Cruises
5) 2 weekend passes with parking to the Richmond Jazz Festival
6) Acupuncture Treatment by Community Health Acupuncture
7) Hair styling by Shear Perfection
8) Uptown Alley Gift Certificate

## EXCLUSIVE SPORTS PACRAGES

1) Richmond Flying Squirrels Fantasy Package (includes box for 8, first pitch, game ball, color commentator for an inning, etc)
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- Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail
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- Jefferson Lakeside

5) Richmond Kickers (5 family season tickets)
6) Richmond International Raceway Xfinity and Sprint races in April (4 tickets each)
7) Colonial Athletic Association Official Tournament Backpack
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## MEGA MENTORS WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL SILENT AUCTION SPONSORS!

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Richmond Canal Cruises
Richmond Flying Squirrels
Richmond International Raceway
Richmond Jazz Festival

Richmond Kickers
Shear Perfection Hair Salon
Tim Reid
Uptown Alley
Venture Richmond
WaterKolours Gallery


Located in Jackson Ward, a recognized National Historical Landmark in the city of Richmond, The Hippodrome Theater and the Taylor Mansion are the centerpieces of the latest project to return the Jackson Ward area to its legendary prominence. This historic neighborhood was the center of African American commerce and entertainment in the early 1900s, garnering the nickname Harlem of the South.

The famed Second Street, known as the Deuce, was a bustling hot spot of performance venues including the same Hippodrome Theater that stands today. Built in 1904 as a vaudeville and movie theater, it later became a celebrated musical locale attracting such legendary greats as Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, Duke Ellington, and Cab Calloway just to name a few. Rich in cultural development, Jackson Ward was home to many influential people, including Maggie Walker, the first woman tc charter and serve as president of an American bank, and Rev. William Lee Taylor, president of The United Order of True Reformers.

Today, the beautifully revitalized Hippodrome Theater hosts entertainment events such as concerts, comedy shows, happy hours, and private events. Rev.William Lee Taylor's private home has been elegantly restored into the adjacent Mansion five26 restaurant, specializing in Southeastern Cuisine.

Contact the Hippodrome Theater today to host your next private event!


* At the Richmond Goliseum
presented by
Virginia
isfor Lovers


## MEGA HISTORY

In the fall of 2009, the Chesterfield County School Superintendent approached a few community leaders about the need to provide positive African American role models in Chesterfield County Public Schools to improve academic performance, graduation rates and reduce discipline issues. This request was the catalyst that ignited a movement and the formation of MEGA Mentors......Mentors Expecting Greater Achievement.

Today, MEGA has over 100 volunteers. From 2010 to 2014 MEGA has grown from 20 students to over 500. With the guiding principles of Respect, Responsibility, Effort and Achievement, the MEGA Mentors mission is to "Enhance student success by providing positive experiences and role models to mentor, tutor and teach leadership and life skills." This is done by providing group and one-on-one mentors, increasing awareness of higher education and career opportunities, tutors, college visits, field trips, cultural and social activities and parental engagement in student affairs. In 2010, MEGA began recognition of school and student achievement at the MEGA Annual Recognition Celebration. In addition to mentoring, MEGA began its Tutoring Initiative in partnership with Carver Middle School in 2012.

MEGA works in partnership with Chesterfield Public Education Foundation, Chesterfield County Public Schools, Virginia Mentoring Partnership, Virginia State University, John Tyler Community College, Communities in Schools and many other community, civic and nonprofit organizations to enhance its mission.
MESAA LEADERSH|P TEAM


Left to right: Gregory Hillman, Larry Murphy, Michelle Wingo, Derrick Thomas, Michael Eaton, Darlene Kiah, Otis Jones, Carol Mack-Grisby, McKinley Moore, Cynthia Thompson, Howard Corey and Greg Cummings. Not pictured is E. Lee Coble.


## The arts are for everyone

When community members support the arts, they help inspire and enrich everyone. Artistic diversity helps unite communities, creating shared experiences and inspiring excellence.

Bank of America is honored to be connected to MEGA Mentors and its dedication to bringing the arts to our community.

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## MEGA HIGHLIGHTS

## Organization Highlights of 2013-2014

Partnered with seven schools to provide mentors:
Carver
Middle School
Falling Creek Middle School
Providence
Middle School

Community
High School

- Held 4th Annual Recognition Celebration at Virginia State University with over 250 mentees, parents, mentors, County and school administrator in attendance.
- Held 3rd Annual MEGA Fine Art Benefit and Sale as a signature fundraising event with over 350 attendees.
- Sponsored field trip for MEGA students to attend the Freedom Classic game and festivities between Virginia State and Virginia Union Universities.
- Partnered with Providence Middle School's Young Men On a Mission (YMOM) program to support annual trip to Baltimore, talent night, goal-setting seminar and workshops.
- Sponsored trip to Richmond Forum where students had the opportunity to hear President George W. Bush speak and take a photo with him.
- Consistently mentored twice per month at six schools (2013-14 school year) with over 5000 volunteer hours. Participating students enrolled in mentoring and tutoring increased from 250 in 2012 to 550 in 2014. Tutoring program focus on Math and English and demonstrated a 86\% improvement rate.
- Enhanced the website to include over 70 life skills and leadership development courses.
- Sponsored year-end field trip to Washington, D.C. (college and cultural tour) for all mentees who achieved academic attendance and behavioral goals for the academic year. Over 150 students and chaperones attended.
- Began partnership with 8th Grade Academy at Chesterfield Career \& Technical Center at Hull Street to provide mentoring programs.
Meadowbrook
High School

Thomas Dale
High School

8th Grade Academy
CTC at Hull St.


## CHESTERFIELD PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## Working with the Community to Make a Difference in our Public Schools.

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Willing hands and hearts are welcome in Chesterfield schools, where volunteers play a vital role in the academic success of our students.

We make it easy for everyone to participate - whether you can help every day, once a week, once a month or once a year. There are many ways to volunteer, and we will help you find your place:

- read to elementary students
- help in a school office, cafeteria or clinic
- sell tickets at a game
- speak at a career day
- organize information packets
- chaperone a field trip
- fill another need

There is a place for you in Chesterfield County Public Schools! If there is a specific school where you'd like to volunteer, please contact the principal or the school's volunteer coordinator. If you don't have a specific school in mind, call $748-1405$ to talk with the community outreach coordinator. After volunteers fill out an application, their names will be checked against the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry.

Chesterfield County Public Schools
P.O. Box 10, Chesterfield, VA 23832

Excellence Awards \& Recognition Celebration


# MENAms FOURTH ANNUAL RECOGNITION CELEBRATION 

Virginia State University - Gateway Center "Dream BIG - Set Goals- Act on Them"

The fourth annual MEGA Mentors Recognition Celebration was held October 2, 2014 at Virginia State University (VSU) to recognize and celebrate the achievement of outstanding students, administrators, schools and MEGA supporters who contributed to the organization's mission during the 2013-2014 school year. The theme was "Dream BIG - Set Goals- Act on Them" and the occasion attracted over 250 attendees.


Adrienne Whitaker, Vice President - Institutional Advancement at VSU, welcomed the mentees, mentors, parents and special friends of MEGA Mentors. Prior to the awards banquet, the mentees were given a guided tour of VSU's Regina F. Lewis College of Business.

The evening keynote speaker was actor, comedian, filmmaker and artist, Timothy L. "Tim" Reid. Tim shared with the audience his journey from Norfolk, Virginia and Norfolk State University to his career in entertainment and the life lessons he learned along the way. Tim demonstrated his uncanny ability to use humor, intellect and the art of storytelling that included key words of wisdom from his grandmother "big momma".


Tim is most remembered for his roles in prime time TV sitcoms such as Venus Flytrap on WKRP in Cincinnati (1978-82), Ray Campbell on Sister, Sister (1994-99) and a CBS series, Frank's Place, as a professor who inherits a Louisiana restaurant. Tim and his wife, Daphne Maxwell-Reid, are the proprietors of New Millennium Studios in Petersburg, Virginia, and are active supporters and advocates for K-12 education and the arts.

The highlight of the evening was the award presentation. Recognized were the following award categories and winners.

## MEGA Awards 2013-2014 Excellence Awards and Recognition Celebration.

MEGA School of the Year Award -This award is based on the partnership with MEGA Mentors (Principal involvement, Coordinator involvement) and promoting the MEGA Values (Respect, Responsibility, Effort, and Achievement).

Carver Middle School


## MEGA Mentors School Coordinators of the Year

Award - This is awarded to the high and middle school coordinator that puts forth exceptional effort to partner with MEGA and assure student success. This coordinator not only schedules activities but takes extra effort to assure the program is running smoothly, participates in activities, helps solve problems and shares best practices.
(L) Johnnie Beaton, Carver Middle School (R)Lashonda Hill, Carver Middle School

## MEGA Mentors Community Award

This award is given to a community partner who helped MEGA achieve it's mission of funding, enrollment, and recruitment.
(L) First Lady Clementine Fleming (R) Pastor Johnnie Fleming Jr. Second Baptist Church, Chester, VA

MEGA Mentor of the Year Award - One (1) male and one (1) female will be awarded. This award goes to the mentor that went above and beyond in their mentoring students, tutoring, and coordination of school activities, advocacy, teamwork, recruiting and retaining mentors and participation in all MEGA Mentor activities.


MEGA Mentors Students of the Year Award - The school coordinator, teachers, administrators and MEGA coordinator will select a student from each school/from each grade that demonstrated Respect, Responsibility, Effort and Achievement.

## FALLING CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL



6th grade: Imonte Davis


7th grade: Dacashia Ramos


8th grade: Byron Williams CARVER MIDDLE SCHOOL


6th grade: Yulexi Aquirre-Gonzalez 7th grade: Tyshawn Seaborne


8th grade: Timara Green PROVIDENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL


7th grade: Beaker Sulaiman


7th grade: Destiny Brown MEADOWBROOK HIGH SCHOOL


9th grade:
Loghan Carter


9th grade:
Diamond Norman


11th grade:
Donovan Bailey


11th grade: Veronica Saunders

## THOMAS DALE HIGH SCHOOL

9th grade: Rashad Chan (not pictured)
10th grade: Michelle Jones (not pictured)

## COMMUNTITY HIGH SCHOOL




11th grade:
Lizzie Mosso Martin


12th grade:
Paul Williams


## Virginia State University

Building A Better World and Supporting MEGA Mentors Fine Art Benefit \& Sale
January 16, 2015 MEGA Mentors Fine Art Benefit and Sale
January 18, 2015 The Freedom Classic Festival: Students, Parents andMentors attend. (Thanks to Freedom Classic formaking the college experience a reality for students.)
March 21, 2015 The Richmond Forum: "An Evening with the Former Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernanke"
March, 2015 Local Field Trip: (TBD)
April 17, 2015 Merit Recognition Field Trip: Norfolk/VA Beach forAll students who are meeting their goals
May, 2015 MEGA Recognition Awards Celebration
August 2015 MEGA Annual Meeting and Training Forum* Mentoring sessions are twice per month at each school* Tutoring sessions are each Tuesday from 2-4 pm at Carver Middle School

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## Richmond CASA Volunteers Needed!



Richmond CASA is a program of

Richmond CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) volunteers are a voice for children who have been abused or neglected and are now a part of an overburdened child welfare system. They also serve as the eyes and ears of the judges who watch over these cases so that what is in the child's best interest is fully understood.

Richmond CASA is accepting applications for our next volunteer training class. We desperately need volunteers who want to commit their time and energy to our city's children. The work our volunteers do for abused and neglected children in Richmond is critical for their placement in safe and permanent homes.

The Richmond CASA program follows the National CASA curriculum of 30 hours of training which includes classroom interaction, courtroom observation, and individualized consultation with staff. After training, volunteers are fully supported by Richmond CASA staff when they are assigned a child's case.

We are now accepting applications for volunteers to join our next class.

I think it is good for students in our population to have a strong male or female role model in their lives, because that is lacking for so many of them. I have seen our mega mentor representatives going so far above and beyond for the students, helping them with homework, accountability and support."

## KELLY DEPEW, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR PROVIDENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL

"My mentors (God too, of course) kept me motivated to keep trying and do my best. Even if I am a little short of my best, I kept going simply because I knew that you all told me it for a reason. I am really thankful that God blessed me with the opportunity to meet such strong, bold, beautiful, independent, successful, and smart women of color like my mentors."

## OKIYA, 9TH GRADE STUDENT <br> THOMAS DALE HIGH SCHOOL

"One of the best things about mentoring is watching the growth of the students as they navigate their school life with better decision making, increased confi dence as their grades improve and, the look on their faces when achievements are recognized. None of the students start with the same set of grades or circumstances but, they are all capable of achieving and maturing as they continue in the program. I enjoy walking through the process with them."

## MACHEL JONES, MENTOR <br> THOMAS DALE HIGH SCHOOL

"I observed a great deal of maturity and growth within the mentees, as well as consistent or improved grades. The consistency of the Mega Mentors is what went well at this school."

## JAMES HOLMES

COORDINATOR, FALLING CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

I am extremely proud of the incredible success of Mega Mentors and the life changing results they are making with our students. In just a few short years Mega Mentors have become the premier mentoring program in Chesterfield County. These dedicated men and women are unsung heroes in our community who do not seek personal praise or recognition, but rather selfless satisfaction in knowing that they are positively changing lives for some of our most needy youth. God Bless Youl"

Thank You,
MARCUS J. NEWSOME, ED.D. SUPERINTENDENT
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mary@abouttrimedia.com
What an amazing year for MEGA Mentors!


AYO MORTON
"I am not a writer! Prayerfully,
I am a person whois
so passionate about people that I strategically place words in the correct order to reorder their lives!"

Ayo is the author of three novels Poetic Journals, Tracy's Tracks, ...just journals...
www.ayommorton.com

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# NEW BOARD MEMBERS 



## Charles Owens

Charles Owens of Owens Financial Services is an Employee Benefits Broker and Personal Financial Advisor. As a broker, he specializes in Life and Health benefit programs for individuals and small groups. He also provides retirement planning services to individuals and families. Since 1983, Charles has shared his knowledge of this business and provided services to more than a thousand clients. Charles maintains a philosophy that his customers must be happy first; then the business takes care of itself.


## Misha King

Misha King was born in Italy giving her the unique opportunity of spending most of her childhood there. She earned her Bachelor's in Speech Communication from Texas State University in San Marcos, and her Master's in Public Communication from American University in Washington, D.C. Misha joined the Army Reserve in 2000 and later went active duty in 2003 as an Active Guard Reserve soldier, where she was both a broadcast and print journalist during two tours to Iraq. After an honorable discharge in 2007, she became a public affairs specialist at the State Department in D.C. She moved to the Richmond area in 2012 and took a public affairs position at Fort Lee with the Defense Contract Management Agency.


## Rodney Mullins

Rodney Mullins is the Manager of Software Planning and Development for McGuireWoods LLP. He brings more than 22 years of experience in software automation/integration, development, design and consultancy for various Fortune 500 companies. His multi-industry experience includes food \& beverage, waste water, pulp \& paper, energy, military/aerospace \& defense, pharmaceutical \& life sciences, chemicals, consumer goods \& packaging and marketing. An accomplished consultant, architect and designer, his success comes from understanding customer needs and creating solutions that meet those needs.


## Edward H. "Ed" Baine

Edward H. "Ed" Baine is vice president-Power Generation System Operations in Dominion Generation. Baine is responsible for Dominion's regulated utility coal, natural gas, oil, hydro, and renewable generation assets. He joined Dominion in 1995 as an associate engineer and has held numerous engineering, operational, and management positions within the company. In 2006, he was named directorElectric Distribution Operations Centers. He was promoted to vice president-Shared Services, effective July 1, 2009, and appointed to Vice President - Fossil \& Hydro Merchant Operations in January 2012. He assumed his current post in July 2013.


## Rev. Devonte M. Coles (Advisory Board)

Rev. Coles is currently enrolled in the Chesterfield County Public School system and is a sophomore at James River High School, Midlothian, Virginia. He has held numerous leadership positions in the church from leading ministries, coordinating events, conferences, and revivals. Rev. Coles is not only a leader in the church but also outside of the church. In addition to being an entrepreneur and minister, he is a Licensed and Certified Business Coach, as well as a Motivational Speaker, and author.

## Congratulations MEGA Mentors!

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