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RAPPIN'
Tommy Wyatt

Long lines were a thing of beauty.

Needless to say, this has been a long election season with a record amount of money spent by candidates of both parties. The issue is to see which party will be in control of the House of Representatives and the Senate in Washington. The Democrats have been hogtied since the 2016 election when the Republicans took leadership of both houses.

The Republicans have been unwilling to share any leadership roles in the leadership of this country. There were no recommendations or proposed bill that the Democrats put forth have been respected. They were also determined to undermine any programs that were put in place by the Obama administration. The first of which was the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care) which was the cornerstone of the last administration.

But the one thing that neither party could have predicted was the outrage that has been developed over the sexual harassment charges that have been charged in all levels of government and cooperate board rooms. The charges have unified the women's movement to its highest level ever. As a result, they have mobilized the support of the nation.

These issues have become this election period's largest issues. They have overshadowed many of the issues that President Trump has taken credit for.

In the final days of this election period, most of the attention of the candidates and parties has been to raise money that can be used to get their voters to the polls. And it looks as though it worked. A record number of voters cast their ballots during the early voting period. On Election Day November 6, many of the polling places had long lines of people trying to vote.

At a time when many people have been complacent about voting, it was a thing of beauty to see so many standing in long lines waiting to cast that ballot. Win lose or draw, this has been a very exciting period.

H-T GALA RAISES NEARLY THREE QUARTERS OF A MILLION DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



GRAMMY Award-Winning Gary Clark, Jr. is in his rhythm on the guitar. (HT photos)

(AUSTIN, TX) - With preliminary numbers rolling in as the exciting evening came to a close, reality sat in that Huston-Tillotson University's (HT) alumni, friends, and employees had just given students over \$707,000.00 in scholarships. This amount makes the "Blues in the Night" Scholarship Gala held at JW Marriott Downtown one of the most successful galas in the history of the school.

On the evening of October 27, over 600 supporters from across Austin and beyond converged on the fourth floor of the hotel's event space to celebrate Huston-Tillotson's mission and success.

President Dr. Colette Pierce Burnette kicked off the evening with a VIP reception where she was able to meet the many sponsors of the Gala and University partners. The night continued to the main ballroom where warm lights of blue filled the room, fitting for "blues in the night." City of Austin's Human Resources Director Joya Hayes, also an HT alumna, and Huston-Tillotson's Recruitment and Admissions Director Jeffrey Pierce opened the evening as co-hosts.

Just after dinner, President Burnette recognized three University partners, HomeAway, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and Merck.

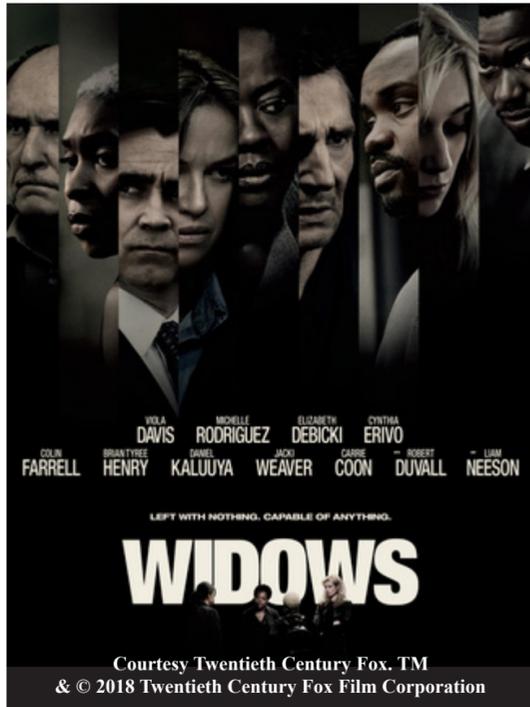
HomeAway provides job shadowing and professional skill-building opportunities to Huston-Tillotson's students. Texas Parks and Wildlife provides students hands-on environmental experiences with wildlife in East Austin, specifically a coyote trapping project to gather information and perform very important research to protect such wildlife. Merck most recently sent a student to Prague to learn about robotic process automation, adding to its partnership to train students on digital health technology. All partners are committed to diversifying its workforce with targeted training based on the organizations' needs.

In addition to the recognition of partners, another surprise for attendees was a testimonial video of students. Students such as Osayuwere Igbinalolor spoke about how Huston-Tillotson inspired her to start her own business of hair products and an organization called "Boss Up" that targets at-risk youth in the areas of education, entrepreneurship, and dream chasing. Denise Salinas shared her story as a Hispanic student attending a University that does not treat her as a number or Hispanic but as a person named Denise Salinas.

See **UP FOR GRABS**, page 7

"WIDOWS" Left with nothing. Capable of Anything. CINEMATIC RELEASE SET FOR NOVEMBER 16

By **Naomi Richard** | VILLAGER Entertainment



(FOX) - From Academy Award®-winning director Steve McQueen ("12 Years a Slave") and co-writer and bestselling author Gillian Flynn ("Gone Girl") comes a blistering, modern-day thriller set against the backdrop of crime, passion and corruption. *Widows* is the story of four women with nothing in common except a debt left behind by their dead husbands' criminal activities.

Set in contemporary Chicago during a

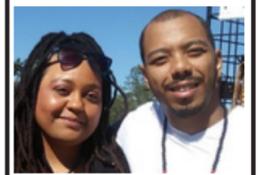
"I remember exactly where I was at thirteen years old when I first viewed Lynda La Plante's TV series, *Widows*. I was lying on the carpeted floor at my parent's house, head propped up by my hands, my usual viewing practice at that time. The show immediately transported me into a criminal world where the most vulnerable and overlooked people were women," commented Director McQueen. He continued,

INSIDE



Timeless Jazz genius passes too soon.

See **HARGROVE** Page 3



Fall festival aims to alleviate citywide hunger.

See **EAST** Page 6



International artists save James Baldwin's medieval estate.

See **HOUSE** Page 7

under a similar gaze. Their adversaries considered the widows as people who couldn't achieve anything, and they did. It had a profound effect on me."

McQueen changed the location of *Widows* from London in the early eighties to Chicago of the present. This was vital in order to tackle politics, religion, class, race, criminality and mourning.

Widows, already gaining Oscar® buzz, is presented by 20th Cen-



WIDOWS ACTORS (L-R) - Viola Davis stars in Twentieth Century Fox's *WIDOWS*. Photo Credit: Merrick Morton; TM & © 2018 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. Daniel Kaluuya and Brian Tyree Henry in Twentieth Century Fox's *WIDOWS*. Photo Credit: Courtesy Twentieth Century Fox. TM & © 2018 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

time of turmoil, tensions build when Veronica (Oscar® winner Viola Davis), Linda (Michelle Rodriguez), Alice (Elizabeth Debicki) and Belle (Cynthia Erivo) take their fate into their own hands and conspire to forge a future on their own terms. *Widows* also stars Liam Neeson, Colin Farrell, Robert Duvall, Daniel Kaluuya, Lukas Haas and Brian Tyree Henry.

"These women were deemed incapable of anything other than being judged by their appearances, yet they took on challenges against their stereotype and transformed themselves into more than capable forces, determined to take their destinies into their own hands. At that stage in my life, I felt a strong parallel to these women as I too experienced being looked at

tury Fox with a release date of November 16. If you missed this riveting film during the recent 2018 Austin Film Festival, check your local listings for show times throughout the Austin area.

