

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

Xavier University Welcomes Class of 2022 in Grand Style

New Orleans LA – Xavier University of Louisiana's Class of 2022, their parents and other family are receiving a royal welcome as this latest wave of freshman and transfer students are introduced to their new home away from home.

Monday's "Rites of Passage" ceremony – symbolically marking their transition from high school to college – capped off the first three days of the week-long New Student Orientation, during which the participants have been experiencing first-hand much of what Xavier and New Orleans has to offer.

Monday was no different, as the appreciative crowd joined in on a campus parade and second line featuring Mardi Gras Indians in route to the Convocation Center where they were treated to a special presentation of video messages ("parents love notes to their sons/daughters") followed by a reception that officially accepted the new students into the protection and world-class academic excellence of the Xavier family.

It hasn't been all fun and games, however, Much of the first three days were devoted to introducing the new students to the campus layout and introductions to the various administrative and academic offices they will need to know to get the most the vast resources that Xavier makes available.

The students are divided into four separate groups, led by Peer Deans – Xavier upperclassman – which gives them a smaller base and is more conducive to forging personal relationships with their soon-to-be classmates.

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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.

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