

**PANEL,  
CONTINUED**

Panelists also discussed the current climate in Jonesboro with NAACP, BLM and other things happening within the community. Dr. Jones-Branch is the dean of the Graduate School and James and Wanda Lee Vaughn Endowed Professor of History. The South Carolina

native joined the Arkansas State University History Department Faculty in 2003. "Jonesboro has become increasingly diverse but it's not inclusive. Poverty is an issue here. It's not just poverty with people of color, there's white folks. I have white colleagues who will tell me that if you go to the food

bank on any given day it's not black people. It impacts things like who attends Arkansas State University. Recruitment matters and how you're going to get them to stay," said Jones-Branch. Scales is a pastor emeritus of New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Jonesboro, and a founding member of the

Craighead County Dr. Martin Luther King Committee. An attendee asked the panelist what can people in the community do to unite the people in their town to go to protests and events. "Peaceful gathering. It's pretty good at getting people together. For example the first

onto the third Martin Luther King Day parade we had a mix of white and Hispanics with us. As we grew, the whites fell off. They just fell by the wayside. Young whites need to stand up. We work together. Tell your white friends. Call them out. It's the same thing across the board." said Scales.

The full audio of the panel discussion can be found at KASU.org under local and regional headlines.

## A-State celebrates second annual Day of Giving

**RACHEL RUDD  
NEWS EDITOR**

Arkansas State University celebrated its second annual Day of Giving on Tuesday. It is part of a nationwide event where colleges ask for private donations to help improve aspects of their campuses. According to the A-State website, the event is a "24 hour university-wide effort to build a better, stronger Arkansas State University through private giving." Donations could be made to the university itself, or they could be directly given to a particular college or organization. Accepted donation methods included CashApp, checks, credit/debit cards or even physical cash. On Tuesday, students were encouraged to support the event by wearing scarlet and black or by wearing A-State clothing. Tara Thomason, Director of Annual Giving, said she wanted

both donors and non-donors to promote the event by posting about it on social media telling their friends and family about it. The Day of Giving was first hosted in 2021, after A-State was asked to begin hosting a campus-wide donation event. They raised \$1,063,000 in donations from 750 donors. Thomason said the official donation goal is never officially promoted, but the 2022 goal is smaller than last year's total. The amount raised for this year will be announced on Friday. The event placed a higher emphasis on private donations due to budget restraints and lack of funding for some areas. "We are trying to look to the private sector and ask those people that have received their degree from Arkansas State," Thomason said. "We ask those individuals to help and support and to give back to the university, so that we can

continue to grow and expand what's already so wonderful and already established here." The Day of Giving has donors from all across the country and even globe donate. While most of the donations come from Arkansas residents, some have come from states like Washington and Alaska. This year, the event received one from Japan. While most donations come from alumni, parents, students, faculty and staff and friends of A-State were also encouraged to donate. "We just hope that students, faculty and staff members, fans and alumni will consider just making one very small gift," Thomason said. "Rarely do you hear about the individual that is maybe on a budget and they contribute \$50 out of their pocket. I want people to know that every single dollar truly does make a difference."

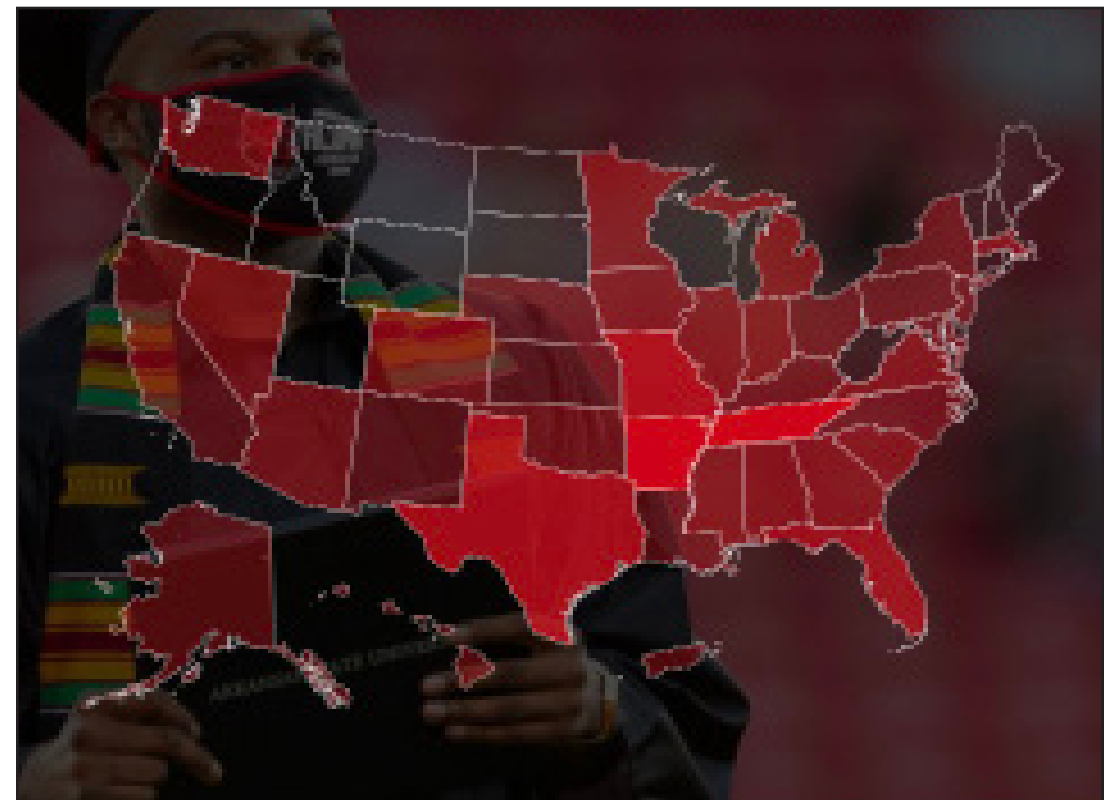


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A gradient map depicting where in the country donations have come from

## The Yard opens, students visiting over past few weeks



Photo by Jonathan Schaufier | Advertisement Manager

The Yard, a multi-cuisine restaurant, opened on March 21. It includes a BA Burrito, Larry's Pizza and Saigon Noodle. Students have been visiting the new restaurant over the last few weeks, including Lauryn Pendleton, a freshman creative media production major from Little Rock.

"It's a nice little (place). I don't have any complaints," Pendleton said.

Pendleton did say that the bar itself was a little too high. She also said she would like more food options, such as a burger place. More options will open later on, including a fully-stocked bar run by Brickhouse will open and a Shadrachs.

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