

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***The nsoro Educational Foundation Honors a WINNING combination: Jerome Bettis and Kelly Loeffler 2020 King and Queen of Starfish Ball***

**Atlanta, Georgia (June 11, 2019)** The nsoro Educational Foundation is changing the face of educational inequity, one youth at a time. This national organization, dedicated to the post-secondary education of youth aging out of foster care, announced today its King and Queen Honorees of the 2020 Starfish Ball Jerome Bettis, Professional Football Hall of Fame and Kelly Loeffler, Bakkt CEO and Atlanta Dream Co-Owner. The impact of these two philanthropic pillars has dramatically improved educational opportunities & outcomes of youth in marginalized communities across the nation.

Celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary, The nsoro Educational Foundation will proudly honor Jerome and Kelly for their unwavering support of nsoro's mission on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at the illustrious St. Regis, Atlanta.

“Starfish Ball 2020 will be an exemplary event in a monumental year. Designed for distinction, we coalesced around the notions of fun and surprise but remained anchored in recognizing the success of our Scholars & Graduates. We are especially pleased to introduce our first Ball Chair, Stephanie Travis Patterson. The creative process & natural talent of the 2020 Ball team will result in an evening of wide-eyed wonder, with an auction full of high interest leisure & luxury items and one of a kind travel experiences.” said Monica Pantoja, Executive Director.

The festive tradition of the Starfish Mardi Gras theme serves as a loving nod to the New Orleans heritage of nsoro's Chairman and Founder, Darrell Mays.

Guests are encouraged to *laissez le bon temps rouler* ‘let the good times roll’ for an evening of world class dining & dancing as they recognize the 2020 Honorees and nsoro Scholars.

Proceeds from Starfish Ball benefit The nsoro Educational Foundation Scholarship program.

**About nsoro:**

Founded in 2005, The nsoro Educational Foundation is a 501(c)3 providing access to and attainment of postsecondary education for all youth aging out of foster care.

nsoro currently supports 268 scholars across 31 states attending 191 fully accredited post-secondary institutions. nsoro has funded 346scholar graduates, creating a population of thriving former foster youth determined to beat the odds.

78% of nsoro scholars have graduated or are still enrolled in school, 98% of alumni have not been incarcerated, 78% have not been homeless, and 96% have not abused drugs or alcohol.

The nsoro Foundation provides their scholars the educational roadmap to rewrite their futures, ultimately changing the outcomes of one of the nation's most vulnerable populations.

For ticket information to the 2020 Starfish Ball, call 404.524.0807. Secure your tickets now as seating is limited.

Donations can be mailed to: The nsoro Educational Foundation, 1349 W. Peachtree St., Suite 1525 Atlanta, GA 30309 or online at [www.nsoro.foundation](http://www.nsoro.foundation)

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