



Department of Communications

401 Broadway • Suite 211 • Gary, Indiana 46402-1236

Phone 219.881.1314 • Fax 219.881.1337

Email ldburns@ci.gary.in.us

Karen Freeman-Wilson
Mayor

LaLosa Dent Burns
Director of Communications



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 12, 2019

MAYOR KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON AND ECIER FOUNDATION HOSTS FIRST SCHOLARSHIP CEREMONY FOR GARY SCHOLARS PROGRAM RETURNING COLLEGE STUDENTS

Gary, Indiana-Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson and ECIER Foundation will host the Gary Scholars Program's first Scholarship Ceremony for Returning College students on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. The city of Gary and ECIER Foundation (administrator) partnered last year to award scholarships to students who are currently enrolled in college, graduated from a Gary High School and whose parent/guardian resides in the City of Gary.

The City of Gary Scholars is a program designed to encourage students to reach their full scholastic potential by providing educational incentives and tools to assist in "Staying in College Until Graduation". "The Gary Scholars program is also an opportunity to encourage the students to consider returning home with their newly acquired knowledge and energy that can contribute to rebuilding our city," stated Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson.

The mayor thanked Majestic Star Casino/Spectacle Entertainment, Inc. for their continued support. Majestic Star/Spectacle Entertainment is the sponsor for the scholarships.

Event Information:

WHO: Mayor Karen Freeman Wilson - City of Gary
ECIER Foundation
Majestic Star Casino/Spectacle Entertainment, Inc.

WHAT: Eleven Returning College Students completed scholarship packets including an essay, personal letters of recommendation and community service hours, maintained a GPA of at least 2.5 and will share in a pool of \$40,000.00. These students attend various colleges from Ivy Tech, Jackson State, Purdue, IUPUI, DePaul and Philander Smith Colleges.

WHEN: **Monday, December 16, 2019**
6:00pm

WHERE: **Gary City Hall,**
401 Broadway, 2nd floor
Gary Room
Gary, IN 46402

CONTACT: For more information contact Diana Sandlin, City of Gary (219) 741-8568 or Chareice White, ECIER Foundation (219) 381-4092

-30-