## Associated Colleges of Illinois

Martel McGee<br>Millikin University<br>ACI General Scholarship

Martel McGee left Chicago to attend Millikin University, Decatur, because of its emphasis on performance learning. In high school, he played football, lacrosse and ran track. "When I learned about Millikin and hands-on experience through performance learning, that was very important to me," he says. "Performance-learning has led me to many great things in my undergraduate career like opening up a coffee shop in downtown Decatur called Blue Brew." Millikin,
 he says, is a great place for students to learn beyond the classroom and participate in the business world.

McGee, a senior and first-generation college student, is majoring in entrepreneurship. With his business experience, he has big plans for after college. "Eventually I would like to open up my own business, either in the Decatur area or in the Chicagoland area. That has always been a big passion of mine."

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McGee is the recipient of an ACI General Scholarship, which provided him an important resource. "I've been financing my college career myself, so the ACI Scholarship was very important to me because it helped me buy textbooks," he says. "During my college career, I had certain classes to where I didn't have a textbook to always do my homework. I'd have to find
another student who would be willing to let me use their textbooks. With my ACI scholarship, I was able to purchase my own books. That was just a great help for me, and it also led me help other students who were in need to use my textbooks."

McGee participates in many Millikin activities. He is president of the Millikin Artists Guild, helping students who want to be in the music industry, or other artist-related industries. The club helps students record and distribute their own musical creations to platforms such as Apple Music, Tidal and Spotify.

