



**Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation, Inc.**

**2019 Annual Report**



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[www.gammaxifoundation.org](http://www.gammaxifoundation.org)

[info@gammaxifoundation.org](mailto:info@gammaxifoundation.org)

## **2019 Annual Report**

### **Chairman's Message**

In accordance with our Bylaws, this is the 2019 annual report of Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation, Inc.. The report addresses governance, support of Gamma Xi public policy and social action programs, scholarships, fundraising and our financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2019.

I am honored and privileged to have begun serving as Chairman of the Foundation in February, 2020, and I would like to give thanks to Sire Archon Donald Reaves for his leadership as Chairman of the Foundation prior to my tenure.

I am pleased to report on the accomplishments of the Foundation in 2019. With the support and commitment of the Board of Trustees, members of Gamma Xi Boulé and the Sarasota/Manatee community, we continue to accomplish and exceeded our goals and objectives. The Foundation has expanded its involvement and recognition in the Sarasota business and philanthropic communities. As in prior years, in 2019 we continued to convey our mission and programs to the Sarasota community in print and television media which resulted in increased visibility and financial support for the Foundation.

We completed the planning for our major fundraising event for 2020 –Valentine at the Ritz - held on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at the Ritz Carlton Sarasota. The Foundation is extremely grateful to Amica Insurance Company for again being the “Presenting Sponsor” for the Gala, and to Sire Archon Donald Reaves and Sire Archon-Elect Vincent Foderingham for serving as Co-chair of the event

We continued to expand our partnership with Booker High School through the Gamma Xi Boulé “Journey to Success” programs and initiatives, including our speaker’s series, paid student internship program with local employers, and the Summer Bridge Program for students who have finished the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. We worked to expand the Speakers Program to Southeast High School in Manatee County as well as establishing an internship relationship with Manatee Community Foundation. We strengthened our alliance with the University of South Florida –Sarasota/Manatee through extensive collaboration with Corey Posey, who serves as the University’s Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Mr. Posey coordinates the scheduling of Professors and Administrators from the University who participate in our Booker High School and Southeast High School Speakers Programs, along with Gamma Xi Boulé Archons and other local professionals.

We continued to strengthen our relationships with the Educational Foundation of Sarasota, Ringling College of Art & Design, the City and County of Sarasota, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Herald-Tribune Media Group, the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe and the Sarasota Collection Design Store.

Lastly, the Foundation finished the year 2019 in a very sound financial position. Net income increased by an exceptional 264 percent. The Board of Trustees and I truly appreciate the support of the Sarasota and Manatee communities and the Archons of Gamma Xi Boulé.

Sincerely,

*Carl W. Battle*

Carl W. Battle, Chairman

## **Governance**

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

2. The following individuals served on the Board of the Trustees during year 2019.  
Archons Herman Bell, James Brown, Vincent Foderingham, Gregory McDaniel, George Miles,  
Donald Reaves, Willie Stanfield, William Watkins and Gregory Matthews

3. The following individuals served as officers and committee chairmen during year 2019.

Archon Donald J. Reaves, Chairman  
Archon M. Herman Bell, Vice Chairman  
Archon Gregory E. McDaniel, Treasurer  
Archon Willie M. Stanfield, Secretary  
Archon M. Herman Bell, Chairman - Scholarship Committee  
Archon Gregory E. McDaniel, Chairman - Social Action Committee  
Archon Myron F. Robinson, Chairman- Public Policy Committee

4. The Foundation voted to change its bylaws with regard to the Board Chairman position by  
i) eliminating the language which stipulated that the Sire-Archon-Elect of Gamma Xi Boule' serve as the Foundation Chairman; and  
ii) replacing it with language which stipulated that the Foundation Chairman shall be elected by the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

5. The Foundation renewed its Solicitations Permit with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for calendar year 2019.

6. The Foundation filed its required annual report with the Florida Department of Division of Corporations for calendar year 2019.

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

The "Journey to Success" (JTS), Social Action Programs of Gamma Xi were established as youth development programs focused on year-round readiness, leadership and career development initiatives serving high school students and out of school youths in Sarasota and Manatee counties. 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. The following link provides a good overview of the Boule's Journey to Success programs and initiatives: <https://gammamaxifoundation.org/program-overview>

### **Summer Program**

We began our Summer Program for 50 junior and high school students in 2014 and have continued to build on the pilot to where over 300 students have completed our Summer Program over the past five years. The Summer Program, which was headed by Archon Henry Blyden, is a group mentoring program which provides approximately 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 was coordinated in partnership with Career Source Suncoast and the Manatee and Sarasota counties school boards. Program participants receive a stipend to complete the program in addition to learning valuable information and important life-enhancing skills. The program is continuously being redefined to initiate improvements in student and community involvement in view of funding cuts to Career Source Suncoast

The Summer Bridge Program started in June 2019 with approximately 40 students who graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and who would be attending 9<sup>th</sup> Grade at Booker High School during Fall 2019. Archons Henry Blyden and Carl Battle, along with teachers and staff at Booker High School, provided an introduction to career planning and high school challenges and opportunities.

## **Speakers Program**

Starting in the fall of 2016 all 9<sup>th</sup> grade freshmen at Booker High School were required to take a one-semester course designed to help them transition into the high school experience and improve their readiness for career-life or college education. The course is entitled “College, Careers and You” and it included the Gamma Xi Boulé Speakers Program . Archon Ed Swan headed the program the first three years on behalf of the Gamma Xi Boulé, and Archon Carl Battle headed the program during 2019 where approximately 200 students participated.

The following topics were covered during the 2019 Spring semester: What It Takes to Be Successful, Confidence Building, Leadership Skills, Military Careers, Nursing, Medical Technology, Hospitality & Management, Information Technology, and Science. The Speakers Program continued during the 2019 Fall semester with the following topics: What It Takes To Be Successful, Leadership Skills and Confidence Building, Criminal Justice, Medical Technology and Nursing, Information Technology and Engineering Careers, Chemical and Biological Sciences, and Finance and Business. The presentations were conducted by Archons from Gamma Xi; faculty and administrators from University of South Florida, Sarasota/Manatee; and other local professionals.

All of the Gamma Xi social action programs have been successful and impactful. In particular the Speakers Program, based on some metrics from Booker High School, which showed significant increases over the past years in:

- \*number of Booker High students taking college classes (increased from 43 in year 2017 to 74 in year 2019).
- \*number of Booker High students who received an industry certification while in high school (increased from 233 in year 2017 to 605 in year 2019).
- \*number of Booker High students doing peer counselling (increased from 31 in year 2017 to 47 in year 2019).
- \*and other promising metrics.

## **Scholarship Program**

The Gamma Xi Boulé Scholarship Program has provided financial assistance to talented and underserved students from the Sarasota/Manatee area in pursuit of a college education. Gamma Xi Boulé has developed a program that enables Archons to establish scholarships in their name or in memory of family members. By the end of year 2019, five Archons had committed to establish scholarships funded at \$16,000 each which will provide five (5) renewable \$4,000 scholarships per year.

The Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation awarded scholarships to three outstanding local area high school graduates at its annual scholarship ceremony on May 25, 2019, at the Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Library. That ceremony marks the first awards from scholarships funded by Gamma Xi Boulé member Donald J. Reaves and his wife, Deborah R. Reaves, and Gamma Xi Boulé member Robert L. Wood and his wife, Angelia D. Wood.

Zhameera Fuller will receive a 4-year, \$4,000 per year scholarship for the next four years from the Donald J. and Deborah J. Reaves Scholarship. Fuller, a 2019 Booker High School graduate, plans to study child psychology when she enrolls at the University of North Florida in the Fall of 2019.

Marc Brunot is a 2017 graduate of Bayshore High School. He earned a \$4,000 annual Matthew Carter Scholarship in 2017. The Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation created the Matthew Carter Scholarship to honor Matthew Carter, who was a charter member of Gamma Xi Boulé. Brunot began his junior year as a business major at Florida Gulf Coast University in the Fall of 2019.

Maicy Powell will receive \$4,000 per year for the next four years from the Robert L. and Angelia D. Wood

Scholarship. Powell graduated from Booker High School in May 2019 and she matriculated in the Fall of 2019 at Howard University as a business administration major.

Overall, the Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation has awarded approximately \$65,000 in scholarships to outstanding high school graduates during the years 2001-2019. Please visit our website for photos of the scholarship recipients: [www.gammaxifoundation.org](http://www.gammaxifoundation.org).

## **Student Internship Program**

The Internship 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. Past Sire Archon Gregory Matthews and Archon Myron Robinson did an outstanding job leading the Internship Program during 2019.

Gamma Xi's Internship Program, which began in 2016, provides 10 -12th grade students with practical hands-on work experience, employment readiness skills, career planning, team-building and socialization skills in professional business environments in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. The students are hired by participating employers and assigned to work on projects under staff supervision. Students also participate in meetings and interact with staff members and executives within the respective businesses.

Participating schools include Booker and Southeast High Schools. The principals and career counselors of each school work closely with Gamma Xi Boulé to coordinate the internship program in their school. All interested students are required to attend a business etiquette workshop conducted by Gamma Xi members and other local professionals to prepare them for the internships. During 2019, 3 workshops were conducted to teach students interviewing skills, how to dress on the job, how to comport themselves at work, resume writing and how to prepare letters of introduction with their resumes.

Employers schedule interviews with the students and select from the students applying for the positions. Once hired, students are required to complete and submit weekly journals outlining their job assignments. Employers are required to complete mid-term and final performance evaluations for each student and submit them to the Boulé and the school career counselors. The Boulé reviews all weekly journals and employer performance evaluations to help measure the success of the Internship Program.

During the 2019 school year the Foundation sponsored 12 students (an increase of 5) who were employed by the Herald-Tribune, Manatee Community Foundation, Mullet Aluminum, New College, Purmort & Martin Ins. Co., Schimberg Architectural Design, Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe & the University of South Florida. Students work up to 10 hours per week and earn \$10.00 per hour. The Foundation and intern employers each pay fifty (50%) of the students salary.

You may visit this link to learn more about our internship program <http://www.heraldtribune.com/news/20180102/fraternity-steps-up-to-help-booker-high-school-students>

Please visit this link to view a project researched and completed by one of our interns. <https://www.manateecf.org/southeast-high-school-intern-jasmine-mcdaniel-talks-about-foster-care/>

You may also listen to student interns describe their experience at <https://youtu.be/m2xJ6ksnO7g>

## **Website & Facebook Page**

The Gamma Xi Boulé Foundation maintained its expanded website with information related to Gamma Xi Boulé social action programs and initiatives. The website is used as a vehicle to effectively communicate with Archons, potential donors, the business and philanthropic community, and other partners in the Sarasota / Manatee communities.

The Foundation also used its Facebook Page to communicate its programs and initiatives to its constituents and supporters. You can visit the Foundation's Facebook page at [Facebook@gamaxiboule](#).

The Foundation invites you to visit its website at [www.gamaxifoundation.org](http://www.gamaxifoundation.org) to learn more about programs supported by the Foundation and to make a donation using Pay Pal.

The following link will take you to an ABC 'Suncoast View' television interview where the Boule's youth initiatives are discussed: <https://youtu.be/f76xtJaxCSY>

## **Fundraising**

The Foundation receives continuing funding support from Gamma Xi Boulé members, individual donors, and local business, community and philanthropic organizations.

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

Gamma Xi applied in 2019 to the Grand Boulé to participate in the Grand's Social Action Matching Grant Program. The Foundation submitted applications to the Grand Boule during 2019 for the Shropshire Award and for the Outstanding Social Action Award. Gamma Xi received \$4,000 in awards from the Grand Boulé for year 2019 to help support our social actions programs. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that Gamma Xi has applied for and received awards from the Grand Boulé.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR 2019**

2019 Income	Contributions (including Valentine at Ritz donations and ticket sales)	--	\$135,406.39
	Grants (including donations for named scholarships)	--	77,000.00
	Investments (including interest income on savings and rebates)	--	1,282.72
<b><u>Total Income</u></b>			<b><u>\$ 213,689.11</u></b>
2019 Expenses	Programs	--	\$ 12,582.00
	Administration	--	2,651.77
	Scholarships	--	8,000.00
	Valentine at the Ritz Fundraiser	--	66,620.00
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>			<b><u>\$ 89,853.77</u></b>
<b><u>Net Income</u></b>		--	<b><u>\$ 123,835.34</u></b>
2019 Checking Balance 01/01/2019		--	\$ 109,164.87
(Memo: Restricted Checking)		--	13,842.32
2019 Savings Balance 01/01/2019		--	<u>52,951.09</u>
Total Assets 01/01/2019		--	<b><u>\$ 162,115.96</u></b>
2019 Checking Balance 12/31/2019		--	\$ 162,940.69
(Memo: Restricted Checking)		--	13,842.32
2019 Savings Balance 12/31/2019		--	<u>123,010.61</u>
<b>Total Assets 12/31/2019</b>		--	<b><u>\$ 285,951.30</u></b>

Gamma Xi Boule' Social Action and Public Policy Committees have worked together as a single group committee during the past 4 years to ensure we are developing programs which support our mission, are sustainable over a period of time and deliver students a life-long tool that they can use during their journey of life. We think that our "Journey to Success" social action programs are comprehensive and unique and provide a rewarding and valuable experience for the students that participate. Our "Journey to Success" programs are not stagnant, but are expanding to provide a full-service platform for underserved youths in our communities.

We are firm believers that success breeds success. And we have seen academic improvement, increased graduation rates, and more post high school attendance since the introduction of our programs. Our effective partnerships with the public and private sectors have helped us to build and expand the strategic vision or roadmap of our "Journey to Success" programs. Over the years, we began with a summer program, and we now have added numerous strategic offerings leading up to college scholarships today that help to make the journey to success believable to the students we serve.

Prepared and respectively submitted by:

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

Archon Carl W. Battle, Chairman  
Archon M. Herman Bell, Vice Chairman  
Archon, Tom Cunningham, Treasurer  
Archon Willie M. Stanfield, Secretary  
Sire Archon Donald J. Reaves  
Archon Francis M. Curd  
Sire Archon Elect Vincent P. Foderingham  
Archon George L. Miles, Jr.  
Archon Lawrence A. Miller  
Archon Lacy Ray, Jr.  
Archon Myron F. Robinson  
Archon William O. Watkins, Jr.  
Archon James C. Brown, Emeritus

December 3, 2020

End of Report