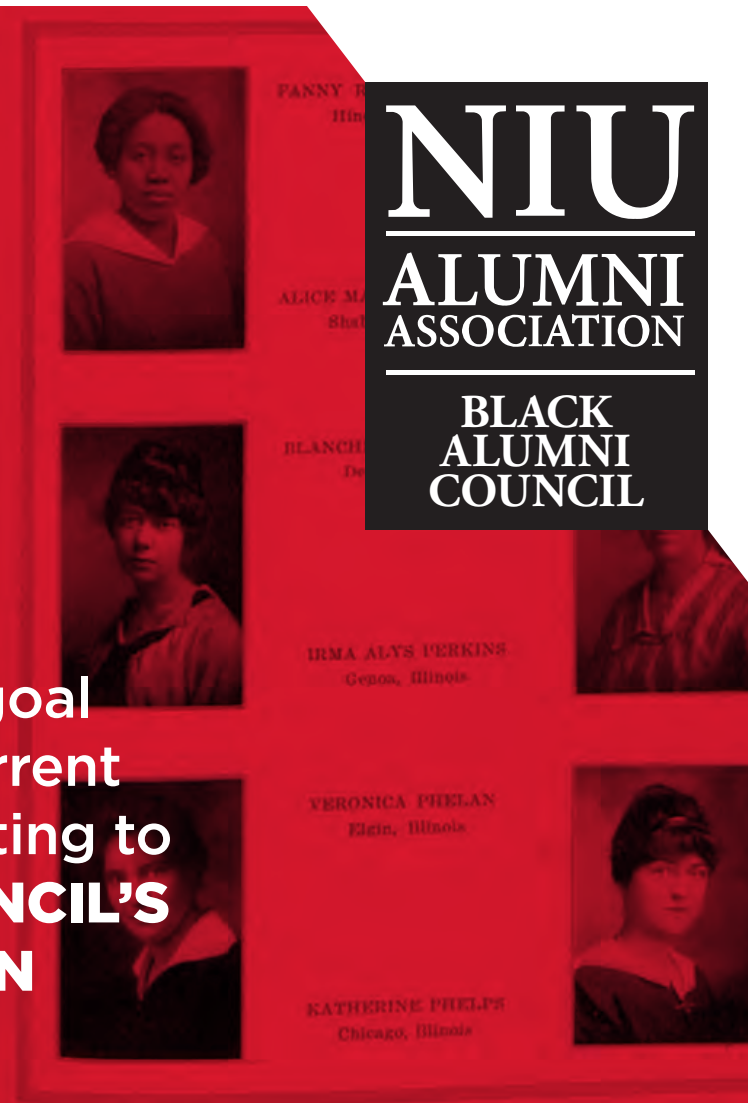




Help us meet this year's goal of raising **\$22,000** for current NIU students by contributing to the **BLACK ALUMNI COUNCIL'S FANNY RUTH PATTERSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND!**



NIU

**ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

**BLACK
ALUMNI
COUNCIL**

FANNY RUTH PATTERSON SCHOLARSHIP

Fanny Ruth Patterson was the first Black student to graduate from NIU. She earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1915 and was known as a brave innovator and school teacher. This scholarship has been established by the Black Alumni Council to honor Fanny as a trailblazer for other Black or African American students who follow at Northern Illinois University. The scholarship is awarded to deserving students who embody the spirit of Fanny Ruth Patterson, have earned 70+ credit hours, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and are active in campus affairs.

The first \$10,000 raised during this campaign will be awarded to students for the 2023-24 academic year. Any funds raised above that amount will be added to the endowment for the scholarship to help the Black Alumni Council (BAC) fund the scholarship in perpetuity.

*Donate to this
great cause here:*



SCAN ME

[MYNIU.COM/FANNYRUTHPATTERSON](https://myniu.com/fannyruthpatterson)



FANNY RUTH PATTERSON LONG-TERM ENDOWMENT PLAN



PAST FANNY RUTH PATTERSON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



FANNY RUTH PATTERSON LIFE & LEGACY

Patterson's legacy is revered on campus today, as she paved the way for so many. NIU's longstanding commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion can be traced back to Patterson's time on campus. Her life serves as an example for the diverse student body that calls NIU home today and beyond.

AN ENDOWED FUND

An endowed scholarship fund works as a permanent savings plan that generates interest on an annual basis. The interest that a fully endowed and invested fund generates will guarantee annual scholarship dollars, while allowing the BAC to increase outreach and further annual fundraising efforts. This long-term plan will cement the scholarship's impact for generations to come.



OUR NEED

In addition to our goal, Chief Diversity Officer Dr. Vernese Edghill-Walden (Left), in direct collaboration with the BAC, has set out on an ambitious goal to **secure \$500,000 or more** to permanently endow the Fanny Ruth Patterson Scholarship Fund. By capitalizing on the momentum, visibility and opportunity presented by the dedication of the Fanny Ruth Patterson Complex at homecoming 2022, endowing this fund in perpetuity is a real possibility.

As Huskies, we can continue to honor Patterson's legacy by establishing a perpetual resource that will award excellence, create opportunity, increase retention, and close equity gaps through this fund. The endowed fund will also create increased opportunities for the institution to utilize the newly named Fanny Ruth Patterson Complex to engage students in dialogue and community, focusing on issues of social justice, anti-racism and diversity throughout the year.



**TO DISCUSS A MULTI-YEAR PLEDGE OF
SUPPORT FOR THE ENDOWED FUND, CONTACT**

Justin Gaines
Associate Director of Advancement
Email: jgaines4@niu.edu
Phone: 815-753-1386
niufoundation.org