



*2022 Student-Athlete
Leadership Conference*

May 6, 2022

Sponsored by

GHSA

GHSA Student-Athlete Advisory Council



GHS Student-Athlete Advisory Council

Our SAAC will organize and coordinate a forum for all student-athletes to share great ways to successfully manage life with a difficult academic load and participating in competitive athletics while still having fun with friends and family.

Our SAAC members are:

Emma Castro-Poveda (ACE), Grace Parkerson (Thomas Co. Central), Emily Harrell (Roswell), Cassie Pritchett (Gilmer), Addyson Reid (Vidalia), Hannah Heinen (Lake Oconee Academy), Campbell Brown (Mary Persons), Ania Hill (Ola), Mady Mertens (North Atlanta), Claire Harrison, (First Presbyterian)

Tim Deas (Peach Co), Josh Grand (Atlanta International), Liam Marshall (Model), Lambdin Hardy (Commerce), Caleb Griffis (Central, Carroll), Dondre Brown (Veterans), Navan Kothari (Wheeler), Allen Gruehn (Marietta)

Schedule

Registration	8:30-9:30
Welcome & Intro	9:30-9:40
Ernie Yarbrough (officials)	9:40-9:50
Kick off with Magic of Stephen	9:50-10:40
Breakout sessions	10:40-11:10
Breakout sessions	11:10-11:40
Lunch/What can we do about officials?	11:45-12:15
Caleb Brown: “Weathering the storm”	12:05-12:35
Breakout session	12:40-1:10
Breakout session	1:15-1:45
Closing with SAAC	1:50-2:00

Speakers



The Magic of Stephen- Keynote

Father to comedian, Nate Bargatze, the Tennessee Kid of Netflix fame. When Nate's first CD was released, "Yelled at by a Clown", Stephen was that clown.

The last several years, Stephen toured with Nate as a warm-up act to his son.

Stephen has been a professional magician for over 40 years. He has worked in a variety of venues, theatres, comedy clubs, banquets and corporate functions of all types.

He is an International Brotherhood of Magicians Champion and 2 times winner of the Comedy Award at the Abbott's Magic Convention.

His genuine personality endears him to any audience and he quickly develops a strong positive relationship with his audiences. No longer merely spectators, audiences find themselves caught up in the comedy and amazement of Stephen's zany performances.

Awards and Career Highlights:

- International Brotherhood of Magicians-First Place Close Up Award
- South Eastern Association of Magic- Magician of the Year (3x Winner)
- Midwest Association of Magic-Magician of the Year
- World of Wizards Champion (3x winner)
- Abbott's Magic Convention- Comedy Magic Award
- Chosen to represent the United States at the World Summit of Magic
- Invited to perform on the Worlds Greatest Magicians IV television special

- Feature article in “Magic” magazine, a leading publication for magicians
- Featured in “Terry’s Pub” a television special filmed in Hollywood for a cable channel
- Featured entertainer and lecturer at the world’s largest magic convention, the Blackpool Magic Convention in England and other magic conventions, including IBM-England
- Performed at Winter Gardens in Blackpool England (largest theater in England)
- Regular performer at 4-F, an invitation-only, annual gathering of the world’s top 150 magicians



JUSTIN BROWN

Justin Brown

Scholar | Speaker | Educator | Minister

Profoundly rooted in his enthusiasm to see people’s lives changed for the better, Justin Brown has a heart for service and a passion for helping people develop into influential leaders. As a respected academic scholar, speaker, educator, and minister, Justin is often called upon to provide insight on matters of organizational and personal leadership; racial reconciliation; and diversity, equity,

and inclusion efforts.

He has over 10 years of experience working in higher education in student affairs and athletics, two crucial areas that focus on student growth. Justin is wholeheartedly devoted to making others aware of the greatness that lies within them. It is this devotion that fuels him to enthusiastically help people see beyond their current circumstances and accomplish the goals they have always wanted to achieve.

Through the vitality of his personal testimony, Justin connects with people right where they are. In 2016, he developed the “Go 1 More” concept, which says that when we have reached the point of giving up and giving in, all it takes is completing one more task, taking one more step, and getting up one more time to realize the impossible is indeed possible.

His zeal for leading individuals to experience personal, lifelong transformation is apparent, often encouraging people to be persistent, be enthused, be compassionate, and be effective.

Currently serving as an adjunct professor and Associate Vice President of Campus Ministries and Student Engagement at North Greenville University, Justin began his higher education career as assistant coach for the Mercer University Bears in 2012. An ordained minister, he also served as Athletics Chaplain at MU.

A native of Warner Robins, Georgia, Justin earned a dual Master of Divinity degree and Master of Science degree in organizational leadership from Mercer University and bachelor’s degrees in communication studies and religion from Furman University. His research agenda focuses on leading multiethnic organizations, racial diversity in churches, and leadership development.

Justin and his wife Kodee have twin daughters (Mya & Mila) and currently reside in Greenville, South Carolina.



Rev. Billy Beard

Billy was born and raised in Mississippi. He is an avid Bulldog fan, just not the one Georgians are used to — a Mississippi State Bulldog fan (Hail State & Go Dawgs!) Billy and his wife, Jo Ann, have 4 children: Emilyn, Sam, Meredith, and Caroline. They love to laugh and share life together! Billy has a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering and a Master of Divinity. Before he became a Pastor, Billy spent 15 years as a general contractor in Mississippi. He loves all

sports, but especially high school and college football. He is passionate about leadership, preaching, and teaching. Billy is Pastor at Forsyth United Methodist Church in Forsyth, GA

Navan Kothari

Hey everyone! My name am a senior at Wheeler County. This is now my Student-athlete Advisory awarded the GHSA Wild Award and I also have wide variety of sports school from football to Regardless of my someone who is always others. Aside from that, playing outside, traveling dancing.



is Navan Kothari and I High School in Cobb second year on the Council. I was recently Adventures Inspiration been involved with a throughout my high Ultimate Frisbee. environment, I am striving to serve and lead in my free time, I enjoy with my family and

Caleb Brown

Caleb Brown is an acclaimed artist, influential speaker, and former athlete who draws on his personal, professional, and athletic experiences to help others paint a life fit for a museum. A 2016 & 2022 Mercer graduate specializing in portraits, his client list includes a U.S. President, a Grammy Award-winner, a Heisman Trophy winner, best-selling authors, world-renowned entertainers and professional athletes. His approach to speaking focuses on leadership, stress management, and personal development. He's presented at both TEDxSavannah in 2019 and TEDxMercer University in 2021. Additionally, he has worked with numerous organizations including Major League Baseball, the National Football League, and the Georgia High School Association. He has also worked with various organizations in Macon, Georgia to uplift the Middle Georgia community. Whether it's through original artwork, commissions, or keynote speeches, he uses the canvas of his life to inspire others to work tirelessly towards painting the life they love.



Tina Hester

Tina Hester is a retired teacher and cheerleading coach of East Laurens. She coached for 27 of the 29 years while at ELHS. Tina is a Georgia Cheerleading Coaches Association Past-President (twice) and has held various positions in the organization. Currently she is the first Vice President of the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association. She was named GCCA Coach of the Year in 2003 and the National Federation Section 3 Coach of the Year in 2004. Tina works part-time at ELHS as the graduation coach, teaches Silver Sneaker Yoga three days a week and recently started an after school program called Just Keep



Livin'. She has been married to her husband Tren for 30 years.



Jada Coggins

Jada Coggins was born in Fayetteville Georgia and has played basketball for the majority of her life. Jada began playing basketball at Brady gym in College Park, at the age of seven, competing with boys. Basketball became a way of life; this sport pushed her in all aspects. Today basketball is an integral part of her journey.

High School: Jada attended Whitewater High School and was named 2011 Freshman of the Year. During her first year she experienced a heartbreaking injury, a torn ACL. Jada returned to action her sophomore year and led the Ladycats to their first playoff appearance and went on to earn honorable mention status by the Georgia Sports Writers Association for the Class AAAAA in 2013-14, tabbed to the Atlanta Journal Constitution's All-Metro Southside Second Team, garnered All Region honors named to the 2015 HoopGurlz Recruiting Rankings/ESPN Watch list... competed in AAU action with the Georgia Pistols. Jada ended her high school basketball career sharing the Player of the Year title and was a Naismith 2015 Honorable Mention. Jada was the Lady Wildcats all-time leading scorer and rebounder, scoring 1000 plus points and was the first Lady Wildcat to sign a Division 1 scholarship to Jacksonville State University.

College: During her first season at JSU, Jada re-injured her left knee, another torn ACL. This was not Jada's first knee injury but this injury was different. The full rotation of her knee was never restored and figuring out where she fit in became challenging. It started a rollercoaster ride she experienced daily. After her sophomore year at JSU, Coggins returned home to Georgia State University and was given a second chance to handle what Jada deems Unfinished Business. Jada immersed herself into her degree program and began working with the youth. She completed an internship with the #1 Hip-Hop radio station in Atlanta, Hot 107.9, and with Georgia State's Athletic Dept., serving as an in-game social media host. Assisting as the Head Varsity coach at Whitewater during her Junior and senior years in college. After graduating in May of 2019 from Georgia State University, Coggins returned to become the sponsored Ford Keys In game host for football games during the Panther's 2019 season.

Today: After college, Coggins returned to College Park where her basketball career began. Jada does not take this second chance for granted. Jada started an AAU team, the AE5 College Park Rimrockers, where she coaches and directs young girls on the same path she once traveled. After the last injury, Jada experienced a lot of emotions that caused her to question her identity. Jada uses this program to empower these young athletes to find healthy balance in their lives through education, sports and mental health. Jada is a young

woman with intense dedication, commitment and resilience. Jada says her program focuses on education, basketball and mental fortitude. Jada is building a legacy for young athletes to rise up in the face of adversity.

The SAAC

Student-Athlete Advisory Council of the GHSA



Interested in becoming a member of the Student-athlete Advisory Council? Find out more information at <https://www.ghsa.net/student-leadership>

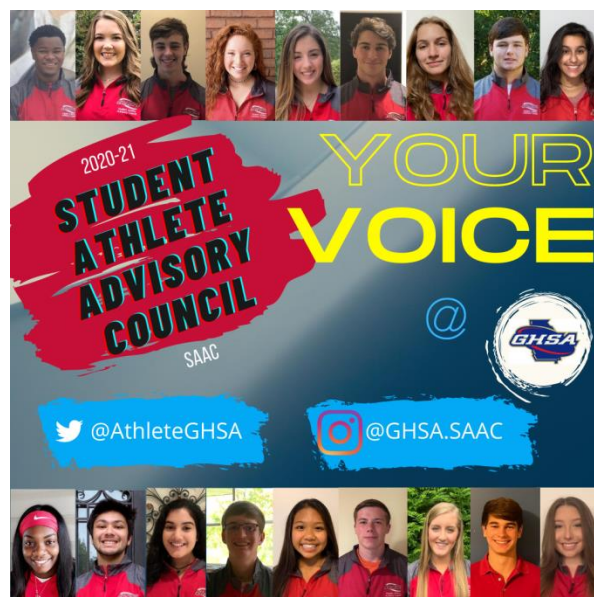
Apply here <https://forms.gle/NqSQpGtp9BQVjT9M9>

#myreasonwhy



Qualifications for applying for GHSA Student-Athlete Advisory Council

- Preferably rising 10th, 11th, or 12th graders
- Should be an athlete on at least 1 sports team and a member of at least 1 club or school organization (i.e. Student Council or Leadership council)
- Should be someone who would be a good representative of your school and the GHSA.
- Should be someone who would have a parent, teacher, or coach who could bring him/her to the fall meeting and the Leadership conference in the spring.
- Must be a student in good academic standing with no history of disciplinary problems.
- Should be someone willing to help out at state championship events or any event sanctioned by the GHSA.
- Must be excited about being a representative for Student-athletes in Georgia.
- Must attend 2 in person meetings- one in the fall in the Macon area and the Student Leadership conference in the spring.
- Available for several conference calls during the year by way of computer or phone.
- Be a prime example for SPORTSMANSHIP!



Notes

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