

Contact: Patrice Bell-Mercadel (504) 520-5452
or Diana Mateo-Hernandez (504) 520-5120

Award-winning *New York Times* Journalist to Headline Xavier University Commencement

New Orleans LA - Award-winning [*The New York Times*](#) investigative journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones will deliver the commencement address at _____ (XULA) 91st annual graduation Convocation Center.

Hannah-Jones is expected to address some 550 undergraduate, graduate, and pre-professional students and their families at the commencement. She will join Xavier University of Louisiana President Reynold Verret in honoring Dr. Norman C. Francis, President Emeritus of the University, who will be awarded an honorary degree from his alma mater.

Other scheduled commencement-

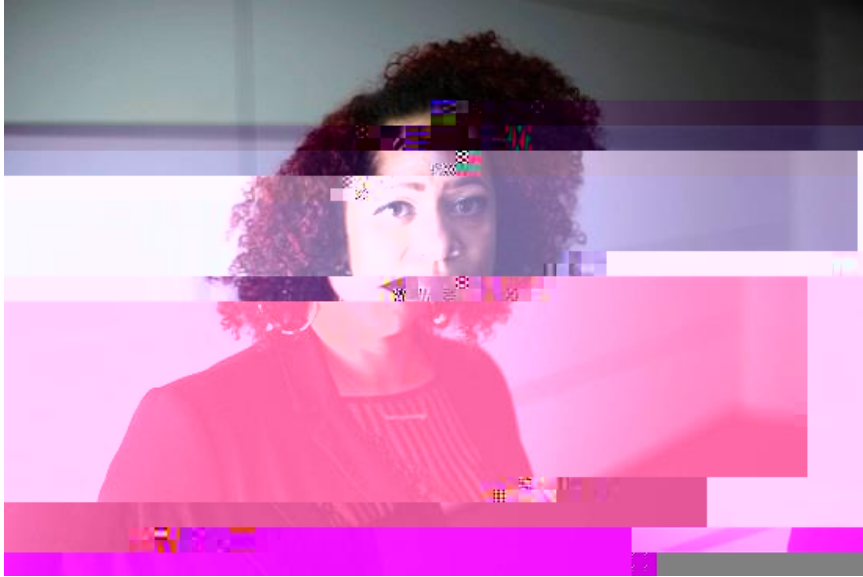
Graduate School hooding ceremony Thursday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom; the College of Pharmacy Hooding Ceremony Friday, May 11, at noon in the Convocation Center, and the Baccalaureate Mass/Honors Convocation Friday, May 11 at 5:00 p.m., in the Convocation Center.

The commencement is a ticketed event. All others are open to the public.

Nikole Hannah-Jones

Hannah-Jones, who has been a staff writer for *The New York Times* since 2015, is known for her long-form writing style and her investigative coverage of civil rights, education, fair housing, school segregation, and discrimination in the United States.

During her career, which spans five newspapers and magazines in New York, Oregon, and North Carolina, she has accumulated 26 awards for journalism, writing, and radio reporting. Her article in *The New York Times*



Nikole Hannah-Jones



Dr. Norman C. Francis