

Knoxville College Celebrates Class of 2025 at Commencement Ceremony



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Knoxville College (KC) proudly celebrated the achievements of its graduating Class of 2025 during its annual Commencement Ceremony held on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at the historic McMillan-Reese Chapel.

The ceremony marked a significant milestone for graduates and the institution as Knoxville College continues its path of revitalization and renewal in its 150th anniversary year. Family members, faculty, staff, alumni, and community supporters gathered to honor the accomplishments and resilience of the graduates.

The keynote address was delivered by Reverend Harold Middlebrook, a distinguished civil rights leader and community advocate. Reverend Middlebrook delivered a powerful message encouraging graduates to lead with purpose, serve with integrity, and never doubt their value.

“You are somebody,” he affirmed. “You have worth, you have power, and you have a voice that matters. No matter where life takes you next, walk boldly in who you are and never forget whose shoulders you stand on.”

A highlight of the event was the recognition of the Golden Grads, alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago and whose enduring support and legacy continue to shape the college’s future.

“Our graduates represent the spirit and strength of Knoxville College,” said Dr. Rotesha Harris, President of Knoxville College. “This Commencement not only celebrates their achievements but also signals a continued commitment to academic excellence, community service, and institutional renewal.”

About Knoxville College:

Established in 1875, Knoxville College has been a cornerstone of education, empowerment, and community. As East Tennessee’s only historically black college and university (HBCU), we are dedicated to fostering academic achievement, leadership, and social impact.

Media Relations

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Attachments: Photo of Graduates with President Rotesha Harris and Reverend Harold Middlebrook:
Photo of Graduates with Knoxville College Board of Directors: Official Press Release

Full HD Video of Graduation Ceremony Link:

<https://youtu.be/HZKaZpqhXIE>



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