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Sen. Wicker, Rep. Harper Commemorate 20th Anniversary of Mississippi Congressional Award

Jackson, MS — On Sunday, October 14, 2018, **Senator Roger Wicker (Miss.)** and **Congressman Gregg Harper (MS-03)** hosted The Congressional Award's 2018 Mississippi Statewide Ceremony at the Old Capitol Museum.



Mississippi's Congressional Awardees with Senator Wicker and Congressman Harper after the ceremony in the Old Capitol Museum.

The award ceremony recognized **38 youth across the state** for their personal goal-setting and volunteer efforts.

In 2018 alone, Congressional Award participants in Mississippi have contributed **41,850 hours of service** to their communities.

Each recipient set and achieved goals in four program areas – Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration.

"I am proud of these young men and women for their accomplishments," said **Senator Roger Wicker**.

"Their impressive records of public service are a testament to their character and a credit to our state. I extend my personal thanks to Mississippi 4-H and the Mississippi State University Extension program for their 20 years of support of The Congressional Award. It is clear the program has promoted initiative, achievement, and excellence in our young people," added Wicker.

Parents, alumni, and mentors were also in attendance to celebrate an immense milestone.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of The Congressional Award program being presented through **Mississippi 4-H** and **Mississippi State University Extension**.

"The Congressional Award is able to empower and equip youth in local communities thanks to our elected officials and partners like Mississippi 4-H and Mississippi State University Extension. By offering shared experiences and fostering critical life skills, we are developing the next generation of leaders," said **Erica Heyse**, National Director of The Congressional Award Foundation.

Special guests at the celebration included **Dr. Gary Jackson**, Director of Mississippi State University Extension; and **Dr. Linda Mitchell**, Regional Extension Coordinator for the North Mississippi Research and Extension Center and member of The Congressional Award Board of Directors.

16 WAPT News anchor **Keegan Foxx** volunteered her afternoon to be the master of ceremonies.

[Event photos](#) and a copy of the [ceremony program](#) (including a list of awardees and their hometowns) are available to view and download.

About

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' only charity and the highest honor bestowed upon a youth civilian through the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Established by Congress as a public-private partnership in 1979 under Public Law 96-114, the program recognizes initiative, service, and achievement in youth ages 13 ½ - 23. Learn more at www.congressionalaward.org.

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