

Media Contact:
Opal Comfort, 305 623-1452
opal.comfort@fmuniv.edu

PRESS CONFERENCE

LEGENDARY BASKETBALL HALL OF FAMER, ISIAH THOMAS, AND FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENT, DR. JAFFUS HARDRICK TEAM UP TO ANNOUNCE A PROMINENT MEN'S HEAD BASKETBALL COACH AND TO LAUNCH AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM

(Miami Gardens, FL, August 17, 2018) Tuesday morning, Florida Memorial University (FMU) will host a press conference to announce the appointment of a new Head Coach for Men's Basketball. This coach is well known for his work with many of today's NBA athletes. FMU's Wellness Center will be the facility where many of these athletes will train with the new head coach. Some of the players will be joining us for the press conference.

During the press conference, Isiah Thomas and Dr. Jaffus Hardrick will launch an initiative intended to inspire successful athletes, entertainers and other influential partners to re-commit, embrace and support Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). *Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing*, the Negro National Anthem, birthed at FMU by J. Rosamond Johnson and James Weldon Johnson, serves as a theme of Thomas and Hardrick's initiative: **Lift Ev'ry Voice**.

"HBCUs are still relevant institutions and they remain committed to educating today's and tomorrow's students and preparing them to compete in the 21st Century global marketplace or pursue graduate degrees," said Dr. Hardrick. According to Isiah, "HBCUs are just as important as today as they were when they were founded in our society."



Isiah Thomas & Dr. Jaffus Hardrick
-more-



**Florida Memorial University
FMU Wellness Center
15800 N.W. 42nd Avenue
Miami Gardens, FL 33054-6199
Tuesday, August 21, 2018
11a.m. Press Conference**

ABOUT FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Located in the City of Miami Gardens, Florida Memorial University is a private, historically Black institution that offers 37 undergraduate degree programs and four graduate degree programs to a culturally diverse student body. Since its inception in 1879, the University has upheld a commitment to provide an academic education solid foundation built upon the pillars of leadership, character, and service. As South Florida's only Historically Black College or University (HBCU), it is widely recognized as the birthplace of the Black National Anthem, Lift Every Voice and Sing. For more information call 305-623 1452 or visit www.fmuniv.edu.

FMU is among the leading HBCUs in the nation leveraging partnerships with public and corporate partners to develop academic training and certification programs in emerging markets such as Energy and Environmental Science, Cybersecurity, Homeland Security and Computer Information Technology. FMU also offers a robust study abroad program and award-winning Broadcast Communications and Public Relations programs.

The university is also part of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the Sun Conference and offers eight collegiate sports programs, including men/women's basketball, men/women soccer, men/women's track and field, baseball and volleyball.

FMU offers 28 undergraduate degree majors and three graduate degree majors. The University holds a 92% retention rate for program participants. More than 14% of the student population are international students representing Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

