2023

HEROES OF CHARACTER CELEBRATION



WITH RESILIENCE

PRESENTED BY

HAMILTON CASTER & MFG. Co. APRIL 18, 2023

CHAMPION MILL CONFERENCE CENTER AT SPOOKY NOOK

Master of Ceremonies

Tyler Bradshaw

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

KIM NUXHALL





Hamilton Caster

SALUTES THE

PILLAR OF CHARACTER HONOREES,

Heroes of Character,

STUDENT HEROES OF CHARACTER, FINALISTS,

AND

STATE SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER.





Heroes of Character CFLFBRATION

After two years of virtual celebrations, the Character Council is excited to be back, in person, to honor exemplary students and adults of high character. Together we are "Bouncing Forward... with Resilience."

We are so pleased this year to honor **Kim and Bonnie Nuxhall** as our first recipients of the "Pillar of Character" award for their lifetime of achievements and dedication to the community.

We also honor five upstanding citizens and seven amazing students from across the Tri-state region. The Heroes were nominated by their peers, teachers and coaches. Each has their own unique story, whether bouncing back from a setback to accomplish the amazing, doing the right thing no matter the cost, or fighting injustice for those unable to fight for themselves. The diversity of the nominees and honorees is amazing this year, from a pre-school student to seasoned professionals. We are privileged to honor them for their role as models and leaders in the classroom and community.

A huge thanks to all of you for attending and to our sponsors, especially Hamilton Caster who stepped forward as "Presenting Sponsor." The "Heroes of Character" Celebration would not be possible without the work of the planning committee and the support of our Board of Directors and the Hamilton City of Character committee. We are eternally grateful to all of our volunteers and supporters who have a passion for character.

We hope you enjoy tonight's event. Our goal is that you leave this Celebration with inspiration and a bright outlook for the future. By honoring the high character we see in others, we can build our own Resilience and together, Bounce Forward in strengthening our families and communities.

With gratefulness,

Mary Andres Russell

Board Chair

Diane Brueggemann

Celebration Co-Chair

Deine Brueggemann Dolores Mudsoy

Celebration Co-Chair



DOING THE BEST THAT WE CAN,
FOR AS MANY AS WE CAN,
FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN.





PROGRAM

Reception

Announcements by Tyler Bradshaw

Invocation by Michael P. Daly, Character Council Board of Directors, Emeritus

Welcome by Mary Russell, Character Council Board of Directors, Chair

Pillar of Character Presentation by Steve Lippert, Hamilton City of Character, Chair

Keynote by Kim Nuxhall

Recognition of Schools of Character and Past Virtual Heroes

Close of Silent Auction

Recognition of Heroes and Finalists

Character Pledge led by Don Larrick, Character Council Board of Directors, Vice Chair



Tyler Bradshaw

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Tyler is honored to serve as The Executive Director for The Nuxhall Foundation, helping to direct the legacy projects of one of his childhood broadcasting legends, Joe Nuxhall. These projects include The Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields, The Joe Nuxhall Character Education Fund, and The Joe Nuxhall Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Inspired by Joe, Tyler serves as a broadcaster and show host for Chatterbox Sports, and an announcer for other local sports teams. He's also a strong advocate for mental health and suicide prevention. After losing his father, Scott, to suicide in 2013, he started a blog called Seeya Bub where he writes about his Dad's struggles with mental illness and how he processed his grief. You can read his dad's story at www.SeeyaBub.com.



Our Mission

To foster character development in children and adults as a foundation for success. The Character Council serves Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, and Southeast Indiana, promoting and encouraging character through: community events and workplace training, email and social media reminders, website resources, lessons and activities for children, character resources for families and professionals, engaging businesses, schools, faith organizations and communities in processes to enhance climate and culture. In 2022, the non-profit organization reached nearly 55,000 people with inspiring messages and engaged over 550 classrooms in character building.

CHARACTER PLEDGE

I pledge...to practice the character quality of the month, to take the high road, the higher thought, the kinder word, and the best action in my daily life, to uphold what is true, right and just, to be a model of good character for those around me, to operate with honesty and integrity in my dealings with others, and to do my part to make Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, and Southeast Indiana a region where individuals and families are strong; homes and streets are safe; education is effective; business is productive; and citizens care for one another.

"Everyone tries to define this thing called, character.

It's not hard. Character is doing what's right

when nobody's looking."

UNKNOWN

Pillar of Character Award

Kim and Bonnie Nuxhall

The Nuxhall Foundation

2023 STUDENT HEROES OF CHARACTER

Lillian Fackey

Senior, Hamilton High School

Journee Jackson

Fourth Grade, Linden Elementary School

Vincent Kiep

Junior, Hamilton High School

Mason Little

Junior, Hamilton High School

Mabel O'Donohoe

Sixth Grade, Highland Elementary School

Ethan Stone

Senior, Oakwood High School

Jacob Taylor

Sophomore, Taylor High School

2023 Heroes of Character

Frank Downie

Community Volunteer, Hamilton 17 Strong

Kristi Eberhart

Program Coordinator, Big Brothers Big Sisters

Christopher Oser

Community Volunteer, Oser-Roth & Friends Fest

Judge Randy Rogers

Retired Judge, Butler County Probate Court

Daniel G. Spraul, Esq.

Attorney, Spraul & Doan LLC

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OstermanCron

Pillar of Character Award



Kim and Bonnie Nuxhall
The Nuxhall Foundation

The Nuxhall Family has worked tirelessly to envision the dream of the late Joe Nuxhall to have a baseball diamond to facilitate unrestricted play for people with physical and mental challenges. The dream was eagerly taken up by the Nuxhall family, especially Joe's son, Kim Nuxhall and his wife Bonnie.

Construction for the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields began in November of 2011 and Joe's dream was realized when the fields opened July 28, 2012. In partnership with the Fairfield YMCA and Therapeutic Recreation, there have been hundreds of children and adults that have been able to play a sport that they love without the barriers. All programs are run exclusively by countless volunteers who give generously of their time and talent to keep the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields open and maintained. The Nuxhall family has worked diligently to make this a place for the players and their families to come and have the best experience that they possibly can.

Since opening day in July, the Nuxhall family has raised funds to build pavilions, bocce ball courts, an assessable playground and a fully assessable 18-hole miniature golf course. You can find Kim and Bonnie out at the fields on any given Friday night and Saturday morning working in the concession stand, cleaning off the stadium seats or just enjoying a baseball game.

The Nuxhall Family has been unselfishly working hard to make the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields a place that the whole community can come and celebrate inclusion! Kim Nuxhall serves as the CEO of The Nuxhall Foundation and Bonnie is the Volunteer/School Visit Coordinator.

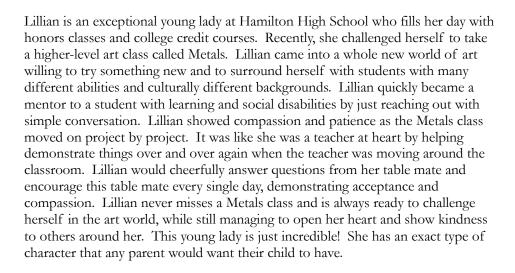
After a brief career in minor league baseball, Kim spent 32 years as a physical and character education teacher at Central Elementary in Fairfield before turning his focus to The Nuxhall Foundation.

The Nuxhall Foundation continues the legacy projects of his late father, Joe Nuxhall. Kim's primary responsibilities include the oversight of the Joe Nuxhall Character Education Fund, the Joe Nuxhall Scholarship Fund, and the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League Fields. Kim and Bonnie spend countless hours volunteering their time maintaining the Miracle League Fields facility and grounds, and teaching character education to children in the community. Because of Kim and his family, his father's legacy will live on for years to come.

Student Heroes of Character



Lillian Fackey Senior, Hamilton High School





Journee JacksonFourth Grade,
Linden Elementary School

Described by her teachers as an intelligent and compassionate student leader at Linden Elementary, Journee comes to school every morning with a smile on her face and a positive attitude, ready for whatever challenges the day will bring. Journee is very friendly and kind, and always willing to help others. She greets teachers and students every morning and goes out of her way to ask how they are doing and to check in with them.

In the classroom, Journee is witty and thoughtful and always an active participant in classroom discussions. When faced with challenges, Journee views them as an opportunity to grow and learn. She is involved in extracurricular activities such as STEAM club and is a phenomenal leader for her peers. Journee is an exemplary student with a bright future.



Vincent Kiep Junior, Hamilton High School

Vince is an outstanding young man. He is a staple in the hallways at Hamilton High School, saying hello to fellow students and teachers while filling the school with positive energy and leadership. One of Vince's passions is the Hamilton Big Blue Football Team where he serves as the team student football manager, a role he has held since sixth grade. This is a very important role that goes without any accolades or awards. Vince enthusiastically accepts this responsibility by helping with the day-to-day operation of passing out uniforms, loading and unloading football equipment needed for the games and practices, setting up the field, assisting coaches as needed and assisting players with any equipment needs during practice and the games. He does this very unselfishly and is dedicated to Hamilton High School and it's student athletes. Though he may not have played a snap of football he is as important to the program as the star players because of his character. He is always positive and encourages his teammates and coaches.

Vince's influence stretches far and wide even beyond the walls of Hamilton High School. He truly is a servant leader and everyone he meets and develops a relationship with is better for having Vince in their life.

STUDENT HEROES OF CHARACTER, CONTINUED



Mason Little
Junior, Hamilton High School

Mason consistently demonstrates the character traits of acceptance, compassion, honesty, respect, and responsibility. He lost his parents at a very young impressionable age and has had to process this loss in multiple ways. This has given Mason the unique opportunity to be a compassionate ear and comforting voice for others that have experienced a loss by participating in peer groups navigating grief.

In Mason's everyday life, he conveys a positive energy that creates an inviting space wherever he may be. Mason doesn't know a stranger and is not afraid to show his love for others through words of affirmation and acts of appreciation. He is a loyal friend and an overall amazing soul.



Mabel O'Donohoe Sixth Grade, Highland Elementary School

Mabel is described as an all-around wonderful student and person who displays leadership in the classroom and with the PRIDE (student council) organization. She has contributed many ideas to better Highland Elementary School and makes it a place students and teachers want to be. One of her many ideas was to have gifts ready for teachers when they are having a bad day or need something to make them smile. Mabel started this initiative, often gives the gifts out herself, and hopes that the Student Council will continue this program in the future.

Kindness and empathy are character qualities that can be used to describe Mabel. As a volunteer in the Social Communications unit, Mabel helps students with Autism. She always has a connection with those she helps and truly accepts and appreciates all students.

Mabel holds herself to high standards and is always looking for a challenge to go above and beyond what is expected. She is truly a Hero of Character.

"I think that we all do heroic things, but hero is not a noun, it's a verb."

ROBERT DOWNEY, JR.

STUDENT HEROES OF CHARACTER, CONTINUED



Ethan Stone Senior, Oakwood High School

Ethan has a drive and work ethic second to none. His football coaches could always count on him to do the right thing and be a role model both on and off of the field. A very dependable individual, Ethan is a team-oriented person and will do whatever is needed to help the team and others succeed. He always goes into any situation prepared and ready to take on the challenge ahead. He is the ultimate man of character and integrity. After a practice or game, Ethan would often be the last one to leave the locker room because he lived by the motto "leave a place better than you found it". He is extremely selfless and genuinely cares about the needs and wants of others. When he was asked to play positions that maybe in a perfect world he really wouldn't want to play if he would have had the choice, he accepted the challenge and did it because it was what was best for the team. He never complained, he just went out and did his job to the best of his ability.

Ethan's compassion showed through with his teammates on a regular basis. He would take the time to help and coach the younger players on the team which showed the generosity that he possesses. He is very loyal and would never say anything negative or put down any of his teammates or coaches. He maintains positive thinking and views even in the face of adversity. Ethan has shown great resilience throughout his football career. His freshman year he was hampered with a severe back injury but managed to still play QB on the JV team. His sophomore year he had a nasty spiral fracture to his leg which put him in a full length cast and wheelchair. In his junior year he broke his hand in pre-season but had it casted up and still played and played well. Finally, his senior year he made it through healthy and made a major impact with his team.



Jacob Taylor Sophomore, Taylor High School

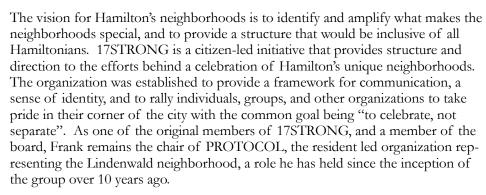
Many character traits come to mind when describing Jacob Taylor. Traits such as caring, selfless, determined, compassionate, polite, and respectful. He always goes out of his way to help his family and especially his younger sisters. Jacob has compassion for others and always sees good in people. He lives his life to be kind and polite to everyone. He is honest to his family, friends and to himself. At school Jacob has received ten different Character Awards, including awards for being Respectful, Benevolent, Compassionate, Responsible and Sincere, to name a few. He received the Citizenship Award four years in a row and the Kiwanis' Yellow Jacket award twice for displaying high standards of character and principles of good citizens at school, at home and in the community. These are not academic accomplishments, or popularity prizes; they recognize a person's Character and all require faculty nominations and come with very touching praises.

Jacob practices character traits daily in everything he does, from soccer, swimming, chorus, theatre, and band to chess club or fishing club. Outside of school, Jacob is involved in his church and is currently working to complete his Eagle Scout project in Boy Scouts. As an older scout in the troop Jacob has taken on leadership roles and in addition to leading regular meetings and activities, he offered to plan and lead a prayer service for the troop. During a recent campout Jacob led the scouts in songs and prayer. He picked out bible verses appropriate to some struggles in the troop and brought his guitar to lead the songs. He is perceived as a mentor and role model to others. Jacob lives his life every day with unwavering character. Jacob is destined to serve others for the rest of his life. After a family trip to Washington DC, he informed his family that he wants to join the Military. This is something that he feels he owes his country. Whenever Jacob sees a veteran, he goes out of his way to thank them for their service. Jacob exemplifies the character traits that every parent wants for their own child.

Heroes of Character



Frank Downie Community Volunteer, Hamilton 17 Strong



Frank can always be found working for hours taking pride in his community. He was instrumental in the creation of Lindenwald's Saturday Clean Up, and encourages residents to meet every Saturday to address litter. Frank works diligently to support all neighborhoods to be as safe, clean, and as active as possible. Frank participates in neighborhood meetings throughout the community offering suggestions and energy. In addition, Frank chaired the 17S Outreach Committee that supports neighborhood activities and events to showcase and highlight neighborhoods. Love Your Block is another 17S initiative where you'll find Frank working to beautify multiple properties within a single block in Lindenwald, or anywhere in Hamilton.

Every October, the Linden Elementary School teams up with the Lindenwald Methodist Church for Trunk and Treat, a program that Frank coordinates to ensure the area youth have a fun and safe Halloween. Whenever there is an event, Frank will be an active participant. Responsibility is Frank Downie's middle name. He is, in fact, Mr. Responsibility for the Lindenwald Neighborhood; leading, supporting, and connecting residents.



Kristi Eberhart Program Coordinator, Big Brothers Big Sisters

Kristi began her journey with Big Brothers Big Sisters in January 2008 and will be retiring from her formal work in 2023. She was the guiding force behind introducing the School/Site Based mentoring program in Dearborn County Indiana and Harrison Ohio. This mentoring program was added to the Community based program already serving this area. As a result, hundreds of youth have built Developmental Assets and gone on to reach goals never before even dreamed possible. Utilizing Teen Mentors in schools helped these youth also build assets and go on to bigger and better things.

Not to be left behind, Kristi became a Big Sister in the Community Program paired with a struggling 7 year old. To this day Kristi remains a support, a mentor and a friend to this young woman. This once shy child blossomed into a confident young woman who attended college and recently married her sweetheart. Dozens of youth have thrived largely due to Kristi and her skills at recruiting, training and supporting generous adult and teen volunteers.

Kristi, along with an Advisory Board, local staff and volunteers, helped spearhead the signature fundraiser Bowl for Kids Sake. Over the years, this fundraiser has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help secure the local program. Kristi is part of a very large family. During her years with Big Brothers Big Sisters, she supported many family members through health issues and other challenges, and never allowed those personal issues to deter her in any way from her work. She also navigated a constantly changing school climate to drive the program; undaunted and steady through many, many hurdles.

HEROES OF CHARACTER, CONTINUED



Christopher Oser Community Volunteer, Oser-Roth & Friends Fest

Chris has been described as every organization's dream volunteer and is a hero in the Three Rivers Community, always available to support whatever his community needs. Chris gets excited about what he is doing, and he spreads his enthusiasm to those around him. Chris is described as dependable, punctual, and staying until the work is done. He is flexible, and willing to make changes without complaint and shows compassion when working with special needs students and adults. He is positive, loyal, and willing to put in long hours to help others.

Fifteen years ago, Chris and his wife Cindy, along with Dan and Trudy Roth, started the Oser-Roth & Friends Fest, a huge "Make a Wish" fundraising event to raise money to fund the wishes of "Angels with major health impairments and disabilities". The Fest is a two-day event with live music, food, games, helicopter rides, fishing, bounce houses, swimming, water slides, and fireworks. In addition to the Fest, smaller fundraisers are held throughout the year including a golf outing, gun shoot, euchre tournament, Woodyfest, and Game Day. To date over \$600,000 has been raised to grant special wishes to 60 Angels. Wishes granted include: swimming lessons, trips, helicopter rides, technology, special bikes, golf cart and wheelchairs. Every penny raised goes directly to the Angels.

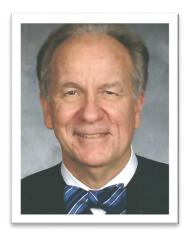
Chris is also an active volunteer within the Cleves community. He serves as emcee for the Spring Fling and the Pumpkin Toss, both sponsored by the Kiwanis. Chris and Cindy co-chair the St. Joseph's Oktoberfest and Summer Festivals. Chris also volunteers with the Knights of Columbus and is a van driver for Metzcore, an organization that provides daily programs for handicapped adults.

Every winter, you will see Chris taking the Polar Plunge to support Three Rivers Local School District (TRLSD) for students with disabilities and at the TRLSD Breakfast with Santa. And guess who is Santa? Over the past 10 years, "Santa" has taken the opportunity to listen to and encourage over 300 children. Chris is also a familiar face around the Three Rivers School district and over the past 20 years has volunteered countless hours whenever and wherever he was needed. Chris coached youth baseball, youth basketball, and assisted in coaching the middle school basketball team. He also coached the Jacket games for students with special needs. When he wasn't coaching, he was announcing the varsity football and basketball games. Chris served on the board of education for 4 years. He is truly an inspiration to others.

"Talent is a gift, but character is a choice.

JOHN C. MAXWELL

HEROES OF CHARACTER, CONTINUED



Judge Randy Rogers Retired Judge, Butler County Probate Court

Serving as Probate Court Judge, Rogers presided over the division of the common pleas court system that handles cases including adoptions, guardianships, accommodations for those suffering from mental illness, wills, and trusts. In this position, he had to make tough decisions that had a direct impact on people's lives.

Over the years rather than just listening to others, Rogers regularly took the time to visit with people in the hospital or in hospice care before making end-of-life decisions. He genuinely cared about his community and wanted to make the best decision.

In 1996, Judge Rogers saw a need to establish a program that addressed the increasing drug cases. He had a vision and was instrumental in the development of the first specialty drug court over which he also presided. Specialty dockets for this court focus on treatment of people's problems rather than punishment. Despite some initial skepticism, the program proved to be very successful.

Another program very near and dear to the Judge is LifeSpan, a program that connects families and the community by strengthening lives. Again, Judge Rogers saw a need and an opportunity to get involved to help his community. Initially he was involved in setting up the "outside the box" volunteer program and later saw a need to assist persons with mental health issues or developmental disabilities that have no family or other suitable person(s) to handle their affairs. Traditionally in these situations, the court would appoint attorneys to oversee a person's affairs. While the attorneys have legal training, they are not trained to prevent and cope with problems these individuals face in their everyday lives the way a social worker could. As a result, in 1996 he established the Guardianship Program, the first of its kind. The court appointed guardians have had a dramatic impact on the community's most vulnerable residents – the elderly, mentally ill, and developmentally disabled people who have no family member able or willing to care for them. The program brings stability, safety and companionship to area residents. Since its inception in 1996, the program has expanded to Warren and Hamilton counties.

After serving Butler County for 26 years, Judge Rogers retired but not without leaving his community a better place with a legacy of being "The Judge Who Cares".

"Knowledge will give you power, but character, respect."

BRUCE LEE

HEROES OF CHARACTER, CONTINUED



Daniel G. Spraul, Esq. Attorney, Spraul & Doan LLC

Born fourth into a loving family, Dan's world went topsy-turvy when his mother died in December, 1959, three weeks after his third birthday. The family eventually moved in with grandmother, "Gagi." One of the messages Gagi imparted is that life is a mere blink of an eye in God's time, so use it wisely and well. Neighborhood play, school, and sports came fairly easily to Dan but two of his older siblings had trouble. His sister Nancy suffered brain damage, from a traumatic birth, that prevented her from mainstreaming. Dan did a lot for Nancy, but according to Dan, she gave more back, in her unwavering and exuberant love. Dan's brother, Steve, had difficulty dealing with their mother's death. His problems became severe at age 29, when he developed a large brain tumor which left him with serious deficits. He lived with Dan and his wife Holly, for a while, and now lives across the street.

Following law school, Dan turned down other offers to practice law with his dad, representing people and small businesses to guide them through life's challenges. The cases required dedication, diligence, and long hours; lasting as long as a decade to wind through the state and federal systems before they received any compensation or reimbursement. Other lawyers referred cases to Dan and Holly, knowing they liked a challenge.

One of their more satisfying cases involved a firstborn child, Mackenzie, who did not thrive following her birth. Mackenzie failed to reach milestones, and by the time she was one had obvious problems. Still at age 29, she cannot stand or sit unassisted, and cannot speak well enough to be widely understood. Her doctors told her parents that she suffered from mitochondrial disorders caused by her parents' genetic incompatibility, and they discouraged her parents from having other children. This excuse proved to be false. After years of intense discovery, Dan was successful in winning a case in favor of Mackenzie. The case not only made Mackenzie and her parents' lives more secure and tolerable, but it also reassured them they could ignore the advice not to have more children. They had three more healthy, wonderful children. The last is a boy they named Danny, after Dan Spraul, and chose him as godfather. As a result of this case, the hospital changed their policies about newborn testing. Nationally their group of experts established new protocols that prevent these types of injuries. More importantly, Mackenzie and her heroic parents testified before the Ohio legislature and US Congress and were instrumental in changing the law to mandate that insurers cover at least a two-day hospital stay for newborns. Dan's diligence in Mackenzie's case has clearly saved many others from her disease.

Service of family and clients is paramount to Dan. He has served on the Board of St. Joseph Orphanage for over 30 years, on the Old St. Mary's Preservation Committee in Over The Rhine, the Development Committee for St. Catharine Church, on Parish Counsel of St. Antoninus Church, coached soccer, baseball and basketball for various youth teams, and served lunch at the Mother of God soup kitchen. He has served on both the Delhi and Hamilton County Boards of Zoning Appeals, as an arbitrator for the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court and for the New York Stock Exchange for about 30 years. Dan and Holly raised two beautiful sons, Thomas and Rupert, who have grown into accomplished young men. He answers the age-old question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" with a definitive "Yes".

2023 Finalists

Devon Adams

Junior, Hamilton High School

Zoey Harris

Preschool, Linden Elementary School

Jon Hildebrand

Senior, Urbana High School

Mya Merbs

Third Grade, Highland Elementary School

Julianna Miller

Senior, Hamilton High School

Jayden Mitchell

Junior, Hamilton High School

Reagan Southard

Fourth Grade, Linden Elementary School

Jacob Spangenberg

Senior, Hamilton High School

Fenou Tohounho

Kindergarten, Fairwood Elementary School

Avery Tyler

First Grade, Highland Elementary School

Jamel Smith

Senior, Xenia High School

Congratulations to all the Heroes of Character!

From Hamilton City of Character





SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, 10 AM - 1 PM LINDEN ELEMENTARY

801 Hoadley Ave. - Hamilton, OH 45015

The carnival is free, includes a hot dog lunch, and games for the kiddos with a character message.



PLANNING FOR 2024 HEROES OF CHARACTER CELEBRATION

"I think a hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles."

CHRISTOPHER REEVE

- ♦ Who is your hero?
- ♦ Who do you know that inspires you?
- ♦ Who has gone above and beyond to help others?
- ♦ Who would you like to see honored by the Character Council in spring 2024?

The call for nominations will be announced this fall.

To ensure you receive the link, email the Character Council at: Heroes@charactercincinnati.org



GENEROSITY SPONSORS

Ralph and Diane Brueggemann

Mary Anne Frey

Roger and Kathy Griggs

Mike and Mary Russell



Hamilton City Schools

"Together, Positively Impacting Learning and Life"

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Retired IT Professional

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Dolores J. Lindsay, Co-chair

Diane Brueggemann, Co-chair

Don Larrick

Susan Mitchell

Mary Andres Russell

Jill Welte Tomey

Special thanks to Susan Mitchell for energizing the silent auction and to Sue Siefert for the beautiful graphic design!



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to all the

2023

HONOREES

from

Monal and Kausha Mehta



Inspiration Studios, Inc.

is a non-profit organization that inspires individuals with development and intellectual disabilities to lead purposeful, healthy, and self-directed lives through innovative programming and services.

Thank you for designing the beautiful hero awards!

Virtual Heroes of Character

2020

Diane Adkins

Hospice Nurse, Tri-Health

Marie Ausdenmore

Mother and Adoption Mentor

Rodney Christian

Retired

Michael P. Daly

Founder, Character Council

Michelle Moody

Publisher, West Chester & Liberty Lifestyle

Duane Moore

Teacher, Hamilton High School

Anthony Muñoz

Founder, Anthony Muñoz Foundation

Delmar Weldon

Attorney, Pillar Law Group, LLC

2020 STUDENT HEROES OF CHARACTER

Luke Bresser

Senior, Taylor High School

Samantha Fish

Senior, Lakota West High School

Lillian French

Sophomore, Turpin High School

2021

Ron Beshear

Financial Representative, Northwestern Mutual

Joni L. Copas

Former Director of Communications, Hamilton City School District

Ashley Gallahar

Teacher, Lighthouse Community School

Kathleen Klink

Supporter, Hamilton 17 Strong

Andrew "Drew" Leurck

Founder, Drew's Rainbows

Cynthia Partridge

Assoc. Director, University of Cincinnati Upward Bound

Holly Simms

Principal, Taylor Middle School

2021 STUDENT HEROES OF CHARACTER

Kraig Payne

Fourth Grade, Pleasant Hill Academy

Madison Payne

Seventh Grade, Garfield Middle School

Omella Siakam

Senior, Princeton High School

Luke Walker

Eighth Grade, Wilson Middle School

Jayden Wilson

Seventh Grade, Garfield Middle School



How Can the Character Council Help You?

For Individuals...

Focus on growing in one quality each month: our free email bulletins provide insights for growing in one character quality each month.

Subscribe at charactercincinnati.org/signup

Kinder Character Challenge: Each week, you will receive an email challenging you to one kind deed.

Join the Character Council's

Join us in random kindness at:

charactercincinnati.org/kcc2020

For Families...

Character-Centered Families: join our Facebook group of families for fun activities which help build good character in children.

facebook.com/groups/558845715027148

For Educators...

Subscribe to a free monthly bulletin for resources and activities for creating a community of good character in your classroom and school.

charactercincinnati.org/signup

For Professionals...

Power Up: Culture Building Tools for Business:

Each month this bulletin contains articles, videos, discussion questions and journal prompts for helping your team develop their strengths.

Subscribe at charactercincinnati.org/power-up-with-character

Power Up: with Character Culture Building Tools for Business

Kinder Character

Challenge

#KinderCharacterChallenge

For Community Leaders...

Character Carnival: Consider hosting a carnival for children in your community with activities that focus on character. The Character Council offers a variety of fun games for rent that are appropriate for church festivals, scouting events, summer camp.

See charactercincinnati.org/character-carnival-2

How Can You Help the Character Council?

Volunteer Your Time and Skills: The Character Council relies on the talents and generosity of our volunteers to continue this positive work of promoting and encouraging good character in the region. Business leaders, educators, event organizers, writers, technology gurus, social media aficionados... are all invited and appreciated.

To explore volunteer opportunities, email Mary Russell at marussell@charactercincinnati.org

A Financial Gift: Your financial support of the Council allows us to continue to provide free resources to schools, community groups, and to continue to sponsor these inspirational events. To donate online, visit charactercincinnati.org/donate

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The National and State Schools of Character program, sponsored by character.org, is a school improvement process that has offered self-assessment and expert feedback to U.S. schools and districts engaged in character education since 1998. The Character Council, in partnership with character.org, evaluates the annual State Schools of Character (SSOC) applications in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana.

We are proud to honor our Ohio State Schools of Character:

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