



THE **CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND MENTORING OF
BLACK MALE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**
PRESENTS

THE SCHOLAR FELLOWS

Award and Induction Ceremony

2025

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025

6:00PM - 8:00PM

**JAMES E. PROCTOR BUILDING, ROOM 102,
BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY**

14000 Jericho Park Road Bowie, Maryland 20744

The Center for Research and
Mentoring of Black Male Students
and Teachers Presents

THE SCHOLAR FELLOWS INDUCTION CEREMONY 2025





THE OCCASION

The Scholar Fellows program is a mentoring, networking, and professional development platform for undergraduate, masters, and doctoral scholars interested in teaching, leading, mentoring, and research, while developing Black male teachers and students. Scholar Fellows network and receive mentoring from Black college professors, educational leaders and alumni committed to supporting their academic, career, and professional development. The Scholar Fellows program works to create a personalized pedagogical, educational and leadership plan that will promote career enhancement, and entrepreneurialism by supporting each fellow in reaching their professional goals.

Tonight, we are gathered together on this auspicious evening to award our Scholar Fellow program participants and to celebrate the induction of newly enrolled Black male teacher candidates, officially, into the Bowie State University Center for Research and Mentoring of Black Male Students and Teachers Scholar Fellows program. This momentous occasion serves as a poignant tribute to the exceptional men of color who have embraced the vocation of teaching, thereby igniting positive change within their communities. With unwavering determination and a steadfast commitment to educational excellence, these scholar fellows exemplify resilience, brilliance, and the enduring spirit of upliftment. Thank you for joining to commemorate their profound contributions, as we celebrate their journey and warmly embrace them as visionary leaders who are shaping the future of education and empowerment.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **JALIL E. MUHAMMAD, ESQ.**

Jalil E. Muhammad, Esq. is a dedicated educator, legal professional, and community organizer whose career bridges the fields of history, teaching, and law. Born into a closely-knit family that instilled in him a deep commitment to serving society's most vulnerable, Jalil has emerged as a paradigm-shifting school leader, an analytical legal mind, and a visionary entrepreneur.

A proud graduate of Howard University, Jalil earned his B.A. in History in 2011, followed by a Master's in Teaching Social Studies from New York University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development in 2012. From 2012 to 2019, he taught in one of the largest public school districts in the nation, where he was known for his passion, results-driven instruction, and unwavering dedication to student achievement. Under his leadership, Advanced Placement scores rose six-fold, and his students consistently ranked among the district's top performers.

Jalil's curiosity about history, politics, and culture led him to travel globally, deepening his understanding of the world and enriching his classroom practice. He later returned to the classroom as a student, earning his Juris Doctor from Columbia Law School in 2022. There, he interned with the Exoneration Initiative, advocating for wrongfully convicted indigent clients, and served as an extern with the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, where he explored issues related to the Fourth Amendment and criminal procedure. He also worked with the Center for Public Research and Leadership, engaging with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to examine how school master schedules can promote equity.

After law school, Jalil joined the litigation department of an international law firm in New York, focusing on breach of contract and shareholder suits. He now serves as an attorney with the Maryland Office of the Public Defender, where he litigates a range of criminal matters and continues his commitment to justice for the underserved.

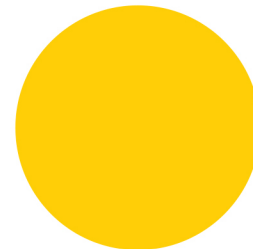
Jalil lives outside of Washington, D.C., with his wife of ten years and their two beautiful children. His journey reflects a lifelong devotion to education, advocacy, and community uplift.



THE SCHOLAR FELLOWS INDUCTION CEREMONY 2025

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025, AT 6:00 PM

PROGRAM



- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Networking Reception | JEP LOBBY |
| 2 | Libation and Tribute | MARK J. COX, MA
Program Coordinator CRM-BMST
Bowie State University |
| 3 | Black National Anthem: | LIFT EVERY VOICE & SING |
| 4 | Welcome | DAVINE SNEAD
Director CRM-BMST
Bowie State University |
| 5 | The Occasion | MR. MOHAMED SHEIKH
Mr. Education CRM-BMST
Bowie State University |
| 6 | Introduction of Keynote Speaker | MARIYAH OSBOURNE
Executive Assistant CRM-BMST
Bowie State University |
| 7 | Keynote Speaker | JALIL E. MUHAMMAD, ESQ. |
| 8 | Scholar Fellow Superlative Awards | |
| 9 | Special Awardee Presentation | KURON TOYE
CRM-BMST Bowie State University |
| 10 | Scholar Fellows Pinning Ceremony | |
| 11 | Pledge of Success and Pledge of Support | |
| 12 | Closing Remarks | ZAIRE BOND
Student Leader CRM-BMST
Bowie State University |



2025 SCHOLAR FELLOWS INDUCTEES

Valaun Allen

Dariyon Doggett

Javari Dove

Craig Handon

Mason Harris

Jaylin Moorer

Israel Parker

Mauriel Peacock

Justice Smith

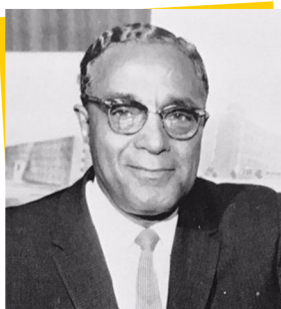


SCHOLAR FELLOW SUPERLATIVE AWARDS



THE ANNA JULIA COOPER AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL UPLIFT

Anna Julia Cooper (1858–1964) was an educator, scholar, and activist whose writings and speeches challenged the racial and gender inequalities of her time with unmatched intellectual force. As one of the first African American women to earn a Ph.D., she fiercely advocated for education and believed that the uplift of the race required cultivating both the mind and spirit.



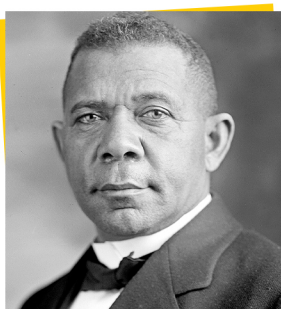
THE CHARLES H. WESLEY AWARD FOR HISTORICAL EXCELLENCE

Dr. Charles H. Wesley (1891–1987) was the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in history from Harvard University. A prolific historian, educator, and minister, he meticulously chronicled Black institutional life and helped preserve African American heritage through scholarship and leadership.



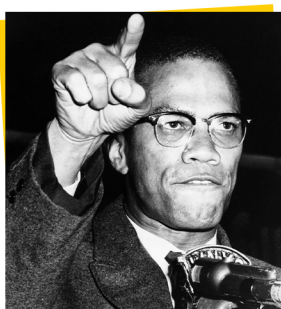
THE KWAME TURE (STOKELY CARMICHAEL) AWARD FOR UNAPOLOGETIC BRILLIANCE

Kwame Ture (1941–1998), formerly known as Stokely Carmichael, was a charismatic leader in the Civil Rights Movement and later the global Pan-African movement. He is remembered for his unapologetic advocacy for Black Power and self-determination, challenging racial injustice with fierce clarity and courage.



THE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON AWARD FOR PERSISTENCE IN EDUCATION

Booker T. Washington (1856–1915) was an educator, author, and advisor to multiple U.S. presidents. As the founder of Tuskegee Institute, he championed industrial education and economic self-reliance, believing in the power of persistence, dignity through labor, and personal advancement through education.



THE MALCOLM X AWARD FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL GROWTH

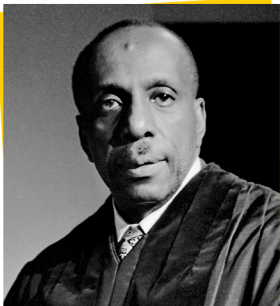
Malcolm X (1925–1965) was a human rights activist whose life embodied the power of personal transformation. Through education, self-discipline, and unwavering pursuit of justice, he evolved into one of the most influential voices advocating for Black empowerment and global human rights.

SCHOLAR FELLOW SUPERLATIVE AWARDS



THE ERNEST EVERETT JUST AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

Dr. Ernest Everett Just (1883–1941) was a pioneering African American biologist known for his groundbreaking research in cell biology and marine biology. His commitment to scientific rigor and innovation advanced understanding of the fundamental processes of life.



THE HOWARD THURMAN AWARD FOR SPIRITUAL AND ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

Howard Thurman (1899–1981) was a theologian, mystic, and civil rights mentor whose philosophy of nonviolence and deep inner spiritual life profoundly influenced leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. He emphasized that personal integrity and inner peace were essential foundations for social justice.



THE ALAIN LOCKE AWARD FOR PHILOSOPHICAL INSIGHT

Alain Locke (1885–1954), often called the “Dean” of the Harlem Renaissance, was a philosopher and educator who promoted the idea of the “New Negro” — a confident, self-expressive Black identity. His work in aesthetics and ethics paved the way for a new era of African American cultural and intellectual expression.



THE MARCUS GARVEY AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP AND VISION

Marcus Garvey (1887–1940) was a political leader, publisher, and orator who founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). He promoted Pan-Africanism, self-reliance, and pride in African heritage, inspiring global movements for Black unity and empowerment.



THE CHARLES S. JOHNSON AWARD FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE AND EQUITY RESEARCH

Dr. Charles S. Johnson (1893–1956) was a distinguished sociologist and the first Black president of Fisk University. His groundbreaking research and activism advanced the cause of racial equality by using social science as a tool to challenge discrimination and promote systemic change.



SCHOLAR FELLOW SUPERLATIVE AWARDS



THE ELIJAH CUMMINGS AWARD FOR CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Congressman Elijah Cummings (1951–2019) was a towering figure in American politics known for his dedication to justice, accountability, and service. A passionate advocate for civil rights and civic responsibility, he tirelessly fought to uplift marginalized communities and protect democratic values.



THE DR. ABDUL ALIM SHABAZZ AWARD FOR MATHEMATICAL ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Abdul Alim Shabazz (1927–2014) was a celebrated mathematician and mentor who devoted his career to advancing mathematics education among Black students. His impact extended beyond the classroom as he worked to create pathways for greater representation in STEM fields.



THE CORNEL WEST AWARD FOR PROPHETIC COURAGE

Dr. Cornel West (1953–) is a philosopher, theologian, and activist known for his passionate critiques of injustice and his prophetic voice calling for love, justice, and moral integrity. His work bridges academia and activism, inspiring critical thought and courageous action.



THE LEVAR BURTON AWARD FOR LITERACY AND IMAGINATION

LeVar Burton (1957–) is a beloved actor and advocate who has dedicated much of his career to promoting literacy and a love for storytelling, particularly through the iconic television program Reading Rainbow. His work has opened imaginative worlds for generations of young readers.



THE CLAUDE MCKAY AWARD FOR ACADEMIC STEADFASTNESS

Claude McKay (1889–1948) was a key literary figure of the Harlem Renaissance, whose poetry captured the struggles and resilience of Black life with profound artistry. His steadfastness in addressing social injustice through his work reflects an unyielding commitment to excellence and truth.



In 2019, the University System of Maryland awarded Bowie State University (BSU) the Wilson H. Elkins Professorship and funding to create The Center for Research and Mentoring of Black Male Students and Teachers. The Elkins Professorship is awarded in areas that make important contributions to the institution's teaching, research, and public service mission and the entire University System of Maryland (USM). The Professorship is an opportunity to build on the institution's and faculty's strengths to be of greater service to its students, USM institutions, and society.

The Center builds on the Black Male Research Collaborative (BMRC) that was started in 2016 with faculty at BSU, other Maryland universities, and universities across the nation. Over the years, the BMRC created partnerships with school districts, mentoring organizations, individual schools, and faculty at other universities focused on Black male students and teachers.

Before receiving the Elkins Professorship, BSU internal, Maryland state, and federal grants, BSU College of Education and Department of Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development finances supported the BMRC. The aforementioned entities' support has led to publications, conference presentations, research, professional development for leaders and teachers, mentoring activities, programs, and travel opportunities focused on Black male students and teachers.

The Center for Research and Mentoring of Black Male Students and Teachers is a culmination of years of work for Black boys and men. The Center will be a premier national leader, clearinghouse, and model for research and scholarship, evaluation, mentorship, policies, theory, professional development, best practices, and services for Black male students and teachers. The members will provide expertise on matters about Black male students and teachers in Maryland and throughout the nation by disseminating information, providing innovative programming, securing funding, and working with partners and stakeholders.



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ctrblackmalebsu



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www.bowiestate.edu/centerforblackmales
centerforblackmales@bowiestate.edu

CRM-BMST LEADERSHIP TEAM

Founding Director:

Dr. Julius Davis, Bowie State University

Director:

Ms. Davine Snead, Bowie State University

Program Coordinator:

Mr. Mark J. Cox, Bowie State University

Operations Manager:

Mrs. Kayon Bryant, Bowie State University

Culturally Responsive Education Professional Development Coordinator:

Ms. Nicole Robinson, Bowie State University

Grants and Contracts Finance Coordinator:

Mr. John Bush, Bowie State University

Executive Assistant:

Ms. Mariyah Osbourne, Bowie State University



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Black Male Students and Teachers**
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