Sponsorship Opportunities

The year was 1968. At the Medical College of Virginia, (today a part of Virginia Commonwealth University) Bruce Tucker, a Black man, had his heart transplanted — without his family’s consent — into a white businessman. Tucker’s family sought legal justice and the attorney who represented them was L. Douglas Wilder, who went on to become the first elected African-American governor in the United States. The case exemplified a journey to fight racism and demand accountability for a gross violation of human rights.

The 2022 Wilder Symposium, “Racism, Health, and Accountability” will be held in person, Monday, Sept. 19 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the VCU Singleton Center for Performing Arts located on campus at 922 Park Avenue. There is a pre-event reception from 5-6 p.m.

As the signature speaker, Governor L. Douglas Wilder will discuss the complex ethical issues exposed during the case, as well as examine its lasting historic impact today. Wilder will trace the role of institutionalized racism to the ongoing battle for healthcare equity and access. Governor Wilder will field questions from moderator Wilder School Dean Susan Gooden and audience members. The symposium will also be streamed live.

Hosted by the Wilder School and University College, this symposium is part of a larger series based on the 2022-2023 VCU Common Book, “The Organ Thieves: The Shocking Story of the First Heart Transplant in the Segregated South” by Chip Jones. The book follows a long legacy of inhumane treatment of African Americans for unethical medical advancement in the segregated south. The award-winning book will be read by first-year VCU students and will be a focus area for events across campus this fall.
2022 Sponsorship Levels

Title - $101,000 (exclusive)
» Scholarship naming opportunity
» Exclusive sponsorship of event livestream
» Recognition by event speakers from the podium
» Remarks at event
» Name and logo in program, social media mentions, signage and print
» VIP Event Parking - 10 spaces
» VIP Event Seating - 20 seats

Gold - $50,001
» Contributions benefit the Justice in Society Scholarship
» Recognition by event speakers from the podium
» Name/logo in program, social media mentions and print
» VIP Event Parking - 5 spaces
» VIP Event Seating - 10 seats

Silver - $25,001
» Contributions benefit the Justice in Society Scholarship
» Recognition by event speakers from the podium
» Name/logo in program
» VIP Event Seating - 6 seats

Supporter - $10,001
» Recognition by event speakers from the podium
» Name in program

Friend - $1,001
» Name in program

For additional information please contact:
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