

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Forward



Share



Tweet



Share

## It's Friday!

Happy Friday to you! It's the weekend! Today we are talking talent. We look to the strong future of tech talent development. We also learn how the community can celebrate the proud history of musical talent that has come out of the Historic West End. Plus, if you are looking for upcoming community events in and near the Historic West End, we have you covered!

---

# West Side Stories

---

## *Strong Future*

**Investing in Historic West End Tech Talent through  
the JCSU Access to Innovation Initiative**

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)

JCSU hackathon team at work.

Johnson C. Smith University has been investing in building a tech talent pipeline in Charlotte's Historic West End for years. Since the groundbreaking of the New Science Center building for the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) back on October 25, 2012, JCSU has been investing time, personnel and dollars in building up Charlotte's tech talent. Grant funding totaling \$1.8 million from The Kenan Charitable Trust and the Department of Education will now allow the university to scale up its JCSU Access to Innovation Initiative. This initiative is a community-focused STEM programming strategy designed to build interest in the tech sector among youth in and around the university.

Pilot programs with Ranson Middle School, West Charlotte High School, and a JCSU pre-college tech immersion summer experience will gain a boost in financial support thanks to the grants. Terik Tidwell, Director of JCSU's STEM Innovation Initiative, said the funding will go toward building upon the pilot programs they explored in 2017. Tidwell explained, "There was a lot of commitment to the schools in the nearby neighborhood. We have been meeting with Ranson and West Charlotte for three years. We worked together to explore what could be done to support their IB program and Tech Academy." He continued, "We have been exploring how the university can serve as a connector."

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)

serving 120 students, several week-long programs serving 20 students at a time, and a summer tech immersion program in partnership with Google for 20 JCSU freshmen provided insights and proof concept for JCSU during the grant application process



The grant funding will now allow these programs to increase their capacity and allocate more resources to the development of the JCSU Access to Innovation Initiative. Tidwell explained, “We have been on the radical trajectory with the university for some time. We want students in and around the university to become innovators and change agents. This initiative is just another way of supporting that.”

---

## ***Proud History*** **Preserving the Culture through A Case Study and A Jam Session**

Two upcoming focus on preserving the culture of the Historic West End in two very different ways.

### **Feb. 23 at 12pm | Anti-Displacement and Retention Study: An Atlanta Case Study**

For those that enjoy analyzing information and learning from the past, the ***Anti-Displacement and Retention Study: An Atlanta Case Study*** is the event for you. At this gathering, you will learn how APD Urban Planning and Management, the Westside Future Fund and the Arthur Blank Foundation developed a retention strategy and anti-displacement tax fund for neighborhoods in West Side Atlanta. The information gleaned from the Atlanta

Subscribe

Past Issues

Historic West End. How to receive your copy.

**FIVE POINTS**  
HISTORIC WEST END  
Proud History, Strong Future.

# AN ANTI-DISPLACEMENT & RETENTION STUDY

An Atlanta Case Study

Fri., Feb. 23 | 12 pm  
Mosaic Village Multipurpose Room | 1601 W. Trade St.  
Lunch Provided

Charlotte CENTER CITY PARTNERS    Knight Foundation



### March 1 at 6pm | Soul Junction Bars & Beats Jam Session

For those that enjoy learning about culture through arts and entertainment, the *Soul Junction Bars & Beats Jam Session* is the event for you. At this event you will help celebrate the musical tradition of the Historic West End with

Subscribe

Past Issues

Talley and top-notch drummer Tim Scott Jr. At this event you will learn more about Soul Junction, a two-day music festival hosted in the Historic West End.

[>> RSVP to reserve your seat](#)



*WHERE THE CITY MEETS THE VILLAGE*

# BARS & BEATS JAM SESSION

THURS., MARCH 1 | 6 - 8PM  
JCSU ARTS FACTORY  
1545 W. Trade St.



QUENTIN TALLEY



TIM SCOTT JR.







[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)

### **Feb. 16 - 18 | The Official Blackest Weekend Ever**

It will be the weekend of the highly anticipated premiere of the film *Black Panther*. A full itinerary of activities not to be miss has been put together. Get you black history & Afrofuturism celebration on! [More information>>](#)

### **Feb. 21 | County Services Workshop**

Free workshop about city and county services available to citizens, to be held Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 6-8 p.m. at Mecklenburg County Bar, 2850 Zebulon Ave. [More information>>](#)

### **Feb. 24 | Anti-Displacement and Retention Study**

Deep dive into an Atlanta case study to learn about the topics of anti-displacement and retention. Join the study session Feb. 24 at 12 pm at Neighboring Concepts/Mosaic Village. (1635 West Trade Street, Suite 1A)

### **Feb. 24 | The Males Place Black Tie Dinner & Gala**

The Males Place presents an all black-tie dinner & gala to benefit their journey to Ghana, West Africa in 2018. Join them for a night of opulence, and enjoy an elegant 4-course dining experience, dancing and outstanding conversations with the internationally acclaimed chef and food activist **Njathi Wa Kabui**.

[More information & Tickets>>](#)

**March 1 | Soul Junction Bars & Beats Jam Session** Come out to the JCSU Arts Music Factory on March 1st from 6pm-8pm for the **Soul Junction Bars & Beats Jam Session**. Right outside of Uptown, in the Historic West End, musicians and music lovers will celebrate the sound of jazz, soul, and funk. Professional musicians will share the stage with JCSU Electro-acoustic Ensemble students as they showcase and continue the musical tradition of Charlotte's Historic West End. Seating is very limited. RSVP today! [More information & Tickets>>](#)

### **March 2 -3 | Official CIAA Tournament Weekend Events**

Two of the CIAA Basketball Tournament's staple events—Fan Fest and Super Saturday—will return for its alumni, fans and community members to enjoy for FREE. Each event will entail celebrity performances, meet and greets, as well as giveaways, interactive games and activities for all ages. CIAA Toyota Fan

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

events will take place at the Charlotte Convention Center. [Read more>>](#)

### March 22 | William C. Friday Dialogue

Free screening and panel discussion of the historical documentary film, *Chairman Jones: An Improbable Leader*, detailing the visionary leadership of James Henry Jones who became a trailblazer during the 1969 desegregation crisis in Northampton County. His journey from sharecropper to North Carolina's first black school board chairman inspires audiences and offers lessons for today, if we are willing to listen. After the screening, the director and narrator of the film, Anna Jones will be joined by Dorothy Counts-Scoggins, Amy Hawn Nelson, and others for a facilitated dialogue reflecting on how this story of citizen leadership, education inequality, and race relations during the Jim Crow and School Desegregation eras can help us see the present more clearly and move us into a new tomorrow. [RSVP for tickets>>](#)

## Opportunities

### The Imagine Meck Student Art Contest

High school-age artists are invited to think creatively about their vision for Mecklenburg County. The top three pieces will have their artwork displayed in the County Executive Offices for an entire year/ They will also be recognized at a BOCC Meeting and at the Generation Nation Year-end Reception.

[More information>>](#)

Community events						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### Looking for more West Side events?

Head to the Historic West End Initiative website and click the "Events" tab to see a list of West Side community happenings!

[West End Events Listing >>](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

---

**Event coming up!**

Click the link below and submit your event for possible posting on WestEndCLT.com community calendar. [Submit An Event>>](#)



---

*Copyright © 2018 Historic West End Initiative, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).