



## Student-Athletes and Coaches Gather for Success Summit in New Orleans

Event to take place on Sunday, April 1, at Dillard University during the NCAA Final Four Championship

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Contact: Trang Hamm, [tranghamm@gmail.com](mailto:tranghamm@gmail.com), (503) 780-1624

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Local high school athletes, coaches, and youth development experts will gather in New Orleans for a student-athlete summit using sports to bolster young black males' confidence, education, and positive self-image. **GameBreakers**, a summit organized by [UWANTGAME](#) and supported by the Open Society Foundations' [Campaign for Black Male Achievement](#), will take place on **Sunday, April 1**, at **Dillard University**. The event coincides with the NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four Championship.

Several well-known figures from the sports world, including ESPN sportscaster Mike Hill, will be leading the summit's interactive workshops and panel discussions on personal, professional, and academic development.

"Athletics is an excellent platform for building up young men," said UWANTGAME executive director Joe Branch. "Many have what it takes to play well and compete on the playing field, but off it, they struggle. **GameBreakers** is meant to help young men succeed not just in sports, but in the classroom, their homes, and employment."

Almost 80 percent of black males participate in organized sports. Coaches typically become mentors and huge influencers in their lives and need better tools to help them navigate complex life issues.

"As a football coach, I know about that desire to reach young athletes and mold them into men," said Frontline Solutions' Micah Gilmer, who is leading the **GameBreakers** coaching workshops. "We want to address that desire by offering a series of workshops tailored to coaches."

"Our school is extremely happy to join with GameBreakers and allow our student-athletes a second to none experience in terms of reaching the next level of success," said Edna Karr High School athletic director Roch Weilbaeher.

[UWANTGAME](#) helps high school student-athletes reach their potential in academics, athletics, and personal growth through one-on-one mentoring relationships with successful former collegiate athletes. Serving as a co-organizer of **GameBreakers** is [Frontline Solutions](#), a social change organization that is helping change happen. The [Admiral Center](#) and [Tides](#) also are supporting and collaborating on GameBreakers.

For more information, visit [uwantgame.org/gamebreakers](http://uwantgame.org/gamebreakers) and follow [@UWANTGAME](#) on twitter.

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