

**Sherita Harmon**  
**Mary McLeod Bethune Outstanding Teacher Award**

It is with deep gratitude and purpose that I nominate myself, Sherita Harmon, for the Mary McLeod Bethune Outstanding Teacher Award. For over a decade, I have been committed to the belief that education is not simply about teaching content, but about transforming lives. My journey as an educator has been defined by a passion for service, an unwavering dedication to my students, and a commitment to building opportunities that empower them to succeed both in and beyond the classroom.

I teach with the philosophy that “small acts of kindness can make a huge impact.” This belief has guided me to go beyond traditional teaching and create meaningful, lasting connections with my students. I strive to meet them where they are, nurture their unique potential, and challenge them to rise above circumstances that may otherwise limit them. It is my mission to instill confidence, resilience, and a sense of self-worth in every student I encounter. The messages, phone calls, and visits I continue to receive from former students who thank me for believing in them are a testament to this ongoing impact.

My work extends well beyond classroom instruction. I established a student boutique, ensuring that every student has access to professional attire, so they can step into interviews, presentations, and workplace opportunities with confidence. I am also the founder of two nonprofit organizations, Blessed to Be a Blessing and H.U.G.S. Unlimited, both designed to support students and families in need. These initiatives have helped me clothe students for prom, provide essentials for their day-to-day lives, and celebrate milestones that might otherwise go unrecognized. One of my most meaningful contributions was providing full prom experiences: including attire, makeup, shoes, and accessories, so that every student had the opportunity to feel seen, valued, and celebrated.

Leadership, service, and advocacy are at the core of my work. I strive to embody the legacy of Mary McLeod Bethune by creating access and opportunities for students who may not otherwise have them. My professional and community contributions have been recognized through several honors, including:

2024 – 2025 Alief ISD District Teacher of the Year – Secondary

2024 – 2025 Marshall Center for Advanced Careers Teacher of the Year

2024 Houston Area Urban League Educator Champion Hall of Fame Inaugural Inductee

2024 Texas Alliance of Black School Educators Teacher of the Year

**Sherita Harmon**  
**Mary McLeod Bethune Outstanding Teacher Award**

2021 National LifeChanger of the Year Winner

These recognitions affirm the work I have done, but my true measure of success lies in the achievements of my students. Watching them step into their futures with pride, courage, and ambition is the greatest reward.

As a wife, mother, and teacher leader, I remain steadfast in my dedication to modeling integrity, perseverance, and compassion. Through my classroom, nonprofits, and community service, I aim to light a path for my students that demonstrates the transformative power of education, advocacy, and kindness.

For these reasons, I proudly submit myself for consideration for the Mary McLeod Bethune Outstanding Teacher Award. This award represents not only my work but also the legacy of countless educators who, like Dr. Bethune, dedicate their lives to creating equity and opportunity for all students. I am honored to carry this mission forward.

Regards,

Sherita Harmon, MHA, MBA, CPhT  
Alief Independent School District  
Marshall Center for Advanced Careers  
Health Science Teacher