



Get to know your alumni board of directors

BY JAMIE SIMPKINS

The board of directors of the JMU Alumni Association is made up of 21 alumni who represent the interests of over 130,000 JMU graduates. As a governing body, the board provides guidance, leadership and active support for the association and the university.

In the fall, JMUAA welcomed two new members. Meet your newest board members, Chiquita King and Tripp Hughes.



Chiquita King
(‘09, ‘11M)

Chiquita King graduated from JMU in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in media arts and design and writing, rhetoric and technical communication. She earned a master’s degree in adult education and human resource development from JMU in 2011.

As a student, King was an Orientation Peer Advisor, a Centennial Scholar and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. She was also involved with the Student Government Association.

King continues to donate her time to JMU by serving on the Women for Madison Executive Advisory Council and

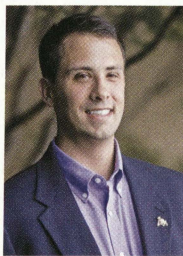
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— CHIQUITA KING

maintaining involvement with the Black Alumni Chapter.

“My main priority is to help encourage young alumni to give back,” King said of her decision to join the board. “I want to emphasize that any amount, big or small, makes an impact.”

King currently resides in Springfield, Virginia, and works for Booz Allen Hamilton. She recently welcomed a son, Victor.



Tripp Hughes
(‘09)

Tripp Hughes graduated with distinction from JMU in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in history. During his time at JMU,

Hughes was a member of Phi Alpha Theta and also played the clarinet in the Marching Royal Dukes.

“Participating in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade with the MRDs and being able to represent JMU on an internation-

(Above, L-R): Jeremy Brown (‘94, ‘96M); Thomas Rogowski (‘84); Cathleen Dotter (‘89); Stephanie Marino (‘08), treasurer; Tripp Hughes (‘09); Carol Benassi (‘82); Joseph Showker (‘79); Frank Smith (‘03); Larry Caudle Jr. (‘82), past president; Chiquita King (‘09, ‘11M), Dave Urso (‘03); Heather Hedrick (‘00), president; Eric L. Bowlin (‘02), president-elect; and Kimberly Turner (‘00, ‘04M). Other board members not pictured are Dirron Allen (‘00), Raymond Mason (‘78), David Sanderson (‘83) and Pratt Templeton (‘14).

ally televised program is one of my favorite JMU memories,” Hughes said.

As the former president of the Richmond JMU Alumni Chapter and member of the College of Arts and Letters Alumni Advisory Board, Hughes has a close relationship with JMU and other alumni. Wanting to do even more for his alma mater, he gladly accepted the nomination to serve on the JMUAA Board of Directors.

“I wanted to give back to the JMU alumni community as a whole, not just Richmond,” Hughes said. “I have always felt that JMU has given me a lot, and I feel obligated to give back.”

Hughes currently lives in Richmond, Virginia, with his wife, Emily (‘12), a former MRD. An attorney with PIETech Inc., he makes frequent trips to JMU to watch football games and for other events on campus.