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| |  | | --- | |  | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/2c54faff-f1ef-4714-88df-5eaad4359060.png |  |  | | --- | | **Announcement of Semifinalists of the Biletnikoff Award, Which Recognizes the College Football Season's Outstanding FBS Receiver Regardless of Position.** |  |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | PDF Version: DOCX Version:  **For Immediate Release: November 18, 2019**     |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/cb810e49-af5a-4931-bf76-340d5cbc9019.jpg | | **Pictured above are Biletnikoff Award Banquet keynote speaker Aaron Taylor, Foundation Chairman & Founding Trustee Walter Manley II, 2018 Biletnikoff Award winner Jerry Jeudy, and Fred Biletnikoff** |     **Tallahassee, FL** - The Tallahassee Quarterback Club (TQC) Foundation, Inc., the Florida-based creator and sponsor of the prestigious Biletnikoff Award, announces the semifinalists for the 2019 Biletnikoff Award. The secure and confidential electronic voting by the distinguished members of the Biletnikoff Award National Selection Committee was conducted from November 11th through November 17th, and certified by a prominent CPA firm.    The Biletnikoff Award annually recognizes the season's outstanding FBS receiver in college football. **Any player, regardless of position (wide receiver, tight end, slot back, and running back) who catches a pass is eligible for the award.** As such, the Biletnikoff Award recognizes college football's outstanding receiver, not merely college football's outstanding *wide* receiver.    The semifinalists, finalists, and award recipient is selected by the highly distinguished Biletnikoff Award National Selection Committee, a group of prominent college football journalists, commentators, announcers, Biletnikoff Award winners, and other former receivers. Foundation trustees do not vote and have never voted. For a list of voters, please see [BiletnikoffAward.com/voters](http://BiletnikoffAward.com/voters).  The Biletnikoff Award candidate eligibility and voting criteria, transparently explicit and detailed, are available for review at [BiletnikoffAward.com/criteria](https://BiletnikoffAward.com/criteria).    The 2019 Biletnikoff Award semifinalists are as follows (in alphabetical order):       |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Player** | **School** | | Rashod Bateman | Minnesota | | Omar Bayless | Arkansas State | | Ja'Marr Chase | LSU | | Antonio Gandy-Golden | Liberty | | Isaiah Hodgins | Oregon State | | Justin Jefferson | LSU | | Jerry Jeudy | Alabama | | CeeDee Lamb | Oklahoma | | Michael Pittman Jr. | USC | | James Proche | SMU | | DeVonta Smith | Alabama | | Sage Surratt | Wake Forest |     The 2019 Biletnikoff Award winner will be presented live on December 12, 2019, at the College Football Hall of Fame on The Home Depot College Football Awards presented by Gildan to be broadcast 7:00 - 9:00pm (EST) on ESPN.    The correlation between Biletnikoff Award winners and stardom in the National Football League is nearly uniformly consistent. Past Biletnikoff Award winners include Calvin Johnson, Randy Moss, Michael Crabtree, Amari Cooper, the late Terry Glenn, and Larry Fitzgerald.    The 2019 Biletnikoff Award winner will be presented the Biletnikoff Award trophy by TQC Foundation Chairman Steve Dobson, III, college and pro football hall of famer Fred Biletnikoff, and the dynamic and inspiring keynoter and college football hall of famer Lou Holtz before 550 patrons at the Biletnikoff Award Banquet at the University Center Club at Doak Campbell Stadium in Tallahassee on Saturday, February 15, 2020. The banquet was hailed by 2014 keynote speaker Dick Vermeil, as well as by 2013 keynoter Larry Csonka, as "the best banquet in college sports."     |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/aefe6f22-b31a-4a98-bddc-03f5da0c7ceb.jpg | | **2020 Biletnikoff Award Banquet keynoter Lou Holtz** |      |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/ea93af46-8aab-418e-be6a-0861d2114afa.jpg | |  |     The banquet has featured distinguished keynoters of profound character and accomplishments including the late Bart Starr, Dick Vermeil, Floyd Little, Larry Csonka, Steve Largent, Mike Ditka, Don Shula, Dan Reeves, Archie Manning, Ron Jaworski, Gene Stallings, Bob Griese, Bill Curry, Bobby Bowden, Jim Kelly, Jerry Kramer, Joe Theismann, Dan Fouts, and Aaron Taylor.    The TQC Foundation's charitable mission is the provision of college and vocational scholarships to North Florida high school seniors who have overcome significant barriers to achieve at the highest academic and extracurricular levels. Participation in sports is not a requirement. The Foundation has provided many millions of dollars for several hundreds of scholarships and related benefits through 2019.   |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/b1aa87c9-7d1f-416d-9b6b-53609effc2ca.jpg | | **2019 Scholarship recipients** |   The Tallahassee Quarterback Club Foundation, Inc., will announce the three finalists, following another vote, on November 25, 2019. For complete details and updates of interest, together with weekly statistics and timely, important news of the Biletnikoff Award candidates, as well as a fan vote and discussion board, please consult the Foundation's highly informative website at  [BiletnikoffAward.com](https://BiletnikoffAward.com).    The name *Biletnikoff* is synonymous with the term *receiver*. Fred Biletnikoff, a member of the pro and college football halls of fame, was a consensus All-America receiver at Florida State University, and an All-Pro receiver for the Oakland Raiders. He caught 589 passes for 8,974 yards and 76 touchdowns in his 14-year Raiders career from 1965 through 1978. Fred was the Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl XI.    **FanVote and FanForum** Recently, the Tallahassee Quarterback Club Foundation opened the 2019 FanVote and FanForum. Every fan may vote once daily on the Biletnikoff Award FanVote page. The aggregate fan tally will be counted as one official vote to determine semifinalists, finalists (three), and the winner. In the closest contest in years, the FanVote tally provided the one-vote margin of victory for 2013 winner Brandin Cooks of Oregon State. The Biletnikoff Award FanForum consists of fan-created discussion topics that allow sports fans to voice their opinions.     To access the Biletnikoff Award FanVote, go to [BiletnikoffAward.com/fan-vote](https://BiletnikoffAward.com/fan-vote)   To access the Biletnikoff Award FanForum Discussion Board, go to [BiletnikoffAward.com/forum](http://BiletnikoffAward.com/forum) | | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | **The Biletnikoff Award**  Biletnikoff Trophy  The Biletnikoff Award is presented annually to the season's  **outstanding college football receiver regardless of position (the award defines *receiver* as any player who catches a pass; hence, tight ends, slot receivers and backs, inside receivers, wide receivers, split ends, and running backs are eligible)**  ([BiletnikoffAward.com/about\_award](https://biletnikoffaward.com/about_award))  The TQC Foundation, Inc., is an independent, charitable organization that was founded in 1994. Past and Current Chairman & Founding Trustee Professor Walter W. Manley II, Founding Trustee L. Thomas Cox, Jr., Founding Trustee Rocky Bevis, and Founding Trustee Bob Teel established the award and the TQC Foundation, Inc., that sponsors it. Many more trustees have contributed to its development as one of the most prominent awards in college football. The TQC Foundation, Inc., joined the idea of a college receiver's award to the organization's vision and created the outstanding award and dynamic organization.  The trophy, presented to each winner, is the most beautiful in college football - it has won several national, juried competitions for design excellence and aesthetic appeal.  Likewise, the website and printed banquet program have been cited nationally for excellence in design. |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/8a1a49e4-c471-4813-8ba9-73b4cd62f209.jpg  The Tallahassee Quarterback Club Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, is the creator and sponsor of the Biletnikoff Award. The Foundation administers the Biletnikoff Award, its charitable activities, and the distinguished Biletnikoff Award National Selection Committee. Foundation Trustees are prohibited from serving on the National Selection Committee. For a full recounting of the Foundation's activities, please consult [BiletnikoffAward.com](http://www.biletnikoffaward.com). |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/afd6522e101/501cda79-0216-4ead-a2d4-2c332c3240e8.jpg  **National College Football Awards Association**        The Biletnikoff Award is a member of the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA), which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football. Founded in 1997, the NCFAA and its 25 awards now boast over 800 recipients, dating to 1935. Visit [ncfaa.org](http://ncfaa.org) to learn more about the association. | | | |  | | --- | | [Follow us on Twitter](https://twitter.com/biletnikoffawrd)  [Like us on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BiletnikoffAward)[View on Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/biletnikoffaward/) |  |  | | --- | | **Important Dates**  **July 18, 2019:**  Preseason Watch List announcement  **September 24, 2019:**  FanVote opens  **November 11-17, 2019:**  Vote by the Biletnikoff Award National Selection Committee to determine Semifinalists  **November 18, 2019:**  Semifinalists announcement  **November 19 - November 24, 2019:**  Vote to determine 3 Finalists  **November 25, 2019:**  3 Finalists announcement  **December 2-8, 2019:**  Final vote to determine Biletnikoff Award Winner  **December 12, 2019:**  Biletnikoff Award Winner announced on The Home Depot College Football Awards presented by Gildan  **The Home Depot College Football Awards** airs live on ESPN December 12, 2019, 7 - 9pm (EST)    **The Biletnikoff Award Banquet**  honors the 2019 Biletnikoff Award Winner on Saturday, February 15, 2020  University Center Club at  Doak Cambell Stadium, Tallahassee, Florida |  |  | | --- | | **Inquiries:**  Chairman of Selection:  Professor Walter W. Manley II Founding Trustee & Past Chairman of the Tallahassee Quarterback Club Foundation, Inc.  Creator and Sponsor of the Biletnikoff Award [BiletnikoffAward.com/Manley](https://BiletnikoffAward.com/Manley) Cell 850-766-0800 prof.wwmii@comcast.net  Deputy Chairman of Selection:  Ritchie Pickron  Cell 850-363-0174  rpickron123@yahoo.com  Website and Publicity Contact:  Will Stewart  biletnikoffaward@biletnikoffaward.com  Website  [www.biletnikoffaward.com](http://www.biletnikoffaward.com)  FanVote  [www.biletnikoffaward.com/fan-vote](http://www.biletnikoffaward.com/fan-vote) |  |  | | --- | | **Important Links**  [About Scholarships](https://biletnikoffaward.com/about-scholarships)  [Scholarship Application](https://biletnikoffaward.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2020ScholarshipApplication.pdf)  [Candidate Eligibility, Watch List Inclusion & Voting Criteria](https://biletnikoffaward.com/criteria)  [National Selection Committee](https://biletnikoffaward.com/voters)  [Past Winners in Action](https://biletnikoffaward.com/biletnikoff-award-past-winners-in-action)  [Banquet Keynote Speakers](https://biletnikoffaward.com/banquet-speakers)  For more useful links see  [BiletnikoffAward.com](https://www.biletnikoffaward.com) | | |  | | | |  | |