



**Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation, Inc.**  
[www.gammaxifoundation.org](http://www.gammaxifoundation.org)  
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## 2016 Annual Report

### Chairman's Message

In accordance with our By Laws, this is the 2016 annual report of Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation. Our report addresses governance, support of Gamma Xi public policy and social action programs, scholarships, fundraising and the financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2016.

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as Chairman for the past two years. I am especially pleased to report 2016 was an outstanding year for the Foundation. With the support and commitment of the board of directors, members of Gamma Xi Boulé, the Sigma Pi Phi fraternity and the Sarasota community, we exceeded many of our goals and expectations. The Foundation expanded its brand recognition in the Sarasota business and philanthropic communities.

We conducted a major successful fundraising event in February at the Ritz Carlton Hotel – 'Valentine at the Ritz', in partnership with the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. This was also the first year our Foundation participated in the 24 hour 'Giving Challenge' of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County. We raised \$12,620 exceeding our goal by more than 25%.

We deepened our relationship with Booker High School expanding the Boulé's Journey to Success social action programs, including our speaker's series and the introduction of our student internship program with local employers in Sarasota. We forged a partnership with the University of South Florida that provided instructors from USF who participated in our speaker's series along with a number of Gamma Xi Archons, Judge Charles Williams and Sarasota Police Chief Bernadette DiPino.

We established new partnerships with organizations including the Educational Foundation of Sarasota, Ringling College of Art & Design, City of Sarasota, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Herald-Tribune Media Group and the University of South Florida.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the support of the board of directors and the Archons of Gamma Xi during my tenure as Chairman, and I wish the Foundation continued success.

Sincerely,

James C. Brown, Chairman

## **Governance**

1. The directors conducted 3 full board meetings during the fiscal year, as well as additional committee meetings.

2. The following officers and committee chairs were elected for 2016:

Archon James C. Brown, Chair  
Archon Lacy Ray Jr., Vice Chair  
Archon Andrew L. Dixon, Treasurer  
Archon Gregory J. Matthews, Secretary  
Archon M. Herman Bell, Chair - Scholarship Committee  
Archon Gregory E. McDaniel, Chair - Social Action Committee  
Archon Myron F. Robinson, Chair- Public Policy Committee

3. Chairman Brown appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of Archons Ray, Bell and Dixon to develop a slate of board members to present to the membership for 2016. Archon Ray chaired the committee. Chairman Brown conferred with Sire Archon Taylor in this process and an election was conducted in May 2016. The following individuals were nominated and elected to serve on the board of the directors, effective January 2017, Archons George Miles, Donald Reaves and Willie Stanfield. These Archons will replace Archons Brown, Dixon and Ray.

4. A committee of past Sire Archons, chaired by Archon George Mims, was impaneled to review the legality of the Foundation. Following a careful analysis and review, the committee reported to the Boulé membership that it approved the Foundation's organizational structure, by laws, legal status and name.

## **Gamma Xi Boulé Public Policy & Social Action Programs**

The "Journey to Success" (JTS), youth development programs of Gamma Xi, was established as a year round readiness, leadership and career development program serving high school students and out of school youth over a three year period. The program objective is to help prepare a skilled workforce ready to successfully obtain in-demand occupations or careers as well as prepare college bound students for their upcoming college experience.

### **Summer Program**

We participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the Summer Program which is headed by Archon Henry Blyden. This is a group mentoring program which provides 50 youth ages 16-18 with in depth career explorations and workshops targeting financial literacy, life skills, educational preparedness, military careers and work readiness/employability skills. The Summer Program is coordinated in partnership with Career Source Suncoast, Manatee and Sarasota counties school boards. Program participants receive a stipend to complete the program. After 3 years, approximately 150 youngsters have completed the Journey to Success Summer Program.

## **Speaker's Series**

The 2016 spring semester of the Speaker's Series was provided to 100 Booker High students over a 4 month period which concluded the first year of our series. The focus was on Career Development carried over from the beginning of the program in the 2015 fall semester. These students were grades 10-12. The subjects addressed careers in Medicine, Education, Military and Art & Computer Design. Presenters included Archons Ballard, Morgan, Mims, Blyden, Matthews and Dr. Charles Kovacs of the Ringling College of Art & Design.

Archon Ed Swan led the second year of the "Speaker's Series" at Booker High in the 2016 fall semester. Archon Myron Robinson helped forge a partnership with the University of South Florida (USF) to provide speakers to discuss future employment opportunities. The Ringling College of Art & Design also presented to the students.

All 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshmen are required to take a one semester course designed to help them successfully transition into high school. Approximately 100 students participated and were divided into 6 separate classes during the fall semester. It is anticipated another 100 students will participate in the spring semester. The following topics were covered during the fall semester: Making a Good Impression, Building Confidence, Leadership Skills, Communications Skills, as well as careers in Hospitality, Management, Art & Design, Education, Information Technology, Biology, English and Communications. The Speaker's Series will continue in the spring semester with speakers from Gamma Xi, USF and other local professionals.

## **Archon Matthew Carter Scholarship Program**

Under the leadership of Archon Herman Bell, the Gamma Xi Scholarship was re-branded in 2015 in recognition of Archon Matthew Carter who was instrumental in forming and chartering Gamma Xi Boulé in 1995.

Four (4) scholarships totaling \$5,000 were awarded to deserving Sarasota County high school seniors in June 2016. Scholarship criteria, application and deadlines are on-line for students on the Foundation website -- [www.gammaxifoundation.org](http://www.gammaxifoundation.org). High school administrators and college counselors are advised of the on-line material. Please see the website for photos of recipients.

Archons interested in joining the Scholarship Committee should contact Archon Bell at [Bobellrd@verizon.net](mailto:Bobellrd@verizon.net).

## Student Internship Program



Archons Myron Robinson and Gregory Matthews lead the Internship Program which began in 2016 with students from Booker High School in Sarasota, FL. The program provides students with hands-on work experience, employment readiness skills, team-building and socialization skills in professional business environments. The students participate in meetings, tour office facilities, work on projects under staff supervision, and interact with staff members and executives.

Archons John Gibbs, Myron Robinson, Booker Rice and Gregory Matthews developed and conducted a student workshop on business etiquette for students prior to beginning their internships.

Interns are currently working for the Sarasota Herald-Tribune Media Group and the Sarasota Police Department. Chatoria White and Kevin Beard intern at the Sarasota Police department.

Maicy Powell interns at the Herald-Tribune. View article written by Ms. Powell at <https://www.facebook.com/heraldtribune/photos/pcb.10157722681345710/10157722675300710/?type=3>

Student interns earn \$10 per hour and may work up to 10 hours per week during the school year. Fifty percent (50%) of the student's earnings are paid by the Foundation.



## Website

The Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation continues to update its website with information related to the support of Gamma Xi's public policy & social action programs, the Foundation and the Grand Boulé. The website is used as a vehicle to effectively communicate with Archons, potential donors, the philanthropic community and other partners in the Sarasota / Manatee communities.

We invite all Archons to visit the website at [www.gammaxifoundation.org](http://www.gammaxifoundation.org) to learn more about the programs supported by the Foundation and to make donations using Pay Pal.

## **Fundraising**

### **Valentine at the Ritz**

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Archons Vincent Foderingham and Randall Morgan, the Foundation's first major fundraiser, 'Valentine at the Ritz' was held on February 13, 2016. The black tie dinner dance attracted over 500 guests at the Sarasota Ritz-Carlton hotel. The event raised over \$93,000. The Foundation expenses totaled \$45,678, including a donation of \$33,000 to the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe of Sarasota, FL.

### **Giving Challenge**

The Foundation applied and gained entry to participate in the 2016 Community Foundation of Sarasota County annual Giving Challenge. The Foundation board established a goal to raise \$10,000. In 24 hours, the Foundation raised \$12,620.38 from 49 donors who received matching gifts from the Patterson Foundation. Funds will be allocated to support the Boulé's Internship Program.

Twenty-four (24) Gamma Xi Archons donated to the Giving Challenge and received a 2-1 match for their contributions by The Patterson Foundation. The board voted to participate in the 2017 Giving Challenge.

### **2018 Valentine at the Ritz**

The Foundation formed a steering committee to begin planning its second major fundraiser. Members of the steering committee include Archons Bell, Foderingham, Matthews, Morgan and Wood. In addition, an event consultant has been retained to assist in the planning. Hotel negotiations are underway and the date is Saturday, February 10, 2018.

### **Grand Boulé Matching Grant Program**

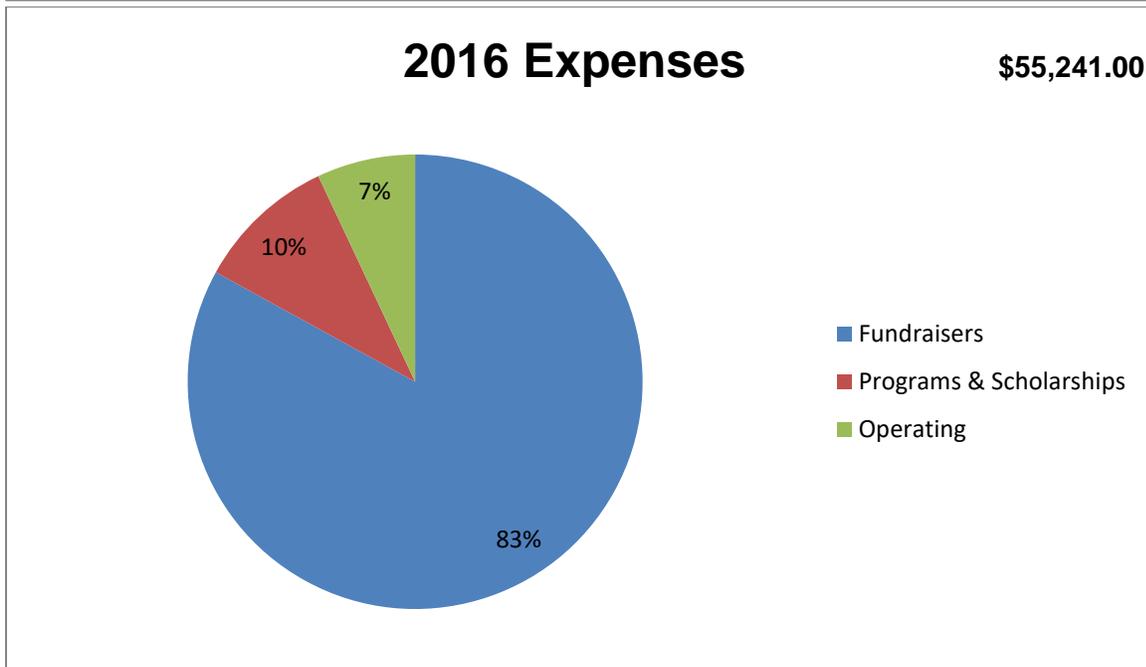
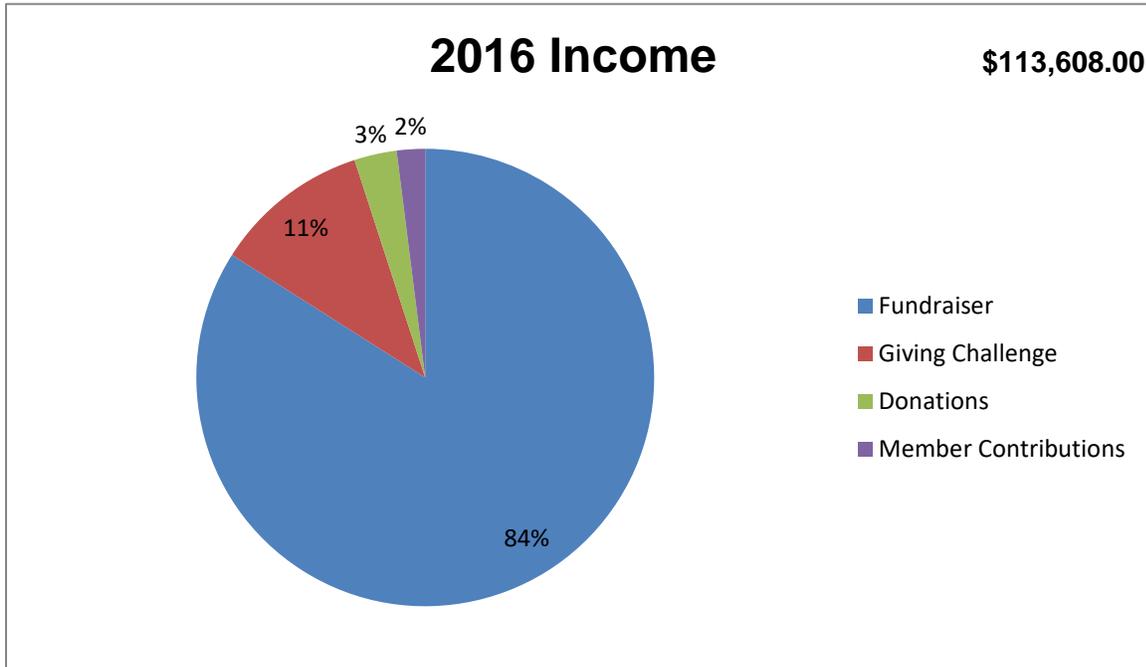
The Foundation applied to the Grand Boulé to participate in the Grand's Social Action Mentoring Program. The Gamma Xi project was 1 of 3 members Boulé selected. Gamma Xi was acknowledged at the 2016 Grand Boulé and received a \$5,000 award. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year the Foundation has applied for and received a \$5,000 award from the Grand Boulé Shropshire Matching Grant Program.

# Financial Statement of Activities for Year Ending December 31, 2016

## Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation, Inc. Financial Statement

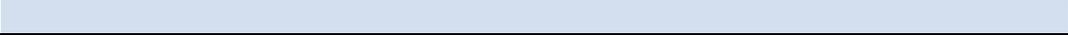
January 1, 2016 Balance

**\$28,749.73**



Net Assets at End of Year / December 31, 2016

**\$87,116.05**



**Prepared and respectively submitted.**

**Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors**

**Archon James C. Brown, Chair  
Archon Lacy Ray Jr., Vice Chair  
Archon Andrew L. Dixon, Treasurer  
Archon Gregory J. Matthews, Secretary  
Archon M. Herman Bell  
Archon Gregory E. McDaniel  
Archon Myron F. Robinson  
Sire Archon James A. Taylor**

**February 2017**

End of Report