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Majora Carter to Speak at Xavier University of Louisiana

New Orleans La – Internationally renowned urban revitalization strategy consultant, real estate developer, and Peabody Award winning broadcaster Majora Carter will speak at <u>Xavier University of Louisiana</u> Thursday, Sept. 13, at 6 p.m. in the Qatar Pavilion, Room 112A/B. The talk will be immediately followed by an open reception in the Qatar Pavilion Atrium.

Carter's topic will be "Community as Corporation". The event, part of the University's new Provost Speaker Series, "Courageous Justice", is free and open to the public. RSVP is requested. For more information and to RSVP, please visit http://xula.edu/academics/provostspeakerseries.

Carter is a leading urban revitalization strategy consultant, real estate developer, and Peabody Award winning broadcaster. She is responsible for the creation & implementation of numerous green-infrastructure projects, policies, and job training & placement systems.

At Sustainable South Bronx, she deployed MIT's first-ever Mobile Fab-Lab (digital fabrication laboratory to the South Bronx - where it served as an early iteration of the "Maker-Spaces" found elsewhere today. The project drew residents and visitors together for guided and creative collaborations.

After establishing Sustainable South Bronx and Green For All (among other organizations) to carry on that work, she opened a private consulting firm to help spread the message and success of social enterprise and economic development in low-status communities - which was named Best for the World by B-Corp in 2014.

Her work is characterized by an emphasis on *talent-retention* on the corporate and community levels.

Clients include industry leaders in many fields, municipal and federal government agencies, and leading educational institutions across the US.

From this vantage point, Carter co-founded the now 750+ member_Bronx Tech Meetup, as well as the StartUpBox Software Services company which is rebuilding the entry level tech job pipeline by using market forces and established business practices to help diversify the US tech sector. Clients include Digital.nyc, PlayDots, and GIPHY, among others.

Carter has helped connect tech industry pioneers such as Etsy, Gust, FreshDirect, Google, and Cisco to diverse communities at all levels, and she continues to drive resources that value diversity into the communities left out of previous economic growth trends.

Carter is a graduate of the Bronx High School of Science, and an Advisory Board member of the Bronx Academy of Software Engineering High School. Her long list of awards and honorary degrees include accolades from groups as diverse as Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, John Podesta's Center for American Progress, Goldman Sachs, as well as a MacArthur "genius" Fellowship. She is a BusinessInsider.com 'Silicon Alley 100', one of Goldman-Sachs '100 Most Intriguing Entrepreneurs', and her 2006 TEDtalk was one of six to launch that groundbreaking site. She is a board member of the Andrew Goodman Foundation.

The Provost Speaker Series is organized by the Office of Academic Affairs and made possible because of a generous gift from Dr. Jack and Deb Forrest.

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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, while actor and comedian Kevin Hart has joined forces with UNCF and KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) to help 18 more KIPP students earn a college degree – three of whom were Xavier students.

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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