



Rhodes Community,

It is with great sorrow that I must open my February newsletter with an acknowledgment of the tragic events this week at Michigan State University. We grieve alongside everyone impacted by this terrible tragedy, and Rhodes College stands with Michigan State and all the other educational institutions impacted by these senseless acts of violence. We urge our students and employees to take advantage of the many resources available for support if you need help processing either these horrific events or the continuing impact of the Tyre Nichols tragedy here in our beloved city of Memphis.

I also want to express my appreciation for the community's understanding and flexibility when we had to cancel classes for three days in February due to the ice storm. I especially want to thank those of you whose critical roles meant you had come to campus despite the weather to assist our residential students and ensure that essential facilities could remain open.

Poet Laureate of the United States Visits Rhodes

We are honored to have a special guest on campus next week. Ada Limón, the 24th United States Poet Laureate, will read from her poetry as part of the annual Jack D. Farris Visiting Writers Series on Thursday, Feb. 23. The event is free and open to the public, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the McCallum Ballroom of the Bryan Campus Life Center. A reception and book signing will follow. The author of six books of poetry, [MM](#)