



**The Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians
of the United States**

May 17, 2023

Dr. Kathleen Dorsey Bellows
Director
Institute for Black Catholic Studies
(Via email)

Dear Dr. Dorsey Bellows,

It is my honor to inform you that the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States confers this year's ACHTUS Award to the Institute for Black Catholic Studies. ACHTUS will formally make this announcement at the banquet during our annual meeting in New Orleans on Tuesday, June 6.

Along with president-elect Ramon Luzarraga, Ph.D., I am grateful that you are planning to attend this year's colloquium, which is taking place in New Orleans from Sunday, June 4, until Wednesday, June 7, at the NOPSI Hotel. Dr. Luzarraga, who will begin his service as President of ACHTUS at the meeting, will be presenting you with the ACHTUS award at the banquet.

ACHTUS confers the ACHTUS Award to an institution or organization "for institutional contributions to theology in keeping with the mission of the Academy." The Board of Directors is grateful to the members of this year's Award committee—Horacio Vela, Ph.D. (Chair), Peter Casarella, Ph.D., and Nichole Flores, Ph.D.—who crafted the following citation for the Award:

"We honor the Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana with the 2023 ACHTUS Award. Past faculty at this historic institute have included Fr. Cyprian Davis and Sr. Thea Bowman. The Institute has long been a leading national center for Black Catholic studies. Its alumni have founded centers and programs across the country, including institutions with ties to current ACHTUS members and Latinx theological initiatives. Examples include Sr. Addie Lorraine Walker, founder and director of the Sankofa Institute for African American Pastoral Leadership at Oblate School of Theology and Dr. Vanessa White, director of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program at Catholic Theological Union. Xavier University's presence in New Orleans, our annual meeting's theme of empire and emphasis upon Latinx theology and the Caribbean, make this an opportune time to celebrate the Institute for Black Catholic Studies with the ACHTUS Award for its institutional contributions to theology in keeping with the mission of the Academy."

Again, ¡muchas felicidades! If you have any questions, please contact me directly. My cell number is (210) 788-0098. I look forward to meeting you in New Orleans and to celebrate the Institute's important contributions.

Paz,

Victor Carmona, Ph.D.
President
ACHTUS