

SON OF A SAINT

Bivian "Sonny" Lee III, the **Founder and CEO of Son of a Saint**, has dedicated his life to transforming the lives of fatherless boys. Since the organization's establishment in early 2011, Sonny has grown Son of a Saint to serve 200 mentees with an operating budget of more than \$4 million.

Before embarking on this mission, Sonny served as the Chief Aide to New Orleans Saints and Pelicans Owner, Mr. Tom Benson. Additionally, he held prominent positions such as Director of Operations for the New Orleans Zephyrs AAA Baseball Team and Director of Programs for the New Orleans Jazz Institute.

Sonny graduated with honors from St. Augustine High School and later earned a degree in Marketing and Management from the University of New Orleans. In 2022, he completed his Executive Master of Nonprofit Administration (EMNA) from the University of Notre Dame. An esteemed TEDx speaker, Sonny has shared his insights on community service, decision-making, and the significance of education. His nonprofit work has garnered widespread recognition, featured on esteemed platforms such as CNN, Al Jazeera America, NPR, local television stations, and newspapers.

The impact of Sonny's community work and his commitment to Son of a Saint have been recognized through numerous accolades, including:

- 2023 Tulane University Outstanding Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award
- 2023 New Orleans Kingfish Honoree, *New Orleans Magazine*
- 2022 Worthy 100 List Honoree, *Worth Magazine*
- 2021 Association for Behavioral & Cognitive Therapies "Distinguished Friend to Behavior Therapy Award"
- 2020 Urban Heroes Award, The Urban Conservancy
- 2019 "A-List" Honoree, *Adore Magazine*
- 2018 Homer Hitt Alumnus of the Year, University of New Orleans
- 2017 Southerners of the Year, *Southern Living*
- 2017 Role Model Award, Young Leadership Council (YLC)
- 2017 Children's Hero Award, Children's Bureau of New Orleans
- 2016 New Orleanian of the Year, *Gambit Weekly*
- 2015 Angel Award, Blue Cross Foundation
- 2015 Ten Outstanding Young Americans, United States Junior Chamber
- 2014 People to Watch, *New Orleans Magazine*
- 2013 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award
- 2013 Champion of Change Award, Crescent City Chapter of Links, Inc.
- 2013 Millennial Change Maker Award, Spears Consulting
- 2011 40 Under 40, *Gambit Weekly*



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