



CENTER FOR
LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT

Empowering Youth / Strengthening Community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CELEBRATE TOP ACHIEVERS OF INDIANA... IN LIFE'S WORK, SERVICE AND SCHOLARSHIP

INDIANAPOLIS, IN— A Brother of the international congregation of Catholic religious brothers and priests and a power-broker attorney with a Fortune 500 corporation along with 13 additional award recipients will be honored at the Center for Leadership Development's 36th Annual Minority Achievers Awards & Scholarship Gala scheduled Thursday, March 24 at the Indiana Convention Center's Sagamore Ballroom. Citizens Energy Group serves as the Title sponsor and a reception begins at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. The deadline for ticket sales is March 11.

Top honors will be bestowed upon:

2016 Accomplished Achievement Award –

Brother Roy Smith, Director of Development, Brothers of Holy Cross, Midwest Province. Brother Roy is known for his lifelong commitment in service to the Catholic Church internationally and throughout the Midwest. Brother Roy lives by the creed of, "The Lord calls us to be who we are. I was created as a black male and that is the gift, the vehicle, if you will, the Lord asks me to exhibit a part of the face of God. A portion of the way for me to share my gifts has been as a Holy Cross Brother."

2016 Mme. C. J. Walker (Outstanding Woman of the Year) Award –

Thea E. Kelly, Senior Counsel, Dow AgroSciences LLC

Thea is actively involved in the community, serving on the boards of several organizations. Thea champions a number of social causes outside the area of law, particularly those that work toward bettering the lives of Hoosier women and youth, including job assistance and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education for urban students.

2016 S. Henry Bundles, Jr. Award for Service to the Center for Leadership Development – Bill West, President, WestReyna LLC

Bill has served on the CLD Board of Directors since 1984 and is the current Vice Chairman. He retired from Mays Chemical Company where he was the Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer. He also serves on several other boards including PACE and Global Preparatory Academy. He formerly served on the boards of Martin University, Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis, Red Cross, Indiana Repertory Theatre and volunteered extensively for the Consortium for Graduate Study in Management. West earned his MBA from the University of Southern California where he also served on the USC Board of Governors.

2016 CLD Distinguished Alumni Award –

The CLD Alumni Association will award its 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award to **Corey Wilson** and **Nichole Wilson**, graduates of CLD's flagship program, the Self-Discovery/Career Exploration Project. Currently, Corey is the Associate Vice President of the Professional Edge Center at the University of Indianapolis and Nichole is Executive Director of Sport Medicine, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation with Community Health Network. Both are being recognized for their remarkable and unwavering commitment to youth, making a positive impact in their community, and giving back to CLD.

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Thirteen additional awards will be presented to select individuals for achievement in categories: Arts & Entertainment, Business & Industry, Communications/PR/Advertising, Education, K-12 and Postsecondary, Entrepreneurship, Financial Services, Professions, Public & Community Service, Science & Technical Disciplines, “Up & Coming” Achiever, and Human Achievement. Over seventy individuals were nominated. (See complete list below).

The event will also focus on CLD’s partnering higher education institutions and community partners who will introduce the 2016 class of “CLD Scholars”. CLD’s educational scholarship sponsors help make education accessible, affordable, and achievable for CLD participants and their families. Since 2004, CLD has been in partnership with various colleges and universities throughout the state of Indiana that see the value of CLD’s programming. Over \$16 million in scholarships has been awarded to CLD students since 2004. At the 2015 Achievers Gala, a record \$2.9 million was leveraged to 48 students.

Arts & Entertainment

Devi Davis
Eric Gordon Sr.
Schawayna Raie

Business & Industry

Renee Chube Washington
Dr. Bernard Franklin
Leonard Hoops
Monique Hunt McWilliams
Fred Payne
Michelle L. Taylor

Communications/PR/Advertising

Carrie Cline
Michael Grady

Education K-12

Tierney Anderson
Dr. Jamyce Curtis Banks
Evans Branigan, III
Roy Dobbs
Jonathan Harris
Kellee Merritt
Dr. Shawn Smith

Education Post-Secondary

Dr. Lennie Amores
Dr. Roderick Brown
Stephen Downing
Doris Anne Goins McDougal
Tonya Hall
Janice Hicks Slaughter
Dr. Terri Jett
Professor James O. Morehead
Dr. Jomo Mutegi
Johnny D. Pryor
Dr. Alvaro Tori
Etta Ward

Entrepreneurship

Denise Herd
William Marquez

Financial Services

Angela Cole

Cont’d Financial Services

Anthony DaBreo
Joel Githiri
Princess Hawkins-Moore
Damon Martin
Kendrick Tunstall

Human Achievement

Kym Flowers
Jeanine Walker

Lifetime Achievement

Dr. George Rawls

Professions

Dr. David Austin
Dr. Varon Cantrell
Dr. Samantha Jones
Dr. Broderick Rhyant

Public & Community Service

Sylvia Anderson
Jeronna Bolden
Kenneth Bond
Andrea Ekiyor
Former Chief Rick Hite
Antwan Houser
Dr. Wallace McLaughlin
Darrell Nickolson
Rene' Wyatt Foston

Science & Technical Disciplines

Baindu Bayon
Roderick Brown

Up & Coming Achiever

Ose Agho
Katherine Jackson-Lindsay
Jennifer Norton
George Okpamen
Natalia Rodriguez
Jasmin Shaheed-Young
Derrin Slack
Adrienne Slash
Takeena Thompson
Nickolas Williams

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About Center for Leadership Development

CLD is a non-profit organization with the mission to foster the advancement of minority youth in Central Indiana as future professional, business and community leaders by providing experiences that encourage personal development and educational attainment. CLD inspires and develops Central Indiana youth to realize their highest human potential so they are empowered to live rich, purposeful lives and make meaningful contributions to their families and to our community.

Follow us on Twitter @CLDincorg. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CLDinc.

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