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Tweet it: Help New Orleans #students fly with @malcolmjenkins & @jairusbyrd, 10/26 at @TheMJFoundation's #TMJFTasteofNOLA. <http://bit.ly/1LgcgGo>

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The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation Celebrates the Best of the Big Easy at 3rd Taste of New Orleans, Benefiting Local Youth Program

Evening of wine, food and fun helps raise funds for the Foundation's youth programming in New Orleans
-Monday, October 26, 2015, 7-10 p.m.-

New Orleans, LA- October 2015- From flavorful New Orleans cuisine to free-flowing Cabernet Sauvignon, [The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation](#) (TMJF) will capture the essence of 'the Big Easy' at the 3rd *Taste of New Orleans* Fundraiser, on October 26, 7-10 p.m. at the picturesque Pavilion of Two Sisters at City Park (1 Palm Dr.). Proceeds from the event, co-hosted by TMJF Founder and Philadelphia Eagles Free Safety Malcolm Jenkins and New Orleans Saints Free Safety Jairus Byrd, and emceed by WDSU News anchor Camille Whitworth and sports reporter Fletcher Mackel, will benefit the Foundation's Project R.E.W.A.R.D.S. and other youth development initiatives in New Orleans.

Good times will be had as guests sample tastes from nationally lauded wineries and the City of New Orleans' top restaurants, as well as collect autographs from current and former NFL players. As the scene spills out onto the Pavilion's scenic grounds, guests and players will mingle amidst melodies by New Orleans Songbird [Robin Barnes](#) and mixes from [DJ Flamingeaux](#). An evening to remember, guests will also partake in raffles and live and silent auctions, taking home prizes such as quintessential New Orleans culinary experiences, autographed sports memorabilia, and luxury vacations.

With the help of fundraisers like *Taste of New Orleans*, the Foundation has raised more than \$150,000 for Project R.E.W.A.R.D.S., providing a leadership curriculum for 300 New Orleans high school students and awarding \$72,000 in college scholarships. Project R.E.W.A.R.D.S. is implemented in partnership with College Track New Orleans, an after-school college preparatory program that works to increase high school graduation, college eligibility, college enrollment and graduation rates in under-resourced communities.

"A scholarship is just one component of a student's success," said Jenkins. "By funding programs like Project R.E.W.A.R.D.S., *Taste of New Orleans* helps The Foundation build up young people's character, confidence, and academic abilities to fully prepare them for higher education."

Jenkins, a former New Orleans Saints player, is dedicated to leaving a lasting impact on each city in which he has lived, played, or attended school. In addition to programs in New Orleans, LA, TMJF implements youth development initiatives in Columbus, Ohio; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Piscataway, New Jersey.

Lending their support to local TMJF initiatives, participating restaurants at *Taste of New Orleans* include Pigeon Caterers, Joel Catering and Special Events, Ma Mommas House, and Apolline Restaurant.

Confirmed wineries include Hendry, Regusci Winery, Markham Vineyards, Sanford, Lapostelle, Decoy Duckhorn, and Pavi Wines. More restaurant and winery partners will be announced. Additional in-kind support for *Taste of New Orleans* is provided by Bella Blooms Floral, Dyle Films, Firefly Ambiance, Magazine Photobooth and Studio Tran Photography.

For more information on taste of New Orleans and The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation's youth programming, visit <http://themalcolmjenkinsfoundation.org/>.

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Founded in 2010, The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation (TMJF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity with a mission to effectuate positive change in the lives of youth, particularly those in under-served communities; by providing resources, innovative opportunities and experiences that will help them succeed in life and become contributing members of their community. The Foundation is committed to youth development initiatives and programs, which emphasize character development, leadership, education, life skills health and recreation. For more information visit www.themalcolmjenkinsfoundation.org and follow @TheMJFoundation on Twitter.