

Message from the Mayor



Happy Summertime! The temperatures are rising and the pace is slowing. I am looking forward to this next season and hope you have plans for a safe and enjoyable summer!

Over the past few years, I have often been asked “What makes Clemson special and unique?”

The easy answer is to refer to our mission, vision statement, and values, which broadly capture the essence of our uniqueness. I also point out that we live in a safe city (a recent report ranks us in the Top Ten in South Carolina) and that, as a community, we understand the importance of openness and acceptance, we value tradition and culture, we work together for shared causes, and we consistently learn from and trust each other. All of these are important characteristics of a special and unique city.

But the best way I answer this question is by saying, simply: It’s our people. Our city is special and unique thanks to the individuals who make up this place. So, who better to answer this question than a sampling of those who live here?

“A truly unique feature about Clemson is that everyone wants to be here. Whether it is someone who has lived here all of their life or someone who moved here last year, we all have made a conscious decision to be in Clemson. We might not always agree on everything, but I believe the passion to live in these hills makes the City of Clemson a very special place to call home.” -Tom Teasley

“The small-town atmosphere and the many cultural and recreational opportunities that the city offers, as well as an interesting and diverse population.” - Sally Lomax

“I feel that Clemson is a special place to live. Our family moved here over thirty years ago and quickly discovered it is a welcoming community with plenty of opportunities for all ages. The small-town feel creates a sense of family, and folks here look out for each other. Being adjacent to the university has given us the advantages of living in a small town plus access to attend sporting events, theater performances, and OLLI classes. We love living in a community with college students because they keep us thinking young.” - Debbie Hennessy

“In the summer, I enjoy the beautiful Clemson sunsets and cooling off in Lake Hartwell. I love sports and downtown Clemson events that bring residents and university students together.” - Lauren Hyatt (Daniel High Senior)

“What makes Clemson, the City of, special to me is the opportunity to know and interact with our leaders on a person-to-person, even first-name basis, confident that we are communicating. And being confident that they are comfortable calling upon me as a mutually concerned, engaged member of our community.” - Harold Cheatham

“The City is making an effort to build partnership with nonprofit organizations in Clemson and surrounding communities to build a stronger village.” - Adraine Jackson-Garner

“No matter where you live, you’re only minutes away from a sunrise over Lake Hartwell, a trail-run through the Issaqueena Forest or a lunch-hour stroll through downtown, where friends appear at every turn. These moments of discovery, particularly when nature and community intersect, are when I find myself most grateful for the opportunity to live and work and raise a family here.” - Heidi Williams

“Given its size, Clemson is unique for its quality of life. It features natural, social, and cultural opportunities ranging from taking a leisurely walk in the S.C. Botanical Gardens or attending a local African-American history lecture to tasting culturally based foods at the annual International Festival. As a community of college students, retirees, and everyone else, alike, the City’s diversity of natural, social, and cultural offerings helps to satisfy a range of tastes, making Clemson a destination community for many.” - Ken Robinson

“Having the ability to attend performances at the Brooks Center and many sport activities at Clemson University. Clemson still has a small-town atmosphere and feeling even with the challenges of growth and traffic. I have enjoyed living in Clemson for 60 years due to the friendly nature of the people/residents.” - Bill Dowler

“Clemson is unique to me because it is home. There is no place like home. Growing up as a kid whose father served in the United States Army, I spent years in Germany and Kansas. None of which measured up to Clemson. Clemson is unique because of its family atmosphere. Outside of the university population, everyone just about knows everyone. I’m proud of the community efforts that are in place as well as the well-established school system. I think Clemson is a great place to live and raise a family. I feel that Clemson is a great measuring stick for other small cities and towns to measure up to. In other words I am proud to be born and raised right here in Clemson. HOME!” - Larry Greenlee

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