



PRESS RELEASE

The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Announces 2023 Suncoast Student Scholarship Recipients

Pembroke Pines, FL (May 2023) - The NATAS Suncoast Chapter announced it will award a total of \$67,300 to 18 Suncoast Region students for the 2023 Student Scholarship Awards. The scholarship application period for the 2023-2024 school year took place from February 1 to March 1, 2023.

Each year, the Suncoast Chapter offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors and to college and university students who reside within the Suncoast Region, which includes the State of Florida, the State of Louisiana, the Mobile-Pensacola Market area, and Puerto Rico. In order to be eligible, students must plan to attend or currently attend a four-year college or university in the Suncoast Region and must have a declared major in Communications/Broadcasting with a concentration in television.

“Every year, the NATAS Suncoast Chapter strives to contribute to the education of innovative, high-achieving deserving students,” said Claudia Keppinger, Suncoast Scholarship Awards Chair. “It is a privilege and an honor to be part of such an important process that will have an impact on the lives of the students as well as the future of the industry.”

This year, the Suncoast Chapter awarded Derryl Barnes Jr. with a \$10,000 Bob Behrens Scholarship, a special award given to a student who embodies enterprising journalism and innovation in the industry. The University of Miami student’s exemplary stories, strong work ethic and exceptional character distinguish him among his peers both on and off campus. His faculty mentors admire not only his accomplishments, but his poise, professionalism and perseverance beyond his years.

“Part of the mission of our Suncoast Chapter is to provide resources and support for the next generation of professionals in our industry,” said Barbara Alfonso, NATAS Suncoast Chapter President. “Our Chapter is so pleased to honor the legacy and carry on the mission of former Suncoast Chapter Executive Director, Bob Behrens, who was dedicated to fostering excellence in journalism through philanthropic efforts.”

About the Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences

The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences is a nonprofit Florida corporation dedicated to excellence in television. We offer annual EMMY® Awards called The Suncoast Regional EMMY® Awards to television markets in the entire State of Florida, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles and New Orleans, Louisiana, Mobile, Alabama, Thomasville, Georgia and Puerto Rico. The Chapter is composed of professional people who work in television or students who are studying television in colleges or universities and aspire to become professionals. If you qualify and would like to become a member, please visit our [Membership](#) page. If you are interested in the Suncoast Regional EMMY® Awards, please visit our [Awards](#) page. For more information, visit our website at suncoastchapter.org.

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suncoastchapter.org

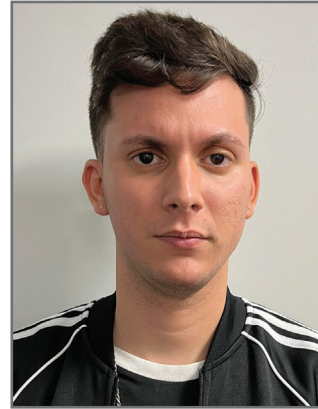
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Derryl Barnes Jr.
2023 Bob Behrens Scholarship
University of Miami



Poddy Dickson O Adieze
Miami Dade College



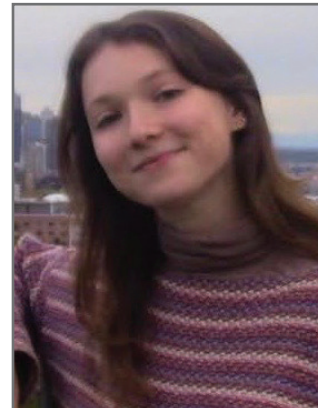
Xavier Aquino Muniz
University of Puerto Rico
at Arecibo



Matthew Barturen
Florida State University



Laura Blanco
Barry University



Kimberly Blum
University of Florida



Lucas Bogardus
Florida International University



Billie Brightman
University of Miami



Morgan Champey
University of Miami

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Andrea Fonseca
Florida International University



Alexis Genovese
Southeastern Louisiana University



Sophie Howell
Miami Dade College



Genesis Ibarra
Florida International University



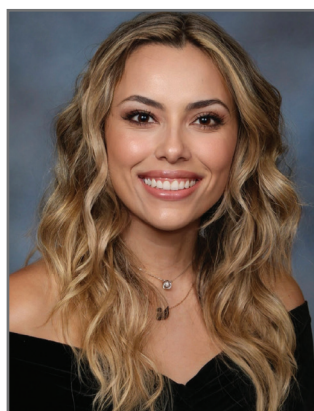
Alessia Lavayen
Santa Fe College



Ian Nicoll
Southeastern Louisiana University



Chaney Scott McCorquodale
The University of Alabama
Honors College



Bianca Smith
University of Florida



Alexis Vivanco
University of Florida