



JANUARY 2023

THE COURIER

FOREST SERVICE JOB CORPS CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTERS
Creating the Next Generation of Conservation Stewards



Marcus R. Jackson, second from left, participates in a Round Table discussion at the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit: Students Today. Leaders Tomorrow in Washington, D.C. Courtesy photo by Marcus R. Jackson.

SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENHANCE JOB CORPS

Hello, my name is Marcus R. Jackson, I had the privilege of representing Blackwell Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center at the *Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit: Students Today. Leaders Tomorrow* in Washington, D.C. It was a perfect breeding ground for new thoughts, ideas, and solutions to make Job Corps better. I, along with more than 100 students from Job Corps programs throughout the country, discussed the issues important to us as leaders. We focused on resolving communication problems since time was limited.

We shared concerns on distressing issues that included center extracurricular activities that were not publicized, wandering my Center to find students, incoming calls to instructors during classroom hours that go unanswered, meetings cancelled without notice, tests and/or appointments scheduled without notice, and students being notified of appointments with little time to prepare. With these communication issues being the most notable, it's easy to see things need to change, so we quickly moved on to solutions that would work for our centers and/or could be implemented across the entirety of Job Corps.

Some solutions that were brought to the table focused on physical objects--things Job Corps students could see and interact with to help them become a part of their daily routine. These include items such as a large notice board or whiteboard calendar. Whiteboard calendars allow notes to

be added or taken away with an awareness of other events happening that day or week. If a corkboard was added to the side, students could put up polls for different extracurricular activities and make lists of movies to watch. Having something physical that students could interact with daily would help us not forget about important events.

Now, what about using elements we already have? E-mail, Google classroom/calendar, and the Job Corps site are tools we already have but don't use properly. If the Google

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MARCUS R. JACKSON

Classroom/calendar was used to its full extent, everyone on-center would have a calendar app where they could see major events or even small matters dealing with their trade. Administration could upload appointments on the app and only specific students would get a notification, without disrupting other events on the calendar.

Alternatively, a solution that would take longer but be tailored to Job Corps' needs is to develop a Job Corps app. The app could have possible functions such as a general calendar, personal calendar, list of administration/instructor names and ways to contact them or polls for extracurricular activities. Most importantly, the app could have personal schedules that work similarly to a work schedule app. Job Corps Administration could pre-program the schedule for that week. Students would have the ability to check their phones or Chrome Books before the school day starts so we'd know where we're going, what food is available in the cafeteria that day, and any homework that needs to be turned in that day. I am looking forward to the idea of a Job Corps app in the far future, as it seems to be the most streamlined and tailored solution.

Marcus R. Jackson

HIGHLIGHTS

- **At-a-glance:** Visit the [OC Editorial Calendar](#) for upcoming agency-wide communication activities.
- **Mingo Job Corps:** [Mingo Job Corps students, instructors create handcrafted display for historic millstone](#)
- **Visit Us:** Job Corps National Office [SharePoint](#) site.



LBJ Job Corps CCC Student Government Association President Malik Best actively engaged administration leadership throughout the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit, here posing the question, "What could we [students] do to improve the lifestyle on campus?" to Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and Job Corps National Director Rachel Torres. Courtesy photo by Malik Best.

A LEADER'S JOURNEY

My name is Malik Best and I am from Wilson North Carolina. Last December, I was selected to represent the Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center at the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit: Students Today. Leaders Tomorrow in Washington, D.C. I was selected to go to the Leadership Summit because of the responsibility I've shown, my position as a leader on campus and my hard work in my painting vocational trade. Student representatives and Center Directors from Job Corps Centers from across the country were invited to take part in the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit.

I enrolled in Job Corps to further my trade skills and develop my leadership skills. I wanted to learn how to be independent in life and Job Corps was my first choice to learn how to do that and pursue my goals. At Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corps, I am enrolled in the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades painting program. I am a leader in my dormitory and a member of the Student Government Association (SGA).

Joining the SGA changed me for the better. It taught me how to become a better public speaker and how to lead other students. My time on the SGA also taught me about accountability and taking responsibility for myself and others--whether good or bad.

The Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit was a fantastic experience and it afforded me great opportunities. It was exciting to see students from across the Job Corps programs. We, Job Corps students, were the focal point, and had the opportunity to advise Marty Walsh, Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor, on how the program is being

The mission of the 24 Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers is to train eligible youth ages 16 to 24 with educational, social, and vocational skills while assisting in the conservation of the nation's public natural resources.

run. Secretary Walsh was a pleasure to meet. He was engaging and respectful. He listened to everyone's concerns and took them into consideration. His [message](#) was heartfelt and he spoke about how we can make a change if we put our mind, spirit and body into it.

There were a variety of speakers including Job Corps National Director Rachel Torres, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and other supporters of the Job Corps program. Students who've graduated from Job Corps also spoke. They gave us, current students, encouragement on finishing what we started and on not straying from our primary goal of making our lives better.

During the Summit, participants had the chance to tour Washington D.C.'s historical sites. It was thrilling to be in some of history's great buildings and the experience changed my perspective on life and leadership in general. These opportunities taught me valuable life lessons. It was a time that I will not forget.

Malik Best



Eying a future political career, LBJ Job Corps CCC's Student Government Association President Malik Best posed questions about some of America's most pressing problems during Round Table discussions, including "How can we [students] impact homelessness." Courtesy photo by Malik Best.



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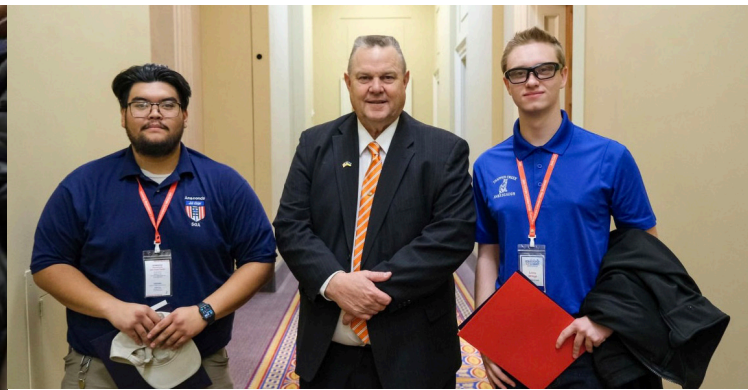
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More exciting news can be found on our [Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers'](#) website!

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PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

JOB CORPS 2.0 LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: STUDENTS TODAY. LEADERS TOMORROW

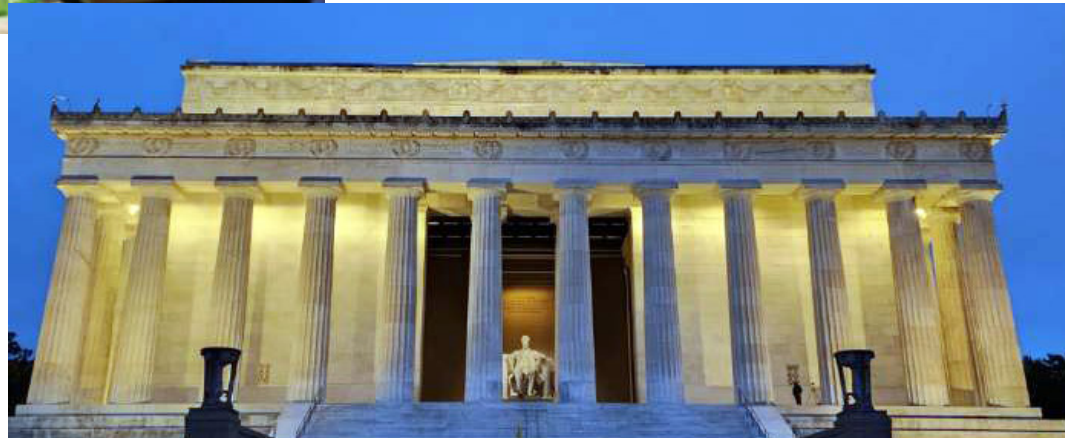


I to r: Anaconda Job Corps Heavy Equipment Operations student Franklin Fudge, U.S. Senator Jon Tester, and Trapper Creek Job Corps Electrical student Leroy Wingo. Courtesy photo by Office of Senator Jon Tester.

LBJ Job Corps CCC Student Government Association President Malik Best (second from the right, center row) listens attentively during a Round Table session at the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit: Students Today. Leaders Tomorrow in Washington, DC. Courtesy photo by Malik Best.



I to r: Marty Walsh, Secretary, U.S Department of Labor, Curlew Job Corps CCC student representative Harshil Thiry, and Job Corps National Director Rachel Torres at the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit. USDA Forest Service photo by Alan Vanous.



Oconaluftee Job Corps Center Director Jerry Buschmann captured an inspiring photo of the Lincoln Memorial at dusk. USDA Forest Service photo by Jerry Buschmann.



Curlew Job Corps SSA Alan Vanous went the extra mile for Curlew's student representative Harshil Thiry when he set up a surprise visit with United Airlines Pilot Matt Stege (left). Currently enrolled in Curlew's union carpentry program, Thiry has accepted a Forest Service position beginning in March 2023 working in the fire program at Columbia Basin Job Corps CCC. USDA Forest Service photo by Alan Vanous.



I to r: Blackwell Job Corps CCC student representative Marcus R. Jackson happily grabs a photo with Marty Walsh, Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor at the Job Corps 2.0 Leadership Summit. Courtesy photo by Marcus R. Jackson..



Blackwell Job Corps CCC student representative Marcus R. Jackson. Courtesy photo by Marcus R. Jackson.