Each year the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association recognizes alumni who have rendered and performed a high degree of service to the College. This year, the Alumni Association Board has selected Whitney White to receive a Young Alumni Service Award.

A John Belk scholar, Whitney majored in Anthropology; was involved in the Student Conduct Council and Black Student Coalition; and served as Senior Class President, Student Government Association Academic Policy Committee Chair and Diversity Coordinating Board Chair. Whitney was instrumental in bringing the first sorority to Davidson’s campus. In addition, she worked in “Engage for Change” efforts on campus, serving on the Steering Committee, organizing a panel on race in education, assisting in planning “King Day for Kids,” and leading efforts through First Book to provide thousands of books to area youth. Whitney was part of Omicron Delta Kappa and awarded the Who’s Who award for students. She worked as a student caller for the Fund for Davidson, was part of the Alumni Leadership Program for Students and Sistahs of Essence. In her junior year, Whitney was the recipient of the Gladstone Memorial Award for exhibiting high potential for service as demonstrated through leadership, service and academic record. One of her nominators wrote, “Those of us who know her are struck by her thoughtfulness, boundless energy, and attention to detail. She seized leadership roles that make a difference and her legacy of service to others is already legendary.”

Since graduation, Whitney has been using her talents to make organizations work better. In several different consulting roles, she specialized in implementing big change, launching new ventures and mentoring future rockstars. Currently, Whitney is principal consultant and founder of Afara Global, a boutique consultancy where she helps startups and corporate innovation teams launch and scale new products and services.

As soon as she graduated, Whitney began giving back to Davidson through her work as an Annual Fund Class Ambassador, Fifth Reunion committee member, and her service to the Board of Visitors and Alumni Association Board of Directors. She also worked with the Emerging Professionals Group to mentor current students through their career journeys. Whitney served as tri-chair on the Alumni of Color Engagement initiative to address and develop new channels and opportunities for connection between alumni of color and Davidson. In addition, Whitney was instrumental in setting up the Emergence Scholarship of the Davidson Trust, created by African American alumni in celebration of the achievements of Davidson alumni of color. Most recently, Whitney created the Davidson Tech Impact Fellowship to encourage Davidson women and students of color to explore interests in Computer Science.

For your purposeful and steady leadership and service to alma mater and the impact you have had on Davidson over the past decade; today we thank you, Whitney White, and present you with the Young Alumni Service Award.