

# CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY to Host 2023 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders for 10th Consecutive Year

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*Leadership in Business program brings African leaders to Atlanta for an intensive six-week institute*

ATLANTA, GA, UNITED STATES, June 1, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Clark Atlanta University is proud to announce its selection as an Institute Partner for the 2023 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. Beginning June 21, 2023, the university will host 25 of Africa's bright, emerging leaders representing 18 African countries for a six-week intensive Leadership Institute sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

The Mandela Washington Fellowship, the flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), empowers young African leaders through academic coursework, leadership training, mentoring, networking, professional opportunities, and local community engagement. YALI was created in 2010 and supports young Africans as they spur economic growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across Africa. Since 2014, the U.S. Department of State has supported nearly 5,800 Mandela Washington Fellows from across Africa to develop their leadership skills and foster connections and collaboration with U.S. professionals. The cohort of Fellows hosted by Clark Atlanta University will be part of a group of 700 Mandela Washington Fellows hosted at 28 educational institutions across the United States.

After their Leadership Institutes, Fellows will participate in the Mandela Washington Fellowship Summit, where they will participate in networking and panel discussions with each other and U.S. leaders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Following the Summit, up to 100 competitively selected Fellows will participate in four weeks of professional development with U.S. nongovernmental organizations, private companies, and government agencies.

Funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and implemented by IREX, Leadership Institutes will offer programs that will challenge, motivate, and empower young leaders from Africa to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

Some highlights of the Clark Atlanta University program will include:

- Fellows will connect with local partners such as Google, IBM, UPS, the City of Atlanta, and the Allen Entrepreneurial Institute (AEI) through site visits, collaborative projects, and one-on-one mentoring.

- Fellows will give back to the community through service opportunities at The Atlanta Community Foodbank (ACFB), The Metro Urban Farm, MedShare International, and The Peachtree Road Race, just to name a few.
- You can meet the Fellows at the Clark Atlanta University Welcome Reception or the Local Business Speed Networking event. Specific event details are forthcoming.

For additional information about the Mandela Washington Fellowship Leadership Institute at Clark Atlanta University, please contact Dr. Mesfin Bezuneh at 404.422.0328 or [mbezuneh@cau.edu](mailto:mbezuneh@cau.edu).

The Mandela Washington Fellowship is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by IREX. For more information about the Mandela Washington Fellowship, visit [mandelawashingtonfellowship.org](http://mandelawashingtonfellowship.org) and join the conversation at #YALI2023.

#### About Clark Atlanta University

Clark Atlanta University was formed with the consolidation of Atlanta University and Clark College, both of which hold unique places in the annals of African American history. Atlanta University, established in 1865 by the American Missionary Association, was the nation's first institution to award graduate degrees to African Americans. Clark College, established four years later in 1869, was the nation's first four-year liberal arts college to serve a primarily African American student population. Today, with nearly 4,000 students, CAU is the largest of the four institutions (CAU, Morehouse College, Spelman College, and Morehouse School of Medicine) that comprise the Atlanta University Center Consortium. It is also the largest of the 37-member UNCF institutions. Notable alumni include James Weldon Johnson, American civil rights activist, poet, and songwriter (Lift Every Voice and Sing, "The Black National Anthem"); Ralph David Abernathy, Sr., American civil rights activist; Congressman Hank Johnson, Georgia District 4; Kenya Barris, American award-winning television and movie producer; Kenny Leon, Tony Award-winning Broadway Director; Jacque Reid, Emmy Award-winning Television Personality and Journalist; Brandon Thompson, Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion for NASCAR; Valeisha Butterfield Jones, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the Recording Academy. To learn more about Clark Atlanta University, visit [www.cau.edu](http://www.cau.edu).

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