

Tom Joyner Foundation and Allstate join forces to raise scholarship funds

Written by

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Far too often, Historically Black Colleges and Universities' (HBCUs) students are unable to afford their dream of attending college and earning a degree. Recent changes to federal student loan policies are disproportionately affecting HBCU students, forcing approximately 28,000 HBCU students to drop out of school last year due to a lack of funds.

Allstate and the Tom Joyner Foundation are partnering for the fifth annual Quotes for Education initiative to raise up to \$150,000 in scholarship funds through the Tom Joyner Foundation, but to succeed they need HBCU alumni, students and supporters to get involved. By receiving a quote from Allstate and voting for their favorite HBCU, supporters can raise funds that will help HBCU students complete their education.

Cheryl Harris, senior vice president at Allstate and an alumna of Florida A&M University (FAMU) said our community can help protect HBCU students through this special partnership between Allstate and the Tom Joyner Foundation.

In an interview with Al McFarlane taped for broadcast August 20th, Harris said Allstate and the Tom Joyner Foundation are working together to engage students, alumni and supporters of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country to raise scholarship funds as part of the fifth annual Allstate Quotes for Education program.

Harris grew up in the inner city of Chicago and credits scholarships from organizations like the Tom Joyner Foundation for helping her attain her degree. She lived in Minneapolis for eight years as an executive with American Express. She currently serves as chair of the Key Executive Council, an advisory board to FAMU's president.

Since graduating from Florida A&M, Cheryl Harris has achieved great success while demonstrating a continued commitment to programs like Quotes for Education that strengthen local communities by helping others achieve their goals:

- Harris had active roles supporting recruiting efforts on college campuses and is a board member of Teen Living Programs, a Chicago youth homeless shelter providing comprehensive services.

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- Harris mentors women-and-minority owned businesses and was featured by *Women's Enterprise USA* Magazine for her efforts with supplier diversity.

Harris has 20 years of experience leading diverse, multinational procurement teams. Prior to joining Allstate, she was most recently with Accenture LLP.