

Every Senior at Detroit Loyola High School Accepted into College 50 percent of the graduating class are first-generation college students

DETROIT – [Loyola High School Detroit](#) today announced at its fourth annual “National College Signing Day” that all 30 graduating seniors will announce their post-secondary plans for the fall of 2019. This marks the ninth straight year that 100% of Loyola’s graduating class has been accepted into a two-year or four-year college.

Loyola’s “Signing Day” program takes a page from the ESPN College GameDay program. Former NBA All-Star and Detroit native Derrick Coleman will make a special guest appearance to kick off the event and provide a motivational speech to the college-bound men. Coleman will be introduced by Detroit Pistons and Michigan State Spartans play-by-play announcer, [George Blaha](#).

The class of 2019 exceeded expectations by accumulating more than \$1 million in scholarships, which was previously achieved by the class of 2018. More than 50 percent of Loyola’s class of 2019 are first-generation college students.

With more than 100 college acceptances to choose from, Loyola seniors have selected from Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), including Central State and Alabama A&M, as well as public universities closer to home, like Wayne State University and Michigan State University. Jesuit schools including Xavier University and University of Detroit Mercy were also considered.

Serving underrepresented communities in Detroit, Loyola provides young men an education guided by the Jesuit principles of academic rigor, critical thinking, service to others and spiritual development to become “men for others.” This year’s graduating class joins the ranks of the more than 600 Loyola graduates in its 26-year history.

“Detroit needs strong college preparatory education,” says school President, Fr. Mark Luedtke, S.J. “If we invest in what’s good for the city and what’s good for our young people, our schools will produce students ready for the next challenge in their professional lives. Every one of these young men has the potential to be a future leader in Detroit, and they have prepared themselves while at Loyola High School.”

Loyola’s “Signing Day” program culminated a focused, year-long program in conjunction with the [Michigan College Access Network](#) (MCAN), which works to increase college readiness, participation and completion in Michigan, particularly among low-income students, first generation college-going students, and students of color.

This year marks Loyola’s 26th year. Started by Fr. Malcom Carron, SJ, in 1993, Loyola remains committed to educating Detroit’s young men and has a proven track record of preparing them for lifelong achievement beyond the halls of its high school. Graduates have attended Dartmouth University, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Syracuse University and many others. In 2014, Loyola introduced a College Transitions program to assist graduates ease into college life. Since the program’s inception, 35% have earned or will earn a 4-year degree, four times

the national average for low income males of color; 55% of the class have or will earn a 2- or 4-year degree.

Loyola High School is still accepting students for 9-11 grades for fall 2019. For more information, call 313-861-2407 or email pdavis@loyolahsdetroit.org.

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Loyola High School, an all-male Catholic high school in the Jesuit tradition, opened in 1993. Originally named Loyola Academy, the school began as a response to a pressing need in Detroit and its surrounding communities, where high school dropout rates for male students was high. Forty-three ninth graders began classes in a small wing of the former St. Francis Home for Boys at Linwood and Fenkell. Today, Loyola has almost 150 promising young men and more than 600 alumni. Graduates attend four-year colleges such as Dartmouth and Wayne State University, two-year colleges in and around Detroit, as well as vocational schools and the police and fire academies. Wherever they go following their time at Loyola, our students know that they are called to be "men for others" living lives in service to others.

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