

# Delta's 2016 CoBo Honors Twelve Students



By Connie Barnes and  
Nikki Banks

Cotillion-Beautillion, Co - Chairs

The guests stood. To the tune of the Star Wars theme song, the honorees — nine Debutantes, three Beaux — and their escorts entered into the International Ballroom at the JW Marriott Hotel in downtown Grand Rapids.

Mothers escorted their sons and fathers escorted their daughters.

A wide - screen, theatre - style video presentation introduced each Debutante and Beau, highlighting academic achievements, leadership activities, community service, and gems of wisdom, along with expressions of appreciation and gratitude to people that had encouraged through the years.

At the end of her introduction, each Debutante stepped onto the dais, made a graceful curtsy and took her seat at the head table; each Beau took a gentleman's bow before going

to his seat.

This was the gala opening for the 2016 Cotillion - Beautillion Scholarship Ball hosted by The Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

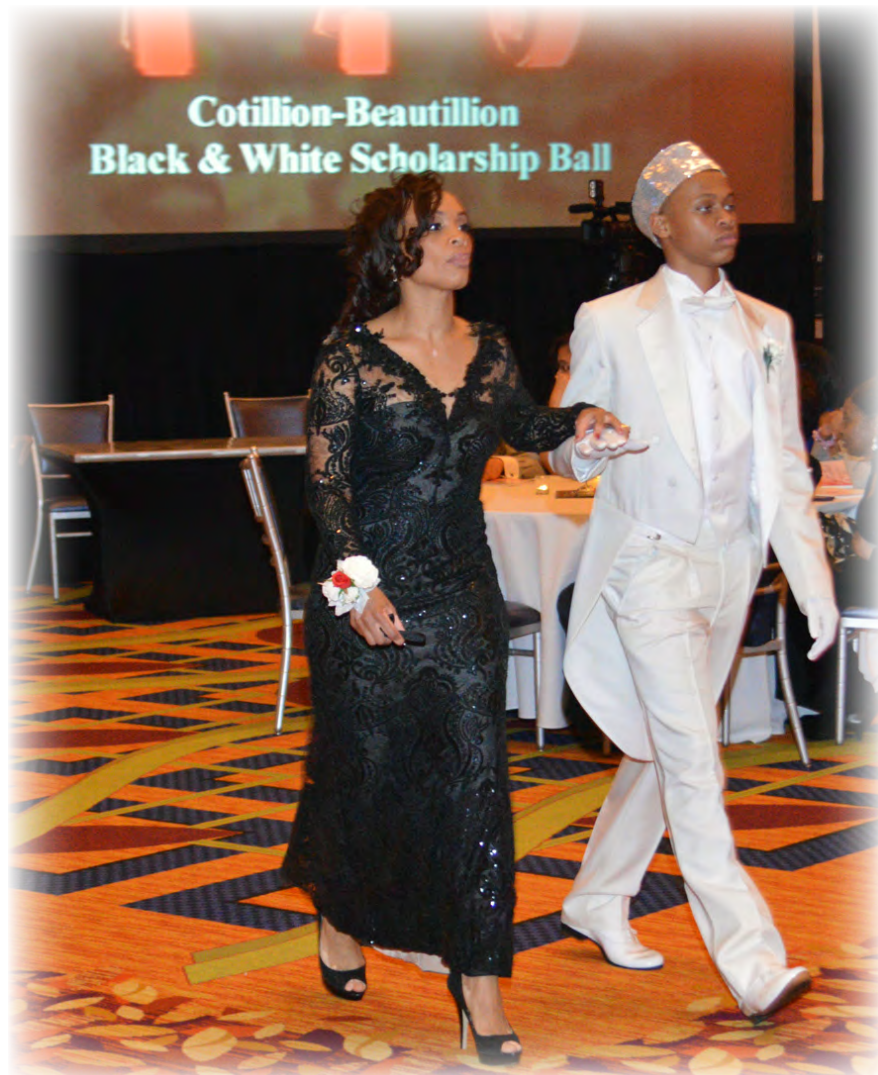
Dinner followed.

During the evening, the honorees' attire — white formal ball gowns and white tuxedos — would wow the guests. No exception were the two ballroom dances they performed with their escorts.

"As an organization (DST) we are committed to enriching, ensuring, and sustaining the culture, health, welfare and economic survival of the African American community - we want to be a viable force for positive change," said Mrs. Mary Williams, the chapter's president.

She continued, "We urge our young people to participate in our communities, to observe issues and situations affecting their lives, and to share what they learn with others so that

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they can continue to grow and build. The Cotillion - Beautillion recognizes young women and young men for their academic achievements and their engagement in leadership and volunteer service at school and in the community."

The scholarship ball is the

culmination of weeks of rehearsals and grooming activities: etiquette lessons, ballroom dance instruction and career awareness workshops, including topics such as essay writing, tips for preparing for college, dressing for the occasion.

Mrs. Williams added, "We

are all proud of the debts, beaux and parents, and we especially appreciate the parents' participation and involvement. The parents were present at the workshops and rehearsals. They were interested in how well their daughters and sons were doing, of course, but they





**Amari Brown**



**Ayanna Cottle**



**NKechy Nicole Ezeh**



**Brandon Fuller**



**Jordan Inman**

were also willing to help out in any way they could."

This year, the sorority presented ten scholarship awards: Two seniors received a \$1000.00 scholarship each.

- **Brandon Fuller** a senior at East Kentwood High School, plans to attend Hope College in the fall. His career interest is in Economics and Business Management.

- **Morgan Locke**, senior at Grand Rapids City High School, plans to attend the University of Michigan with a career interest in Engineering. Eight Juniors are to receive a scholarship of \$1000.00 each upon graduation in the year 2017.

- **Amari Brown** who East Kentwood High School, has not selected a college, yet, but knows her career interest is Business.

- **NKechy Nicole Ezeh** who attends East Grand Rapids High School, plans to attend University of Southern California to study Sports Journalism.

- **Jordan Inman** attends Grand Rapids City High School, and plans to attend Georgetown University with the goal of being a Cardiovascular Surgeon.

- **Arion Parks** attends West Michigan Aviation Academy High School and plans to attend Jackson State University to earn a degree in Elementary & Early Childhood Education.

- **Treajon Renauld**, student at East Kentwood High School,



**Morgan Locke**



**Murrayven Monday**



**Arion Parks**



**Treajon Renauld**

is deciding whether to attend Michigan State University or Howard University to prepare for a career in Sports Journalism.

- **Lydia Reynolds**, Grand Rapids innovation Central High School student, has Physical Trainer as her a career goal and plans to attend Michigan State University.

- **Christopher Smith** who attends West Michigan Aviation Academy High School, has a career goal Biochemist or Cardiologist, and is still deciding on which college to attend.

- **Fayth Talbert**, Grand Rapids Innovation Central High School, looks forward to attending Northern Michigan University with Physical Therapy as a career interest.



**Lydia Reynolds**



**Christopher Smith**



**Fayth Talbert**

