

2024-2025

YEAR IN REVIEW



Lux Luxet in Tenebris

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A Message from President Yolanda W. Page, Ph.D.

Dear Stillman Family,

2025 marked a transformative year in Stillman College's history. Through strategic partnerships, significant investments, and innovative programming, we have strengthened our capacity to serve students and advance our mission of educational excellence.

From launching Alabama's first HBCU-charter school partnership to securing over \$4.3 million in funding commitments and adopting the ASCEND 2030 Strategic Plan, we have positioned Stillman for sustained growth and impact. As we approach our sesquicentennial, the achievements of 2025 demonstrate our commitment to bold, forward-thinking leadership.

With Warm Regards,



Yolanda W. Page, Ph.D.

President





Strategic Vision: ASCEND 2030

In 2025, the Stillman College Board of Trustees approved ASCEND 2030, a comprehensive five-year strategic plan serving as the College's roadmap toward excellence in education, student success, infrastructure development, and community engagement. Building upon the RAMP 2022 strategic plan, ASCEND 2030 represents a forward-thinking initiative aimed at enhancing the college's reputation, strengthening relationships with alumni and community partners, and optimizing institutional resources.

ASCEND is an acronym for Academic excellence, Student success, Cyber security, Engagement, Name recognition, and Destination Stillman. The strategic plan identifies six priorities designed to position Stillman College as a leading liberal arts institution that provides high-quality education, fosters innovation, and ensures long-term sustainability:

- **Student Success:** Implementing innovative engagement strategies that support students from enrollment through life after graduation.
- **Enrollment Management:** Creating a collaborative, institution-wide strategy to attract, retain, and graduate more students.
- **Infrastructure & Technology:** Developing modern, secure infrastructure to support academic excellence and workforce development.
- **Community Engagement:** Building strong partnerships with businesses and organizations to enhance education and support students.
- **Academic Programs:** Remaining competitive in program offerings and preparing students for career success.
- **Finance & Resource Development:** Ensuring long-term financial sustainability through strategic partnerships and resource optimization.

The initiatives outlined in this report reflect ASCEND 2030's priorities in action.

FALL 2025 ENROLLMENT:

Growing Strong

Fall 2025 marked significant progress in Stillman's enrollment trajectory, with 740 students enrolled as of September 12, 2025. This diverse student body reflects Stillman's commitment to access and opportunity while maintaining academic excellence.

Overall Enrollment Profile

- **Total Enrollment:** 740 students (694 FTE)
- **Gender Distribution:** 58% female (426 students), 42% male (314 students)
- **Enrollment Status:** 84% full-time students (624), 24% enrolled in online courses (179)
- **Geographic Diversity:** 71% Alabama residents (526), 29% out-of-state/international (214)
- **Campus Housing:** 44% of students living on campus (326)
- **Scholarship Support:** \$4,043,916 in scholarships awarded

First-Time Freshman Class Profile

The Fall 2025 freshman class of 139 students represents Stillman's future, bringing academic potential and diverse perspectives to campus.

- **Class Size:** 139 first-time freshmen
- **Gender:** 58% male (81), 42% female (58)
- **Academic Profile:** 2.78 average high school GPA, 14 average credit hours registered
- **Diversity:** 91% Black/African American, 8% White, 1% Hispanic
- **Enrollment Status:** 83% full-time (115), 17% part-time (24)
- **Geographic Reach:** Students from 11 states

Alabama Representation: 67% of freshmen (93 students) from Alabama, representing 23 counties. Top counties include Tuscaloosa (29%), Jefferson (25%), and Shelby (12%).

Out-of-State Students: 33% of freshmen (46 students) from beyond Alabama. Top states include Georgia (52% of out-of-state students), Mississippi (22%), and Wisconsin (9%).

Popular Academic Programs

Fall 2025 freshmen enrolled across Stillman's academic schools, with strong interest in:

- **Business Administration:** 40 students
- **Psychology:** 24 students
- **Criminal Justice:** 17 students
- **Biology:** 15 students
- **Human Performance:** 14 students

Faculty Excellence

- **Total Faculty:** 83 (38 full-time, 45 part-time)
- **Student-Faculty Ratio:** 1:19 (full-time faculty)
- **Tenured Faculty:** 48% (17 faculty members)
- **Gender Balance:** 50% female, 50% male full-time faculty

Transformative Partnerships and Educational Innovation

Alabama's First HBCU-Charter School Partnership

In August 2025, Stillman College launched Alabama's first HBCU-charter school partnership with I Dream Big Academy (IDBA), creating an authentic cradle-to-career educational pipeline. This pioneering initiative currently serves 200 middle school students on campus and will provide dual-enrollment pathways beginning in high school. The partnership attracted national recognition when Bloomberg Philanthropies and City Fund announced a \$20 million investment to replicate this model at HBCUs nationwide. With United Negro College Fund (UNCF) support, Stillman serves as a national demonstration site for HBCU-K-12 collaboration.



Jump Start Initiative: Early Childhood Education

Stillman's commitment to the cradle-to-career pipeline extends to early childhood education through the Jump Start Initiative, a community partnership made possible through grant support from the Alabama Power Foundation. Partnering with Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church and the United Way of West Alabama Success by Six Program, Jump Start offers young learners the foundational skills needed to excel academically in kindergarten, igniting a passion for learning that extends into their future careers. This initiative demonstrates Stillman's comprehensive approach to educational access across all age groups.

Digital Transformation: Stillman Connect

The launch of Stillman Connect represents a comprehensive digital transformation encompassing three strategic priorities: Tiger Tech, which provides all first-year students with iPads beginning Spring 2026, and enhanced digital literacy training institution-wide. Stillman Online expands access through flexible degree and certificate programs. Campus-wide AI readiness initiatives prepare the institution to leverage AI across teaching, learning, and operations. These initiatives align with ASCEND 2030 and position Stillman as a technology leader among HBCUs.

Financial Strength and Institutional Sustainability

Stillman College secured over \$4 million in funding commitments and access to investment during 2024-2025. The HBCU Brilliance Initiative provided a \$40,000 grant with access to \$1 million in financing from the Reinvestment Fund for infrastructure improvements. A \$3 million Title III supplement supports critical infrastructure, including facility renovations and modernization of science laboratories. Additionally, a \$1.36 million five-year Student Support Services grant will serve 140 students annually.



These investments strengthen physical infrastructure, expand student support services, and ensure long-term institutional sustainability aligned with ASCEND 2030's Finance & Resource Development priority.

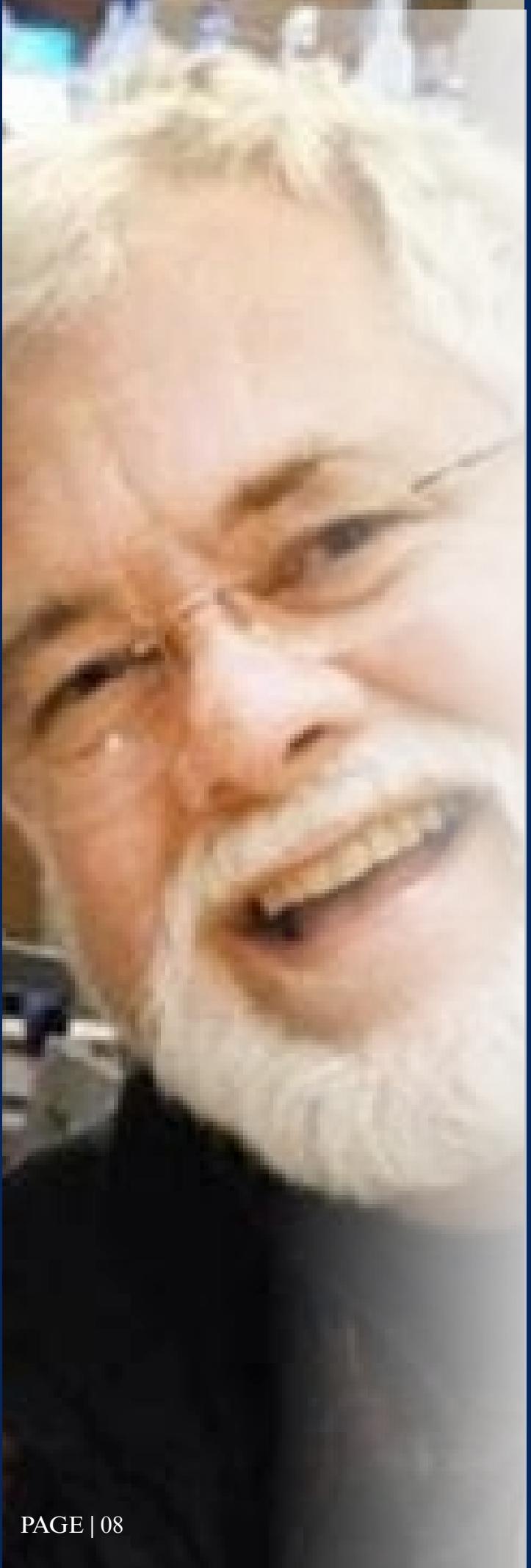
Academic Excellence and Student Success

The Class of 2025 achieved remarkable outcomes: 121 graduates earned an average GPA of 3.15, with 63% pursuing advanced education and 22% securing employment in their major field. These results affirm Stillman's commitment to producing career-ready graduates positioned for lifelong achievement. The launch of the Sports Management Program expands academic offerings in high-demand fields, while continued student success in honors programs demonstrates the quality of Stillman's academic preparation.



Spring 2025 Graduate Outcomes

- Total Graduates: 121 students completed degree requirements
- By School: Arts and Sciences (62), Business and Education/Computer Information Science (32), Education (27)
- Average GPA: 3.15
- Graduate/Professional School: 63% accepted or planning to attend
- Employment: 22% secured jobs in their major field
- Military/Entrepreneurship: 15%



HONORING OUR FOUNDERS LEGACY:

Dr. Charles Stillman

In 2025, Stillman College mourned the passing of Dr. Charles Stillman, grandson of founder Rev. Charles Allen Stillman. Dr. Stillman remained a devoted supporter of the college throughout his life, making a transformative \$2 million gift to Stillman's endowment in his final days. This extraordinary act of generosity ensures that his grandfather's vision of educational excellence and access will continue to benefit future generations of Stillman students.

President Page and Kimberly Woodard, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, traveled to Seattle to attend Dr. Stillman's Celebration of Life, where they met members of the Stillman-Jackson family and honored the enduring connection between the founding family and the institution that bears their name. Dr. Stillman's legacy of philanthropy and commitment to educational opportunity exemplifies the values upon which Stillman College was founded.

Regional Impact and Leadership Excellence

Economic Contribution

Stillman College generates an estimated \$39.5 million annual economic impact in West Tuscaloosa, supporting approximately 420 jobs in the local and regional economy (UNCF Economic Impact Report 2024). The total lifetime earnings of Stillman graduates reached \$344.6 million, demonstrating the institution's role in creating economic mobility and regional prosperity (UNCF Economic Impact Report 2024). As an anchor institution, Stillman provides essential educational access, workforce development, and community engagement that strengthen West Alabama's economic vitality.

Athletic Excellence

Stillman's transition to the HBCU Athletic Conference (HBCUAC) starting the 2024-2025 season reconnected the institution with its HBCU identity while creating new competitive opportunities. The inaugural year in the conference demonstrated Stillman's athletic prowess: the softball team captured the HBCUAC Conference championship, while both the women's and men's basketball teams earned HBCUAC regular-season championships. Individual excellence was highlighted through Christopher Johnson's HBCUAC discus championship. Stillman successfully hosted the 2025 HBCUAC Basketball Championship in Tuscaloosa in partnership with Visit Tuscaloosa, showcasing the institution's capacity to host premier conference events. Building on this success, the college, in collaboration with Visit Tuscaloosa, secured a three-year agreement to host HBCUAC Baseball and Softball Championships at River Run Park (2026-2028), generating significant regional economic impact and positioning Stillman as a premier conference host.

National Recognition and Institutional Leadership

Stillman strengthened connections with the Presbyterian Church (USA) through strategic engagement with regional presbyteries, national conferences, and individual congregations. This emphasis on Presbyterian partnership honors Stillman's founding mission while building relationships that support student spiritual development and institutional advancement.

National Recognition and Institutional Leadership

Stillman faculty and administrators received prestigious national recognition, including appointments to major higher education leadership institutes, selection for influential governing boards, and distinguished achievement awards. This recognition reflects the caliber of Stillman's leadership team and reinforces the institution's growing national prominence. President Page's selection to Leadership Alabama and active engagement in regional economic development through board service strengthen Stillman's role as a vital community anchor.

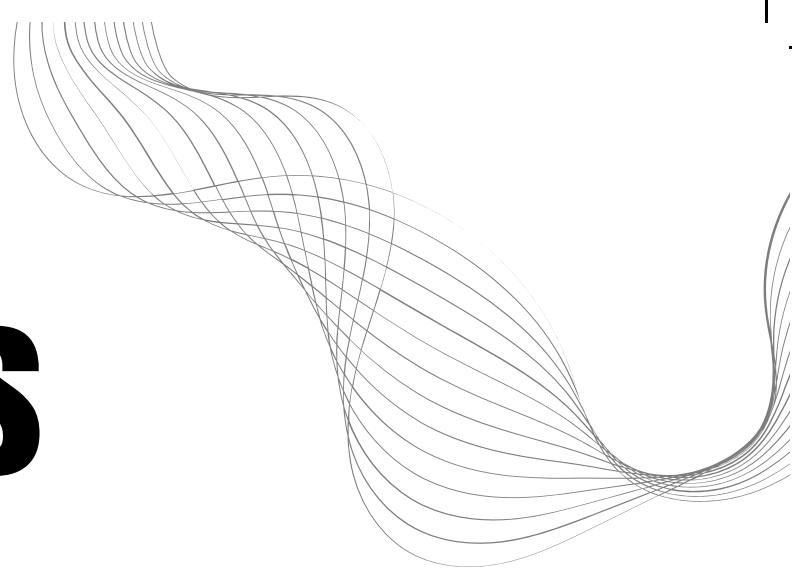


Fall 2025 Athletics Profile:

- Conference: HBCU Athletic Conference (HBCUAC), NAIA
- Sports Teams: 11 teams (6 men's, 5 women's)
- Men's Sports: Baseball (44), Basketball (15), Cross Country (9), Track and Field (15)
- Women's Sports: Softball (19), Basketball (12), Cross Country (6), Track and Field (7), Bowling (5), Volleyball (15)

LOOKING AHEAD:

150 Years



As Stillman College prepares for the sesquicentennial in 2026, the institution stands at an inflection point. The adoption of ASCEND 2030, combined with strategic investments, innovative partnerships, and transformative initiatives launched during 2024-2025, positions Stillman for sustained growth and expanded impact.

The achievements of this year demonstrate that Stillman College continues to evolve while remaining true to its founding mission: providing excellent, accessible education rooted in faith and service. With strengthened infrastructure, expanded academic programming, national partnerships, and renewed commitment to student success, Stillman College is prepared to lead boldly into its next 150 years.

The legacy of Rev. Charles Allen Stillman and the generosity of his grandson, Dr. Charles Stillman, continue to inspire our work and guide our vision for the future.





About Stillman College

Founded in 1876 and chartered by the General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian Church, Stillman College is a historically Black institution located in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The college's historic campus features buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For 150 years, Stillman has provided transformative educational opportunities, advancing access to higher education and serving as a vital anchor institution in West Alabama. As a member of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the HBCU Athletic Conference (HBCUAC), Stillman produces graduates who lead with purpose, serve their communities, and create positive change. With seventeen major programs, commitment to technological innovation, and partnerships spanning early childhood through graduate education, Stillman College honors its rich heritage while boldly building for the future.

Stillman College

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