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**Fort Lauderdale Nursing Student Awarded Full-Tuition Scholarship by Arizona College of Nursing and the National Black Nurses Association**

*Scholarship offers student the opportunity to pursue a childhood dream*

**PHOENIX, AZ, Oct., 14 2021** — [Arizona College of Nursing](#) and the [National Black Nurses Association](#) (NBNA) today announced Fort Lauderdale resident, Melissa Georges, as the recipient of a full-tuition scholarship valued up to \$90,000 in tuition and fees towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree at Arizona College of Nursing.

As a first-generation college student, the path to becoming a nurse hasn't been easy for Georges. Coming from a low-income family of 10, her family has made a lot of sacrifices for her to pursue her education. The scholarship will help relieve some of the financial burden of pursuing her passion. Georges is currently enrolled at Arizona College of Nursing in Fort Lauderdale and plans to graduate in April 2022. She is also an active member of the Miami NBNA chapter, is the president of the National Student Association of her campus and serves as a peer mentor for other nursing students.

Melissa Georges received the calling to become a nurse at the age of seven when her dad passed away. Georges witnessed his struggles and believed he lost his life because he did not receive access to proper healthcare. That life-shaping event has driven her to make a difference in the lives of others and strengthened her belief that everyone should be treated equally and receive the best possible care.

"I would like to congratulate Melissa Georges for receiving this full-tuition scholarship," said Dr. Martha A. Dawson, President, National Black Nursing Association. "Melissa's dedication to improving the lives of others is inspiring and we hope her actions encourage others with similar challenges. NBNA is happy to be working with Arizona College of Nursing to award this scholarship and provide pathways for future nursing leaders."

Arizona College of Nursing and NBNA created this annual scholarship to support minority students who have been traditionally underserved in nursing. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants were required to have a minimum GPA of 3.50, write an essay, provide reference letters and demonstrate a commitment to community service.

"We are delighted to partner with NBNA to award Melissa Georges this full-tuition scholarship and support her journey to achieve a childhood dream," said Nick Mansour, President, Arizona College of Nursing. "Her unwavering persistence to pursue her nursing education despite facing challenging obstacles is truly extraordinary and has inspired many other students. We are excited to recognize her accomplishments by awarding this scholarship."

The partnership between Arizona College of Nursing and the National Black Nurses Association extends beyond the scholarship. Arizona College of Nursing pays the local and national dues for Core Nursing students interested in joining NBNA while enrolled as students. Some of the membership benefits of NBNA include opportunities for professional development, networking, and leadership positions. This program is available to Core Nursing students at all nine of the school's dedicated nursing campuses.

### **About National Black Nurses Association**

Founded in 1971, the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is a professional organization representing 308,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, and nursing students in 111 chapters and 34 states. The NBNA mission is "to serve as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health." NBNA chapters offer voluntary hours providing health education and screenings to community residents in collaboration with community-based partners, including faith-based organizations, civic, fraternal, hospitals, and schools of nursing. For more information, visit [nbna.org](http://nbna.org)

### **About Arizona College of Nursing**

Arizona College of Nursing's purpose is to provide people the opportunity to enhance their lives through education. Arizona College of Nursing offers a three-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The BSN program is offered at 10 campuses across 7 states and is designed to prepare students for a career as a Registered Nurse (RN). Arizona College of Nursing campuses are accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES), a U.S. Department of Education-recognized national accrediting agency. For more information, please visit [arizonacollege.edu](http://arizonacollege.edu)

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