

## **Selected Facts**

### **25<sup>th</sup> Annual 200+ Scholars Breakfast**

- Since the first 200+ Scholars Breakfast on May 16, 1998, about 8,500 African American male scholars with a 3.0 or better grade point average and their parents/guardians have been honored at the event. Most of the past honorees have completed their higher education and are now contributing in communities throughout the nation. Several have returned to Hampton Roads, joined the workforce, and have become 200+ members, “throwing back the rope” to help others.
  - The annual breakfast, the signature event of The 200+ Men Foundation Inc., is fortunate to receive support from several colleges and universities within and around the Commonwealth of Virginia. Since 1998, the honorees have received more than \$13 million in scholarships from the colleges and universities that partner with The 200+ Men on the breakfast.
  - Corporate partners, public and private school systems, churches, volunteer organizations, 200+ members and friends generously provide various levels of breakfast sponsorships. The sponsorships cover the direct costs of the event: printings and mailings, food for the honorees and other guests, facility rental and related audio/visual support, and the speaker’s honorarium, hotel, and transportation. The current year’s sponsors are listed in the breakfast program.
  - The breakfast location alternates between the Hampton Roads Convention Center and the Virginia Beach Convention Center because they are the only local venues large enough to support the 1,300+ people who attend the event each year. The breakfast typically sells every available seat.
  - Over the years, breakfast attendees have heard some of the nation’s premier motivational speakers. Among them are economic/networking guru **George Fraser**, our first breakfast speaker; then-CNN anchor **Tony Harris**, spoke in 2008. In 2011, **Dr. Christopher Howard**, the 24<sup>th</sup> president of Hampden-Sydney College, spoke. 2013 featured **Anthony “Tony” Lewis**, an executive with Verizon Communications as our keynote speaker; 2014 **Dr. L.D. Britt**, chair of the Department of Surgery at Eastern Virginia School, spoke to the more than 300 scholars in attendance.
  - In recent years we have been fortunate to have several former 200+ Scholars return as keynote speakers. In 2016 we were honored to have **Mr. Henry Thompson II** a lawyer with a firm in the Washington, DC area. He graduated from Granby High School and is a 200+ Scholar, Class of 1999. Former Virginia General Assembly Delegate **Jerrauld “Jay” Jones**, was the speaker for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual event in 2018. Former 200+ Scholar, class of 2008, and former first-round NFL Draft pick **EJ Manuel** was the speaker for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual 200+ Scholars Virtual Breakfast.
  - The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholars Breakfast was held on May 14, 2022, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Honorable John Charles Thomas, the first African American to serve as a Justice on the Virginia Supreme Court, delivered a stirring and inspirational message that was talked about for months afterwards.
- The Scholars Breakfast is the major fundraising activity of The 200+ Men Foundation.
- Sponsors of the previous year’s breakfast are listed on the 200+ Men website – <https://www.hr200plusmen.org/>.
  - Musical entertainment at the breakfast is primarily provided by the students of local high schools.