

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Marquette's Markus Howard Wins 2019-20 Senior CLASS Award for Men's Basketball

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (March 31, 2020) – Consensus First Team All-American guard Markus Howard from Marquette University has been selected as the 2019-20 Senior CLASS Award® winner in NCAA® Division I men's basketball. The award, chosen by a nationwide vote of Division I men's basketball coaches, national basketball media and fans, is given annually to the most outstanding senior student-athlete in Division I men's basketball. Howard is the first student-athlete from Marquette to win the 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 an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence: classroom, community, character and competition.

"I am extremely grateful to receive the Senior CLASS Award and want to thank everyone who was involved in the decision, especially our tremendous fans, who were so supportive during the voting process," said Howard, who led NCAA Division I in scoring during the 2019-20 season by averaging 27.8 points per game. "One of my goals when I arrived on campus was to have an impact on our community beyond basketball and the resources provided by the Marquette family allowed me to accomplish that goal and I am sincerely appreciative of the opportunity."

Howard spent a portion of his high school basketball career at Findley Prep in Nevada, where he led the state in scoring by averaging 32.4 points per game. He had a smooth transition to collegiate basketball once he arrived at Marquette and was selected to the Big East's All-Freshman team while leading the nation in three-point field-goal percentage (.547). As a natural scorer, Howard continued to reach milestones throughout his career with the Golden Eagles. As a junior, he was unanimously named the Big East Player of the Year and set Marquette's single-season scoring mark with 851 points during the 2018-19 campaign, including a Big East record 53-point performance against Creighton. In his senior season, Howard was a consensus First Team All-American by the Associated Press,

Sporting News, NABC and USBWA as well as being a unanimous All-Big East First Team selection. His NCAA-leading 27.8 points per game helped Howard become Marquette's all-time leading scorer with 2,761 career points and positioned him in a tie for seventh place in NCAA history with 434 career three-pointers.

"Markus is, and will continue to be, a tremendous ambassador for Marquette University," said Steve Wojciechowski, who led the Golden Eagles to an 18-12 record this season. "The Senior CLASS Award is the perfect honor to recognize his impact on campus in the areas of community, classroom, character and competition. Markus maximized his voice as a student-athlete as well as anyone I have ever seen and as a result, he has been able to make a positive impact on the lives of countless individuals."

While pursuing his degree in digital media, Howard also excels in the classroom and has earned academic All-Big East status. He is also one of only two student-athletes nationwide who are members of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee. Howard co-founded the Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter on the Marquette campus, and is a vocal leader when it comes to spreading awareness about mental health by sharing his personal struggles of balancing academics and competition. By collecting more than 100 hours of community service and working with the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Boys & Girls Club and more, Howard displays his true character and dedication to the Marquette community in meaningful and impactful ways.

"Markus Howard has spent four years demonstrating how he embodies all elements of the Senior CLASS Award," said Erik Miner, Executive Director of the Senior CLASS Award. "From his dynamic performances on the basketball court, to his impact within the community, Markus has excelled in becoming an exquisite role model and inspiration for those following in his footsteps. It's our honor to congratulate Markus Howard and Marquette University for winning this prestigious award."

For more information on all the finalists, visit seniorCLASSaward.com.

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2019-20 Senior CLASS Award First-Team All-Americans

Udoka Azubuike, University of Kansas

Markus Howard, Marquette University

Sam Merrill, Utah State University

Myles Powell, Seton Hall University

Cassius Winston, Michigan State University

2019-20 Senior CLASS Award Second-Team All-Americans

Yoeli Childs, Brigham Young University

James Foye, Dartmouth College

Nathan Knight, William & Mary

Skylar Mays, Louisiana State University

Lamar Stevens, Penn State University

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ABOUT THE AWARD

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*, the Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: community, classroom, character and competition. The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards a senior season can bring. Premier Sports Management manages the award.

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