

## Two SoPA honorees named to New Orleans 40 Under 40 class

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Mark Melasky, left and Tahj Williams, right, appear in Gambit's 40 Under 40 list of New Orleans "do-gooders." (Photos by Sophia Germer, The Times-Picayune)

This week, Gambit released its annual list of 40 New Orleanians working to make the city a better place. Two School of Professional Advancement honorees — a graduate student and a professor— made the list.

Tahj Williams, 23, is an [Information Technology/Cybersecurity](#) major with a minor in [Homeland Security Studies](#). She is pursuing the [4+1 track](#) that allows her to earn a

bachelor's degree and an MS in Cybersecurity. Williams is noted in the article for her contribution made to New Orleans culture by way of her artistry as a Mardi Gras Indian. She also announced her new role as a technology engineer at Microsoft, which she begins in September.

Melasky, 35, serves as an adjunct professor in SoPA's Information Technology program. He is a registered patent attorney at Intellectual Property Consulting, LLC and is honored for his work with The Ella Project's Louisiana Invents Patent Pro Bono Program. Melasky earned his JD and LLM from Tulane Law School.

[Read the full list.](#)

