



DUFF
CENTER

The Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy presents

2024 LEGACY AWARD

honoring

Tom and Jim Duff

JIM AND THOMAS DUFF CENTER FOR
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy, Celebrating 24 years

In 2000, with the support and approval of the University of Mississippi leadership, 24 diverse women formed the Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy. Their goal was to encourage women to become philanthropists and to tap into the new emerging paradigm of women taking greater control of their finances. The goal was also to create a program that would provide endowed scholarships for deserving young women and men. The Council quickly added mentoring and leadership components to the program in order to assure the development and success of each scholar.

Over the last 24 years, approximately 175 students have benefitted from the OMWC Scholarship, mentoring, and leadership programs, once described as one of the most creative and timely scholarship programs in the nation. The Council Scholars receive guidance and support from OMWC members, staff, career and life mentors, and outside supporters. The many programs and the opportunities for national and international travel have strengthened confidence, expanded horizons, and broadened the educational and life experiences of each student. In addition to graduating and pursuing meaningful careers, these scholars become servant leaders who understand the importance of giving back and creating a more ethical society.

In 2010, the OMWC created the Legacy Award in order to recognize individuals who epitomize the Council's goals of philanthropy, scholarship, leadership, and mentorship. In honoring the recipients, we thank them for their many and varied contributions that have made a positive difference in the University of Mississippi, our state, and our nation. We hold these honorees up as role models for our scholars. They give inspiration and encouragement to these young people and help the Council in impacting generations to come.

Past Legacy Honorees



—2023—

Ambassador
John Palmer



—2020—

Dolly Parton



—2019—

Ruth Weigle Guyton and
Dr. Arthur C. Guyton



—2018—

Dr. Gerald M. "Doc"
Hollingsworth



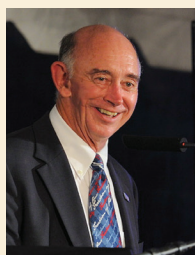
—2017—

Jennifer Gillom and
Peggie Gillom-Granderson



—2016—

Chancellor Emeritus
Robert C. Khayat



—2015—

Charles Overby



—2014—

Donna and Jim Barksdale



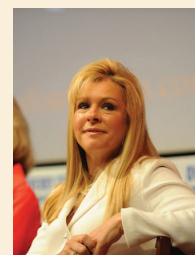
—2012—

Elise Winter and
Governor William Winter



—2011—

Olivia Manning



—2010—

Leigh Anne Tuohy

2024 Honorees

Tom and Jim Duff

Mississippi's most successful business-partner brothers and generous supporters of the state's public institutions of higher education, Tom and Jim Duff, will be honored at the University of Mississippi on Nov. 7, 2024, with the Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy Legacy Award. The award is presented yearly to recipients whose lives exemplify the values and tenets of the OMWC: philanthropy, scholarship, leadership, and mentorship.

Residents of Hattiesburg, the Duffs were born and raised in Columbia, Mississippi. Tom graduated from Columbia High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Southern Mississippi. Jim graduated from Columbia Academy and studied business at Utah Valley University.

They co-founded and co-own Duff Capital Investors (DCI), a holding company comprising 22 separate business units. DCI is the largest privately owned business in Mississippi. With revenues of \$5.5 billion, DCI employs more than 6,000 Mississippians and an additional 10,000 employees nationwide.

The Duffs have made significant contributions to elevate educational opportunities in Mississippi. In 2020, they made a \$26 million gift to the University of Mississippi for the construction of the Jim and Thomas Duff Center for Science and Technology Innovation. This state-of-the-art science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) facility opened on UM's Oxford campus in August. The Duff Center, the largest academic building project in Ole Miss' history, will prepare countless students to enter STEM fields. STEM jobs are expected to grow at twice the rate of all other jobs through 2031. The Duffs also made a \$1 million gift to Ole Miss in 2017 to create the Ernest R. Duff Flagship Constellation Fund to honor their father, an Ole Miss alumnus.



Tom, left, and Jim Duff of Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Tom and Jim are also giving generously to support other buildings on college campuses, such as the Jim and Thomas Duff Athletic Center at the University of Southern Mississippi and the Jim and Thomas Duff Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities and Department of Kinesiology at Mississippi State University. The Duffs plan to give 90% of their estates to charity.

The brothers are strong believers in giving back to the community. They have served on numerous boards and have been recognized for their many successes as entrepreneurs in the state. Both are active members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

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2024 LEGACY AWARD
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Tom and Jim Duff

Thursday, November 7, 2024

6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Duff Center for Science and Technology Innovation

6:30-7:15 p.m. Cocktail Reception | 7:15 p.m. Legacy Award Ceremony

Sponsorship Opportunities

Global Presenting Sponsor \$30,000



- 2 reserved tables for 16 guests
- Full-length feature story on the University of Mississippi, University of Mississippi Foundation, and Ole Miss Women's Council websites
- Recognition at the event
- Promotion on all social media platforms
- OMWC Newsletter
- Admission to ribbon cutting prior to event

Innovator \$20,000

- 2 reserved tables for 16 guests
- Full-length feature story on the University of Mississippi, University of Mississippi Foundation, and Ole Miss Women's Council websites
- Recognition at the event
- Promotion on all social media platforms
- OMWC Newsletter
- Admission to ribbon cutting prior to event

Visionary \$15,000

- 1 reserved table for 8 guests and 4 additional guests
- Full-length feature story on the University of Mississippi, University of Mississippi Foundation, and Ole Miss Women's Council websites
- Recognition at the event
- Promotion on all social media platforms
- OMWC Newsletter
- Admission to ribbon cutting prior to event

Fellow \$10,000

- 10 guests at the reception
- Full-length feature story on the University of Mississippi, University of Mississippi Foundation, and Ole Miss Women's Council websites
- Recognition at the event
- Promotion on all social media platforms
- OMWC Newsletter
- Admission to ribbon cutting prior to event

Creator \$5,000

- 8 guests at the reception
- Recognition at the event
- Promotion on all social media platforms
- OMWC Newsletter

Partner \$2,500

- 4 guests at the reception
- Recognition at the event
- Promotion on all social media platforms

Community \$1,000

- 2 guests at the reception
- Recognition at the event



**OLE MISS
WOMEN'S COUNCIL
FOR PHILANTHROPY**

