



Contact: Diana Hernandez  
(504) 520-5120 | [dhernan1@xula.edu](mailto:dhernan1@xula.edu)

## **Xavier University of Louisiana Awards 504 Degrees at 2019 Commencement**

New Orleans LA (May 11, 2019) ... A total of 504 graduates – more than 10 percent of whom earned summa cum laude honors – were awarded their degrees during Xavier University of Louisiana's (XULA) 92nd annual commencement May 11 at the University Convocation Center.

During the ceremony, the University also honored four of its own graduates – physicians Dr. Pierre Johnson '02, Dr. Maxime Madhere '02, and Dr. Joseph Semien '01, and vocalist Gail Gilmore '72 – with honorary degrees. The three physicians, who all participated in the keynote address, co-authored the book *Pulse of Perseverance* and are living testaments of Xavier's mission. Gilmore is noted for strengthening the pathways to education and music for black youth.

Eleven students with perfect 4.0 grade point averages headed this year's group of 56 summa cum laude graduates, including: Hana Alkhafaf, a biology/premed major from Metairie, La.; Simin Almassi, a biology/premed major from Metairie, La.; Jacqueline Baidoo, a physics/chemistry major; Dalia El-Desoky, a biology major from Kenner, La.; Tyler Kelley, a biology/premed major from Greenville, S.C.; Gabriel Niculescu, a political science major from Bucharest; Allison Stephens, a chemistry/premed major from Harvest, Ala.; and four pharmacy students – Bree Bergeron of Marrero, La.; Olivia Ewing of Carencro, La.; Alison Neuliep of River Ridge, La.; and Anh Nguyen of New Orleans, La.

### **HONOR GRADUATES**

#### **Summa Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts: Jacqueline Baidoo, Kayla Lewis, D'Audra Metoyer, Serena Newberry, Gabriel Niculescu, Prinsey Walker, Andrea Willis.

Bachelor of Science: Hana Alkhafaf, Simin Almassi, Shanzay Chaudhry, Brandon Dang, Mychael Delgado, Camilla Do, Michael Do, Huyen Duong, Dalia El-Desoky, Dorian Hill, Micah Holness, Auriel Jasper-Morris, Janelle Jones, Tyler Kelly, Karla Martin, Alaina McClue, McKenze Moss, Brenda-Xuan Nguyen, Dao Joanna Nguyen, Jeanne Nguyen, Nancy Nguyen, Stephany Nguyen, Patricia Pham, Bryan Redmond, Emily Riewestahl, Erika Scott, Tatyana Smith, Allison Stephens, Cydney Stevenson, Maya Suell, Lauren Thornton, James Vu.

Doctor of Pharmacy: Gabriela Andonie, Bree Bergeron, Stephanie Crouchet, Alaa Elsayed, Olivia Ewing, Lynn Hoang, Michele McCloskey, Alison Neuliep, Anh Nguyen, Mylinh Nguyen, Taylor Sperandeo, Gabrielle Vincent, Ahmed Zaki, Amir Zaki, Hillary Zaunbrecher.

## **Magna Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts: Ariyanna Carter, Aaron Detiege, Kanhiya Dickenson, Emerald Dukes, Sydney Green, Brianna Houston, Jaleese Johnson, Nia Laing, Jalisa Orellana, Aaliyah Young.

Bachelor Music: Ashley Harris.

Bachelor of Science: Helena Barber, Ania Bartholomew, Mikayla Bates, Kayla Beamon, Sarah Bertrand, Maya Bragg, Kanhiya Dickeson, Nghia Doan, Alexandria Griffin, Nicholas Hall, Carrie Johnson, Cara King, Rhea Lee, Anna Ly, Edelmy Marin Bernardez, Paula McKinney, Sydney Morris, Tiffany Nguyen, Tommy Nguyen, Shazia Searcy, Josiah Sherman, Brianna Simpson, Brittany Strauss, Kaelan Vazquez, Ashley Vu, Keona Williams, Aaliyah Young.

Doctor of Pharmacy: Ketreuna Bingham, Charlton Camp, Quynh-Nhu Dang, Janene Hamideh, Codeigh Hunt, Brianna Ledet, Dru Lezina, Peter Nguyen, Monte Lynn Perez, Nancy Pham, Asia Sanders, Phillip Vo, Cassidy Williams.

## **Cum Laude**

Bachelor of Arts: Devin Almonor, Allana Barefield, Ronald Davis, Courtney Freeman, Jalen Johnson, Ilia King, Domonique Lewis, Lauren Nguyen, Shayla Wilson.

Bachelor of Science: James Bailey Jr., Yailee Bangura, Destiny Bruce, Loian Chambers, Vzair Cheema, Bethany Davis, Myhia Douglas, Taj Dright, Lashunda Fletcher, Jamie Francois, Chandler Golden, Kelsey Green, Olivia Griswold, LaMiah Hall, Rachel Hitchens, Tiffany Hogan, Esarrah Hopkins, Amber Jackson, Joy Jackson, Melannie Johnson, Ke'La Kimble, SydneDion Lampkin, Duyen Le, Jacob Lee, Robyn Miles, Makayla Myles, Christy Nguyen, Amenze Omoruyi, Imari Parham, Nghi Pham, Hailey Phillips, India Primm-Spencer, Hadiya Rasheed, Arlyaae Rodney, Brandy Sardie, Skyler Taylor, My Malanie Tran, Lani Turner, Taryn Watkins, Kyra Wilson, Shamyra Woods-ElliottMah Noor Zahra.

Doctor of Pharmacy: Alanna Allen, Micah Anthony, Ahlam Ayyad, Wyatt Chafin, Keeyan Davis, Marissa Gooden, Jasmine Grandpre', Cayla Huon, Mikayla Johnson, Kabrea Jones, Oy Keobupha, Jonathan Le, Melinda Le, Ghazal Nagharehabed, Gloria Manning, Sierra Meyers, Autumn O'Rear, Jessie Oousson, Isabel Sbeiti, Chelsea Schexnayder, Shima Shafiyani, Amy Tran, Hope Tran, Tuyet Mai Tran, Bao Anh Jessica Vu.

## **Graduate Degrees with Honors**

Master of Arts: Ashley Anderson, Charles Blamphin, Robert Darrith, Leah Deloch, Melissa Dugas, Brittany Gray, Erin Hall, Lindsey Hutchins, Chelsea Mitchell.

Master of Arts in Teaching: Jasmine Bush, Harley King, Sarah Nelson, Matthew Robak, Brilin Williams.

Doctor of Education: Benjamin-David Legrand.

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## **ALL GRADUATES**

### **Bachelor of Arts**

Zakyra Adams, Efeturi Agbuduta, Devin Almonor, Timothy Ambrose Jr., Jacqueline Baidoo, Mizani Ball, Allana Barefield, Precious Barthelemy, Janeen Beard, Alyrie Benoit, Cheriana Bolden, Jasmyne Bracy, Brandon Brown, Daryl Brown, Jasmine-Chalai Brown, Melia Brown, Zoe Burnside, Tia Cage, Ariyanna Carter, Tyana Chatham-McCaskill, Imani Cochran, Aleshia Coleman, CaSha Davis, Kayla Davis, Ronald Davis, Wayne Dawson II, Aaron Detiege, Kanhiya Dickenson, Lacey Dominique Jr., Emerald Dukes, Gamoni Fallings, Catalin Fifea, Dominic Fleming, Monet Fontaine, Courtney Freeman, Iesha Gadsden, Delaney George, Sydney Green, Kynedi Grier, Brianna Houston, Assata Hyacinthe, Chardonae' Johnson, Jaleese Houston, Jalen Johnson, Brian Jones Jr., Iliia King, Nia Laing, Monique Lathon, Domonique Lewis, Kayla Lewis, Kerionne Lewis, Trey Love, Arbrielle Lowe, Cyuan Lutzenberger, Blair Lyons, Tamiyah Mann, Darryl Mayo, Marshay McCray, Sarajeni Mercier, D'Audra Metoyer, Yeishka Montalvo, Serena Newberry, Lauren Nguyen, Gabriel Niculescu, Jalisa Orellana, Liyah Patrick, Areion Phipps, Nicholas Reese, Khadijah Roberts, Tamika Ross, Leslie Sam Jr., Dominique Seals, Ariane Shanks, Angelle Simon, Alexis Stokes, Danielle Sullen, Juliana Tomasoni, Jonathan Turner, Olivia Vega, Prinsey Walker, Sarena Weatherspoon, Sydney Wessinger, Angel Wiles, Kai Williams, Andrea Willis, Shayla Wilson, Mia Woodruff, Aaliyah Young.

### **Bachelor of Music**

Ashley Harris, Dominique Harris.

### **Bachelor of Science**

Christopher Adams, Langston Adams, Claude Albritton, Hawra Ali, Joy Alia, Hana Alkhafaf, Simin Almassi, Pierre Andrieu, Na'Kiya Antonio, Christopher August, Jacqueline Baidoo, James Bailey Jr., Yailee Bangura, Helena Barber, Ania Bartholomew, Mikayla Bates, Kayla Beamon, Broderick Bellard, Sarah Bertrand, Quinteshea Bolden, Christian Boyd, Kelsi Bradford, Maya Bragg, Kaiya Braham, Sydney Branch, La'Tia Brown, Destiny Bruce, Briana Burras, Randy Caldwell, Nurysa Carter, Clifford Castleberry, Loian Chambers, Ahli Chatters, Shanzay Chaudhry, Vzair Cheema, Jeremy Cleveland, Keairez Coleman, Janae' Craige, Christopher Creighton, Brandon Dang, Jalen David, Bethany Davis, Mychael Delgado, Margaux Derricotte, Kanhiya Dickenson, Meghan Dillon, Jeffrey Dixon Jr., Camilla Do, Michael Do, Nghia Doan, Myhia Douglas, Taj Dright, Huyen Duong, Gabriel Ekechukwu, Dalia El-Desoky, Amanda English, Cydney Evans, Taylor Fields, Lashunda Fletcher, Jamie Francois, Anthony Freeman, Chandler Golden, Lauren Goodes, Lakeshia Gordon, Alexander Grant, Wesleigh Grant, Kelsey Green, Alexandria Griffin, Jessica Griffin, Olivia Griswold, Dillon Guillory, LaMiah Hall, Nicholas Hall, Tia Hamilton, Dabria Hammond, Camry Hardy, Kaleb Harris, Alexandra Henry, Dorian Hill, Kamihisa Hill, Rachel Hitchens, Tiffany Hogan Travanti Holmes, Micah Holness, Esarrah Hopkins, Zoie Horton, Morghan Hudson, Haaris Hussain, Amber Jackson, Joy Jackson, Auriel Jasper-Morris, Adrienne Johnson, Carrie Johnson, Di'jon Johnson, Melannie Johnson, Janelle Jones, Sydnie Julien, Tyler Kelly, Tyla Kennedy, Tina Khoshkhoo, Ke'La Kimble, Angel King, Cara King, Shana King, Ashley LeBeaud, SydneDion Lampkin, Duyen Le, Penny Le, Tammy Le, Herman Lebeaux III, Charles Leduff, Jacob Lee, Rhea Lee, Brittani Lewis, Anna Ly, Alaysia Madison, Edelmy Marin Bernardez, Carmel Marion, Karla Martin, Camaya Matthews, Alaina McClue, Maci McElroy, Alexis McKinney, Paula McKinney, Gerry McNichols Jr., Tawny Mickey, Malik Miles, Robyn Miles, Malcolm Mitchell, Shannon Mitchell, Ashley Montgomery, Joslyn Moore, Darryl Moree II, Kerry Morgan, Sydney Morris, Ta'John Morris, Olivia Morrison, McKenze Moss, Jayna Motley, Makayla Myles, Tearani Nance, Tyler Nelson, Brenda-Xuan Nguyen, Christy Nguyen, Dao Joanna Nguyen, Ha Aimee Nguyen, Jeanne Nguyen, Michelle Nguyen, Nancy Nguyen, Nina Nguyen, Stephany Nguyen, Tiffany Nguyen, Tommy Nguyen, Tyler Nguyen, Jayla Nichols, Kyara Nichols, Chiantay O'Conner, Amenze Omoruyi, Amber Osborne, Brianna Pace, Imari Parham, Winston Parris, India Pasley, Nghi

Pham, Patricia Pham, Hailey Phillips, Shannon Phipps, India Primm-Spencer, Dominique Prophete, Kayla Quincy, Mildred Randell, Hadiya Rasheed, Rachel Reddix, Morgan Reed, Jamila Ricketts, Emily Riewestahl, Angel Ringo, Shamia Robinson, Arlysse Rodney, Joseph Roth III, Pierre-Henri Sakponou, Jasmine Sancho, Gabrielle Sanders, Brandy Sardie, Brianna Scott, Chelsea Scott, Ericka Scott, Rotieranna Scott, Shazia Searcy, Kristopher Shaw, Savioune Shepherd, Josiah Sherman, Brianna Simpson, Alize Sims, Ajahnique Smith, Ayanna Smith, Courtney Smith, Jhai Smith, Leya Smith, Oshanae Smith, Tatyana Smith, Allison Stephens, Cydney Stevenson, Laine Stewart, Brittany Strauss, Maya Suell, Sydney Sylvera, Skyler Taylor, Angelika Thomas, Nidja Thomas, Brianna Thompson, Lauren Thornton, My Malanie Tran, Tina Tran, De'ja Turner, Lani Turner, Kaelan Vazquez, Starr Villavasso, Ashley Vu, James Vu, Tracy Vu, Laurence Walker, Taryn Watkins, Pearl Watson, Lyle Wilkins, Alana Williams, Briana Williams, Desiray Williams, Erin Williams, Joseph Williams, Kaitlyn Williams, Keona Williams, Mathew Williams, Oliver Williams Jr., Kevionta Wilson, Kyra Wilson, Shamyra Woods-Elliott, Aaliyah Young, Jade Zachery, Mah Noor Zahra.

### **Doctor of Education**

Benjamin-David Legrand, Zwila Martinez, Jordan Sanchez.

### **Doctor of Pharmacy**

Alanna Allen, Mohammed Alwageeh, Gabriela Andonie, Micah Anthony, Ahlam Ayyad, Christina Bach, Jordan Bates, Crystal Beckwith, Christopher Berard, Bree Bergeron, Ketreuna Bingham, Chelsey Bourgeois, Bria Broussard, Palaire Brown, Huong Bui, Stephanie Bui, Tracy Bui, Charlton Camp, Wyatt Chafin, Kellie Cooley, Breanna Cousin, Stephanie Crouchet, Quynh-Nhu Dang, Jaylyn Davis, Keeyan Davis, Morgan Davis, Truong Do, Ryan Duncan, Alaa Elsayed, Olivia Ewing, Janet Fajuroki, Paige Gallien, Marissa Gooden, Kelly Goolsby, Jasmine Grandpre', Hanady Hamdan, Janene Hamideh, Macy Harris, Jaleel Hill, Justin Hill, Lynn Hoang, Codeigh Hunt, Cayla Huon, Francis Huynh, Jonathan Huynh, Thao Huynh, Jasmine Jennings, Mikayla Johnson, Kabrea Jones, Laura Jones, Saba Kagani, Safa Kagani, Oy Keobupha, Kayla Keys, Anh Tuyet Kha, Jordan Laurent, Hoa Le, Jonathan Le, Melinda Le, Brianna Ledet, Dru Lezina, Ghazal Magharehaded, Shahed Mahmud, Gloria Manning, Michele McCloskey, Courtney Mesman, Sierra Meyers, Kelsey Miller, Michael Mitchell III, Maya Moore, Pegah Namazizdeh, Alison Neuliep, Anh Nguyen, Diana Nguyen, Kim-Thu Nguyen, Lena Nguyen, Mylinh Nguyen, Nhu-Everly Nguyen, Peter Nguyen, Quoc Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Autumn O'Rear, Katie Owen, Monte Lynn Perez, Nancy Pham, Chesalon Phillips, Jessie Pousson, Kiersten Rapp, Emily Reuther, Darian Richard, Jennifer Riddick, Reneisha Roberts, Asia Sanders, Isabel Sbeiti, Chelsea Schexnayder, Sara Schroeder, Jennifer Seeling, Shima Shafiyani, Chelsea Simpson, Jairus Smith, Taylor Sperandeo, David Than, Kiley Thomas, Wakjira Tolessa, Amy Tran, Hope Tran, Huy Tran, Mathew Tran, Tuyet Mai Tran, Kimanh Troung, Gabrielle Vincent, Nina Vo, Phillip Vo, Angel Vu, Boa Anh Jessica Vu, Jameia Waggoner, Ida Walinjom, Bria Wates, Megan Webb, Cassidy Williams, Hai Wu, Ahmed Zaki, Amir Zaki, Hillary Zaunbrecher.

### **Master of Arts**

Ashley Anderson, Shunte Banks, Demrest Barkley, Charles Blamphin, Yashicia Collins, Robert Darrith, Tori DeGruy, Angel Delandro, Leah Deloch, Melissa Dugas, Rendell Elloie, Johnnika Gordon, Brittany Gray, Raven Guidry, Erin Hall, Le'Shell Hamilton, Erica Houston, Lindsey Hutchins, Sherrell McVay, Chelsea Mitchell, Rossea' Moore, Severina Nicholl-DeSpenza, Jasmine Pulliam, Laci Rouzan, Ne-Juan Shaul, Marie Surena Clincy, Langston Terrel, Kimberly Thompson, Railyn Williams, Sierra Williams.

## **Master of Arts in Teaching**

Ashley Adams, Alisa Antil, Jesse Berkson, Ashley Brider, Jasmine Brown, Jasmine Bush, Kennedy Crosby, Lakeytra Domingue, Myron Guillory, Nicholas Herring, Shacarra Ishman, Marissa Johnson, Dot'Toya Jones, Harley King, Jalonda Morris, Sarah Nelson, Matthew Robak, Lana Watson, Brilin Williams.

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## **About Xavier University of Louisiana**

Being America's only historically Black and Catholic University is just the first of the distinctions that have set Xavier University of Louisiana apart for more than eight decades.

Despite its relatively small size (3,300 students), Xavier is a nationally recognized leader in the STEM and the health sciences, producing more African American students who graduate from medical schools each year than any other university in the United States. Its College of Pharmacy is among the top producers of African American pharmacists.

Its liberal arts based programs in such areas as art, business, education, psychology, and political science – as well as such recent additions as bioinformatics, data science, neuroscience, crime and social justice, and jazz studies – offer students an unbeatable combination of traditional classroom study, hands-on research, service-learning opportunities, and life experiences.

The winning Xavier formula? Provide students with a well-balanced curriculum and an environment that nurtures their intellect and feeds their souls.

At Xavier *eXcellence awaits yoU*. For more information about Xavier University of Louisiana visit us online at [www.xula.edu](http://www.xula.edu) or follow us on Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter @XULA1925. To book interviews 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](mailto:dhernan1@xula.edu).