

TEACHERS COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
A Graduate School of Education, Health & Psychology



Jane Ellen McAllister (Ph.D., 1929), a Teachers College Hero

Whereas *Jane Ellen McAllister*, in 1929, became the nation's first black woman to receive a Ph.D. in education, from Teachers College, Columbia University;

And whereas, as her Teachers College professor and advisor, Mabel Carney, wrote, "the real history of the study of American Negro education on the advanced level...began with the pioneering achievement of Doctor *Jane Ellen McAllister* and her thesis on 'The Training of Negro Teachers in Louisiana'";

And whereas these inspiring achievements were but prelude to a life and career dedicated to improving teaching and furthering the prospects of people of color;

And whereas, after making significant and sustained contributions at Virginia State College, Southern University, Fisk University and Miner Teachers College, *Jane Ellen McAllister* transformed Jackson State College and its environs through:

- Programs that brought in Averill Harriman and Ralph Bunche to speak and enabled students to interview Edward R. Murrow and Moses Hadas;
- A college readiness program that brought promising high school students to campus for "enrichment";
- A statewide Superior and Talented Student Project for black high schools
- An institute for teachers of disadvantaged students, funded under Title XI of the National Defense Education Act;

And whereas, while never ceasing to combat racism, *Jane Ellen McAllister* declared that "Living without bitterness is not easy; but education, not fighting, is the only way out of poverty, bias and ignorance";

Teachers College, Columbia University, proudly recognizes *Jane Ellen McAllister* as a Teachers College Hero who embodied the College's values, beliefs and aspirations, and joins with the State of Mississippi and the City of Vicksburg to honor her memory and achievements.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Thomas Bailey", is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas Bailey, President
Teachers College, Columbia University
August 10, 2019