# **FREEMAN HONORS**

Fall 2018 Newsletter of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College at Texas Southern University

December 2018

#### Inside This Edition

Graduation Recognition	
Ceremony	1
Dean's Message	1
Fall Retreat	2
National Award	2
Fall Dinner	3
Scholars in Training	4
Homecoming	4
Frederick Douglass Lecture	5
Junior College Open House	6
UN Day Gala	6
Call to Alumni	6
Research & Recruitment	7
Undergraduate	
Symposium	8
Honors Student Accolades	9
Honors Staff News	10
Honors Christmas Party	11

#### About This Edition

Freeman Honors, is the bi-annual newsletter of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College at Texas Southern University. It connects the students, faculty and office personnel of the College with its many benefactors and partners in education within the University.

The College anticipates that this connection will reflect and cultivate the relationships in a family whose members are dedicated to maximizing the preparation of College students for service as citizens and as leaders in a global society.

# December 2018 Honors College Graduates



Left to right: Darryl McNary II, Oluwaseyi Odiyeye, Dean Jemison Pollard, David Anderson, Ibrahim Adeyemi, and Anaya Valentine (not pictured) Seated: Dr. Thomas Freeman

The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College held its semi-annual Honors Graduation Recognition Ceremony/Luncheon on Tuesday, December 4, 2018, at 12 p.m. Five Fall 2018 graduates were honored for successfully completing all their Honors requirements along with their degree plans. Dean Jemison Pollard presided over the luncheon held in the Heartman Collection in the Robert J. Terry Library. A graduate tribute was delivered by Fall 2018 Honors faculty member Dr. Michon Benson (Dept. of English), who offered invaluable advice to the graduates on their next steps as Honors alumni and global citizens. The luncheon concluded with Dr. Thomas F. Freeman, the founding dean, leading the graduation pledge. The graduates pledged to continue to uphold the core values of the Honors College (Honesty, Integ-

rity, Community, Creativity, and Excellence). Each graduate was honored with the special Honors College stole, a certificate of completion, as well as TSU Alumni memorabilia as tokens of appreciation. The Fall 2018 graduates are: **Ibrahim Adeyemi** (Biology, 3.46), **David Anderson** (Finance, 3.35), **Darryl McNary, II** (Political Science, 3.59), **Oluwaseyi Odiyeye** (Civil Engineering, 3.95), and **Anaya Valentine** (Biology, 3.53).

Other Honors Faculty members **Dr. James Herbst** (Department of History, Geography & Economics) and **Dr. Iris Lancaster** (Department of English) were also present to support our graduating seniors.

Congratulations to our graduates as they embark on the next chapter in their lives.

# **Dean's Message**



Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard

The Fall 2018 semester had several memorable moments for the scholars, as well as Honors College Faculty and Honors College Fellows, including: the first Annual Fall Dinner, a night for celebrating excellence; the return of Honors core classes and monthly faculty meetings; the return of Dr. Hector Miranda to the College as Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, having once served as the Interim Assistant Dean; and, national recognition for the Honors newsletter *Freeman Honors* which received the 2nd Place Award from the National Collegiate Honors Council. An important initiative moving forward, is to explore opportunities to bring partnerships with learning communities here in Houston, as well as globally.

Enjoy the fall issue of the award-winning newsletter, Freeman Honors.

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# Fall 2018 Retreat

The Honors College welcomed the Honors Scholars to a new school year with a Fall Retreat held in the C.S. Lane building on Saturday, September 8, 2018. **Mr. Shandon Neal** kicked off the retreat with an interactive ice breaker that promoted team building and collaboration among the new and returning members of the College.

After the ice-breaker, the scholars were randomly divided into four groups with breakout sessions facilitated by **Dean Jemison Pollard, Dr. Hector Miranda, Ms. Renuka Nair and Mr. Neal**. During the breakout sessions scholars discussed the relationship between their chosen majors and their passions and the importance of loving what you do. Afterwards, the scholars were able to listen to presentations by guest speakers **Dr. Andrea Shelton** (Professor of Healthcare Administration and Coordinator of Study Abroad Program to St. Kitts, TSU), **Ms. Andreaus Boise** (Director of the Career & Professional Development Center), and members of the Honors College Faculty,



Dr. James Herbst and Prof. Dorris Robinson.

Dr. Shelton discussed TSU's international program opportunities specifically, the study abroad trip to St. Kitts and answered the scholars' questions. Ms. Boise distributed the Career & Professional Development Center's career pathways and timelines

Dr. Andrea Shelton discussing study abroad opportunities at the Fall 2018 Retreat

for freshman, sophomore, junior and senior students. She also introduced the scholars to the center's many programs and services that are available to TSU students and reminded all to be prepared for the upcoming events such as resume workshops, Dress for Success suit and clothing giveaway, employer meet and greet sessions, as well as the Fall 2018 Career Fair.

Also, scholars met Honors College faculty members, Dr. James Herbst (Department of History) and Prof. Dorris Robinson (Department of Political Science). After lunch was served, the scholars received the Fall 2018 calendar with all required activities.

# Spring 2018 edition of *Freeman Honors* wins 2nd Place in NCHC Newsletter Awards

The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College's newsletter *Freeman Honors* received a wonderful compliment this fall. The Spring 2018 edition won 2nd Place in the 2018 National Collegiate Honors Council's (NCHC) Newsletter Awards for the Faculty/Administrator/Student-Electronic category. There were 27 entries in the "Electronic" category.

We are very proud of *Freeman Honors* and what it stands for: Recognition of achievement in upholding the Honors College's core values of Honesty, Integrity, Community, Creativity and Excellence,



The Freeman Honors newsletter: Spring 2018 edition

**FREEMAN HONORS** 

# The Fall Dinner: A Night of Firsts

The Honors College's first Annual Fall Dinner, September 25, 2018, in the Sterling Student Life Center Tiger Room, was well received by the Honors scholars and others in attendance. The event is an opportunity to recognize those scholars who have maintained excellence in both their GPA and fulfilling the College curriculum. It is also a night for scholars to see the faculty and fellows who will mentor them in and out of the classroom.

The scholars dressed in their finest attire and were treated to an insightful keynote speech by the **University Provost, Dr. Kendall Harris**, along with a delicious dinner and an awards program.

The evening also featured **Jordan Bush**, pianist, a 10th grader at the High School for Performing and



2018 Junior Blazer Recipients Front row left to right: Alexis Lowe, Kayla Smith, Vincent Fisher, Tylar Larkins, Ashlynn McCall, Torye Smith, Alexis Shavers, and Kiya Reeves Front row left to right: Alusine Davis, Jordan Davis, Darrion Gray, and Giraude Griffin



2018 Senior Scholar Pin Recipients

Left to right: Anaya Valentine, Divonte Lumpkin, Malik Currie (back), Jamalia Henry, Chanel Banks, LaQuinton Armbrister, Suzonne Goudeau, Obenifiro Abu, Alexia Ladipo, McKenzie Jones, Vu Pham, Jaida Lewis, Keyse Musse, Precious Oguonu, Ibrahim Adeyemi, Anish Patel, and Darryl McNary, II

Visual Arts (HSPVA).

Honors Faculty were recognized for their service to the College with a Faculty Portfolio. The Honors College Fellows were presented lapel pins with the word "Fellow" for their mentoring of senior scholars as they write their undergraduate thesis.

Junior scholars received Grey Honors College blazers as recognition of completing two years

of honors requirements. Senior scholars received special lapel pins with the word "Scholar."

The highlight of the evening was the induction of transfer and new continuing scholars who entered the College in Fall 2018. **Dr.** 

**Thomas F. Freeman,** Founding Dean of the Honors College, administered the pledge as the scholars recited the oath.

Freshman scholars will be officially inducted into the College in Spring 2019.



2018 Transfer and New-continuing Inductees

Left to right: Ja'Darrion Morgan, De'Lana Dorsey, LaTeryka Hudson, Daija Lovejoy, Kelsey Beeler, Alfredo Rogel, Aiyanna Karp-Duviella, Camryn Roberts, Cainan Rodriquez, Leslie Pineada, Daniel Avila, Mark Ddamulira, Daniel Kuddabujja, Janai Minga Seated: Provost Kendall Harris and Dr. Thomas Freeman

The Fall Dinner serves as the first official event on the Fall 2018 calendar after the Fall Retreat.

# The Scholars-in-Training Program: A partnership between HISD and the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College

According to Winston Churchill, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give". During the Fall 2018 semester, the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College once again partnered with the Houston Independent School District (HISD) to continue the Scholars in Training program, established in Spring 2018. The program assists honors students in inner city high schools with their college entrance exams, which includes the ACT and SAT. The high school students were scheduled to complete their SAT exams on December 5th. The following scholars signed up for the program in September 2018: Gabriella Tavera, Cainan Rodriguez, Eniola Otukoya, Obenefiro Abu, Kiya Reeves, Igor Vouffo, and Leslie Pineda. The scholars were trained by Mr. Michael Koch, who serves as the HISD College Readiness Director. Some of the scholars were assigned to Booker T. Washington High School and were instructed to tutor the students from October through No-



Left to right: Dean Jemison Pollard, Ms. Sarah Sejoro Graduate Research Assistant, and Mr. Michael Koch

vember. The Honors College would like to thank the Scholars-in-Training volunteers who went out to Booker T. Washington high school; **Gabriella Tavera** (Junior, Biology), **Cainan Rodriguez** (Freshman, Political Science), **Obenefiro Abu** (Junior, Prepharmacy).

The Scholars in Training program will be conducted each fall semester.

## Homecoming 2018: The Heart and Soul of Houston



Homecoming celebrations began on October 21, 2018 and ended with the grand Homecoming Parade on Saturday, October 27, 2018. Alumni, students, family and friends came together to celebrate TSU's 91-year reign.

Honors royalty, Miss Honors College, **Gabriella Tavera** (Biology) and Mister Honors College, **B.J. McCaskill** (Political Science) were officially presented at the 2018 Miss TSU Coronation Ball, held on Tuesday, October 23, 2018. On Saturday, October 27, they represented the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College with grace and elegance while riding in a beautiful red Corvette, courtesy of **Mr. Donald Pollard**, handing out candy and Honors College

memorabilia to community members during the Homecoming Parade.

Mister and Miss Honors College will represent the College at events throughout the year.



# **Fredrick Douglass Lecture Series**

The Frederick Douglass Lecture Series is a required attendance event for the Honors College Scholars. Two lectures are presented each semester and each has a community and/or global focus.

#### Dr. Humphrey Regis — October 2, 2018

On October 2, 2018, **Dr. Humphrey Regis** from TSU's School of Communication presented the first lecture of the Frederick Douglass lecture series to scholars in the Honors College. Covering the topic of globalization and being a global citizen, Dr. Regis emphasized the importance of being an active member of the community as well as the world to ensure a better tomorrow. Using his own field of study to support his argument, Dr. Regis connected the value of global communication, explaining how the development of technology, particularly smart technology such as cell phones, has led to a more connected world as a whole and is helping create a better-informed generation where almost all knowledge lies at their fingertips. Dr. Regis's lecture sought to inspire scholars to use technology to make a difference in the world.

Dr. Regis served as Dean of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College from 2011 to 2014. As dean, he admonished scholars to be accomplished in their specialties, multidimensional in their knowledge, interdisciplinary in their perspectives and approaches as they will be integrated into local, national and global communities. He received a B.A. degree in Communicative Arts from the University of D.C. in Washington D.C., an M.A. in Journalism from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland, and a Ph.D. in Mass Communication from Howard University in Washington D.C. He also received certificates in Education from his homeland in Saint Lucia.



Dr. Humphrey Regis

Program participants were **Mr. Clinton Emeh** (Sophomore, Biology/Pre-Medicine), who delivered the invocation, **Miss Kayla Gregory** (Sophomore, Biology/Pre-Nursing) gave the Occasion, **Miss Janik Alexander-Smith** (Junior, Radio, Television and Film) introduced the speaker, and **Dr. Thomas F. Freeman**, the founding dean of the Honors College, delivered the closing remarks.

#### Dr. Marie Asher Baptiste—November 7, 2018



Dr. Marie Asher Baptiste

President and founder of the Haitian Multicultural Association, **Dr. Marie Asher Baptiste's** lecture titled *How to Become a Visionary Leader* inspired and empowered the Honors Scholars to figure out what their visions were, discover their biggest dreams and then figure out how to realize them. One of the points she made repeatedly was to choose a realistic goal. She said "do not be a fish and wish to fly; figure out how to build the wings and then fly." She cautioned the scholars that their friends may not always understand their vison and that they may lose friendships along the journey to becoming who they are meant to be. She reminded them to stay true to themselves, work hard, push for what they want, and to not lose sight of their vison. She also advised the scholars to be proud of achieving goals and quoted Belva Davis stating "don't be afraid of the space between your dreams and reality. If you can dream it, you can achieve it".

Dr. Baptiste received a bachelors in Biology and Education from the University of Houston-Victoria, a masters in Education and Mental Health Counseling, from Lamar University, a masters in Criminal Justice from Lamar University, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from

Keiser University. Dr. Baptiste also has an Honorary Doctorate in Ministry Leadership from Asbury Theological Seminary.

Program participants were, **Mr. LaQuinton Armbrister** (Senior, Aviation Science Management), who delivered the invocation, **Miss Gabriella Tavera** (Junior, Biology/Pre-Medicine, Miss Honors College) gave the occasion, **Mr. B.J. McCaskill** (Sophomore, Political Science, Mister Honors College) introduced the speaker, and **Dr. Thomas F. Freeman** delivered the closing remarks.

Also, in the audience were Honors Faculty **Prof. Dorris Robinson** (Political Science) and Honors Faculty Fellow **Dr. Ayodotun Sodipe** (Biology).

# Honors Junior College Open House



Standing (I to r): Joseph Castelli, Clinton Emeh, Giraude Griffin, Jimara Thomas, Raissa Teta, LaQuinton Armbrister, and B.J. McCaskill Seated (I to r): Leslie Pineda, Jackielyn Posada, Cainan Rodriquez, Prof. Daniel Flores, Khaliah Hunter, and Lorin Shirdon

Transfer students at the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College are a focus, never an afterthought, and this rings true in the student profiles and opportunities highlighted in our newsletter. Ours is a vibrant Honors College, whose community is both welcoming to transfer students and enhanced by their presence. Our transfer students strive to learn more, to do more, to be more and become the best possible versions of themselves.

On October 10, 2018, the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College hosted an Open House for the Greater Houston area junior college as part of our recruitment efforts. **Professor Daniel Flores** from **Houston Community College (HCC)** had an opportunity to listen to our scholars talk about their experiences and merits of being a Thomas F. Freeman Honors Scholar. The visit by Prof. Flores was the second, as he came in Spring 2018 along with several Honors Program directors from HCC.

The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College makes transferring easy. We know every transfer student's path is different and unique. We are ready to meet students wherever they are on their journey and get them to where they want to go. We offer a personalized education, access to outstanding faculty and internships that prepare students for their careers.

# 2018 United Nations Day

On October 24, 2018, United Nations Day, the United Nations Association Houston hosted their annual gala. It was a grand event filled with vibrant colors, bright smiles, and delectable food. Honors scholars Divonte Lumpkin (Senior, Accounting), Gabriella Tavera (Junior, Biology, Miss Honors College), B.J. McCaskill (Sophomore, Political Science, Mister Honors College), Jimara Thomas (Sophomore, Computer Science, Model United Nations Best Delegate Awardee) and Kaitlyn Ceasar (Freshman, Biology, highest incoming GPA), represented TSU and the Honors College, and were thrilled to attend such a prestigious event with Dean Jemison Pollard. The gala was held at the Houston Junior League, which was aptly decorated with flags from all around the world. Honors College scholars, along with the dean, shared the table with honors students from Prairie View A&M University and both groups of students bonded over being the only Historically Black Colleges and Universities represented at this international event. The program



Left to right: Divonte Lumpkin, Jimara Thomas, Kaitlyn Caesar, Dean Jemison Pollard, Gabriella Tavera, and B.J. McCaskill

was beautiful and included speakers that captivated the audience. The Honors College scholars were proud and grateful to have had the opportunity to attend. Special thanks to the **Honorable Teta Banks**, President of the United Nations Association and member of the Friends of the Honors College Advisory Board, who provided tickets to five TSU and five Prairie View A&M honors students.

## Call to Alumni: Make Contact with the Honors College

We are continually updating our database of alumni of honors units at Texas Southern University. The database includes information on those past scholars who have been in the Honors College, Frederick Douglass Honors Program, and other honors activities or units that may have preceded them. If you are one of these alumni, please provide the information to the Honors College by contacting **Mr. Shandon Neal**, at Shandon.Neal@ tsu.edu or 713.313.1180 or **Mr. Chizara Nwakanma** at 713.313.6725.

# Honors Research and Recruitment Trip to Dallas, Texas

Each semester up to 25 scholars sign up for the Research and Recruitment trip. From that number three scholars are selected to present research at a host university as that school sponsors a research symposium. On Thursday, October 18, 2018, scholars journeyed to Hawkins, Texas, to present research at **Jarvis Christian College** (**JCC**). The symposium featured three scholars from the Honors College and four scholars from



Thomas F. Freeman Honors Scholars and staff with Jarvis Christian College scholars and staff



Top back row (l-r): Jordan Davis, B.J. McCaskill, and Julian Black Top front row (l-r): Clinton Emeh, Obenifiro Abu, Gabriella Tavera, Eniola Otukoya, Lizzy Omosebi, and LaQuinton Armbrister Bottom row (l-r): Darlise Goodlow, Keyse Musse, Ashlynn McCall, Kiya Reeves, Tylar

Bottom row (I-r): Darluse Goodlow, Keyse Musse, Ashlynn McCall, Kıya Reeves, Iylar Larkins, Kayla Gregory, Destiny Riddle, Marcus Nash, Giraude Griffin, and Malik Currie

JCC's Barbara Jordan Honors Program. Lunch was served before the symposium, and after the symposium the scholars toured the campus. On Friday, October 19, the scholars visited Mountain View Community College in Dallas, Texas. Scholars from both schools presented research. The Honors College scholars who presented research were: LaQuinton Armbrister (Senior, Aviation Science Management): Southwest 1380-An Explosive Uncontained Engine Failure, Malik Currie (Junior, Health Information Management System): Locked-In Syndrome, Darlise Goodlow (Senior, Marketing): Personal Branding 101, and Olajumoke Omosebi (Junior, Aviation Science Manage-



Honors Scholars and staff with Mountain View Honors Scholars and staff

College to interest scholars from junior college honors programs to attend Texas Southern University.

On Saturday, October 20, the scholars went to the **Texas State Fair** grounds and attended the **TSU versus Southern University football game.** 

ment): TSA and the Facts Concerning Aviation Security.

#### Dean Jemison Pollard,

who accompanied the scholars on the trip, used this visit as an opportunity to recruit potential transfer students. Brochures and Honors College memorabilia were distributed and there was a Q and A period. It is the mission of the Honors

# Fall 2018 Undergraduate Research and Internships Symposium

On Tuesday and Wednesday, November 27 and 28, 2018, the Honors College hosted its 8th semi-annual Undergraduate Research and Internships Symposium, showcasing the interdisciplinary research and internship activities of 26 junior Honors scholars. Celebrating scholarly research and internship experiences, the symposium serves as a forum for Juniors to present their works that are completed in the course augmentation proposals (CAPs), as part of the Honors College curriculum. The presentation topics and content are based on the scholars' chosen fields of study. Participants were given 10-15 minutes to present their topics. Below are three presentations from the Fall 2018 Symposium.

# The Legalization of Medicinal Cannabinoids as a Form of Therapy and Pain Management Among Competitive Athletes

Dr. Nana Asare (Faculty Mentor, Dept of Health & Kinesiology



**Kiya Reeves** (Health Studies)

Cannabis (marijuana), a natural herb that stems from the hemp plant which can be used for medicinal purposes, fuel, textile, and recreational purposes, was demonized in the public eye due to its threat to the textile industry, pharmaceutical industry, and petrochemical industry. However, in recent years, many athletes have tested positive for marijuana use or admitted to using the herb. These athletes use the herb for recreational use and/or for pain management. In 2010, the NCAA modified their rules for banned substances and it was concluded that marijuana was not a performance enhancing drug and the usage of this drug is not considered cheating. The objective of this research was to explore various sources regarding the health benefits of using cannabis for athletes of both amateur and professional levels. These health benefits include anxiety reduction, depression relief, and pain management. The specific cannabinoid that is being advocated for is Cannabidiol (CBD), which does not have the euphoric effects as Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Furthermore, this research explored

the effects of marijuana on the physiology of the athlete's body.

#### Maritime Law: A Case Brief

Prof. Brian P. Hill (Faculty Mentor, Dept. of Transportation Studies)



Chinedu Maduekwe (Maritime Transportation Management and Security)

Maritime law, also known as admiralty law, is a body of laws, conventions, and treaties that govern private maritime business and other nautical matters, such as shipping or offenses occurring on open water. The Jones Act is a federal law that regulates maritime commerce in the United States. The purpose of this research was to identify examples of cases that portray the unpredictable nature of admiral law and how language, technology and unforeseen events change the outcome of a verdict. Two Maritime cases *LOZMAN v. CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH, FLORIDA. and STEWART v. DUTRA CONSTRUCTION CO.*, were analyzed which demonstrated the significance of semantics in correlation to the Jones Act. The research concluded that several aspects of Maritime law are open to interpretation and clear unambiguous verbiage is required for enforcing the rules of the Jones Act.

#### The Second Amendment and its Relation to Public Shootings in America Prof. Tracy Petite (Faculty Mentor, Dept. of Political Science)



Alexis Lowe (Political Science)

Of all parts of the Constitution, the Second Amendment is known as one of the most controversial pieces of the work. The amendment reads, "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people, to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." In short, this amendment grants all eligible United States citizens the right to bear arms. This amendment is notorious as a commonly debated topic due to its ambiguity and how this inexactness allows for a wide range of flexibility in gun control and gun license laws. In the last few years, there has been a spike in mass shootings. The statistics pulled from the Washington Post showed that between the years of 1966 and 2018, there have been 158 mass shootings in the United States, resulting in the deaths of 1,135 people. Of these victims, 186 were children and teens. Statistics show that there were 305 guns used or in the possession of the shooters. More than half (174) of the guns were obtained legally, 52 weapons illegally, and 78 weapons were unknown. Mass shootings have unfortunately become normal-

(*Political Science*) ized in the United States. The statistics and cold shoulder emotions should be enough to move those in power to at least discuss a change in gun policies and gun laws, if not amend the amendment itself.

PAGE 8

## Scholar Highlights:



#### Honors Scholar Wins Literary Award

Ms. Aubri Ford, Freshman, Biology major, was the Fall 2018 recipient of the Clarence and Flora Ware Memorial Writing Award presented by TSU's English Department. According to Aubri's professor, Dr. Iris Lancaster (Honors ENG 131), Aubri's paper titled My Paradoxical Place was "phenomenally written and captured such heartfelt insight of self-identity in her descriptive essay." Aubri received a \$75.00 Visa gift card and a Kindle device.

Congratulations, Aubri!

Left to right: Dr. Iris Lancaster (Honors Faculty, ENG 131) and Aubri Ford

#### Jordan Davis Receives the 2018 BeyGood Scholarship

In April of 2018, Beyoncé, through her BeyGOOD initiative, announced that her newly established Homecoming Scholars Award Program for the 2018-2019 academic year would be awarded to one student from each of the following eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs): Xavier University, Wilberforce University, Tuskegee University, Bethune-Cookman University, Texas Southern University, Fisk University, Morehouse College, and Grambling State University. One winner from each school was to receive \$25,000 for the 2018-2019 academic year for study in various fields. The scholarship was open to all incoming and current students pursuing a degree in specific disciplines of study and holding a 3.5 or better GPA. Each applicant was required to submit a 1000-word essay about one African or African-American thought leader in their field who has inspired them to achieve their goals

(educational, professional, and/or community driven). The essay was also required to include how the students planned to contribute to history through their own life's work. We are proud to announce that the Texas Southern University winner is senior Honors scholar and Healthcare Administration major, Jordan Davis.



Jordan Davis

Congratulations, Jordan!



Joseph Castelli (pictured here with Theatre major Maya Williams)

#### **Two Scholars Featured in University Production**

Joseph Castelli (Sophomore, Electrical and Computer Engineering) and Siete Richardson (Sophomore, Entertainment Recording and Industry Management) were featured in Texas Southern University's theatre season production of The First Breeze of Summer by Leslie Lee, November 15 through 18, 2018 in the Sawyer Auditorium. Joseph played the character of Britton and did a phenomenal job. Siete played the role of Hope and displayed great stage presence. The play was directed by Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard. Saturday, November 17 was designated as Honors College Night at the Theatre.

Congratulations to Joseph and Siete!



Siete Richardson as Hope (pictured here with the character Rev. Mosley)

PAGE 9

# Scholar Highlights (continued):

#### Honors Scholars in Leadership Roles Across Campus



The Honors College is very proud of all the scholars who represent the College in leadership roles across campus for 2018-2019 academic year. Congratulations!

# Staff Highlights:



#### The Honors College Welcomes Back Dr. Hector Miranda

**Hector Miranda, Jr.** is the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College and Professor of Biology in the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology (COSET). Dr. Miranda was the Interim Assistant Dean of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College from 2013 to 2015.

As the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the Honors College, Dr. Miranda is responsible for scheduling honors core courses and meeting monthly with the Honors College Faculty. He implements and distributes surveys to faculty and scholars to monitor classroom success in the honors core classes. He also works with the honors staff in completing assessment and evaluation documents.

Dr. Hector Miranda

#### **Dean Jemison Pollard Honored**



Dr. Boutte-Queen presenting Dean Jemison Pollard with a plaque for distinguished leadership and service to TSU

**Dr. Jemison Pollard** received accolades for 40 years of directing theatre season productions at Texas Southern University. *The First Breeze of Summer*, by Leslie Lee, was her first show in November 1978 and marked her last show as Director in November 2018. A reception was held in her honor on November

16 as alumni came back to

participate in this significant

Dean Jemison Pollard surrounded by cast and crew of The First Breeze of Summer, November 2018

accomplishment. **Dr. Needha Boutte-Queen**, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences, **Prof. Leamon Green**, Interim Chair of the Visual and Performing Arts, and **Prof. Rosarito Roderiguez**, Theatre Area Coordinator, presented her with a commemorative plaque, a large portrait in charcoal by **Mr. Kingsley Onyeiwu** (Honors College alum and TSU Visual Arts faculty member), flowers, and other gifts. Dr. Jemison Pollard will continue to teach in the Theatre Program.

Congratulations!

# **Christmas and Holiday Cheer – Honors Style**

Honors BINGO was introduced to the scholars by **Mr. Shandon Neal** and was a big hit at the Honors Christmas and Holiday party on November 29, 2018. Scholars were challenged to trivia and questions about the college and the university. Trivia items included recap of required Honors standards, individual student benchmarks, a review of past academic lectures and some fun interactive moments that have occurred since our opening retreat in August. After each clue, scholars would mark off the



respective answer in hopes of reaching a diagonal, horizontal or vertical capture of their board. While high energy and team effort ap-



Scholars in Festive Attire Left to right: Alfredo Rogel (winner), Keyse Musse, Sierra Cothern, and Obenifiro Abu



Honors Staff Back row left to right: Shandon Neal, Dean Jemison Pollard, and Chizara Nwakanma Front: Renuka Nair

Honors Bingo Winners Left to right: Darlise Goodlow, Eniola Otukoya, Crystal Okoro, and Siete Richardson

peared to be the best method for victory, the following scholars came out on top as winners: **Crystal Okoro; Siete Richardson; Eniola Otukoya; and Darlise Goodlow**. Each of them received a gift card to McDonald's as their prize.

As part of the invitation to the party, scholars were encouraged to participate in a Best Festive Dress Competition, which allowed them to adorn their favorite holiday costume attire and colors. This invitation was met with resounding acceptance as we were filled with accents of green and red. However, one costume outfit took the cake and became a fan favorite among competitors through audience vote. That award went to **Alfredo Rogel**, who

actually donned a full Reindeer costume. He, too, re-

ceived a gift card from McDonalds.

Honors scholar **Mark Ddamulira** provided a holiday-themed musical interlude as the scholars first came in. Refreshments were served, and everyone had a great time before leaving for the winter holidays.



Mark Ddamulira

# **FREEMAN HONORS**

## HONORS COLLEGE CORE VALUES

HONESTY, INTEGRITY, COMMUNITY, CREATIVITY AND EXCELLENCE

Texas Southern University Thomas F. Freeman Honors College 3100 Cleburne St. Houston, TX 77489 honorsdean@tsu.edu PLACE STAMP HERE

