

This is a copy of our Alumni newsletter that is sent monthly to our alumni.

If you wish to receive these emails, please let us know at alumni@jsu.edu.



August 2026 Edition

FEATURED EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS



We had a wonderful time this July with our Jax State alumni and friends! We welcomed former faculty and staff back to campus for the Retirees' Summer Luncheon. We also traveled to Rome, Georgia, to meet with our Grey Echelon members in the area and visited with our Huntsville Network for our Summer Lunch Bunch series.

In addition to network lunches, we ended the month celebrating our newest Jax State alumni with a Summer Graduation Toast held at the Houston Cole Library.

To view our events over the past month, [click here](#).



It's not too late to RSVP and join us **this evening** for the **Gamecock Gathering** in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida! Whether you live in the Santa Rosa Beach area or are soaking up a last-minute vacation before fall activities begin, come connect with fellow Gamecocks over great food and casual conversation at The Chanticleer Eatery from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. [RSVP here.](#)

On **August 29**, many of our alumni networks will be hosting **Watch Parties** to kick off an exciting season of Jax State football. Locations and registrations will be posted [here](#). Although there is no fee to attend, we kindly ask that you RSVP and let us know if you plan to cheer on the Gamecocks from a location near you.

This fall, alumni, family, and friends are invited to network with other Gamecocks and learn of university updates from Jax State President Don C. Killingsworth, Jr., Ed.D., for our annual **State of the University Presidential Addresses**. Details and registration will be released soon, along with our announcement of Fall 2026 engagement opportunities.

[View events and register here.](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

COCKY BUSINESS



Jennifer Swafford ('94 & '99) is serving students, families, and her community in Cleburne County. With degrees in early childhood education, elementary education, and school counseling, Swafford has served as the school counselor for Cleburne County Middle School in Heflin, Alabama, for more than 20 years.

She was awarded the 2025 Alabama School Counselor of the Year and continues to dedicate her time investing in students through mentoring, character education, peer leadership, community partnerships, and innovative school programs. Swafford said one of the most unique and meaningful additions to the counseling program has been the facility dog, Juice.

[**Read more about Jennifer Swafford here.**](#)



Ashley Robinson ('10) strategically built her marketing agency, **Green Cardigan Marketing**, finding her niche after helping a friend who was a criminal defense lawyer. She saw a need for transparent digital marketing for lawyers, driven by data and customized marketing solutions.

"I began working with lawyers as a side hustle," Robinson said. "Law firms are in a very competitive market, and I recognized the need for transparency in the service I was offering."

[**Read more about Green Cardigan Marketing here.**](#)

[**Submit your own Cocky Business to be featured**](#) in one of our upcoming newsletters here!

ALUMNI CONNECTION



Congratulations to our newest Jax State graduates! As you take your next steps, stay connected to your Gamecock family through

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Thank you to all our alumni, friends, family, and fans who have purchased the **Jax State license plate** for your car as you've renewed this year. Did you know Alabama

Jax State Alumni Connection, our exclusive alumni engagement platform.

Whether you want to reconnect with classmates or just stay involved with the university you love, this platform makes it easy. Sign up using your non-JSU email or social media, verify with a quick code, and start exploring your alumni network today!

[Click here to get started.](#)

residents can also purchase a motorcycle tag and vessel tag? Whether you're about to renew or need to renew next year, make a note to share your Jax State spirit on the road and water! Proceeds from the tags allow the Alumni Association to provide scholarships to students – thanks to you, we were able to award **49 scholarships** for the 2026-2027 year.

[Click here](#) to learn more about our National Alumni Association and membership.

GROWING GAMECOCKS



Wishing all of our Growing Gamecocks a happy school year!

Open to children of alumni, family, and friends, the program celebrates future Jax State students with a birthday card or gift delivered around their special day each year.

If you or someone you know are interested in enrolling a child in the program, [click here for details and sign up today!](#)

AROUND CAMPUS



Jax State celebrated another milestone in its ongoing campus transformation with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and community open house celebrating the completion of **West Village**, the university's largest residence hall and one of the largest construction projects in institutional history. [Read more here.](#)

Jax State Assistant Professor of Biology, Dr. Le Su, was awarded a national grant to advance research aimed at understanding and treating aggressive childhood cancers. The **St. Baldrick's Foundation** awarded more than \$73,000 to support Dr. Su's research into aggressive pediatric sarcomas. [Read more here.](#)

COMING TO THE ROC

GAMECOCKS GIVE BACK



We are excited about our inaugural season at the Randy Owen Center!

- **October 4:** Good Witch/Bad Witch: The Broadway Witches
- **November 16:** Candlelight Celtic Christmas.
- **January 23, 2027:** Secret Sisters, filmed for Alabama Public Television
- **February 2:** The Glenn Miller Orchestra
- **April 2:** Jazz at Lincoln Center presents World on a String – Swinging Songs of Broadway
- **April 10:** Vienna Girls Choir

In addition, we will host school field trips of **Educational Performances** from The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System on October 22, and Rosie Revere, Ada Twist and Iggy Peck: The Questioners on February 12, 2027.

Rounding out the season, the ROC will be the home for many events within the **David L. Walter's Department of Music**, some of which include the Southerners' Holiday Concert on December 9, Band-O-Rama on April 1, and much more.

[To purchase tickets, click here.](#)

August is National Make-A-Will Month

August is the perfect time to create or update your will. A will helps ensure your wishes are honored, provides for your loved ones, and brings peace of mind for the future.

As you think about the legacy you want to leave, consider including the Jacksonville State University Foundation in your estate plans. A charitable bequest is a simple and flexible way to support the programs and students that matter most to you—all while retaining complete control of your assets during your lifetime.

Leave a lasting Gamecock legacy. To learn more about including Jax State in your will or estate plans, contact the Office of Philanthropy at **(256) 782-5606**, or visit <https://www.jsu.edu/plannedgiving> to create your free will or trust.

DR. WENDY CASH
DIRECTOR,
ALUMNI
ENGAGEMENT
256-782-5405
WCASH@JSU.EDU



BRITTANY WHITE
ASST. DIRECTOR,
ALUMNI
ENGAGEMENT
256-782-8256
BHWHITE@JSU.EDU

[Unsubscribe](#)

Jacksonville State University Foundation, Inc., 700 Pelham Road, North, Jacksonville, AL
36265

Did you know that you can double your impact? Learn more about matching gifts and check to see if your employer will match your donation at <https://www.jsu.edu/philanthropy/ways-to-give.html>