

# NAACP

## *Culpeper Branch*

Kaleb Hackley  
President  
admin@naacpculpeper.org

Carol Nelson  
Secretary

Jason Ford  
Vice President

Joan McBride  
Treasurer

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Contact: Kaleb Hackley  
admin@naacpculpeper.org

### **NAACP Culpeper Awards Four Scholarships**

The Culpeper Branch of the NAACP, which also serves Madison and Rappahannock counties, has awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to area high school students.

Two scholarships went to 2025 graduating seniors at Eastern View High School in Culpeper. Amari Jackson, who plans to study elementary education at Virginia State University, was awarded the Annie Laura Payne Lovell Memorial Scholarship, named for an educator who taught in the Culpeper County Schools for more than 40 years. Abigail Brown, who plans to study political science at the University of Virginia, was awarded the Rev. Willis Jackson Madden Memorial Scholarship. Rev. Madden was the first Black principal and one of the first Black teachers in Culpeper County.

"I am deeply grateful to the NAACP Culpeper Branch for awarding me the Annie Laura Payne Lovell Memorial Scholarship," stated Jackson. "This opportunity handed to me shows your commitment to supporting education and empowering students and that is beyond inspiring. This scholarship not only eases the financial burden of my academic journey but also reinforces the importance of perseverance, excellence, and community uplift. I am honored to be recognized and will strive to uphold the values and legacy this scholarship represents."

The branch also awarded two scholarships to Madison County High School students. Navayla Johnson, who will study nursing at Eastern Mennonite University, and Willa Lewis, who will study clinical radiation sciences at Virginia Commonwealth University, were both awarded the branch's Sadie Ward Crowder Memorial Scholarship. Crowder taught in Madison County for 47 years, beginning in a one-room schoolhouse and ultimately becoming one of the first Black educators to teach in the county's integrated elementary school.

More information on NAACP Culpeper scholarships, including profiles of the educators the scholarships honor, can be found at <https://naacpculpeper.org/for-students/>.

NAACP Culpeper regularly meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Meetings are typically held in the Culpeper Business Center on Lovers Lane, where the branch office is located. Meetings are in-person and via Google Meet. For meeting links and call-in information, contact [admin@naacpculpeper.org](mailto:admin@naacpculpeper.org). More information on the Culpeper Branch of the NAACP can be found at <https://naacpculpeper.org/>.

*Photo, left to right: Navayla Johnson, Willa Lewis, and NAACP Culpeper member Mesha Jones at the senior awards presentation at Madison County High School.*