

# PAUL QUINN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Paul Quinn College, Lowe's Partner to Create Pipeline for Economic Upward Mobility Through Secure Housing Opportunities for Students**

*Lowe's Investment of \$1 Million to Expand Housing follows \$1.5 Million Gift in 2021 to Establish Retail Management Major*

Dallas – April 19, 2022 – Paul Quinn College, America's only Urban Work College, continues its commitment to educational access by announcing a \$1 million investment from Lowe's Companies to help address the cost of student housing.

Lowe's investment will support the enhancement and expansion of housing at Paul Quinn's newest residential space, the Trammell S. Crow Living and Learning Center and its student housing capacity and experience at PQC – Plano, where students participate in the Corporate Work Program. The 135-bed Trammell S. Crow Living and Learning Center allows students to live in academic clusters and is part of a complex that represents the first new buildings on the campus in more than 40 years. This investment will ensure that students will continue to have access to this state-of-the-art living and learning experience at an affordable rate.

This investment follows Lowe's gift of \$1.5 million last year to establish the Lowe's Retail Management major. Developed by Paul Quinn and Lowe's and set to begin with classes in fall 2022, this unique curriculum will provide students with the necessary leadership skills to excel in retail and commercial management environments and other competitive corporate industries. Students who complete the program will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Retail Management.

"We continue to be grateful to Lowe's for their ongoing partnership with Paul Quinn College," said Dr. Michael J. Sorrell, President of Paul Quinn. "Lowe's out-of-the-box thinking and innovative approach to this partnership is consistent with what we know makes them a special company and an invaluable resource in fighting intergenerational poverty."

"This is an exciting opportunity for us to provide safe housing to students at Paul Quinn as they gain a world-class education, creating pathways to opportunity for the next generation of leaders in our communities and within our industry," said Lowe's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Marvin Ellison. "President Sorrell is one of the most innovative educators in the country, and we are excited to expand our relationship with Paul Quinn College. Lowe's has long recognized and sought to support higher education as a fundamental lever in the work to drive social and economic mobility, particularly within underserved communities, and we're eager to continue our work with the faculty and students at Paul Quinn as we bring this new program to life."

With more than 75 percent of Paul Quinn students being Pell Grant eligible, the Lowe's Retail Management major will create another pipeline for economic mobility for Paul Quinn students by providing access to corporate mentors, unique professional development opportunities and jobs upon graduation.

To apply to Paul Quinn and enter the pilot program for the Lowe's Retail Management major, please email Lola Esmieu at [PEsmieu@pqc.edu](mailto:PEsmieu@pqc.edu).

### **About Paul Quinn College**

Paul Quinn College is a private, faith-based, four-year, liberal arts-inspired college that was founded on April 4, 1872, by a group of African Methodist Episcopal Church preachers in Austin, Texas. The school's original purpose was to educate freed slaves and their offspring. Today, we proudly educate students of all races and socio-economic classes under the banner of our institutional ethos, WE over Me. Our mission is to provide a quality, faith-based education that addresses the academic, social, and Christian development of students. Under President Sorrell's leadership, Paul Quinn has become one of the most innovative and respected small colleges in the nation and now serves as a model for urban higher education. *Fortune* magazine recognized President Sorrell's work and the College's transformation by naming him one of the World's 50 Greatest Leaders. President Sorrell is also a three-time award winner of HBCU Male President of the Year by HBCU Digest, was selected as 2018-2019 President of the Year by Education Dive and named by *Time* magazine as one of the "31 People Changing the South."

### **About Lowe's**

Lowe's Companies, Inc. (NYSE: LOW) is a FORTUNE® 50 home improvement company serving approximately 19 million customer transactions a week in the United States and Canada. With fiscal year 2021 sales of over \$96 billion, Lowe's and its related businesses operate or service nearly 2,200 home improvement and hardware stores and employ over 300,000 associates. Based in Mooresville, N.C., Lowe's supports the communities it serves through programs focused on creating safe, affordable housing and helping to develop the next generation of skilled trade experts. For more information, visit [www.Lowes.com](http://www.Lowes.com).

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