



May 14, 16

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Dr. James Dabney, Director of Development & Partnerships
College Track New Orleans
2225 Congress Street, 2nd Floor
New Orleans, LA 70117
Phone: 760-505-1686
Phone: 504-577-2021 * Fax: 504-273-7786
Web: www.collegetrack.org * Email: jdabney@collegetrack.org

Kristi Roehm
8 DEGREES PR
The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation
Email: kristi@8degreespr.com
www.themalcolmjenkinsfoundation.org

**Eagles Pro Football Player and Former Saint Malcolm Jenkins Keynotes
College Track New Orleans' 5th Launch To College Ceremony**
The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation awarded scholarships to college-bound seniors

New Orleans, LA, Thursday, May 12 – Today, Eagles Pro Football Player (former Saints) and College Track New Orleans Local Advisory Board Member Malcolm Jenkins served as the keynote speaker for the Organization's 5th Launch To College Ceremony held Thursday, May 12, 2016 in the Professional Schools Building at Dillard University. Jenkins' message inspired the 44 2016 College Track New Orleans Scholars from over 15 high schools in the New Orleans metro area, their families, and other invited guests.

Through The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation's Project REWARDS Program, area high school students are provided a four-year life skills curriculum as well as the opportunity to earn college scholarships. Being one of College Track New Orleans longest supporters, Mr. Jenkins serving as this year's keynote is even more special, as the Organization will have its first cohort of students graduating college this spring, many of whom received scholarships from The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation.



In 2012, The Malcolm Jenkins Scholars included ten (10) recipients, of which four (4) are graduating this spring: Troy Simon (Bard College), Irene Beauvais (Howard University), Briana Brown (Southeastern Louisiana University) and Jessica Irons (Goucher College). Simon delivered an empowering speech about his commitment to education and expressed his thanks to The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation and College Track New Orleans for their continued support. He will attend Yale University this fall for graduate school.

College-bound seniors who completed Project REWARDS were eligible to apply for scholarships. To date, \$85,000 in Scholarships have been awarded from The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation to 56 graduating high school seniors, of which 60% (34) are first generation college students.

"Our youth today should have every opportunity available to them to excel and achieve," says Jenkins. "I am thrilled to be here today to honor our TMJF Scholars who are now college graduates as well as award 13 high school seniors with scholarships who have completed the College Track and Project R.E.W.A.R.D.S. curriculum."

The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation presented 13 Scholarships at today's event. The 2016 Malcolm Jenkins Scholars are:

Academic Excellence

Kierra D. Beatty
Ziarenia k Callender
Kieyonie C June

Overcoming Adversity

Janay E Chopin
Christian S Colomb
Lemoine T Dillon
Aisha J Holmes
Kayla A Martin
Christopher B Rising
Gabrielle D Tolliver

Most Improved

Breanna A Bourdeaux
Kayla M McGruder
Tashinga S Suluma



About College Track New Orleans

Founded in 2008, College Track New Orleans is a college completion, non-profit organization with a mission to empower students from underserved communities to graduate from college. College Track New Orleans currently serves over 300 high school and college students. Offering a 10-year commitment to our students, College Track New Orleans actively engages students in their 9th grade year and supports them through college graduation through three, interconnected areas: Academic Affairs, College Completion, and Student Life.

About The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation

The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity founded in 2010 with a mission to effectuate positive change in the lives of youth, particularly those in underserved communities, by providing resources, innovative opportunities, and experiences that will help them succeed in life and become contributing members of their communities.

With a presence in New Jersey, Louisiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, the Foundation's work is guided by the mission of Project REWARDS: Reinforcing Education with Activities, Recreation, & Developmental Supports.

END