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**THE PRESIDENT**  
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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Dr. Mautra Staley Jones

### A Transformational Leader in Higher Education

Dr. Mautra Staley Jones advances and elevates every institution she touches. Through her vision-driven, people-centered leadership, 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 helped reshape higher education.

On March 1, 2022, Dr. Jones was named the 11th President of Oklahoma City Community College (OCCC), the fourth-largest institution of higher education in Oklahoma. Her appointment marked a historic milestone, as she became the first woman and the first person of color to lead the college. She also made Oklahoma history as the first African American female in the state to lead any institution of higher education that is not an Historically Black College or University (HBCU). Under her transformational leadership, OCCC continues to rise as a global leader in academic excellence, workforce development, and student success.

Dr. Jones has an undeniable propensity for inspiring greatness. During her presidency, OCCC has achieved national and international recognition across multiple disciplines. *Newsweek* named OCCC one of America's Top Colleges for its online division, 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 United States and Canada by *MovieMaker Magazine*, and the college's cybersecurity program is designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense. OCCC's nursing program consistently surpasses state and national NCLEX pass rates, ranking in the top 10 for the region.

OCCC is committed to affordability and accessibility, making it Oklahoma's most cost-effective higher education institution. As the state's largest micro-credential provider, the college offers over 80 options and has awarded nearly 20,000 certifications to date. 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 14 consecutive years—the only community college in the state to earn this distinction for this length of time.

Outside of academia, Dr. Jones is a prominent leader in both the civic and corporate sectors. She serves as a Board Director for BancFirst and BancFirst Corporation, the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Oklahoma Watch, and the Oklahoma City Industrial & Cultural Facilities Trust. She also serves as a Board Advisor for OKC for Soccer.

Dr. Jones was appointed to the National Science Foundation’s Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering (CEOSE) and the Higher Learning Commission’s Credential Lab Advisory Board. She also serves on the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) President’s Advisory Committee. Dr. Jones is a presidential mentor for the Rutgers University MSI Aspiring Leaders Program.

She is a member of the Young Presidents’ Organization (YPO), a Salt and Light Leadership (SALLT) Fellow, a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma City (Class XXIX), and a 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 is an inductee of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, Class of 2025. She was named Oklahoma Citizen 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, Dr. Jones 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. The Oklahoma Hispanic Institute honored her with the Vision, Engagement, and Pursuit Award for her efforts in advancing the history, culture, education, economic and community stature of Hispanic communities. She has been recognized as an Achiever Under 40 by *The Journal Record*, *OKC Biz*, and *Oklahoma Magazine*.

Her influence extends nationwide. MSN named her one of its ten Inspirational Female Icons in 2024. *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 Alumna. She holds an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix at 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.