

LOYOLA BLACK LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION HOSTED A SUCCESSFUL SCHOLARSHIP GALA

By: Tiffany M. Tate¹

Following a successful and eventful academic year, the A.P. Tureaud Chapter of the Black Law Student Association of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law (BLSA) held its Sixth Annual Semora “Lola” Bartholomew Davis Scholarship Gala and Silent Auction on Friday, March 19, 2010. The exceptional Audubon Tea Room near Loyola’s Broadway campus was filled to capacity with attorneys, judges, and guests.

After the event opened with prayer, “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” and the welcome, the chapter recognized Hon. June Berry Darensburg (24th Judicial District Court), Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman (Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office), Kelly McNeil Legier (Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Louisiana State Bar Association), Professor Mitch F. Crusto (Loyola University New Orleans College of Law), and their own Dean Brian Bromberger for their active service to the chapter and the Greater New Orleans area.

Additionally, Cassandra M. Chandler, a distinguished Loyola alum and exceptional keynote speaker, cleverly presented a speech applicable to anyone in the profession entitled “The Four Principles of Harriet Tubman.” Ms. Chandler currently is the senior investigative services executive of Bank of America, and while with the Federal Bureau of Investigations as the assistant director of training, she was the highest-ranking African-American woman at the FBI. She urged attendees to follow four Harriet Tubman principles as they progress in their careers: (1) have a reputation for high standards; (2) walk softly and carry a big stick (your stick is knowledge); (3) mentor and reach back; (4) dream and think beyond your comfort level.

BLSA President Tiffany M. Tate explained the underlying purpose of the scholarships being awarded during the evening. At the close of the program, BLSA presented the silent auction winners, scholarships and new executive board for the following academic year. The following students received scholarships: Ms. English Pratt and Mr. Russell Jones, who are both impressive 1Ls attending Loyola’s college of law.

The A.P. Tureaud Chapter of the Black Law Student Association proudly thanks the supportive members of the Louisiana State Bar Association and judges who were in attendance and truly added to the success of the evening.

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