



Inaugural Gala for President Andrea Lewis Miller

April 29, 2017 | Memphis Cook Convention Center

CASE FOR SUPPORT

Education and technology are at the forefront of workforce development and innovation in Memphis and beyond. LeMoyne-Owen College has been a proud pipeline for professionals for over a century. Although LeMoyne-Owen was founded as a liberal arts institution and remains one to this very day, we embrace the future wholly and this means aligning our curriculum to prepare and equip future professionals with the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) skills the workplace now demands.

Proceeds from the Inaugural Gala will support the new **LeMoyne-Owen College Center for Cyber Defense** where future cyber security professionals prepare for impactful careers and our **Center of Excellence in Urban Education** where we continue to prepare some of Memphis' finest educators.

Proceeds also will provide **critical scholarship dollars** to students with academic gifts and those with financial challenges. While students who attend historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) like LeMoyne-Owen College only make up about three percent (3%) of the total higher education student population, HBCUs like LeMoyne-Owen College account for nearly 20 percent (20%) of minority graduates with bachelor's degrees. More than fifty percent (50%) of African American professionals and public school teachers matriculate from HBCUs. The National Science Foundation reports that nearly twenty percent (20%) of African American students earn science and engineering undergraduate degrees at HBCUs.

Therefore, your investment in the LeMoyne-Owen College Inaugural Gala for President Andrea Lewis Miller is not only an investment in Memphis' future, but also in workforce diversity and excellence.