



# MCNAIR SCHOLARS

FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY



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Corbin Witt is a McNair Scholar who has had a fantastic four years at FMU. In the fall of 2019, he's headed to Louisiana State University where he'll begin work on a doctorate in chemical engineering.

# BE A LEADER

Francis Marion University's prestigious Robert E. McNair Scholarship recognizes South Carolina students who have demonstrated both academic excellence and a strong desire for a life of public service. It is named after former South Carolina Governor Robert E. McNair, whose career serves as an exemplar for scholarship recipients.

The McNair Scholarship is FMU's most prestigious scholarship. Recipients receive a virtually cost-free education at one of the state's best public universities, gain access to an array of experiences designed to broaden

and enrich their lives, and join the ranks of McNair alumni, a growing band who are making their mark across South Carolina and beyond.

The McNair Scholarship is a competitive scholarship that identifies recipients through a comprehensive process. The selection criteria include written essays, evaluation of a student's academic records, recommendations, and in-person interviews.

# Benefits of the McNair

McNair Scholars receive full tuition and housing fees to Francis Marion University, plus a book allowance, and meal plan. The scholarship is renewable for the four years students attend Francis Marion University.

And there's more!

The McNair is more than a scholarship. It's a rich, transformational experience that develops the whole person.

McNair Scholars enjoy all of these benefits:

- **Travel abroad** during spring break of freshman year
- **Study abroad** through one of FMU's student exchange programs
- Automatic **admission** to FMU's superb **Honors program** and access to the new **FMU Honors Center**, upon the facility's completion.
- Opportunity to apply to participate in the **National Model United Nations Conference** in New York City
- **Early class registration**
- **Housing** in the **Forest Villas Apartments**, FMU's newest residential units
- **Experiential learning opportunities** outside the classroom
- **Participation in public service activities** in the local community



# TO BE A MCNAIR IS TO TRAVEL

## Study Abroad Opportunities

McNair Scholars are granted the opportunity to spend time abroad in one of FMU's **11** prestigious partner universities located around the globe in **SEVEN** countries.

1. De Montfort University, Leicester, England
2. Carlow College, Carlow, Ireland
3. University College Cork, Cork, Ireland (Begins Spring 2019)
4. EAH Jena University of Applied Sciences, Jena, Germany
5. FH University of Applied Sciences Schmalkalden, Schmalkalden, Germany
6. Universität Trier, Trier, Germany
7. Universität Koblenz-Landau, Landau, Germany
8. Université de Caen Basse-Normandie, Caen, France
9. University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada

### Travel Study Courses

10. European Academy Otzenhausen, Otzenhausen, Germany (Late Spring Semester)
11. Wildsumaco Biological Station, Ecuador (Late Spring, Summer I or Summer II)

# Where service begins

Francis Marion University's McNair Scholars are selected, in large part, for their interest in a life of public service. Fulfilling that desire continues at FMU. Every McNair Scholar participates in volunteer public service work and completes a public service project while at FMU.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Volunteer opportunities for McNair Scholars have included the following on and off-campus activities:

### ON-CAMPUS

**FMU Diplomats and Ambassadors** – Assist with student recruiting, conducting campus tours, meeting prospective students and attending designated off-campus events as representatives of FMU.

**Student Marshals** – Assist graduates during commencement ceremonies.

**Student Organization Leadership** – Direct the operations and activities of diverse student groups, including fraternities, sororities, honor societies and service-oriented organizations.

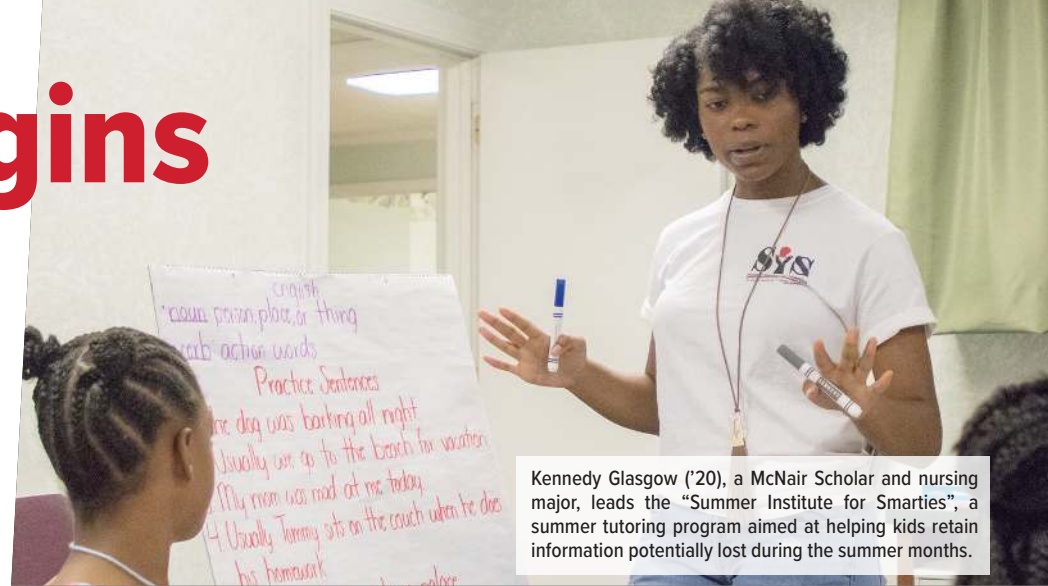
### OFF-CAMPUS

**Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** – Provide assistance for a variety of activities that support the Coalition's work and goals.

**McLeod Health** – Volunteer at the region's largest comprehensive medical center.

**Florence County School Districts** – Volunteer in and out of the classroom at local schools.

**Science South** – The Florence-based science education center offers McNair Scholars the chance to share their love of science and learning through volunteer activities associated with the facility's programming.



Kennedy Glasgow ('20), a McNair Scholar and nursing major, leads the "Summer Institute for Smarties", a summer tutoring program aimed at helping kids retain information potentially lost during the summer months.

## PERSONAL PROJECTS

Each McNair Scholar also designs and completes a personal service project. Recent service projects include:

- **Golf Tournament** – A Scholar organized a golf tournament, which raised approximately \$10,000 for the Pee Dee Coalition's Durant Children's Center and Prevent Child Abuse America.
- **Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** – A Scholar updated materials distributed by the Coalition and helped write and edit the organization's newsletter and grant proposals.
- **After School Garage Band** – A Scholar organized an after school garage band for a high school without a music program. Free guitar lessons were offered to interested students at this high school.
- **Safe Kids** – A Scholar worked with the McLeod Health Foundation's Safe Kids pilot project by assembling and distributing 5,000 medical kits to homes in the eleven counties McLeod serves.
- **Summer Institute for Smarties** – A Scholar created this program for children in grades 1 – 6 to help reduce the amount of learning loss that students face during the summer.
- **NASA Saturday** – A Scholar assisted staff of a local children's science center in planning, teaching, and running demonstrations during "NASA Saturday" programs, an educational outreach program funded by a NASA grant.
- **FMU Student Leadership Conference** – A Scholar was instrumental in planning a Student Leadership Conference at FMU.

# Meet a McNair

## Kyndell Smith | *Murrells Inlet, SC*

### **Why FMU?**

I first learned about Francis Marion during my sophomore year of high school. I had a friend planning to become a nurse, and she told me all about the nursing program at FMU. I instantly started looking for information about the school and was shocked to see how many people I knew were FMU alumni. I fell in love with the small university feel and was excited to be a part of their excellent nursing program. Francis Marion seemed like the perfect university for me and was a place where I could travel, get my nursing degree, and feel right at home.

### **Study Abroad:**

I studied abroad at DeMontfort University in Leicester, England. While I was there, I met different people from all over the globe while I studied the art of Design Craft. In class, I experimented with different types of art, such as glass blowing, weaving, metal work, and pottery. As well as studying, I spent a lot of my weekends traveling and was lucky enough to visit England, Scotland, Italy, France, Iceland, and the Netherlands. It was an incredible opportunity that I will never forget.

### **Service Project:**


My service project is to promote good health and wellness with children in the Florence – Darlington area. I am in Kappa Delta Sorority, and we work closely with Girl Scouts and Durant Children's Center. I plan to use connections with these groups to form an event to help children become happier and healthier.

### **Where do you go from here?**

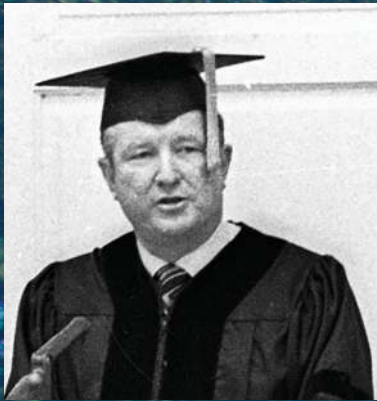
After graduation, I plan to work a few years as a registered nurse. Once I get some experience, I want to go back to school to get my Nurse Practitioners license.

### **Advice for the next McNair generation:**

I would tell the new McNairs to be open to new experiences and soak up every second. FMU has so many opportunities to get involved and to meet new people. I recommend taking classes that interest you, joining clubs, staying active, and looking into Greek life. Also, take lots of photos when you study abroad. It will be among the most memorable events of your college career. Dive right into university life. You'll meet some of the greatest people and learn new things you didn't know about yourself.



Kyndell Smith at Stonehenge, during her semester abroad in England.



## Robert Evander McNair

Robert E. McNair served as Governor of South Carolina from 1965 to 1971. He was a progressive pro-education governor with an illustrious background. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was awarded a Bronze Star for his service.

A native of Cades, SC, McNair earned his law degree and founded a successful law practice in Columbia, S.C. Prior to becoming governor, he served in the S.C. House of Representatives and later was elected lieutenant governor.

McNair was elevated to the governor's office in 1965 and was re-elected to the governorship in 1966. While governor, he signed the legislation creating Francis Marion College in 1970.

The University awarded him an honorary doctoral degree in 2005. A classroom building on the FMU campus is also named in his honor.





## MCNAIR SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Candidates for the Robert E. McNair Scholarship at Francis Marion University must meet the following criteria:

- Be a full-time South Carolina resident
- Be a high school senior
- Be admitted to FMU prior to the December 2 McNair deadline
- Maintain a high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Have a combined SAT score (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math) of 1160 or higher or a 24 or higher ACT score
- Possess a demonstrated interest in public service
- Deliver a completed McNair application and all additional required materials (essays, two letters of recommendation) to the Office of Admissions by **December 2, 2019**.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for the McNair Scholarship Program must be received by **December 2, 2019**.

Finalists will be invited to interview in January. Awards will be made in January for incoming freshmen enrolling at FMU during the fall semester.

Applicants who are not selected will be considered for other FMU scholarships. Applications and scholarship information are available online at [fmarion.edu/scholarships](http://fmarion.edu/scholarships). Apply online at [fmarion.edu/mcnaircenter](http://fmarion.edu/mcnaircenter).



McNair Scholars at the University of Koblenz-Landau in Landau, Germany, 2012.



Taking public transportation in France, 2018.



In Paris, France at Sacre Coeur Basilica, 2014.

## THE ROBERT E. MCNAIR CENTER

The Robert E. McNair Center for Research and Service provides a collaborative setting for academic and outreach initiatives that strengthen ties between the University and the greater community.

The Center supports a number of outreach programs at Francis Marion which include:

- **International Studies Program** - an exchange program that gives students the opportunity to study abroad in one of our international locations.
- **The Belle E. Baruch Institute for South Carolina Studies.**
- **The Francis Marion University Debate Club.**
- **The Francis Marion University President's Bowl.**
- **Model United Nations Program** - a national program that builds political awareness and diplomatic skills.
- **The Governor Robert E. McNair Scholarship Program** - a prestigious four-year, full scholarship to Francis Marion created to encourage public service.
- **The Governor Robert E. McNair Research Grants Program** - a program that supports FMU faculty research focusing on the human needs of South Carolinians.

# OUR NAME SAYS *LEADERSHIP*

**Francis Marion University** is named in honor of South Carolina's Revolutionary War hero, General Francis Marion. Marion was a pioneer in what is now known as "guerrilla warfare." His acumen in that field earned him the nickname "The Swamp Fox" because of his wily use of terrain and local knowledge in his campaign against the British in South Carolina's Pee Dee region – the very area that today is home to the university that bears his name.

Founded in 1970, Francis Marion University is one of thirteen state-supported universities and one of six comprehensive institutions in South Carolina. FMU prides itself on providing a strong liberal arts education for its 4,000 students.

The University offers professional schools in business, education and health sciences, as well as graduate programs in business, education, nursing, physician assistant studies, and psychology. The campus is situated on more than 400 wooded acres and is known as one of the most scenic college campuses in the state.



# Beyond the McNair

Francis Marion University offers a range of scholarship opportunities. Qualified applicants who apply but do not receive the McNair Scholarship may receive funding from these programs.

The minimum criteria for University scholarships at FMU includes admittance to the University, a score of 1160 or better on the SAT (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math) or 24 ACT Composite, and a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher. All University scholarships, with the exception of the Robert E. McNair Scholarship, Konduros Scholarship, and the Education Fellow Scholarship, are available to both in-state and out-of-state students.\* Additionally, these scholarships are renewable for up to four years if a student maintains at least a 3.0 GPA and earns 30 credit hours each year. Here's a look at the scholarship opportunities available at FMU:

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## The James F. Konduros Scholarship

The Konduros Scholarship awards \$6,000 for tuition and other expenses and, when combined with other state scholarships, it can cover a year's tuition. Selection is based on applications and interviews. Konduros Scholars are accepted into FMU Honors and Leadership FMU, and complete required service and leadership components.

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## The Education Fellow Scholarship

The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded to prospective Education majors who are part of the South Carolina Teacher Cadet Program. Preference is given to FMU-sponsored Teacher Cadets.

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## Francis Marion University Fellows Scholars

Fellows receive annual awards of between \$1,500-\$2,500. Scholarship awards are based on applications and interviews.

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## Distinction Scholarship

All students who meet the minimum criteria for University scholarships will receive an annual Distinction Scholarship award of \$1,000. Students who receive the Distinction Scholarship are encouraged to apply for other University scholarships. If a student is awarded another University scholarship, it will replace the Distinction Scholarship and will not be awarded in addition to it.

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## Donor-Supported Scholarships

Donors and supporters of Francis Marion University provide funds for more than 150 named, specialty scholarships at FMU. These scholarships are available to all students, although many have specialized qualifying criteria, such as a particular field of study or specific hometown or home county. Awards vary, as do specific qualifications. For more information, visit: [www.fmarion.edu/scholarships](http://www.fmarion.edu/scholarships). The deadline for Donor-Supported Scholarships vary. Contact the Education Foundation at FMU (843-661-1199) for more information.

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## State Scholarships

Francis Marion takes pride in enrolling more than 1,200 students annually who benefit from South Carolina's Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, HOPE, and Enhancement scholarships, which can provide as much as \$10,000 per year in scholarship assistance. Individual students can work with guidance counselors at their schools to determine their options with regard to state grants, but FMU counselors can assist if needed.

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## DATES AND PROCESS

Scholarship applications for University-awarded Scholarships, excluding the McNair Scholarship, are due by March 15. Awards will be made during the spring, following on-campus interviews. Distinction Scholarships will be awarded automatically after admission.

## FIND OUT MORE

Contact the Office of Admissions ( 843-661-1231 ) or visit [www.fmarion.edu/scholarships](http://www.fmarion.edu/scholarships) for more information on University scholarships.

*\*Out-of-state students who receive University scholarships also receive an out-of-state tuition waiver valued at more than \$40,000.*



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