

# IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY & SOCIETY PAGE

Sponsored by Volkswagen

# Volkswagen



## Learning The Ropes: Area Professionals Push Local Students To Think Big



About 70 students from Hamilton County high schools met with 40 business professionals at a speed-networking event last Thursday at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.



High school students work the room at a speed-networking event last Thursday at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

By Charlie Reed

Katreya Lewis professes to be shy. But you wouldn't know it watching the high school sophomore work the room at a speed-networking event last Thursday at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

A student at Tyner Academy and president of her class, Lewis has career plans and wants to go to college.

She moved closer to accomplishing both goals at the high-energy mixer that paired about 70 students from Hamilton County high schools with 40 business professionals from Chattanooga, including faculty and staff from UTC.

"I surround myself with people who are outgoing and that help me talk to people more," said Lewis, who aspires to become a speech pathologist or recreational therapist.

Dressed to impress, the students mingled and passed out business cards before entering the musical chairs-esque networking line. The teens moved from one seat to the next for three-minute sessions with each of the stationary professionals.

The students had to shoulder the

bulk of the conversation by talking about themselves and asking career-oriented questions for two-and-a-half minutes, with the last 30 seconds reserved for feedback from the professional at hand.

"Students, you are sitting next to business professionals who are working at some of the most prominent companies across our city," Stacy Lightfoot, vice chancellor for diversity and engagement, told the crowd in the Tennessee Room at the University Center.

"So as you experience this and engage with our community leaders and our UTC faculty, we hope that you all see yourselves as part of the fabric of this institution and the economic fabric of Chattanooga."

The event was co-sponsored by the UTC Office of Equity and Inclusion and the Education Equal Opportunity Group, a nonprofit based in Nashville. EEOG developed the Career Speed Networking Program and works with school districts and companies around the state to create meaningful and positive experiences for students.

The goal, said George Thomas,



Students from Hamilton County high schools mingled and passed out business cards during a speed-networking event last Thursday at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

CEO of the group, is to inspire students and expand their vision of what's possible for their education, their careers and their future in general.

"EEOG is deliberate and intentional about forging unlikely relationships between successful business leaders

from the public sector and the private sector and young people," Thomas said.

"You cannot be what you cannot see," he said. "Talent is everywhere. Opportunity is not."

## "Aretha is Back!"

For years it has been rumored that The Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, performed at Howard High School – in 1950's or 60's!

To commemorate this historic visit the Howard Theatre Arts Program in partnership with Legends of Soul Chattanooga & Chattanooga Neighbors Arts Partnership present: His Daughter... Aretha! Starring Jasmine LaShea, Mary Lisa Wigfall & Cynthia Honey-sucker. Background vocals supplied by Cortney Warner, Nikki Harkness, & Jessica Parker; with Music Director C. Bryant Foster.

The basis of that is an old promotional poster pointing out that Ms. Franklin performed at "Howard Hi" – on Monday, April 4. The poster does not say which year, but perhaps one could assume that it must have been when her father, pastor C.L. Franklin, was on tour with the Staple Singers and Sammie Bryant.

Just six weeks before Ms. Franklin's apparent appearance, the Howard High students had taken part in the sit-ins at the local dime stores to encourage integration of such facilities.

You won't want to miss this incred-

ible performance of Aretha's biggest hits and some of her fan's album favorites, great show(wo)manship, and an amazing time grooving down memory lane as Aretha returns to Howard.

**Tickets:**  
**\$20 for Adults**  
**\$5 for Students**

Link to Purchase Tickets: <https://gofan.co/app/events/573347?-schoolId=TN13126>

website: [ChattaNAP192.com](http://ChattaNAP192.com)

**WHAT:**  
His Daughter . . . Aretha!

**WHO:**  
Howard Theatre Arts, Legends of Soul Chattanooga and Chattanooga Neighborhood Arts Partnership

**WHEN:**  
Monday, April 4th at 7:00 PM

**WHERE:**  
The Howard School Theatre

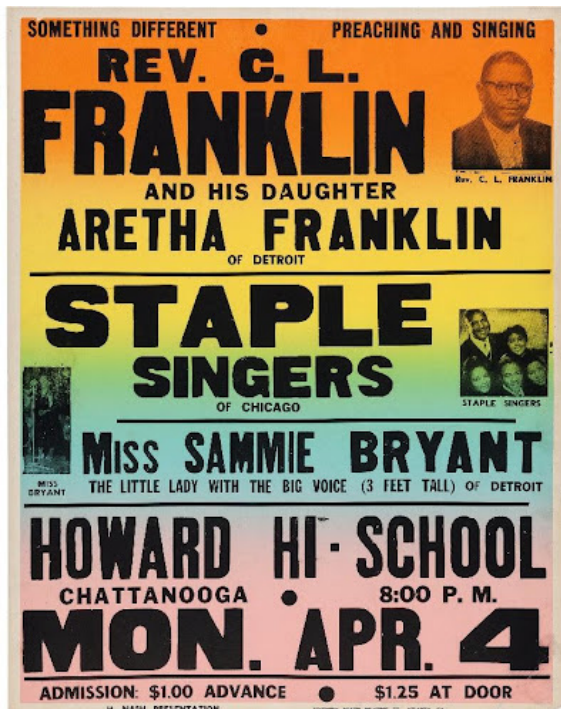
## Wigfall to Speak at Greater Tucker March 27, 2022



Minister Mary Lisa Wigfall will be the guest speaker for Women In Ministry on Sunday, March 27th at Greater Tucker Missionary Baptist Church starting at 10:45 am.

The public is welcome to attend. COVID-19 Protocol will be followed.

Greater Tucker Missionary Baptist is located at 1115 North Moore Road, Chattanooga, TN 37411. Gary L. Hathaway, Senior Pastor



An old promotional poster pointing out that Ms. Franklin performed at "Howard Hi" – on Monday, April 4. Image by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Scan QR Code to Purchase Tickets

**Transforming Faith Baptist Church**

## Women's Prayer Breakfast 2022

**THEME: DO YOU BELIEVE?**  
**MARK 11:23-24**

Join us for breakfast and leave feeling encouraged and empowered to conquer your year!

Saturday, March 26th at 9am  
Transforming Faith Baptist Church  
5311 Upshaw Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37416  
Dr. Jerome T. Rogan, Pastor

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Sis. LaTrice Currie-Leslie**