

Congratulations to our Graduate of the Last Decade and 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients!



DR. RAEDA ANDERSON

G.O.L.D.

2018 Graduate of the Last Decade

Dr. Raeda Anderson

'08 Bachelor of Arts in Sociology '09 Master of Arts in Sociology

Dr. Anderson earned her Doctorate of Philosophy in Sociology with a minor in Survey Research and Methodology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2018. Currently, Dr. Anderson is an

Associate Professor and Quantitative Data Specialist in the department of Research and Engagement at Georgia State University. Her research examines how physical disability and social interaction influence mental health for older adults with physical disabilities. Dr. Anderson's dedication to teaching and research is highlighted by a myriad of awards, publications, and presentations.

2018 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



2018 College of the Arts Distinguished Alumna of the Year Ms. Trellis Payne '02 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art

Ms. Payne serves as Chair of the Savannah Arts Academy Visual Arts Department, where she teaches secondary level art and directs the Annual Junk 2 Funk Fashion Show. Trellis is also a freelance artist who channels the welcoming spirit of the South into bold paintings that add happiness to anyone's collection. In addition to donating artworks to numerous charitable organizations, her love for people shines brightly as she serves throughout



MRS. TERESA JOHNSON

2018 Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration **Distinguished Alumnus of the Year**

Mr. Jesse Maranville

'71 Bachelor of Business Administration

Mr. Maranville is the President of Georgia Gulf Sulfur Corporation headquartered in Valdosta, GA. Georgia Gulf Sulfur Corporation has been producing high quality sulfur products since 1959 with manufacturing plants in Bainbridge, Georgia: Acton and Ontario. Canada: and Freeport and Mt. Pleasant, Texas.

2018 College of Nursing and Health Sciences **Distinguished Alumna of the Year**

Mrs. Teresa Johnson

'97 Bachelor and Masters of Science in Nursing

Mrs. Johnson is a dual certified Adult Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwife practicing Advanced Practice Midwifery at Southern OBGYN in Valdosta, GA since 2005. Teresa Johnson has delivered over 2,500 babies in her 33 year medical career. She is well known in the Valdosta community for her love for nursing and taking care of patients that extends well beyond the four walls of her office.



Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Dr. B. Lee Green, Jr.

'87 Master of Education

Dr. Green currently serves as a Senior Member of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer and Research Institute. Health Outcomes and Behavior Program and Vice President for Diversity and Community Relations. Dr. Green is also the Co-Director for the Center for Equal Health and serves as the primary administrator for the Florida Health Equity Research Institute



2018 College of Arts and Sciences **Distinguished Alumnus of the Year** Mr. Vernon Keenan

'72 Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Mr. Keenan was appointed the Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) in January 2003 by Governor Sonny Perdue and then reappointed in 2011 by Governor Nathan Deal. He has served the state of Georgia in various law enforcement capacities for the past 46 years, initially as a uniform police officer, then a GBI Special Agent promoted to every sworn rank in the agency, and has served as the Director of the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{GBI}}$ for the past 15 years.





MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

6:00 PM - Friends Grille & Bar \$20 per person in advance / \$25 at the door

Come out to support your local Valdosta Chapter of the VSU Alumni Association. Featuring: Aged Bourbons, Fine Wines and Gourmet Hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds benefit the VSU Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18



Blazers Rewind to the 90's Pep Rally

7:00PM - P.E. Complex

VSU students, alumni and friends are invited to join us at the 'Plex for a black-light pep rally you won't forget! The Blazin' Brigade, VSU Cheerleaders, Red Hots, Blazer Coaches and members of all Blazer athletic teams will be putting on a show! The Pep Rally will also feature the always highly anticipated "Lip Sync" competition between our student organizations.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19



Alumni & Friends Annual **Homecoming Golf Tournament**

9:00AM - Kinderlou Forest Golf Club

Registration starts at 8:00AM

\$100 Individual/\$400 Team

Four-person scramble, shot-gun start. All Players will receive a commemorative golf item, lunch and drinks. Mulligans will be available for purchase, and prizes will be awarded.

Please visit the homecoming website for sponsorship opportunities!

Distinguished Alumni Dinner

6:00PM - The University Center, Magnolia Room Ticket purchased in advance- \$40 per person or \$75 a couple Tickets purchased at the door- \$50

Join us for a 90's themed dinner and cocktails as we recognize and celebrate the recipients of the 2018 Distinguished Alumni and the G.O.L.D. (Graduate of the last Decade) award winners. Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 6:00pm, gourmet dinner at 7:00pm. The party will continue in the Cypress Room immediately following the awards presentation with desserts and a special champagne toast to the newest members of the distinguished alumni family.

Reservations are requested as this is a limited seating engagement.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

Annual Homecoming Parade

11:00AM - Surrounding Campus

Bring the family and lawn chairs to watch the annual Homecoming Parade featuring the Blazin' Brigade, VSU Cheerleaders, Red Hots, and floats entered by student and community organizations. Winning floats will be judged on spirit and incorporation of this year's 90's theme. The parade will begin in the Oak Street Parking Lot, travel left onto Oak St., right onto Georgia Ave., right onto Patterson St., right onto Brookwood and return to the Oak Street Parking Lot.

Blazer Nation Tailgate Competition

The Valdosta chapter of the Alumni association is issuing a tailgate challenge. Show off your best tailgating skills, 90's decorations, and team spirit. Tailgates will be assessed based on incorporation of homecoming 90's theme, atmosphere, food, and Blazer pride. Judging begins at noon. The 2018 VSU Tailgate Champion will receive prizes, custom 2018 VSU Tailgate Championship flag and will be recognized during half-time. The competition is open to everyone!

Register your tailgate for free online at www.valdostastate.org/homecoming

Blazer Nation Tailgate Information

Alumni are encouraged to bring their tents, tailgate gear, chairs or blankets and tailgate before the game! Drexel Park is available, on a first come, first served basis to those who wish to tailgate. Food trucks will be parked in the VSU Booster parking lot located next to Bazemore-Hyder Stadium for pre-game concessions. Stop by the VSU Alumni Association tent (also located in the Booster parking lot) to pick up some free swag and enter to win a tailgate basket full of VSU gear!!!

50 Years of Nursing **Tailgate Celebration**

12:30PM-2:30PM - Health Sciences and Business Administration Building Brick walkway

Join fellow nursing alums along with faculty and staff from the College of Nursing for a special tailgate kick-off celebration of 50 years of Nursing at VSU. This celebratory tailgate will be located on the brick walkway outside the Health Sciences and Business Administration building on the Pound Hall side. Wear your VSU attire and join us for fun, food, and spirits at this special tailgate celebration. Please visit the homecoming website to RSVP to this event by October 15th.

Blazer Walk

1:30PM – Bazemore-Hyder Stadium

Cheer on our Blazer Football team, Cheerleaders, Red Hots, Blazin' Brigade and Blazer Coaches as they make their way into the stadium.

VSU Blazers vs. North Greenville

3:00PM Kickoff-Bazemore-Hyder Stadium Reserved Seating- \$18 **General Admission- \$10**

Tickets may be purchased on the homecoming website, by calling 229.333.SEAT (7328) or by emailing tickets@valdosta.edu

Register for homecoming events online at www.valdostastate.org/homecoming or by calling Alumni Relations at 229.333.5797 **CONNECT WITH US!**

