



CENTER FOR
LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT

Empowering Youth / Strengthening Community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 24, 2016

Media Contact:

Joi Harmon, jharmon@cldinc.org

www.CLDinc.org

317-923-8111 office | 317-923-81112 fax

TOP ACHIEVERS OF INDIANA HONORED... 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 were honored at the Center for Leadership Development's 36th Annual Minority Achievers Awards & Scholarship Gala on Thursday, March 24 at the Indiana Convention Center's Sagamore Ballroom.

The event started with a reception at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Citizens Energy Group served as the Title sponsor.

Top honors were 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 awarded 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 were recognized for their remarkable and unwavering commitment to youth, making a positive impact in their community, and giving back to CLD.

—MORE—

Thirteen additional awards were 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 of awardees below).

The event also focused on CLD’s partnering higher education institutions and community partners who introduced 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. CLD introduced its new tuition partners: Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, Earlham College and University of Notre Dame.

2016 Minority Achievers Awards Recipients

Achievement in Arts & Entertainment:

Schawayna Raie, Singer, Songwriter, Producer, Philanthropist, Schawayna Raie, LLC

Achievement in Business & Industry:

Renee Chube Washington, Chief Operating Officer, USA Track & Field

Achievement in Communications/PR/Advertising: Michael Grady, RTV6 Sports Reporter, WRTV-6

Achievement in Education, K-12:

Dr. Jamyce Curtis Banks, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Whatever It Takes Consulting Inc.

Achievement in Education, Postsecondary:

Johnny Pryor, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Indiana University McKinney School of Law

Achievement in Entrepreneurship: Gary Brackett, Founder/CEO, Brackett Restaurant Group

Achievement in Financial Services:

Princess Hawkins-Moore, Vice President, National ATM Operations Manager, JPMorgan Chase

Achievement in Professions:

Dr. Broderick Rhyant, Chief Physician Executive, Eskenazi Health Center Forest Manor

Achievement in Public & Community Service:

Dr. Wallace McLaughlin, President/ Chief Executive Officer, Father and Families Center

Achievement in Science & Technical Disciplines:

Baindu Bayon, PhD Candidate, Department of Medical & Molecular Genetics
Indiana University School of Medicine

“Up & Coming” Achiever: TaKeena Thompson, Attorney at Law, Cohen & Malad, LLP Attorneys

Human Achievement: Derrin Slack, Executive Director, ProAct Community Partnerships

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Dr. George H. Rawls, Clinical Professor of Surgery Emeritus, Indiana University School of Medicine

—MORE—

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.

Center for Leadership Development | 2425 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street | Indianapolis, IN 46208

###