



PVAMU'S NEXT ACTIVIST IN RESIDENCE TO FOCUS ON THE IMPACTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson wants to empower students to get involved in the issues that impact their community.

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (Dec. 15, 2022) – Prairie View A&M University has [announced](#) that Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson will serve as its 2022-2023 Activist-in-Residence. Henderson is a long-time community organizer and the first Black woman to serve as co-executive director of the Highlander Research and Education Center, a social justice leadership training school and cultural center in Tennessee.

“I believe in the power of a southern HBCU, and Texas has been and continues to be where so much amazing work for social good is happening and has happened,” Henderson said.

As a proud, working-class Affrilachian (Black Appalachian) woman born and raised in the south, Henderson is an avid opponent of mountaintop removal mining and environmental racism in central and southern Appalachia. Her national reputation as an organizer, leadership in movement development and training, and her connection to Appalachia made her the obvious choice for the residency.

“Prairie View is in a rural county with a strong agricultural program; it is important that we find ways to think about how discrimination and injustice might look different for people who live outside of urban spaces,” said Ruth J. Simmons Center for Race and Justice Director Melanye T. Price.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Henderson’s appointment as PVAMU’s 2022-2023 Activist in Residence.

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PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, founded in 1876, is the second oldest public institution of higher education in the state of Texas and the third largest Historically Black College/University (HBCU) in the nation. Designated as an “institution of the first class” in the Texas Constitution, the enrollment exceeds 9,000 students and over 80,000 graduates. PVAMU offers academic programs through its seven colleges, Undergraduate Studies and School of Architecture, boasting degree options leading to bachelor’s to doctoral-level degrees. A Carnegie-classified high-research (R2) University and a member of The Texas A&M University System, PVAMU is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research and service. For more information, visit www.pvamu.edu.

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