

Howard Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Nomination Process and Requirements

The Bouchet Graduate Honor Society

The Bouchet Honor Society seeks to develop a national network of preeminent scholars who exemplify academic and personal excellence and foster environments of support and advocacy for students who have been traditionally underrepresented in the academy. Howard University Bouchet Society members contribute to the advancement of their field(s) of study and are committed to the application of that knowledge to improve the lives and conditions of the communities they serve. Members exhibit the highest values of Howard through their character, leadership, advocacy, scholarship, and service.

Membership Criteria

Students seeking membership into the Bouchet Honor Graduate Society can apply for membership or nominate themselves by submitting a [Nominee Completion Form \(online\)](#). Bouchet Honor Graduate Society membership is available to any individual who is currently a doctoral student in good academic standing and who has shown outstanding promise as a scholar as well as research achievement, as evidenced by independent investigation or current work on a dissertation research project.

Nomination Criteria and Application Packet

Membership into the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society is a competitive process. All student nominees or applicants must be PhD students currently enrolled full-time in the Graduate School, must be in good academic standing and must have advanced to candidacy (also called ABD or “all but dissertation”). Candidacy means that the student has finished all required coursework, passed all required qualifying and preliminary exams, and is currently working on their dissertation research. Inductees are expected to attend the Howard Induction Ceremony and Yale-hosted Annual Bouchet Conference in April.

Nominees/applicants are required to submit all application materials listed below by the deadline of **February 16, 2022 (11:59 pm, EST)**.

1. **A nomination form including statement of recommendation completed by the nominee's dissertation/graduate advisor** that indicates the strengths of the nominee as it relates to the five thrusts of the Bouchet Honor Society (scholarship, character, leadership, service, and advocacy).
2. **A second nomination form including statement of recommendation completed by a Howard University faculty member, chair, or mentor** that indicates the strengths of the nominee as it relates to the five thrusts of the Bouchet Honor Society (scholarship, character, leadership, service, and advocacy).
3. An **online nomination information form** completed by the nominee.
4. The nominee's **curriculum vitae must be attached to the online nomination form submission.**
5. **A short abstract of the nominee's dissertation research (250-300 words)** including purpose, background, methods, results (or preliminary results), conclusions (or preliminary conclusions). **The nominee should attach the research abstract to the online nomination form submission**
6. **A 2-page personal statement (Times New Roman, 11pt font, double-spaced)** written by the nominee describing how the nominee embodies the characteristics of Dr. Bouchet as expressed through the five thrusts and mission of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society (scholarship, character, leadership, service, and advocacy). The nominee should also address educational and career accomplishments, future professional goals, and anticipated contributions to the Society. **The nominee should attach the personal statement to the online nomination form submission.**
7. **A 250-word biographical sketch written by the nominee (Times New Roman, 11pt font, single-spaced)** with bold face for the student's name, italic lettering for the field of study. The text should be written in the third person, and it should only include a description of the student's dissertation research, publications, and awards. The nominee should not include any personal non-academic information, like hobbies and interests. The nominee should attach the biographical sketch to the online nomination form submission.

Sample Biographical Sketch:

Malik D. Lewis

Chemistry

Malik D. Lewis is a candidate for the Ph.D. in chemistry with a concentration in medicinal organic chemistry at Howard University. His research focuses on the design, synthesis, and evaluation of novel small molecules as anti-prostate cancer agents. Malik has been recognized as an Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Fellow, Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning Network STEM Education Scholar, and received the Preparing Future Faculty certificate of completion. As well, he received a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from Boston College, where he was a recipient of the Corcoran Scholarship. Malik learns and grows with every endeavor and believes in sharing a love of chemistry through his teaching. He has been an avid volunteer with the Community Science fest, a community-directed science literacy effort centered on providing hands-on experiences to DC-area students from pre-K to high school. Ultimately, Malik aspires to work at the intersection of business and science, with a passion for improving lives through science and new technology.

Selection Process

Upon receipt of the nominees' complete applications by the **February 16, 2022 deadline**, the selection committee will review all applications and provide a recommendation of inductees into the Bouchet Society for consideration.

Timeline

February 16, 2022 (11:59 pm, EST): Deadline for online submission of nomination letters and application materials noted above.

March 1, 2022: Announcement of Howard inductees

April 7–8, 2022: Bouchet National Induction Ceremony and Annual Conference at Yale University

April 2022 (date TBD): Howard Bouchet Society Induction Ceremony

Contact

Nomination materials **must be submitted online via the electronic forms noted above.** Any questions about the selection process can be directed to Miriam Okine Davies, Assistant Dean, Graduate Student Affairs, Graduate School.

More Info about Bouchet Honor Society and Member Benefits

Life and Legacy of Edward Alexander Bouchet

The Edward Alexander Bouchet Graduate Honors Society pays tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Edward Alexander Bouchet (1852-1918). Dr. Bouchet earned his bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1874. He made history two years later, as the first African American to earn a doctorate in the United States, completing his doctorate in Physics at Yale in 1876.

At Yale, Dr. Bouchet was also one of the first African Americans to be elected to the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. After earning his doctorate in physics, he taught at the School for Colored Youth in Philadelphia for over than 25 years. [Read more.](#)

Five Pillars of Bouchet Graduate Honor Society

Howard University Bouchet Society members are committed to the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the academy and in the communities they serve. In the spirit of Dr. Bouchet's commitment to these ideals and pursuits, Howard Bouchet Society inductees demonstrate significant achievement in the following five areas which serve as the pillars of the Bouchet Society:

Scholarship

Bouchet Society members are committed to the goals of lifelong education, as well as to the production and the dissemination of knowledge in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Bouchet Society members are committed to contributing to the development of their field(s) of study and to the application of knowledge into action that improves the lives and conditions of their communities.

Character

Bouchet Society members exhibit the highest values of Howard through their integrity, honor, and exemplary conduct and behavior. Character may be exemplified through individual emotional courage, principles, endurance, and perseverance. Bouchet Society members are aware of the importance of contributing and working for the good of society.

Leadership

Bouchet Society members take their responsibility for their academic fields of study seriously. They are the embodiment of the ideals of Howard. They not only represent Howard's mission, but they also demonstrate strong initiative. Howard Bouchet Society members play a leadership role in extending access to Howard to a wider community by creating and sharing knowledge.

Service

Bouchet Society members are expected to actively contribute to the well-being of society by giving, remaining involved, sharing personal gifts and talents, and exhibiting commitment to the service of others. Examples of service include participating in an educational program for youth, serving in local or state politics, or volunteering with a local non-profit organization.

Advocacy

Bouchet Society members advocate for broader access to graduate education and other resources in the academy. Activities might include advocating for the concerns of diverse faculty members and students, serving as a mentor, helping to address the needs of communities, and educating others on issues that may be at the heart of continued inequities and disparities in our society.

Bouchet Society Membership Benefits

Howard University Bouchet Graduate Honor Society members have access to:

Annual Yale Bouchet Conference on Diversity and Graduate Education

Each year, Yale University hosts the "Annual Yale Bouchet Conference on Diversity and Graduate Education." Visit [Yale's website here](#) for more information. Howard Bouchet Society members have attended the annual conference typically held in New Haven, CT (when held in-person). This annual conference is an opportunity to present one's graduate work in an interdisciplinary setting and form connections with peers across disciplines and institutions.

"Disciplines and Dialogue" Annual Howard Bouchet Society Forum

During the academic year, Bouchet Scholars will be invited to the "Disciplines and Dialogue" Annual Howard Bouchet Society Forum where they will hear from leading scholars and/or activists and learn more about their area of research relevant to a given "Disciplines and Dialogue" interdisciplinary topic.

"Bouchet Connect" Network

[Bouchet Connect](#) interdisciplinary online network that allows current students and alumni from the society to come together virtually to receive mentorship, share insights, and post job listings that might be of interest to the group. This network provides opportunities for scholars and practitioners to connect with their peers on issues of shared interest and foster opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration on research, grant, postdoctoral, and other opportunities across Bouchet chapters.

Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Institutional Chapters

The Bouchet Graduate Honor Society was inaugurated by Howard University and Yale University in 2005 to recognize the life and academic contributions of Edward Alexander Bouchet. Yale and Howard serve as the founding chapters of the Bouchet Society. Since Howard inducted its first graduate student cohort in 2005, the Society has grown to include the following additional institutional chapters:

Yale University*
Howard University*
Cornell University
Emory University
Johns Hopkins University
Northwestern University
Rutgers University
The Chicago School of Professional Psychology
The George Washington University
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of Florida

University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Washington University, St. Louis
Michigan State University
Florida International University

*Denotes Founding Chapters