



# MISSION MCNAIR

A TRIO MCNAIR PROGRAM NEWSLETTER



## WELCOME THE NEW SUMMER 2025 COHORT!

(From L to R) Shariah Alvarenga, Jacksi Becerra, Sidney Booher, Elisabeth Denis, Caitlyn Glover, Jace Luttrell, Jana Malone, Lauren McEldowney, Allison Monroe, Suzi Peter, Alaya Shelton, Natalie Wood

86%

Are first-generation college students

83%

Enrolled in graduate school

31%

Earned doctorate

29

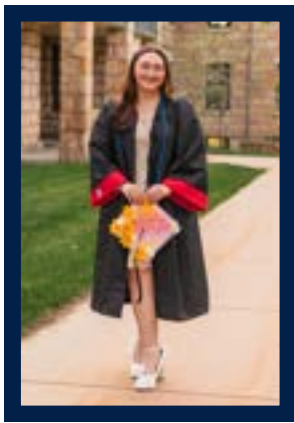
Students served annually

## SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS SINCE 1991

East Tennessee State University's TRIO McNair Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education to expand access to doctoral students for talented undergraduates from low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented backgrounds since 1991.

The program is named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, one of the astronauts killed on the ill-fated Challenger mission in 1986. Dr. McNair, the second African-American astronaut, was a proponent of education for hard-working, high-achieving students from all types of backgrounds.

The McNair Program provides opportunities for research and other scholarly activities and helps participants gain skills in areas designed to help them enroll and succeed in graduate school. Workshops are offered in graduate school admissions, presentation skills, professionalism, and research methods, among other topics.



## 2024-2025 COHORT HIGHLIGHTS

Scholars have been accepted into various programs, including:

- NASA Summer Research Institute at the University of Oregon
- Summer Research Institute at the University of Arizona
- Summer Research Opportunities Program at Michigan State University
- Master's in Experimental Psychology at Georgia Southern

One scholar received the highly competitive Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship.

### SCHOLAR QUOTE

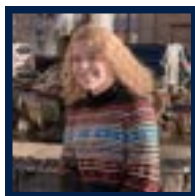
*TRIO consistently introduced me to opportunities I wouldn't have known to look for otherwise.... I couldn't be where I am today without TRIO.*

-Shanna Holt, Alumn of 2024



### SUMMER 2025 FACILITATORS

Our summer facilitators are vital in creating a supportive and enriching experience for our McNair interns. Their dedication, insight, and mentorship help shape a transformative summer of growth, discovery, and preparation for graduate study. Below, our facilitators have shared quotes for the interns and aspiring scholars to carry with them on their journey.



MS. JANE ANDERSON

*I think everyone has creative energy bottled up somewhere. It's merely a matter of finding it and channeling it into fulfilling projects. If my students create works they feel passionate about and proud of, then my goal is met!*



MR. K. MATTHEW BENNETT

*As educators, we should always lead with kindness and encourage curiosity.*



MR. ZACK KEITH

*Life is a journey of unexpected twists, uniquely shaped by you. Embrace the path, persevere, and keep moving forward with compassion for others.*



DR. BEN LEE

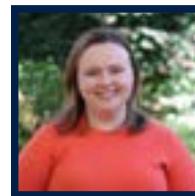
*There is nothing more important than understanding the natural world and no better teacher than nature.*

*As researchers, we are called to share the gift of science to uplift and empower society.*



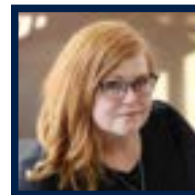
MS. ANGELA MASIELLO

*Working with the McNair scholars is such a joy professionally and personally. I love watching them grow as researchers and scholars!*



DR. ERIN MESSMER

*Being a teacher means being a life-long learner, and students teach us and each other more than they realize. I love the energy and enthusiasm students radiate and they motivate my own passion to support them more and more! It's a synergistic relationship.*



DR. CHRISTA MOORE

*The McNair program enables students to grow, find their voice, and realize they belong in grad school and beyond. It's incredible to be part of their journey as they push boundaries and turn their dreams into real possibilities.*



DR. ROBERT PATTIE

Want to learn more? Connect with us today!

<https://www.etsu.edu/students/trio/mcnair/>



Scan to access our website!