

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Men's and Women's Basketball Candidates Announced for the 2019-20 Lowe's CIAA Senior CLASS Award

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (January 6, 2020) – Twenty-two Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA®) men's and women's basketball student-athletes who excel both on and off the field, were selected as candidates today for the Lowe's CIAA Senior CLASS Award®. An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*®, the Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as a senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence: community, classroom, character and competition. The complete list of candidates follows this release.

The Lowe's CIAA Senior CLASS Award, which focuses on men's and women's basketball players from the CIAA, is a division of the national Senior CLASS Award program that recognizes student-athletes in 10 NCAA Division I sports.

CIAA award candidates were nominated by their respective universities. Of those 22 student-athletes, all are in excellent academic standing at their universities with five holding GPAs of 3.5 or greater, and five were honored with preseason conference honors for outstanding performance on the court. Each of the candidates volunteers his or her time with charitable organizations and causes while upholding a reputation for positive character on campus and in the community.

"The Lowe's CIAA Senior CLASS Award shows the company's commitment to the CIAA mission, which is to support and showcase our student-athletes through community, classroom, character and competition," said CIAA Commissioner Jacqie McWilliams. Their involvement on the campuses, culminating at the tournament, helps to recognize and celebrate the overall NCAA Division II student-athlete experience and the BEST IN CLASS."

Each of the men's and women's candidates will be recognized on-court at a home game during the season. The winners will be determined through a voting system that includes fans, CIAA basketball media and conference coaches. Fan balloting will take place from January 21 through February 10 at Lowe'sCIAASCA.com, the award website that will contain information about each candidate and the overall program.

The male and female winner will be announced during the CIAA Tournament in Charlotte, North Carolina, and presented with the prestigious Senior CLASS Award trophy at the championship games on Saturday, February 29.

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Women's Basketball 2019-20 Candidates

Adel Allen, Livingstone	Dejoria Howard, Shaw
Shantel Bennett, Fayetteville State	Shakarri Mack, Claflin
Angela Caraballo, Saint Augustine's	Kwanza Murray, Lincoln
Jasmine Carter, Virginia Union	Markeia Porter, Elizabeth City State
Taylor Daniels, Winston-Salem State	Malia Rivers, Johnson C. Smith
Yazmen Hannah, Virginia State	Kyaja Williams, Bowie State

Men's Basketball 2019-20 Candidates

Joseph Allen, Elizabeth City State	Darian Daniels, Shaw
Julius Barnes, Winston-Salem State	Jalen Gaddy, Saint Augustine's
David Belle, Bowie State	Denzell Hosch, Fayetteville State
Haneef Britt, Claflin	Nenad Milenkovic, Johnson C. Smith
Andrew Corum, Virginia State	Roger Ray, Livingstone

ABOUT THE AWARD

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*, the Lowe's CIAA Senior CLASS Award recognizes the CIAA's top senior men's and women's basketball student-athletes. In addition to the core requirement that a candidate be an NCAA Division II CIAA senior in men's or women's basketball, the award winners are selected based on personal qualities that define a complete student-athlete. These areas of excellence are defined by the four Cs: community, classroom, character and competition. Premier Sports Management manages the award.

ABOUT LOWE'S IN THE COMMUNITY

Lowe's, a FORTUNE® 50 home improvement company, has a 60-year legacy of supporting the communities it serves through programs that focus on K-12 public education and community improvement projects. In the past decade, Lowe's and the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation together have contributed more than \$300 million to these efforts, and for more than two decades Lowe's Heroes volunteers have donated their time to make our communities better places to live. For the latest news, visit [Newsroom.Lowes.com](https://www.lowes.com/newsroom) or follow [@LowesMedia](https://twitter.com/LowesMedia) on Twitter.

ABOUT THE CIAA

Founded in 1912, the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) is the first African American athletic conference and one of the most recognized conferences in Division II. The CIAA conducts 14 championships attended by more than 150,000 fans from around the country. Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, the CIAA is governed by the Presidents and Chancellors of its 12 member-institutions: Bowie State University, Claflin University, Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, Johnson C. Smith University, Lincoln University of Pennsylvania, Livingstone College, Saint Augustine's University, Shaw University, Virginia State University, Virginia Union University, and Winston-Salem State University. Chowan University is an associate member for football and bowling. For more information on the CIAA, visit theciaa.com. For more information on the CIAA Basketball Tournament, visit CIAATournament.org, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram.