



OKLAHOMA CITY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

A Transformational Leader in Higher Education

Dr. Mautra Staley Jones advances and elevates every institution she touches. Thanks to her educational and community-centered spirit, she has emerged as one of the nation's most sought-after thought leaders. Dr. Jones is a trailblazer, visionary, and catalyst for transformation. With an unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation, she has reshaped the landscape of higher education.

On March 1, 2022, Dr. Jones made history as the 11th President of Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC), the fourth-largest institution of higher education in Oklahoma. Her appointment marked a milestone—not only as the first woman and first person of color to lead the college but also as the first African American female to serve as president of a non-HBCU institution of higher education in the state. Under her leadership, OCCC continues to rise as a national leader in academic excellence, workforce development, and student success.

Dr. Jones has an undeniable propensity for inspiring greatness. Under her leadership, OCCC has achieved national recognition across multiple disciplines. Newsweek named OCCC one of America's Top Online Colleges for 2025, and Forbes Advisor ranked its online associate degree in psychology among the top 10 programs in the country. The Gray Frederickson Digital Cinema Program has been recognized as one of the top 30 in the U.S. and Canada by *MovieMaker* magazine, and the college's cybersecurity program is designated as a National

Center for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense. OCCC's nursing program consistently surpasses state and national NCLEX pass rates and ranks sixth overall in the region.

OCCC is committed to affordability and accessibility. It has held tuition flat for seven consecutive years, making it Oklahoma's most cost-effective higher education institution. As the state's largest micro-credential provider, OCCC offers nearly 60 options and has awarded over 13,300 certifications in the past year alone. Further cementing its reputation as a leader in sustainability and campus beautification, the college has received the Tree Campus Higher Education designation from the Arbor Day Foundation for 13 consecutive years.

Outside of academia, Dr. Jones is a prominent leader in both civic and corporate sectors. She serves on the boards of BancFirst and BancFirst Corporation, the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Oklahoma Watch, and the Oklahoma City Industrial & Cultural Facilities Trust. Dr. Jones is a distinguished member of the Young Presidents' Organization (YPO) and plays a role in the Higher Learning Commission's Credential Lab as a member of the leadership advisory board. As a respected community leader, she is also a Salt and Light Leadership (SALLT) Fellow, a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma City (Class XXIX), and an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., VEST, Rotary Club 29, the Oklahoma County Bar Auxiliary, and Visionary Women of Oklahoma (VOW).

Dr. Jones's exceptional leadership and dedication have earned her widespread recognition. She was named Oklahoma Citizen (OKCityan) of the Year by *OKC Friday* and Oklahoman of the Year by *Oklahoma Magazine*. *The Journal Record* honored her as Oklahoma's Most Admired CEO for public companies, and she was acknowledged as one of the 100 Women to Know Across North America. KFOR/Nexstar recognized her as Oklahoma's Remarkable

Woman, and she received the 2024 Spirit of Oklahoma Award from the Oklahoma Grand Assembly International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

As a celebrated figure in education, she was inducted into the Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame in 2022 and recognized as Woman of the Year by *405 Magazine*, *The Journal Record*, Perry Publishing & Broadcasting, and With Love OKC. In 2021, she earned the prestigious titles of National Mother of the Year and Oklahoma Mother of the Year from American Mothers, Inc. Her early accomplishments include being named an Achiever Under 40 by *The Journal Record*, *OKC Biz*, and *Oklahoma Magazine*.

Her influence extends nationwide. *Forbes* recognized her as one of the top 10 Black Higher Education CEOs to watch in 2023, and *Luxiere Magazine* featured her as a Woman of Influence. Dr. Jones's work has also been covered by Fortune Magazine, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, *Black Enterprise Magazine*, and the American Association of Community Colleges Journal, highlighting her exceptional leadership and impact.

Dr. Jones is a proud alumna of the University of Oklahoma, where she earned her B.A. in Journalism from the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communications and was named a 2023 Distinguished Alumni. She holds an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix in San Diego and an Ed.D. from Vanderbilt University's prestigious Peabody College of Education and Human Development.

She shares her journey with her husband, United States District Judge Bernard M. Jones II, and they are the proud parents of three outstanding children.