

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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***Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* announces 2017 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar Semifinalists**

FAIRFAX, Va., March 1, 2017 — *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* magazine has announced the Top 20 male and female semifinalists for the 2017 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar Award.

The winners will be profiled in its April 6, 2017 edition. The semifinalists were chosen from over 1,000 outstanding minority student-athletes nominated by their respective institutions.

The top 20 male and female semifinalists are:

<u>Male Semifinalists</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Institution</u>
Brian Allen	Swimming & Diving	Denison University
Braxton Berrios	Football	University of Miami
Cristian Cepeda	Soccer	Holy Family University
Tim Crawley	Football	San José State University
James Day	Basketball	Bluefield State College
Mateus de Col	Tennis	St. Edward's University
Jad Elkhilil	Soccer	Georgia State University
Alex Grady	Track/Cross Country	Georgia Institute of Technology
Charles Griffin	Football	Montclair State University
Guilherme Hadlich	Tennis	Pepperdine University
O'Terrius Howard	Football	The University of Alabama
Scott Kim	Golf	Siena College
Mario Leon	Baseball	Florida Gulf Coast University
Jaquan Lumas	Football	Bethune Cookman University
Malcolm Porterfield	Track/Cross Country	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Joel Roberts	Volleyball	University of Mount Olive

Paul	Sime	Soccer	University of Kentucky
Andrew	Watson	Tennis	University of Memphis
Josh	White	Basketball	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Nigel	Williams-Goss	Basketball	Gonzaga University

Female Semifinalists

Lucrecia	Aguilar	Track/Cross Country	Rice University
Jazzmin	Babers	Volleyball	Texas A&M University
Alyssa	Basdavanos	Volleyball	University of Miami
Gabrielle	Batista	Soccer	Molloy College
Danielle	Bordes	Swimming & Diving	University of Connecticut
Cheyenne	Creighton	Basketball	University of Memphis
Nicole	Evans	Softball	University of Illinois
Valentina	Herrera	Golf	University of Cincinnati
Lotta	Kahlert	Field Hockey	University of Louisville
Olga	Martinez-Manso	Tennis	University of South Florida
Bria	Matthews	Track/Cross Country	Georgia Institute of Technology
Sasha	Newman	Track/Cross Country	Dillard University
Lucia	Polo	Golf	University of Tennessee
Marina	Schneiger	Tennis	Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis
Aja	Sims	Gymnastics	University of Alabama
Lindsey	Strickrod	Softball	University of Memphis
Aldila	Sutjiadi	Tennis	University of Kentucky
Kamila	Tan	Volleyball	University of California, Los Angeles
Marisa	Thompson	Soccer	California State Univ., Monterey Bay
Cortnee	Walton	Basketball	University of Louisville

A scholar and athlete, Ashe sought to expand opportunities for young people. Each year [***Diverse: Issues In Higher Education***](#) invites every postsecondary institution in the country to participate in this awards program by nominating their outstanding sports scholars. In addition to their athletic ability, students named Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.2; and be active on their campuses or in their community.

Past Ashe scholars include: Baylor University's Robert Griffin III (2011); the University of Tennessee's Kara Lawson (2003); San Diego State University's Marshall Faulk (1993); and the University of Kansas' Jaque Vaughn (1996), just to name a few scholar-athletes who have gone on to achieve great success. To learn more, contact us today.

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