



XAVIER

UNIVERSITY *of* LOUISIANA

contact: Richard Tucker (504) 520-5425 or Janella Newsome (504) 520-5120

Congressman Cedric Richmond to Address 2017 Xavier Graduates

New Orleans LA – U.S. Congressman Cedric L. Richmond, chair of Congressional Black Caucus, will deliver the commencement address at Xavier University of Louisiana’s 89th annual graduation ceremony Saturday, May 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the University’s Convocation Center.

Richmond, who is expected to address some 550 undergraduate, graduate, and pre-professional students and their families, will also be awarded an honorary degree.

The University’s annual College of Pharmacy Hooding Ceremony and Baccalaureate Mass/Honors Convocation will be held the preceding day, Friday (May 12), at noon and 5:00 p.m., respectively, in the Convocation Center.

Congressman Cedric L. Richmond

Congressman Cedric Richmond represents Louisiana’s 2nd Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives. He currently serves on the House Committee on Homeland Security and the House Committee on the Judiciary. Outside of his committee duties, Richmond currently serves as chair of Congressional Black Caucus and is an active member of the New Democrat Coalition.

As a member of the Committee on Homeland Security, Richmond works to ensure New Orleans and surrounding communities are adequately prepared for any emergency through oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA). He also works to ensure the security of the nation’s critical infrastructure, borders, and ports.

As a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, the second oldest standing committee in Congress, he works with committee members to exercise oversight responsibility for the U.S. Departments of Justice and Homeland Security.

Born and raised in New Orleans, Richmond is a strong believer in the value of mentorship in his hometown. He is a graduate of Benjamin Franklin High School, earned his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, and his *Juris Doctorate* from the Tulane University School of Law in New Orleans. He is also a graduate of the Harvard University Executive Education Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Richmond's public service started at age 16 when he started coaching teams at Goretti playground. He firmly believes that neighborhood playgrounds play an important part in instilling core values in our children.

After graduating from law school and passing the Louisiana Bar Exam, Cedric was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives at the age of 26. He served in the legislature for 11 years before his election to Congress in 2010.

About Xavier University of Louisiana

Xavier University of Louisiana, the only historically Black, Catholic university in the United States, is a private, co-educational, comprehensive liberal arts college offering undergraduate, master's and professional degrees.

More than one-half of its more than 3,000 students are from Louisiana, but it draws students from nearly all fifty states and several countries. From its founding, Xavier has embraced a special mission to serve the African American Catholic community; however, its doors have always been open to qualified students of every race and creed. Today 69.7 percent of its enrollment is African American and 26 percent is Catholic.

Nationally recognized for its success in the sciences, Xavier was selected in 2016 as both a "Best Buy" for academics and affordability by the *Fiske Guide to Colleges* and as one of the nation's "Best 380 Colleges" by *The Princeton Review*.

For more information contact Xavier University of Louisiana, 1 Drexel Drive, New Orleans LA 70125, Phone: 504-520-7568, Fax 504-520-7933.

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