

MEDIA KIT

LARRY LOVE UNIVERSITY

Honoring Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle — Chicago Visit, October 2026

DATE	LOCATION	SPONSOR	HONOREE
Oct 9–11, 2026	Chicago & Cicero, IL	Larry Love University	Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle, Age 111

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

111-Year-Old Last Living Survivor of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle, to Visit Barack Obama Presidential Center in October 2026

Larry Love University Sponsors Historic Journey Honoring a Living Legacy of Courage, Resilience, and Education

MUSKOGEE, OKLA. — Larry Love University (LLU), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educational organization headquartered in Muskogee, Oklahoma, proudly announces that Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle, the 111-year-old last living survivor of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, is scheduled to visit the Barack Obama Presidential Center in Chicago in October 2026.

Mother Randle is expected to arrive in Chicago on **Friday, October 9, 2026**, for a series of events celebrating her extraordinary life and enduring legacy. Her visit represents a rare opportunity to honor a living witness to one of the darkest chapters in American history — inspiring future generations through resilience, education, hope, and reconciliation.

As part of her visit, Mother Randle will receive **The Mighty Men & Women of God Humanitarian Award** on **Sunday, October 11, 2026**, in Cicero, Illinois. The ceremony will be attended by **multiple celebrity guests and dignitaries**, including **former World Boxing Champion "Lightning" Lonnie Smith** and **Ace Watkins of the acclaimed R&B group Public Announcement** — making it a landmark celebration of Mother Randle's century-long legacy of faith, community, and resilience.

Larry Love University is proud to sponsor this historic journey. Mother Randle holds the distinction of being the **oldest living alumni member** of Larry Love University. For more information, visit www.larryloveuniversity.org.

ABOUT LARRY LOVE UNIVERSITY // ABOUT MOTHER LESSIE BENNINGFIELD RANDLE

Location	1320 N. Mill Street, Ste 116 Muskogee, OK 74401
Phone	(844) 468-6558 (GO-TO-LLU)
Website	www.larryloveuniversity.org
Status	Accredited 501(c)(3) Nonprofit
Accreditation	AABSTI Hope Schools of Ministry Consortium
Degrees	Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral
Programs	Business Admin, IT, Early Childhood Ed, Performing Arts, Culinary Arts
Approach	Competency-based Project-based STEM-focused Flexible Scheduling

Age	111 years old (as of 2026)
Significance	Last living survivor of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre
LLU Connection	Oldest living LLU alumni member
Award	Mighty Men & Women of God Humanitarian Award
Ceremony Date	Sunday, October 11, 2026
Ceremony Location	Cicero, Illinois
Confirmed Guests	"Lightning" Lonnie Smith Ace Watkins (Public Announcement) + Additional celebrities & dignitaries

EVENT DETAILS — OCTOBER 2026

Date	Event	Location
Friday, October 9, 2026	Arrival in Chicago, Illinois	Chicago Area
Weekend, Oct. 9–11	Celebration events honoring Mother Randle's extraordinary life and enduring legacy	Chicago, Illinois
Sunday, October 11, 2026	The Mighty Men & Women of God Humanitarian Award Ceremony Featuring: Former World Boxing Champion "Lightning" Lonnie Smith; Ace Watkins of Public Announcement; and additional celebrity guests & dignitaries	Cicero, Illinois

WHY THIS STORY MATTERS

- **Living History:** Mother Randle is the sole surviving eyewitness to the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre — a living link to one of America's darkest chapters.
 - **Star-Studded Recognition:** The October 11 ceremony features former World Boxing Champion "**Lightning**" **Lonnie Smith**, **Ace Watkins of Public Announcement**, and additional celebrities and dignitaries.
 - **Intergenerational Impact:** Her presence at the Barack Obama Presidential Center bridges history and the promise of a more equitable future.
 - **Education as Liberation:** As an LLU alumna, her story embodies lifelong learning — proof that education is not bound by age or adversity.
 - **National Media Moment:** A rare opportunity for journalists, documentary producers, and digital media creators to capture a living legend's story.
-

LLU'S MISSION, VALUES & MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

Mission	To bridge the workplace, community, and classroom into a mutually reinforcing learning network — delivering flexible, competency-based education that empowers non-traditional students to rise, lead, and serve.
Who We Serve	Working professionals, veterans, essential workers, families, and lifelong learners — including those who, like Mother Randle, prove it is never too late to learn.
Resilience & Access	We honor every student's journey and remove barriers through flexible scheduling, competency credit, and targeted financial support.
Community & Excellence	We connect students to businesses and government agencies, maintaining rigorous accredited standards while adapting to real-world student needs.
Legacy	Every person's story — like Mother Randle's — is worth honoring, preserving, and celebrating.

Interview Access	One-on-one interviews with Mother Randle (subject to health/scheduling), Dr. Larry Love, and event organizers.
Photo/Video Credentials	Press credentials for approved media at the October 2026 events in Chicago and Cicero, Illinois.
Celebrity & Dignitary Coverage	Media access surrounding confirmed guests: "Lightning" Lonnie Smith, Ace Watkins of Public Announcement, and additional celebrity attendees at the October 11 ceremony.
Exclusive Features & Broadcast	Advance background materials for documentary/long-form producers. Ready-made soundbites and b-roll available on request.
Podcast / Digital Media	Dr. Larry Love available for podcast appearances and digital panel discussions surrounding the visit.

MEDIA CONTACT

Dr. Larry Love — Founder, Larry Love University Direct: (708) 536-8836 Office: (844) 468-6558 (GO-TO-LLU) Email: info@larryloveuniversity.org Web: www.larryloveuniversity.org Address: 1320 N. Mill Street, Ste 116, Muskogee, OK 74401	Dr. Debra Harris — Registrar Email: registrar@larryloveuniversity.org <i>For interview scheduling, press credentials, and media inquiries, contact us directly.</i>
--	--

This media kit was prepared by Larry Love University in connection with the October 2026 Chicago visit of Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle. All interview requests and photo usage should be coordinated through the contacts above. High-resolution logo files and additional background materials available upon request.

Rise up — don't wait! | www.larryloveuniversity.org | (844) GO-TO-LLU

© 2026 Larry Love University. All rights reserved. A 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Institution of Higher Learning.