



**GET THE TROPHY AND ADVANCE.**

The **Marques Haynes Game** is one of five games to be participated in the first round of The Basketball Classic presented by Eracism, with the winner receiving a trophy and advancing to the second round of the tournament.

“These five games are one of the unique aspects of our tournament,” said Gary Stewart, President of Eracism. “Student-athletes have an opportunity to raise a trophy and advance to the second round. It also gives players, fans, and the media an opportunity to learn more about some of the legends of our game like Zelmo Beaty, Travis Grant, Marques Haynes, Cleo Hill and Willis Reed. These men were giants in the history of the game.”

A wizard with the basketball, Marques Haynes enjoyed an outstanding career at Langston University (1942–1946). During his four seasons, the Lions recorded an incredible 112-3 record, which included a 59-game winning streak.

The 6-foot point guard from Oklahoma led Langston in scoring all four years and was a four-time All-Conference selection. He attended the school initially on a \$25 church scholarship.

In 1946 Haynes and Langston upset the Harlem Globetrotters in an exhibition game. One year later Haynes was part of the famed Globetrotters.

Playing for the Globetrotters, Meadowlark Lemon’s Bucketeers and the barnstorming team he founded, the Harlem Magicians, Haynes played in more than 12,000 basketball games in 100 countries, traveling more than four million miles. He could dribble a basketball three times per second and no more than two inches off the floor.

Despite never playing in the NBA, in 1998 Haynes became the first Harlem Globetrotter inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

“A guy asked me a long time ago if I ever thought I’d get into the NBA Hall of Fame,” Haynes told a reporter in 2007. “You know what my answer was at that time? This was just four or five years before I retired. My answer was: ‘The world is my Hall of Fame.’”

He also was enshrined in five other Halls of Fame and the court at Langston is named in his honor.

“The game of basketball has lost one of its most iconic figures,” Globetrotters CEO Kurt Schneider said in 2015 when Haynes passed away at the age of 89. “Marques was a pioneer, helping pave the way for people of all races to have opportunities to play basketball and for the sport to explode on a global scale. His unique and groundbreaking style of play set the tone for modern basketball as we know it; anyone involved with basketball worldwide is indebted to Marques. He was the consummate Globetrotter.”

The Marques Haynes Award will be presented annually to the player with the most total steals in college basketball.

