Edward Bouchet (1852-1918) was the first African American to earn a doctorate from an American university when he earned a Ph.D. in physics at Yale University in 1876. He was also one of the first African Americans to be elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Also, he was the first African American to graduate from Yale College in 1874. Bouchet was the sixth person in the western hemisphere to earn a doctorate in physics.

The Bouchet Graduate Honor Society was inaugurated on Thursday, September 15, 2005 with a simulcast ceremony held at Yale University and Howard University. The co-founding chapters seek to recognize and continue Dr. Bouchet’s pioneering contributions to doctoral education.

The Howard University and Yale University partnership with the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement and promotes excellence and diversity in doctoral education and the professoriate. The Bouchet Graduate Honor Society seeks to develop a network of preeminent scholars who exemplify academic and personal excellence, foster environments of support, and serve as examples of scholarship, leadership, character, service, and advocacy in the academy.

**Nomination criteria for students and post-doctoral fellows:**

- Three letters of recommendation to the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society must be submitted from each of the following:
  
  (1) the nominee’s dissertation advisor  
  (2) a graduate faculty member invested in the nominee’s research  
  (3) a faculty member, dean or director at the nominee’s institution

- A nomination evaluation form from each of three recommenders above (indicating strengths of nominee as regards to the five thrusts of the Honor Society);

- Transcripts from all graduate and professional schools attended;

- A current curriculum vitae;

- Scholarly writing sample;

- A personal statement capturing how the nominee embodies the characteristics of Dr. Bouchet as expressed through the five thrusts and the mission of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society. Additionally, the candidate should address their anticipated contributions to the Society (2 - 3 pages).
Selection Process:

- Upon receipt of completed application materials for nominees, the Membership Selection Committee will review all applications.
- An interview process for finalists will be conducted by faculty and administrator members of the Membership Selection Committee.
- The Membership Selection Committee will then provide a recommendation of inductees for consideration to the National Steering Committee.
- The National Steering Committee reviews all nominated applications submitted from chapter institutions and reserves the right to approve or decline membership into the Bouchet Society.

Timeline:

- Application information and materials available on-line – December 1
- Deadline for receipt of nomination letters and application materials – February 15
- Announcement of new members – March 1
- Inaugural Induction Ceremony – Annually at the Yale Bouchet Conference on Diversity in Graduate Education.
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Types of Membership:
Membership into the Bouchet Honor Society is by nomination only and approved by the National Steering Committee. The levels of membership are as listed below:

Doctoral Student Membership is available to any individual who is currently a doctoral student in good academic standing, and through initial research achievement in a humanities, social sciences and sciences field, shown outstanding promise as a scholar, as evidenced by independent investigation or current work on a dissertation project.

Post-Doctoral Member is available to any individual who has received their PhD degree over the last 6 years, and through initial research achievement in a humanities, social sciences and sciences field shown outstanding promise as a scholar, as evidenced by independent investigation, completion of the dissertation and publications.

Faculty Membership is conferred upon any individual who has shown noteworthy achievement as a scholar and exemplar of the Bouchet Society’s mission. The faculty should currently hold an appointment in the humanities, social sciences, or sciences fields, with a record of publication and evidence of research and teaching in their field of study. Individuals who are invited to membership have (by virtue of their scholarship, research, teaching and service) shown their commitment to ensuring excellence and equity in graduate education.

Alumni Member is conferred upon any individual who has shown noteworthy achievement as a scholar and exemplar of the Bouchet Society’s mission in the humanities, social sciences, or sciences fields and who has received their PhD from the member institution. Individuals who are invited membership have (by virtue of their scholarship, research, teaching and service) shown their commitment to ensuring excellence and equity in graduate education.

Lifetime or Honorary Member is conferred upon any individual who has shown outstanding and noteworthy achievement as a scholar and exemplar of the Bouchet Society’s mission in the humanities, social sciences, or sciences fields. Individuals who are invited to membership have (by virtue of their scholarship, research, teaching and service) shown their commitment to ensuring excellence and equity in graduate education.

Invited Membership Procedures

Faculty, Alumni and Honorary Members should submit the following upon invitation:

Curriculum vitae or résumé
Selected publication for the Bouchet Journal
Personal statement depicting anticipated contributions to the Bouchet Society

All materials must be received on or before February 15 to the inviter's attention.
### Nominee Profile

- □ Nominate for Student Membership  □ Nominate for Postdoctoral Membership

**Preferred Prefix for Nominee (check):**  □ Dr.  □ Mr.  □ Ms.  □ Mrs.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Nominee (first  middle  last)</th>
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**Which address should be used for Bouchet mailings?**

- □ Business
- □ Home

**Degree(s) sought:**

- □ PhD
- □ PhD/EdD
- □ PhD/JD
- □ PhD /MD
- □ PhD/Other ___________

**Year obtained/expected:** ___________

**Primary research field (check all that apply):**

- □ Humanities

**Field of Study:** ________________________________________________________________

- □ Social Sciences

**Field of Study:** ________________________________________________________________

- □ Sciences

**Field of Study:** ________________________________________________________________

**Dissertation Research (provide title or brief description of dissertation):**

___________________________________________________________________________

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Statement of Purpose:
The nominee should write a statement (approximately 2-3 pages), indicating their educational and career accomplishments and future professional goals, past and current academic experience and the ways in which they have and will continue to fulfill the five thrusts of scholarship, character, leadership, service and advocacy that are the hallmarks of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society.
First Nominator
Thesis Adviser or
Dissertation Committee Faculty Member

☐ Please check here if nominator should be notified of results of this nomination.

Name of Nominator (first, middle, last)  Member Number (if known)

Institution  Department
E-mail  Phone (include area code)

Signature (if submitting electronically, nominator may type name as long as form is submitted from his/her E-mail address)

Please complete attached nomination evaluation form and submit with recommendation letter.
Nomination Evaluation Form (First Nominator)
(To be completed by the Nominee):
☐ Nominate for Student Membership  ☐ Nominate for Postdoctoral Membership
Preferred Prefix for Nominee (check):  ☐ Dr.  ☐ Mr.  ☐ Ms.  ☐ Mrs.

Name of Nominee (first middle last)

Email Address  Phone

Statement on Confidentiality. Federal law gives students the option of waiving their right to see specific letters of recommendation. If applicant has waived this right by signing the waiver below, this letter will be held confidential. If the applicant has not signed the waiver it will be assumed that this letter may have been seen by the applicant if he or she is inducted into the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society.

Waiver. In accordance with the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, I waive my right to review this letter.

SIGNATURE  DATE

To be Completed by the Nominator:

Name of Nominator (first, middle, last)  Position

Institution  Department

E-mail  Phone (include area code)

Signature (if submitting electronically, nominator may type name as long as form is submitted from his/her E-mail address)

In the Spirit of Edward Alexander Bouchet and the SCHOLARSHIP, CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP, SERVICE and ADVOCACY he exhibited both inside and outside academic realms, inductees into the honor society bearing his name should also exhibit these same outstanding qualities. For each area, please rank (1 being the lowest and 5 the highest) and describe how the potential inductee exhibits strengths in these areas:

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<tr>
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Descriptive Comments:

How has this applicant exemplified his strengths in the areas of SCHOLARSHIP, CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, and ADVOCACY?

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Please comment on the applicant’s strengths and special qualities which would make him, or her, an ideal member of the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society on the back of this form or on a separate sheet. Enclose your recommendation in a sealed envelope, sign across the seal, and return it to the applicant. If you prefer, you may mail your recommendation directly to the address indicated below.

SIGNATURE       DATE

Mail nomination form and nomination letter to:

Bouchet Graduate Honor Society
Yale Graduate School
Office for Diversity & Equal Opportunity
320 York Street PO Box 208236
New Haven, CT  06520-8236

Phone (203) 436-1301
Fax (203) 432-7765
Second Nominator
Faculty Member

☐ Information from an Advisor or Dissertation Chair acting as first nominator follows:

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Signature (if submitting electronically, nominator may type name as long as form is submitted from his/her E-mail address)

Please complete attached nomination evaluation form and submit with recommendation letter.
Nomination Evaluation Form (Second Nominator)

(To be completed by the Nominee):

☐ Nominate for Student Membership  ☐ Nominate for Postdoctoral Membership

Preferred Prefix for Nominee (check):  ☑ Dr.  ☐ Mr.  ☐ Ms.  ☐ Mrs.

Name of Nominee (first  middle  last)

Email Address

Phone

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Waiver. In accordance with the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974, I waive my right to review this letter.

SIGNATURE    DATE

To be Completed by the Nominator:

Name of Nominator (first, middle, last)    Position

Institution

Department

E-mail

Phone (include area code)

Signature (if submitting electronically, nominator may type name as long as form is submitted from his/her E-mail address)

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Yale Graduate School
Office for Diversity & Equal Opportunity
320 York Street PO Box 208236
New Haven, CT 06520-8236

Phone (203) 436-1301
Fax (203) 432-7765
Third Nominator
Faculty Member or Dean or Program Director

☐ Information from an Advisor or Dissertation Chair acting as first nominator follows:

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<td>Phone (include area code)</td>
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Signature (if submitting electronically, nominator may type name as long as form is submitted from his/her E-mail address)

Please complete attached nomination evaluation form and submit with recommendation letter.
Nomination Evaluation Form (Third Nominator)
(To be completed by the Nominee):
☐ Nominate for Student Membership   ☐ Nominate for Postdoctoral Membership
Preferred Prefix for Nominee (check):  ☐ Dr.  ☐ Mr.  ☐ Ms.  ☐ Mrs.

Name of Nominee (first, middle, last)

Email Address

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To be Completed by the Nominator:

Name of Nominator (first, middle, last)

Position

Institution

Department

E-mail

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320 York Street PO Box 208236
New Haven, CT 06520-8236

Phone (203) 436-1301
Fax (203) 432-7765
Submitting the Membership Nomination Forms:

Checklist:

- Nomination Letter
- 2 Additional Recommendation Letters
- Nomination Evaluation Forms (completed and signed by three nominators providing letters)
- Nominee Statement of Purpose
- Current Curriculum Vitae
- Graduate school and/or professional school transcripts (to be submitted only by nominees being considered for doctoral student or post-doctoral memberships)
- Writing Sample

All materials must be received at the address below by February 15.

Bouchet Graduate Honor Society
c/o Yale Graduate School
320 York Street
PO Box 208236
New Haven, CT 06520-836

Ph. (203) 436-1301
Fax (203) 432-7765
E-mail: grad.diversity@yale.edu