



CROSS CULTURAL CENTER  
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May 2, 2016

**The John Ortiz-Hutson Black Community Outstanding Achievement Award**  
(Established June 2012)

**Overview**

The Cross Cultural Center is pleased to offer The John Ortiz-Hutson Black Community Outstanding Achievement Award for the fourth year. This outstanding achievement award officially acknowledges a UC Davis student who demonstrated active campus/community engagement and took full advantage of the various resources, programs, and intentional engagement opportunities afforded to them during their academic journey.

This award is open to any graduating student (including re-entry, veteran, or transfers), who has persevered and earned either a bachelor's or graduate degree regardless of the number of years it may have taken the student to accomplish their goal. While there are many ways one can achieve their full potential at UC Davis, some examples of eligible student engagement include a combination of any of the following:

- Leadership in a student organization dedicated to the advancement of issues that support the African Diaspora community
- Participation in a study abroad program
- Honors program affiliation
- Volunteerism
- Campus employment where the student devoted time and energy towards the betterment of others on campus or in the community
- Internship experience
- Research with a faculty member
- Involvement in student government
- Significant hours of community service
- Progressive leadership roles in multiple campus or community departments

**How Much Is The Award?**

The recipient of this award will receive a financial scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 and be recognized at the Annual Black Graduation Celebration. Award recipient must be present at Black Graduation to receive the award.

**Who is John Ortiz-Hutson?**

John Ortiz-Hutson, a champion of Black student self-determination and college retention efforts, served UC Davis as an academic advisor, learning skills specialist, and student affairs

officer for more than 23 years. John loved his students and paid individual attention to their progress while calling on them to pursue personal excellence both inside and outside of their classroom environment. In particular, John respected greatly his role within the African & African American Studies Program and inspired cultural pride with his student charges. He encouraged students to take full advantage of the wide ranging scope of UCD campus and community opportunities and he firmly believed in student greatness as related to: completing what one begins, giving back to one's community, and living one's life in integrity and courageous self-respect. After nearly thirty years devoted to higher education, John retired from UC Davis in December 2011.

### **Minimum Requirements To Be Eligible For The Award:**

- 2.5 GPA or higher
- Must graduate from UC Davis either during Spring/Summer/Fall quarter 2016
- Proudly identifies as a member of the Black community, including: African (any nation), African American, African Diaspora (any nation), Multi-Ethnic, or Ally.

### **Recognition**

The award recipient will be recognized at the annual UC Davis Black Graduation celebration. Scheduled for Sunday, June 12, 2016

### **Application Process**

Submit the following materials to Bruce Smail, Director – Cross Cultural Center, ([bsmail@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bsmail@ucdavis.edu)) **VIA EMAIL ONLY by May 23, 2016 at 5:00pm.**

1. Expected Date of Graduation (indicate if the nominee or applicant will finish Spring/Summer/Fall 2016)
2. A one to three page resume that demonstrates the specific experiences the student took advantage of during their entire time at UC Davis. NOTE: Involvement prior to UC Davis will not be considered.
3. A personal statement that explains why the nominee or applicant should receive this award and highlight experience within the Black community (maximum 500 words)
4. Two letters of recommendation from a campus faculty, full-time career staff, or active UC Davis alumni in the Black community or administrator who can support your application or nomination and can speak to your involvement or experience at UC Davis.

All application materials must be received via email **ONLY** by Monday, May 23, 2016 @ 5:00pm to be considered for this award. If you have any questions, please contact Bruce Smail at [bsmail@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bsmail@ucdavis.edu) or (530) 752-4911.

### **Notification**

Applicants will be notified of a decision by June 3, 2016

### **NOMINATIONS ARE WELCOME**

Current UC Davis Students, Staff and Faculty can also nominate a student for this award by May 13, 2016. Please be sure to inform the student about your nomination and a member of the selection team will notify the student directly of their nomination and ask them to complete the application process.