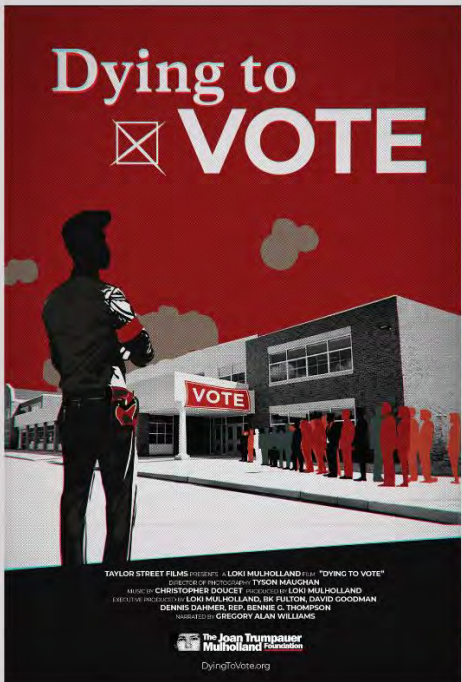


Action Plan – Millsaps College

This is our first attempt at engaging in the development of an action plan for the ALL IN program. Millsaps College is currently a small, private college with less than 600 students. This poses challenges for us when it comes to overall student engagement. When presented with the opportunity to participate in the ALL IN program, we hoped that we could do more. The great thing about our campus is that, this year, there has been a solid amount of engagement around voter registration and education in particular.

ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT




Dying to VOTE

TAYLOR STREET FILMS PRESENTS A LOKI MULHOLLAND FILM "DYING TO VOTE"
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TYSON MAUGHAN
EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER DOUCEY PRODUCED BY LOKI MULHOLLAND
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LOKI MULHOLLAND, BK FULTON, DAVID GOODMAN
DENNIS DAHMER, BEO, BRUNO G. THOMPSON
NARRATED BY GREGORY ALAN WILLIAMS

The Joan Truempauer Mulholland Foundation
DyingToVote.org

Screening & Panel Discussion


Dennis Dahmer | Jerry Mitchell | Loki Mulholland



Millsaps College

Thurs. Sep. 5, 6:00pm

Gertrude C. Ford Academic Complex, Room 137
Free and Open to the Public
Refreshments Served



Dying to Vote is a documentary made by Loki Mulholland that was shown on campus for the larger campus community including students, faculty, staff and the larger area community. Moderated by Jerry Mitchell, an American investigative reporter formerly with *The Clarion-Ledger*, a newspaper in Jackson, Mississippi. He convinced authorities to reopen many cold murder cases from the civil rights era, his investigations providing the basis for prosecutions, prompting one colleague to call him "the South's Simon Wiesenthal". In 2009, he received a "genius grant" from the MacArthur Foundation. The documentary focuses on the experience of Dennis Dahmer, son of Vernon Dahmer. Vernon was an American civil rights movement leader and president of the Forrest County chapter of the NAACP in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He was murdered by the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan for his work on recruiting Black Americans to vote.

CHOOSING OUR FUTURE: COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ON VOTING RIGHTS

"The vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democracy." — John Lewis in a 2019 Commonwealth Interview



Arekia Bennet-Scott, Moderator
Executive Director, MS Votes

PANELISTS



Yehesuah Downie
Restore Your Vote
Organizer
Campaign Legal Center



Valencia Richardson
Voting Rights Legal
Counsel
Campaign Legal
Center



Joshua Tom
Legal Director
ACLU Mississippi



Vangela Wade
President and CEO
MS Center for Justice

Thursday, October 3, 2024

- ✔ Millsaps College, Gertrude C. Ford Academic Complex
- ✔ 6:00 Program, Room 215 ✔ 7:00 Reception, 3rd Floor

**MILLSAPS
COLLEGE**



**MEDGAR
& MYRLIE
EVERS
INSTITUTE**

MISSISSIPPI TODAY

Choosing Our Future: A Community Conversation on Voting Rights sponsored by the Millsaps Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Campus Center; the Millsaps Department of Government & Politics; the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute; and *Mississippi Today*.

Arekia S. Bennett-Scott, Executive Director of Mississippi Votes, will lead a panel discussion featuring:

- Yehesuah Downie, Restore Your Vote Organizer at the Campaign Legal Center in Washington, DC;
- Valencia Richardson, Voting Rights Legal Counsel at the Campaign Legal Center;
- Joshua Tom of ACLU Mississippi; and
- Vangela Wade, President and CEO of the MS Center for Justice.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



Students created a campaign called “Go Vote, Go Majors” to encourage voter registration. A partnership with a local organization, Mississippi Votes, was developed to assist Millsaps students with registering to vote. Mississippi Votes is an organization of intergenerational synergy centering and led by young people invested in the progression of Mississippi. We do this through our programming and outreach strategies that empowers young people, encourages civic engagement, and educates communities on voting rights through place-based grassroots organizing. Millsaps Young Democrats, Millsaps College Republicans and the Millsaps National Panhellenic Council (NPHC) were also engaged in the planning and support for voter registration activities.

Recommendations

- Millsaps College should formalize a civic engagement committee made up of staff, faculty, students. This committee would be responsible for campus-wide coordination of activities related to voter engagement and registration. A centralized cross section of the campus would provide for an understanding of programming and overall civic engagement.
- The formation of a student organization dedicated to civic and voter engagement to bring student awareness to the forefront of the conversation. This group could work with the proposed committee to facilitate campus activities related to these efforts.

Overall, our future goals are to understand if civic engagement efforts are effective in increasing student awareness as well as participation in the areas of voter registration, education, and participation. As we continue to develop these efforts, we would seek information that will help us with continuous improvement related to civic engagement including developing stronger community connections and provide support for overall advocacy for this work to ensure that civic engagement and voting is a College priority that is supported with some institutional resources.