



Xavier:

Contact: Patrice Bell-Mercadel (504)520-5452
Diana Hernandez (504) 520-5120

Beyoncé and BeyGOOD:

Yvette Noel-Schure yns@parkwood-ent.com

Google.org:

Marika Olsen olsenm@google.com

Xavier University of Louisiana Scholar Allana J. Barefield Among Winners of the Beyoncé Knowles-Carter Homecoming Scholars Awards

NEW YORK, NY – Allana J. Barefield, a Xavier University of Louisiana senior mass communication major from Lynn MA, is one of eight recipients named winners of the Beyoncé Knowles-Carter Homecoming Scholars Award for the 2018-19 academic year

She was one of four recipients of \$25,000 scholarships awarded to students from four Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) –Xavier, Wilberforce, Tuskegee and Bethune-Cookman. Four additional scholarships were awarded to students from HBCUs Texas Southern, Fisk, Grambling State, and Morehouse through a partnership with Google.org.

Barefield, who recently completed a summer Sports Journalism Institute internship as general assignment reporter for the sports desk at *The Tampa Bay Times*, is already an accomplished journalist, having previously served internships with *The Boston Globe*, *The New York Times*, *The New Orleans Advocate*, *The Louisville Courier Journal*, and *WDSU-TV* in New Orleans.

The Homecoming Scholars Award Program for 2018-19 is a merit program and was announced in April. It is the second scholarship merit program from Beyoncé Knowles-Carter and BeyGOOD. The Formation Scholars Award Program was announced in the spring of 2017 and was open to female students across a variety of studies.

The Homecoming Scholars Award Program, announced after Beyoncé's brilliant first weekend Coachella performance, a homage to excellence in education and a celebration of the homecoming weekend experience, named four universities and extended the program to all qualifying students at the universities, regardless of gender.

The 2018-19 disciplines include literature, creative arts, African-American studies, science, education, business, communications, social sciences, computer science, engineering and more. All applicants must maintain a 3.5 GPA or above.

Google.org partnered with BeyGOOD following Beyoncé's second weekend Coachella performance, to add four more schools, including Fisk University, the alma mater of Beyoncé's father, Mathew Knowles and Morehouse College, the alma mater of Parkwood President & COO, Steve Pamon.

All qualifying applicants submitted a 1,000-word essay about one African or African-American thought leader in their field who has inspired them to achieve their goals (educational, professional, and/or community-driven). The essay included how they plan to contribute to history through their own life's work. All finalists and the eight recipients were selected by committees from the colleges and universities.

The Homecoming Scholars for 2018-19 are:

ALLANA J. BAREFIELD

Xavier University

ERIN EVANS

Wilberforce University

CALEB WASHINGTON

Tuskegee University

DEMETRIUS WEAVER

Bethune-Cookman University

JORDAN DAVIS

Texas Southern University

DARTISHA MOSLEY

Fisk University

CLETUS EMOKPAE

Grambling State University

KAMERON WILLIS

Morehouse College

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ABOUT BeyGOOD

Founded in 2013 during the Mrs. Carter Show World Tour, BeyGOOD is an extension of Beyoncé's charitable heart. Through impactful dynamic partnerships, BeyGOOD's mission is to set an example of giving back and paying it forward while empowering others to do the same with what they have in their own communities. BeyGOOD is built on the belief that we are all in this together and each and every one of us can make a difference by giving back.

About Xavier University of Louisiana

Xavier was recently ranked as the nation's #2 HBCU (Historically Black College and University) by [College Consensus](#), a unique college ratings website that aggregates publisher rankings and student reviews, in its newly released publication, *Best HBCUs for 2018*. Xavier was also among the four colleges selected by Beyonce and her [BeyGood Foundation](#) as the recipient of a

Homecoming Scholars Scholarship Award announced after her much lauded performance at Coachella.

That's just the latest in national accolades Xavier has received as one of the best universities in the country. Most notably, XULA is ranked as the best value among southern regional colleges and universities in the 2018 edition of "Best Colleges" by the *U.S. News Media Group*. Xavier also ranked No.1 in its grouping, heading the list of only 15 schools that qualified for the Southern Region category listed under "Great Schools, Great Prices."

At Xavier *eXcellence awaits yoU*. For more information about Xavier University of Louisiana visit us online at www.xula.edu or follow us on Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter @XULA1925. Take a moment to learn more about how Xavier is preparing students for the future at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD4mb-jYZC8>. To book interviews about our recent accomplishments and/or to speak with our experts in the field of pharmacy, education, premed, public health, science, technology, math, business, English, communications and the arts, contact Diana Hernandez at (504) 520-5120 or dhernan1@xula.edu.



Allana J. Barefield

Xavier University of Louisiana, Senior, School of Mass Communications
2018-2019 BeyGOOD Foundation Homecoming Scholars Award Program Recipient