## USTA-

SOUTHERN

#### One Love Tennis (NC) NJTL



One Love Tennis is continuing to make lemonade out of lemons during this pandemic. They partnered with Grace Abounds and Port City Church for a food distribution event at the historic 1406 Orange Street property in Wilmington, NC. The event was held on July 11th. The One Love Relief Assistance Program has now provided over 1,200 protective face masks, 4000 pounds of fresh vegetables, meat, and canned goods to over 62 families and 300 people!

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020!

#### Golden Triangle Tennis (MS) NJTL



Vanita Phinisey, Executive Director and Essential Worker Grad, R.L. Mattix, Jr, Attending Northeast Mississippi Community College Grad, Samuel Turner, Attending East Central Community College

#### AYTEF (GA) NJTL



The Atlanta Youth Tennis & Education Foundation (AYTEF) has created the Learn & Earn Club as a way to provide resources to Atlanta youth during Covid-19. Kits are earned as the kids learn throughout the summer and complete the activities from the prior month. July's box included grade-level fiction & nonfiction books, craft supplies, and tennis equipment.

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#### South Atlanta (GA) NJTL Graduates



Tre'stin Artkhaxa Agnes Scott

Joshua Allen Benedict College (Tennis Scholarship) (Music Scholarship)

**Mission Sales** Agnes Scott (Tennis Scholarship)

Josiah Blocus Tuskegee University (Tennis Scholarship)

Josue Blocus Tuskegee University (Tennis Scholarship)

### NJTL Alumni Spotlight



Blair Floyd, St. George Youth Sports League

Being able to participate in the National Junior Tennis & Learning Program in St. George, SC and receiving the support of Ms. Barbara Jones, changed my life. I received several scholarships including a **USTA Foundation** scholarship and am now a junior at the College of Charleston pursing an education degree.

# Youth Development Association (AL) NJTL



Deneise Hyter is YDA's **Education Coordinator** with over 27 years of teaching experience in Huntsville City Schools.



Graduate, Hannah E. Eady of Huntsville, AL is attending Auburn University and majoring in Cellular & Molecular Biology.

#### Public Tennis (SC) NJTL



Public Tennis in Hilton Head, SC is working to put plenty of coaches on the court to preserve distancing and low density. For this low-cost kids clinic at Chaplin Park, the program used 2 certified pros and 6 advanced teen players as coaches, plus a check-in (temperature check, attendance, traffic cop) person. This summer has proven to be a great opportunity to apprentice high school players as coaches.





#### **Brunswick County (NC) NJTL**



After learning tennis skills for four weeks, the Southport Academics & Tennis Camp ended on July 23 with a tennis challenge. Volunteers from Brunswick County who helped the kids work on their techniques reported to Lowe-Memorial Park in Southport, NC to see the campers compete.



Robert "Bob" Ryland was the first known African American to play professional tennis. He played college tennis at Xavier University (LA) and Tennessee State University. He was also the first African American tennis player to compete in the NCAA Championships for Wayne State University. Ryland broke the color barrier in 1959 and was inducted into the Black Tennis Hall of Fame in 2009. He was a tennis coach to some of the world's top-ranked professionals and many celebrities. He recently celebrated his 100th birthday on June 16, 2020.

# USTAF Individual Tennis Player Grants

The USTA Foundation Individual Player Identification Grant provides support to under-resourced players, ages 12-18, who are excelling academically (minimum 3.0 GPA) and in competitive tennis. Earlier this year, the USTA Foundation awarded \$123,000 to 20 NJTL Chapters & USTA Player Development for Individual Player Grants. Among them were 10 Southern juniors representing the following NJTL chapters:

A's & Aces (LA) - Teah Johnson

Greensboro Tennis Foundation (NC) -Amber Fuller; Peyton Gatti; Briana Baldi; Andrea Chacon, and Seth Christian

MACH Academy, Inc. (GA) -Arien Thomas and Aleynah Thomas

South Atlanta CTA/NJTL (GA) - Flex Howard and Masaki Posey

#### A Serve Back to the Past: Venus Williams Becomes #1



(Feb 25, 2002) For the first time in her career, Venus Williams became the number one player in the world. The tennis star was the first African American player to earn the number one spot since Arthur Ashe in 1975. Williams rose to the top spot, overtaking Jennifer Capriati, after a stellar 12 months, which saw her win 56 of 61 matches and successfully defend her 2001 Wimbledon and US Open titles. She was the first African-American woman to rise to No.1, in either singles or doubles.

#### MACH Academy (GA) NJTL Graduates



#### Greenville (MS) NJTL Graduates





Myesha and Nyesha Nealon Hinds Community College

#### Rockingham County (NC) NJTL Graduates



Aaron Carelock, North Carolina A&T

Harrison Smith, Campbell University

Claudia Spencer, UNC-Greensboro

Anna Thomas, UNC-Chapel Hill

Hannah Wood, NC State University

#### James Lewis (AL) NJTL

The James Lewis Education and Tennis Foundation Inc, sponsored a 4 week STEM Program for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Booker T. Washington Elementary School this summer in Birmingham, AL. The Foundation also partnered with Worship Center Christian Church to distribute 120 20-pound bags of food for the community.

