The Connectional Women's Missionary Society
Mission Education and Interpretation
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Lesa Halfacre, Connectional 2nd Vice President
Loretta Howell Lillard, Ph.D., Connectional Chair,
Handy Scholarship Commission

Commission Members:

Linda, Burleigh, 3rd District

Ella Austin, 4th District

Episcopal District Commissioners:
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Neva L. Blake 2nd
Alforetta Hughes 3rd
Ella Austin 4th
Tamara Thomas 5th
Bess Hatchett Jones 6th
Tammy McCottry Brown 7th
Loretta Shannon 8th
Carolyn Cummings 9th
Mary K. Lindsey 10th
Beverly Postell 11th
Barbara Boyce 12th
Jessie Campbell 13th

The Handy Simmons Scholarship Commission reports the following accomplishments during this Quadrennial:

- In coordination with the WMS Connectional Office, developed and published procedures for disseminating names of award winners and the amount of the awards to the Episcopal Commissioners. Effective August 2015, scholarship awards will be mailed from the Connectional Office to each Episcopal District Office for distribution.
- Revised the Handy Simmons Application cycle to allow more time for processing applications.
- The Commission instituted an annual theme for the essay that is submitted with the application.
- The Commission established the WMS Legacy Scholarship Program to honor the life and work of our Episcopal leaders and loved ones and to establish a sizeable on-going scholarship fund for youth in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Two $1,000 legacy scholarships were established: The Rev. Dr. Cecelia Williams Bryant Legacy Scholarship established by the 4th District and the Loretta and Aaron Lillard Memorial Scholarship established by the family of Dr. Loretta Lillard.
- The following book awards were presented: 2012 (42 Awards, $14,700), 2013 (58 Awards $19,850), 2014 (39 awards, $13,650) , 2015 (Recommendations to be completed June 30th).