# EN-RICH-MENT

PRESENTS

7th Annual Fine Arts and Community Awards Gala



Saturday, December 6, 2025 DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown Canton 5 PM Reception 6 PM Awards Presentation and Dinner





## We are all works of art.

Music illuminates the human experience. It connects us to each other, brings us closer, and reminds us of the incredible heights we're capable of reaching.

So from all of us at Huntington Bank, a big thank you to EN-RICH-MENT for reminding us how brightly we all can shine.



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## 2025 What a wonderful year!

On behalf of EN-RICH-MENT, it is my honor and joy to welcome you to our 7th Annual Fine Arts & Community Awards Gala!

Tonight, we come together to celebrate the incredible creativity, dedication, and growth of our youth, as well as the tireless efforts of our volunteers, instructors, and supporters who make our mission possible.

Each award presented this evening represents more than just talent—it reflects perseverance, passion, and the power of community. Through the arts, we see confidence bloom, friendships form, and futures brighten.

To our award winners, congratulations! You have worked hard, inspired others, and made us all proud.

To our guests and supporters, thank you for believing in our vision and helping us continue to uplift and empower the next generation through music, dance, visual arts, and education.

Enjoy this evening of inspiration, celebration, and joy. The only way we can truly make a difference is together!

With the utmost gratitude,

Betty M. Smith

Co-Founder Executive Director EN-RICH-MENT



## Mike Scott, Bluecoats CEO

## Community Awards Presenter

Mike Scott began working at Bluecoats more than a decade ago, and is now in his eighth year as Chief Executive Officer of Bluecoats. Before stepping into his current leadership role, Mike served as the organization's Tour Manager and Business Development Manager, helping shape the modern identity and success of the world-renowned music education nonprofit organization. Recently, he has worked closely with the EN-RICH-MENT Founder & Executive Director, Betty M. Smith, to architect the affiliation between their two organizations, and to spearhead the construction of the \$2.2 million EN-RICH-MENT Arts Education Center opened in June of 2024.

Prior to joining Bluecoats in an executive capacity, Mike was the CEO of Rhythm X in Dayton, Ohio. Under his directorship, Rhythm X's storied percussion ensemble achieved multiple medalist finishes and a World Championship.

Mike's passion for performing arts education has taken him around the globe, judging, lecturing, and organizing performances in the Netherlands, Hong Kong, Costa Rica, Lithuania, Latvia, and throughout the United States.

## 2025 PROGRAM

INVOCATION

Honorable Judge Matt Kreitzer

WELCOME

• Latrice Virola, EN-RICH-MENT Chairman of the Board

## COMMUNITY AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Presented by Betty M. Smith, Executive Director

- Acknowledgement of Co-Chairs Mr. and Mrs. Ted Swaldo
- EN-RICH-MENT Honoree Awards | Mecca Muhammad
- EN-RICH-MENT Honoree Awards | Harley Núñez
- Most Improved Drumline | Eden Twitty
- Most Improved Danceline | Kyrie Bush
- Most Improved Color guard | Keyla Gatlin

#### SOLO - AZZY BELTZ

- Volunteer Recognition | John Stafford
- Volunteer Recognition | Steven Stapleton
- Parent Volunteer of the Year | Gina Jones

#### SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS

Presented by Betty M. Smith, Executive Director

- Chip & Lisa Painter
- Henry Neading
- Robert & Diana Neading

#### SPONSOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Lewis Yoder, The Christ Foundation

#### CINDY LAZOR COMMUNITY ADVOCATE AWARD

Beverly Jordan

#### DINNER

#### **FINE ARTS AWARDS RECIPIENTS**

Presented by Mike Scott, CEO, Bluecoats

- Outstanding Visual Artist | Jonathan Becker
- Theatre Performing Arts Award | Edie Bowman
- The Ayani Joy Buckmon Music Education Award | Michael Koscso
- Macy Gray Rising Star | Azariah "Azzy" Beltz

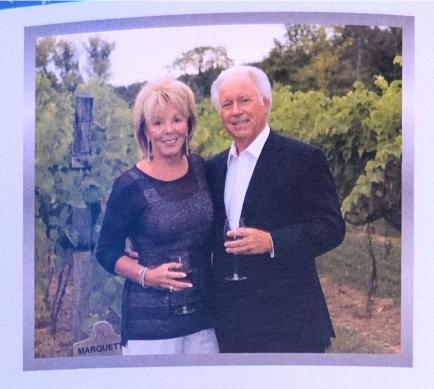
#### SOLO - DAJEUN DICKERSON

- Elec Simon Percussion Award | Kyree Lisbon
- Stacie Morgan Outstanding Dance Award | Antwon V. Duncan
- Milini Outstanding Guitarist | Kalani Levels
- Media Production Award | Mark Bigsbee
- O'Jays Music Award | Rob Johnson & Co.
- Spotlight Award | Tom Piccari

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#### Mr. & Mrs. Ted Swaldo

## Honorary Co-Chairs

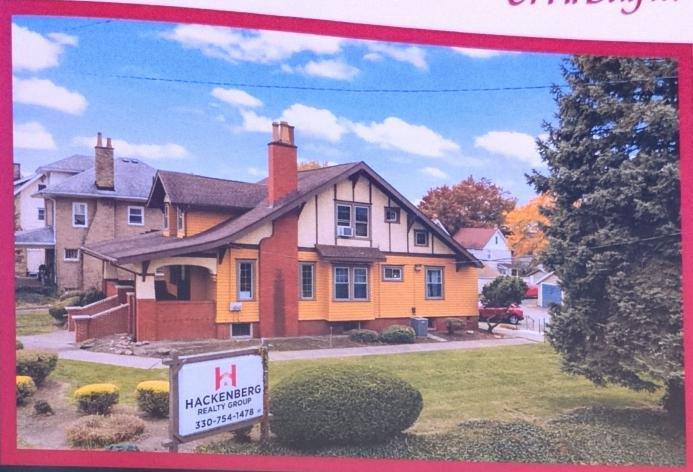
Ted and Linda Swaldo are the husband-and-wife team behind Gervasi Vineyard Resort & Spa, one of Ohio's most visited destination properties. Together, they transformed their shared passion for hospitality, family, and community into a world-class resort that now features award-winning restaurants, luxury accommodations, a renowned winery and distillery, a state-of-the-art spa, and unforgettable guest experiences.

Ted's entrepreneurial leadership, paired with Linda's warm hospitality and eye for thoughtful detail, created the foundation for Gervasi's signature blend of elegance, comfort, and genuine welcome. Their partnership has not only shaped the character and success of the property but has also strengthened the region's tourism community and inspired a culture of excellence throughout the Gervasi team.

Together, Ted and Linda continue to guide the vision of Gervasi Destination, leading with heart, championing quality, and remaining dedicated to creating extraordinary experiences for every guest who visits the property.

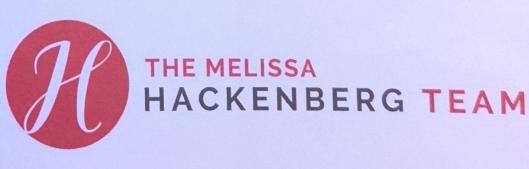
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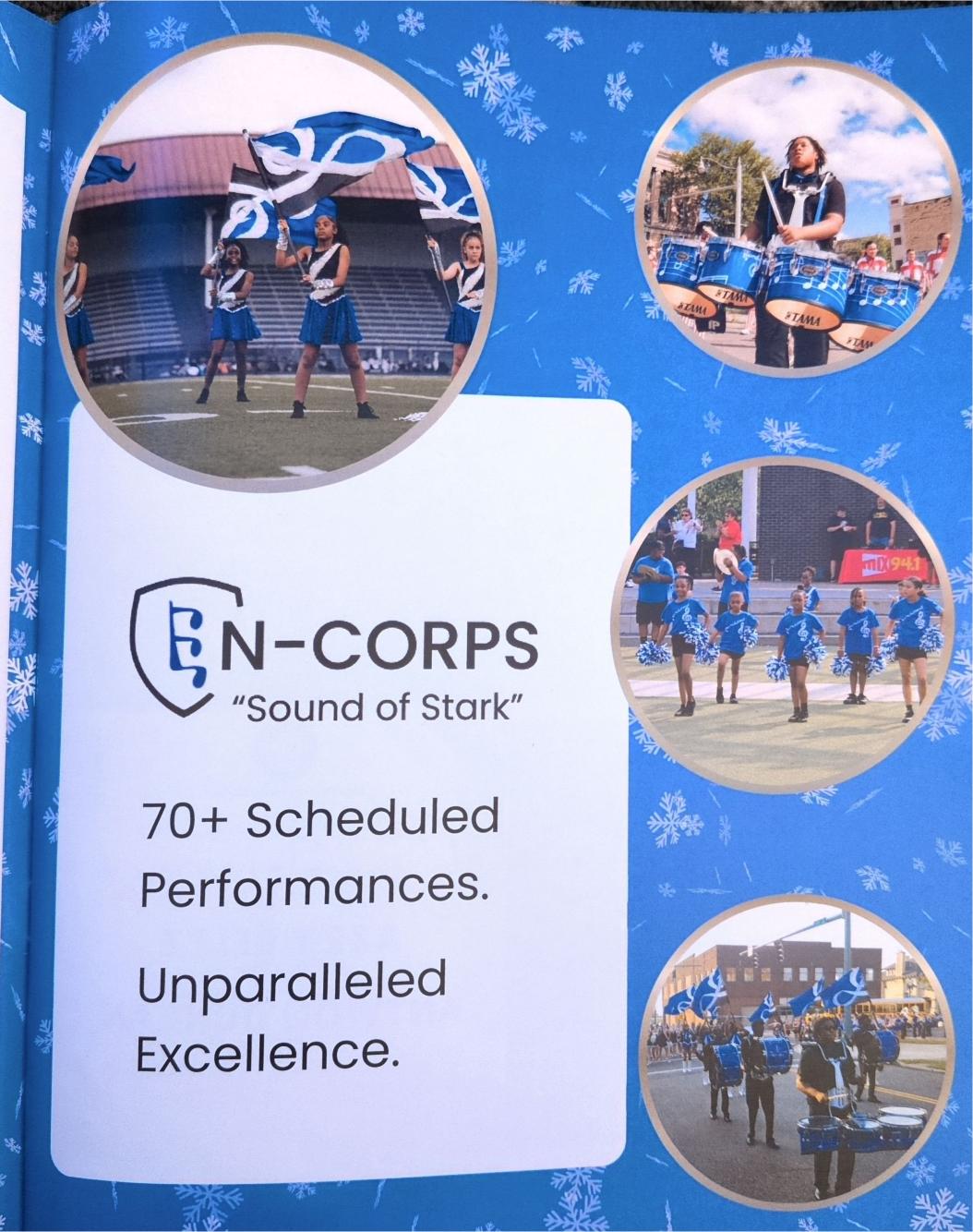
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Syhlas Morgan









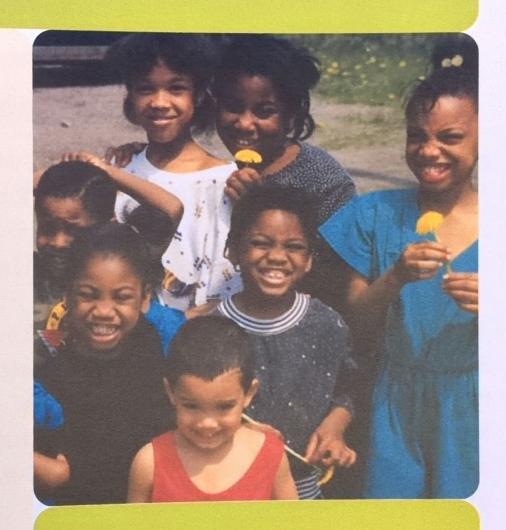
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## Mecca Muhammad EN-RICH-MENT Honoree Award

Mecca Muhammad has been a part of the EN-RICH-MENT family for nearly a decade. She began in the summer of 2016 as a student taking dance classes and, over the years, grew into a mentor, instructor, and leader within the program.

A recent graduate of Kent State University with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, Mecca is passionate about bettering the lives of young people. She has taught EN-RICH-MENT's Creative Cooking class for the past five years, helping students explore healthier food choices and discover new ways to express themselves.

Mecca has dedicated her life to service. Supporting families in need, assisting with community outreaches, and participating in local events. Following in the footsteps of her parents, Samuel and Fathiyyah Muhammad, proud members of the Nation of Islam, she is thankful to God for guiding her purpose. She is truly a laborer of love



#### Harley Núñez EN-RICH-MENT Honoree Award

Harley Núñez will receive a Bachelor's in Music Education and Percussion Performance from the University of Akron on December 13, 2025.

Harley's musical background includes his four years with University of Akron ensembles including their Wind Symphony, Concert Band, Symphony Orchestra, Steel Band, West African Percussion Ensemble, and the Ohio's Pride Marching Band. He has furthered his musicianship additionally through touring two summers with the Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps, performing four seasons with Matrix Performing Arts, and playing locally with the Canton Concert Band.

Since Spring 2016, Harley has been teaching & volunteering for EN-RICH-MENT in various positions while performing as a member of the drumline until his venture into university. He currently serves as the Music Director for the program working to build and begin existing and new classes and ensembles.



#### **Eden Twitty**

Most Improved

EN-CORPS

Drumline Award

Eden Twitty is a 10th-grade student at GlenOak High School who is known for her quiet determination, focus, and self-motivation in achieving her goals. She has consistently demonstrated academic excellence, maintaining Honor Roll status throughout last year and into the current school year.

A dedicated member of the EN-RICH-MENT Varsity Drumline for the past eight years, Eden takes great pride in her musical involvement and considers it an important part of her life. In addition to her musical accomplishments, she is also a Varsity athlete on the GlenOak Girls Basketball Team, where she displays teamwork, discipline, and perseverance.

Outside of academics and extracurricular activities, Eden enjoys expressing her creativity through art—a hidden talent that she continues to develop—and she also loves dancing. Looking ahead, Eden plans to pursue a career in medicine and is preparing to explore several Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) this spring as part of her journey toward studying pre-med after graduation.





Kyrie started at EN-RICH-MENT's Summer Camp two years ago and quickly realized she wanted a spot on Danceline. Falling in love with performing and the atmosphere, she embraced all of the dance that EN-RICH-MENT offers. Currently a 5th grader, dance is her biggest passion outside of school, and she's ready to flourish!



Keyla Gatlin

Most Improved

EN-CORPS

Colorguard Award

Keyla is 12 years old and attends Lehman Early College and presently wants to pursue a career in Culinary Arts. Keyla has been a part of the EN-RICH-MENT family since the age of seven and has been a part of Colorguard for one and a half years. She loves EN-RICH-MENT and values getting to learn leadership and life skills.

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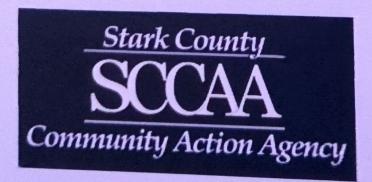
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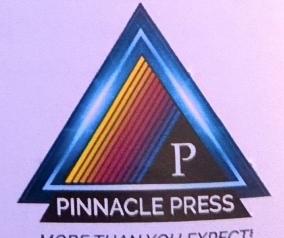
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MORE THAN YOU EXPECT!



#### John Stafford

## Volunteer Recognition Award

The Volunteer Recognition Award honors individuals who have gone above and beyond in their dedication, service, and commitment to EN-RICH-MENT's mission.

John Stafford is a retired, dedicated higher education administrator from the University of Akron. He served as assistant director in the offices of admissions and student financial aid, respectively, and supported the University Honors Program for high-achieving students. He holds a degree in business management and a master's degree in higher education administration & personnel management from Hampton University.

Upon retirement, he didn't slow down, serving in various programs related to youth, including as a mentor/counselor in the Closing the Achievement Gap Program (CTAG) with Akron Public School at Buchtel High School. He also served as a substitute teacher with Canton City Schools and currently enjoys volunteering as a reading tutor at EN-RICH-MENT and also teaches the value of character development in the Perry School System.

John is a proud lifelong member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Beta Chi Chapter and Akron Alumni Chapter. John served as the president of the Kappa Foundation of Akron and awarded scholarships to college-bound high school graduates. He enjoys rap, R&B, and cool jazz and is an enthusiastic follower of football and basketball. His life is a testament to his beliefs in the importance of nurturing our young scholars to become lifelong readers, critical thinkers, and men and women of character.



### **Steven Stapleton**

## Walunteer Recognition Award

The Volunteer Recognition Award honors individuals who have gone above and beyond in their dedication, service, and commitment to EN-RICH-MENT's mission.

A seasoned trombonist with more than 47 years of performance experience, Steven's musical journey spans jazz, R&B, pop, classical, marching, and concert band traditions. A devoted church musician, he has also performed with many of Detroit's renowned jazz icons and Motown legends, carrying forward the city's rich musical legacy. Steven studied music performance at Grambling State University and later earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies from the University of Detroit Mercy.

Beyond the stage, he is deeply committed to his family. Steven and his wife, Sophia, have shared 36 years of marriage and are proud parents of three sons and one teen daughter. His lifelong dedication to faith, family, and music reflects his passion, discipline, and commitment to excellence.



#### **Gina Jones**

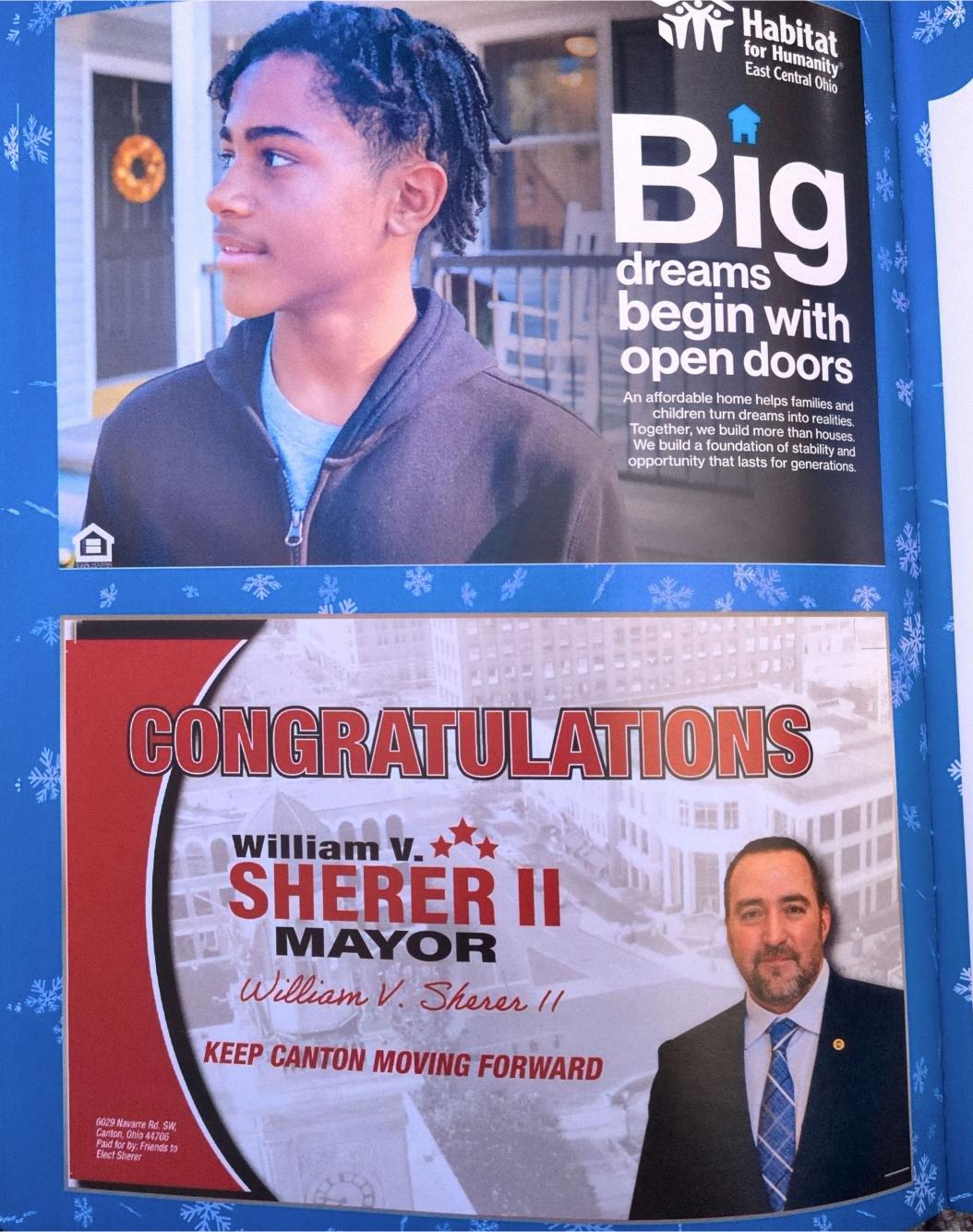
## Parent Volunteer of the Year Award

The Parent Volunteer of the Year Award is an honor that recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and commitment to their families and community.

Gina Jones is the Financial Operations Coordinator at the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, where she has served since 2019. With 28 years of experience in finance and management, Gina brings a wealth of knowledge and a strong commitment to operational excellence. She holds associate degrees in accounting and business management and has been a commissioned public notary for the State of Ohio for 14 years.

Originally from outside the area, Gina moved to Canton in 2018 and quickly became an engaged member of the community. In addition to her professional role, she began volunteering with EN-RICH-MENT in April 2024, supporting local youth through arts and education initiatives.

A proud mother of two, Gina values family, service, and building strong community connections. Her dedication to both her profession and her community reflects her passion for making a meaningful impact wherever she is.





## Chip & Lisa Painter

## Special Recognition Award

The Special Recognition Award is recognition to formally acknowledges individuals or groups for outstanding financial contributions, exceptional performance, or service that goes above and beyond expectations.

Chip Painter and Lisa Turkalj-Painter are deeply committed to serving their community through various leadership and volunteer roles.

Chip Painter is co-owner of Midwestern Industries, Inc. and currently serves on the Mercy Development Foundation Board. He is also actively involved with Wine, Women, and Shoes, raising funds to support local women battling cancer. In addition, Chip is a dedicated board member of the Massillon Boys and Girls Club, where he contributes his expertise on both the safety and finance teams.

Lisa Turkalj-Painter retired from the Canton City School District, where she collaborated with Betty Smith to create successful after-school programs benefiting students in the district. Passionate about community engagement, Lisa is a member of the Aultman Women's Board, the Massillon Woman's Club, and the 27th Class of Leadership Stark County. She has also served on the boards of Tiqvah Hands of Hope, Wishes Can Happen, The Legacy Project of Stark County, the Canton Museum of Art, and Meals on Wheels of Stark and Wayne Counties.

Together, Chip and Lisa enjoy traveling, golfing, entertaining, and spending time with their adult children—Rachel (Matt), Sarah, Weston, and Bobby. They are active members of Church of the Lakes and are grateful for the many opportunities to serve and support Betty Smith and EN-RICH-MENT!



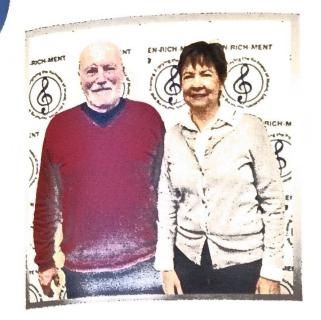
### **Henry Neading**

## Special Recognition Award

The Special Recognition Award is recognition to formally acknowledges individuals or groups for outstanding financial contributions, exceptional performance, or service that goes above and beyond expectations.

Henry "Ty" Neading graduated from Canton McKinley Senior High school in 2003. Ty danced with the Canton Ballet and played soccer and tennis for the Bulldogs. Ty graduated summa cum laude from Ohio State University in June 2007, receiving a B.S.B.A. with honors in Accounting and a Master of Accounting. He served as president and treasurer of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Ty obtained a J.D. and Master of Laws (LL.M.) in taxation from New York University in May 2010 and January 2011, respectively. Ty worked as a tax lawyer for Weil, Gotshal, and Manges in New York City and moved to Boston in September 2014 to work for Ernst & Young in the tax mergers and acquisitions practice. Ty made partner at EY in 2022 and lives in Medford, MA, with his wife, Laura, and children Henry and Lucy.



## Robert & Diana Neading

Special Recognition Award

The Special Recognition Award is recognition to formally acknowledges individuals or groups for outstanding financial contributions, exceptional performance, or service that goes above and beyond expectations.

Bob is a lifelong resident of Canton, graduating from Lehman High school in 1964. He went on to Mount Union College earning his BA in education in 1968, followed by an MA from University of Akron. Coaching football and basketball as well as teaching history instilled a passion for the youth of Canton.

Bob later became the assistant principal at Timken High School, principal at Lehman Middle School, curriculum director for Canton City Schools, and retiring in 2003 as executive director of human resources. Bob then continued serving students as an assistant superintendent for personnel in Maple Heights school district followed by four years as the principal at Dalton Elementary in Dalton, Ohio.

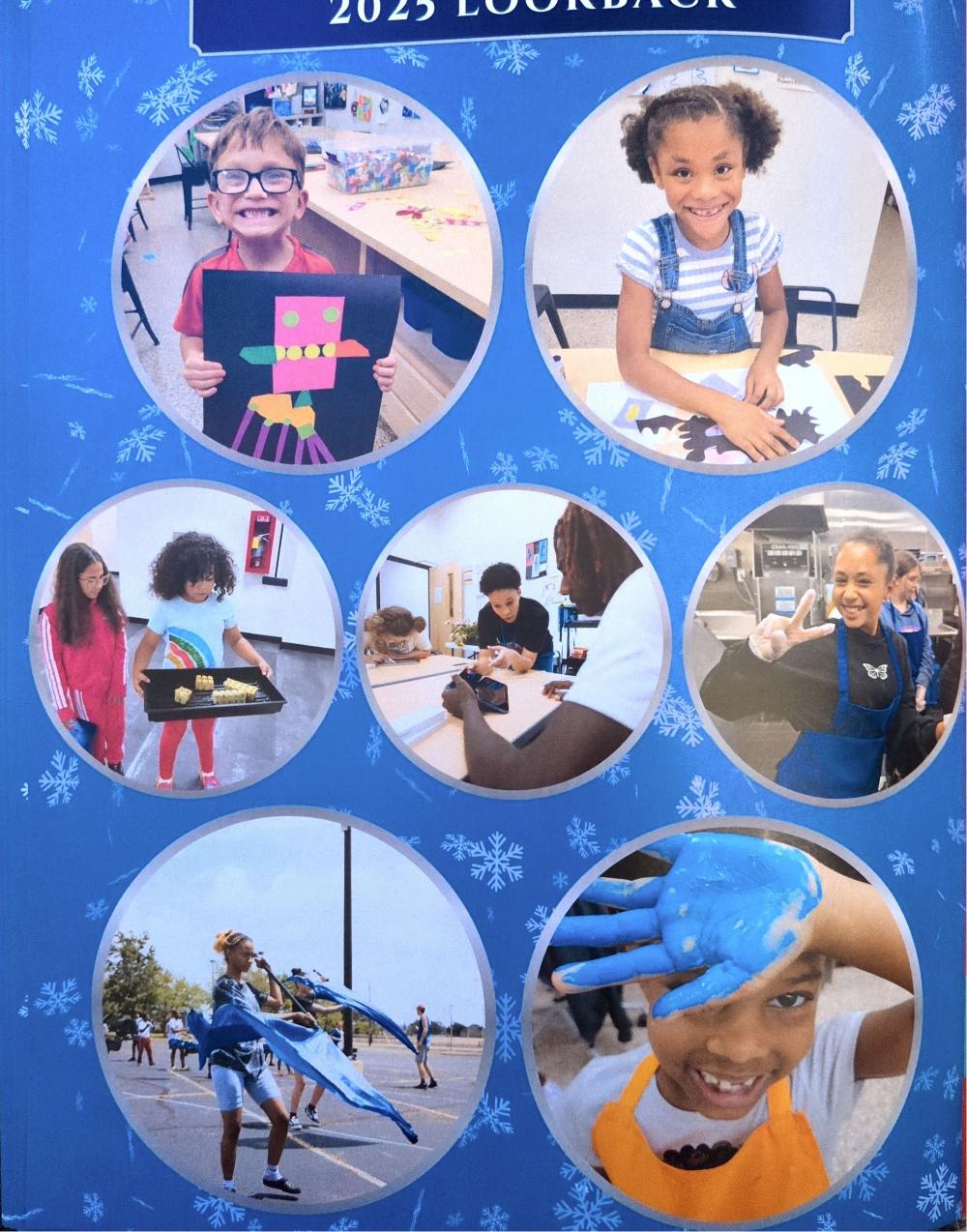
Bob has four children, Kelly, Kristen, Henry (Ty), and Christian (Mo) and currently lives in the Ridgewood neighborhood of Canton.

Diana was employed by Canton City Schools after graduating from Kent State University with a BS and an MA. As a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) in Canton City for 33 years, she worked in almost every school in the district at every grade level. Like her husband Bob, Diana coached Timken High boys and girls swimming. While there, Diana became an early childhood special education supervisor. Diana became an early childhood special education supervisor. Following retirement in 2008, and missing speech therapy, she joined Akron Children's Hospital as a speech-language pathologist.

Diana is stepmother to Bob's children Kelly and Kristen, and together Bob and Diana have twin boys, Henry (Ty) and Christian (Mo).



## 2025 LOOKBACK





Enri Ch-ssent

# Registration with the state of the state of

Your decision to volunteer with us shows dedication to impacting youth positively. Your involvement will enhance our programs and community outreach.

If you are interested in volunteering, scan the code or visit our website.







# Lewis Yoder The Christ Foundation Spansar of the Year

The Sponsor of the Year Award recognizes an organization or individual who has shown exceptional support for a specific program, cause, or event, such as retirement plans or marketing initiatives.

Lewis began his career at Jerry Moore, Inc., in 1994 after graduating from Malone University. He worked closely with Jerry in operations of the oil and gas business as well as doing the accounting work for The Christ Foundation. Lewis not only became well equipped to manage finances with a growing company, but he also became the executive director of a successful foundation.

Lewis recalls, "I learned the importance of running a successful business, but most of all I found the importance of serving God in all that we do in life."

After Mr. Moore's passing in 2020, Lewis transitioned to being the Executive Director of The Christ Foundation. His life's passion to use his talents to share the Gospel through helping those in need became a full-time reality.





## **Beverly Jordan**

Cindy Lazor Community
Advocate Award

The Cindy Lazor Community Advocate Award recognizes individuals who have shown commitment to advocating for the arts and enriching the lives of youth and community through their programs, efforts, and support.

Beverly Jordan was born and raised in Akron, married to Carl Jordan, with 5 adult children. As a teen mom of 2 small children, she began volunteering at the Akron Summit County Action Agency/Head Start. As a result of her volunteering and participating in various programs for children, parents, and grandparents, she was hired by The North Akron Community Center as a Social Worker and Senior Group Leader.

Jordan relocated to Canton, Ohio, and began working at The Department of Job and Family Services. After obtaining her Bachelors Degree in Social Work, she developed a strong sense of community experience which developed her passion for people.

Beverly founded Stark Social Workers Network in 1989 and has been involved in community activism for more than 30 years. She saw, first-hand, the need to support populations identified as diverse, at-risk, and underserved. SSWN was a multifaceted agency committed to addressing the community's needs as a social services hub that provided clients with an array of services, from re-entry to society, provided clients with an array of services, and a service that supplied health and wellness, nutrition, exercise, and a service that supplied mothers in need with baby goods and clothing.

Cindy Lazor supported Bev Jordan's vision 100% and identified her as an asset to the community. Cindy saw the significant need for other community-based organizations and pushed them to be a part of the social services network in Stark County as a collective in problem solving issues. Cindy was a great mentor who will never be forgotten.



#### Jonathan Becker

## Outstanding Visual Artist Award

The Outstanding Visual Artist Award celebrates a visual artist for outstanding creativity, skill, and dedication to their craft, and recognition of the significant contributions they have made to the arts community.

Jonathan Becker has performed throughout Europe, Asia, and North America. He has helped in the development of sixteen original works for the theater and co-founded and was co-artistic director of two theatre companies in France and Switzerland.

His work as a Master Teacher includes invitations from 34 institutions in 6 countries.

He is the owner/operator at Theater-Masks.com. Educational institutions, professional theatres, and individual artists in over 50 countries are currently using Jonathan's masks. Jonathan was awarded a Meritorious Achievement Award by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for his mask designs. His work has been featured in galleries throughout the United States, and he was awarded the first annual mayor's arts award in Muncie, Indiana. He is considered a master mask maker by artists and teachers worldwide. He is also currently working as the Creative Director for First Fridays in Canton.

Jonathan is a graduate of The International School of Theatre Jacques Lecoq in Paris, France. He has a BA in Theatre from The College of Wooster, an MA in Acting and Directing from The University of Akron, and an MFA in Theatre Pedagogy from Virginia Commonwealth University.



# Edie Bowman Performing Arts Award for Theatre

The Performing Arts Award for Theater honors an individual or company that excels in multiple areas of the performing arts, showcasing talent, versatility, and dedication in their artistic endeavors.

Edie's love for people led her to become a cosmetologist for 31 years, a playwright, an author, and a life coach.

she is naturally comedic, enabling her to find hope and laughter during troubling times. Over 30 years of writing, directing, and working with others have given her the ability to see both the beauty and depravity of humanity, making her works insightful and relevant.

Edie is the founder and CEO of the nonprofit theater company Into The Light Productions, where she delights in creating stories that teach and inspire change, as well as bring entertainment and joy to families. She plays the comedic character Mableanne JohnsTon, an older, comedic, tell-it-like-it-is, southern church lady, in all her stage productions.

She has produced many performances and events, most focusing on family and faith. Edie also writes short plays, poems, spoken-word performances, and other creative works for various occasions.

Edie has been married to Dr. Charles Bowman for 31 years and is the mother of 3 daughters, Jazzmin Bowman, Tatiana (Alexander) Hartman, and Autumn Bowman, and "Nana" to 2 grandchildren, Alicia and Allen Bowman.



# Betty Move

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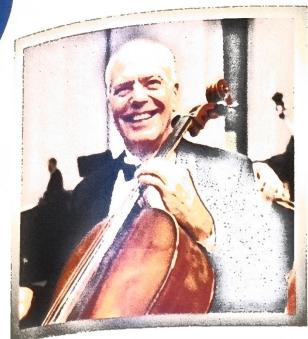


#### **Dr. Don Bartlette**

Public Speaker

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## Michael Koscso

Ayani Joy Buckmon Music Education Award

Presented in loving memory of Ayani Joy Buckmon, this award honors those who exemplify her passion for music, education, the arts, and youth development.

Michael Koscso, the former Director of Artistic Operations and a cellist with the Canton Symphony Orchestra, is a founding member of Kentland String Ensembles and an independent contractor, hiring instrumentalists for various musical organizations. He spent 13 summers as music librarian and personnel manager at the Breckenridge Music Festival in Breckenridge, Colorado.

Mr. Koscso's career as a musician has allowed him to reach the youth in the Canton community through programs such as Listen@the Library, SymphonyLand, Canton Youth Symphony coaching, and the educational concerts with the Canton Symphony Orchestra. It has been an honor for him to contribute to the development and presentation of these programs.

He earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Cello Performance at Kent State University and a Master of Music degree in Cello Performance at Miami University. He has participated in the Grand Teton Orchestral Seminar, the Aspen Music Festival, and the Eastern Music Festival



## Azariah "Azzy" Beltz



## Macy Gray Rising Star Award

This award honors a young artist who embodies exceptional talent, dedication, and growth.

Inspired by Canton native and Grammy Awardwinning artist Macy Gray, this recognition celebrates emerging artistry and the promise of a lasting creative legacy.

Azariah "Azzy" Beltz is 15 years old and attends Glenoak High School as a freshman. There, he is heavily involved in choir and theater. He loves art, fashion, and learning to play different characters that come alive as he performs on stage.

Azzy has been in 16 different theater productions, starting when he was just 7 years old. Azzy was adopted at age 2, and his parents immediately saw his love for music and performing in front of people! Most recently, he was in Hairspray at the Players' Guild, in the role of "Seaweed." Last summer, he played the lead role of "Charlie" in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, the Musical with New Directions Performing Arts Academy.

He attends First Christian Church, where he sings on the Teen Worship team, and spends a lot of time at his job at Chick-fil-A on Dressler Road. He has a younger brother, Roman, for whom he would do anything.



### Dajeun Dickerson Soloist

Dajeun Dickerson Jr. is a 17-year-old senior at McKinley Senior High School in Canton, Ohio. A passionate vocalist and leader, his journey began at Triumph Church under Shepherd Kimberly Barnes and was further shaped by EN-RICH-MENT with Betty Smith. Dajeun is well-known in his community for his powerful singing, having performed at churches, banquets, and twice at Cleveland Guardians games.

He serves as Student Council President, Speech & Debate President, Senior Class Officer, Canton City Youth Council Member, and Youth President at his church, among other roles. Notably, he was elected Governor at Buckeye Boys State, opened for a Grammy-winning gospel artist, and won a \$10,000 scholarship through Shining Star CLE.

Dajeun gives all glory to God and thanks his parents, Dajeun Dickerson Sr. and Cheressa Meadows, along with his family, for their constant support.



#### **Kyree Lisbon**

## Elec Simon Percussion Award

Named after celebrated percussionist and entertainer
Elec Simon, this award honors those whose
extraordinary rhythm, energy, and commitment to
their craft uplift and inspire others. Through their
music, they embody the spirit of leadership, creativity,
and community connection

Kyree is a 7th grader at St. Thomas Aquinas Junior High School. His interests include gaming on his XBox and PS4. He enjoys the company of his friends and making music on his tablet.

At EN-RICH-MENT, he is involved with Drums, Modern Band and Beginner Guitar. Kyree's interest in drums came from attending a "We Believe In Canton" event at the J. Babe Stern Community Center. He saw the drumline for the first time and was very impressed. When asked if he wanted to join the drumline, he said no -but he would play the drum set, and the rest is history.

# Congratulations EN-RICH-MENT ON YOUR 7th ANNUAL FINE ARTS AWARDS GALA

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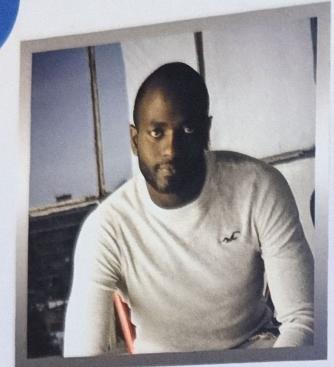
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## Antwon V. Duncan

# Stacie Morgan Outstanding Dance Award

This award honors an individual or company whose passion for dance shines through their versatility, artistry, and commitment to excellence. The award reflects a deep love for the art form and an enduring impact on the dance community.

Antwon Duncan Milczewski is a Cleveland native, and he is no stranger to the stage. He has performed with concert dance companies such as Ohio Ballet, Cleveland Contemporary Dance Theater, and Ohio Contemporary Ballet. Musical Theatre is one of his greatest passions, and some of his favorite roles include: Larry in A Chorus Line at Porthouse Theater and Plato in Cats at Carousel Dinner Theater.

Mr. Duncan is a University of Akron Alumni, where he received his BA in Dance. Since leaving the stage, he has spent the majority of his time teaching and working at various local studios, including Starmaker Performing Arts Center and Martell School of Dance.

Antwon has a master's degree in education from BGSU and is celebrating his eighth year as a Career Technical Education teacher at Canton McKinley Senior High School. When not sharing and expanding his choreographic talents for the growing dance endeavors of the Canton City school District, he enjoys time with family and friends, life talks, He is ecstatic to be using some of that time to serve on the board of Verb Ballets (Ohio's contemporary ballet company), and now join the Book Fair as they continue to spread the importance and joy of literacy.



#### Kalani Levels

## Milini Oustanding Guitar Award

This award, named after a prominent guitarist, Tony Milini, recognizes outstanding musicians who embody Tony's dedication to pushing the boundaries of guitar performance. This prestigious award honors recipients who exemplify his spirit of musical excellence and commitment to advancing the art of guitar playing.

Kalani Levels is a sophomore at Hoover High School, where he is actively involved in both athletics and the arts. He competes in Cross Country and Track & Field, and is a dedicated member of the school band, where he plays trombone, and the orchestra, where he plays viola.

A passionate multi-instrumentalist, Kalani began studying piano eight years ago and has since added five more instruments to his repertoire: violin, guitar, drum set, bass, and saxophone. He developed these skills through EN-RICH-MENT, which he has participated in since 2021.





### Mark Bigsbee

# Media Production Award

The award recognizes outstanding achievement in the art of media creation. Honoring those who blend creativity, storytelling, and technology with purpose and passion, this award celebrates the power of media to inspire, educate, and connect communities.

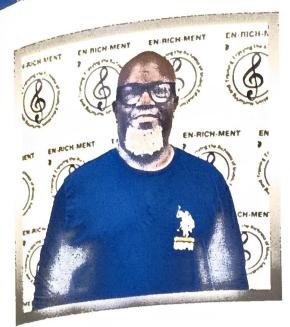
Mark A. Bigsbee is a multifaceted creative and community leader based in Canton, Ohio, whose work spans media production, youth mentorship, and cultural celebration.

Mark's commitment to youth and community development is evident in his co-founding of Stark County Community Partnership and the P.A.X Project, a 501(c)(3) initiative offering tech education through Camp Tech. As Chair of the Juneteenth Committee since 2016, he has transformed the annual two-day festival into a cornerstone of cultural tourism and pride in Stark County—free to the public and rich in heritage.

His leadership extends across numerous organizations, including the MLK Commission, Stark County NAACP, and the Greater Stark County Urban League. Mark served as an EN-RICH-MENT board member, mentoring youth and fostering creative expression.

Guided by the values instilled by his late mother, Mary E. Bigsbee, Mark believes that a strong upbringing builds a strong community. He works with churches, nonprofits, and grassroots leaders to ensure that every young person knows their potential is not defined by where they come from, but by where they're going.

Mark's life is a testament to purpose-driven work, and as he often says, "My work is not done vet!!!"



#### **Rob Johnson**

O'Jay's Music Award

The O'Jays Award celebrates exceptional talent and commitment in the field of music, acknowledging those who have made a significant impact through their performances and musical influence.

Robert Johnson was born and raised in Canton. He is the husband of Tracy Mayle, the Father of three girls: Desirae, Destiny, and Chloe, the Grandpa of Jarius, and the Uncle of Leshone Lewis. Rob is a Christian who has been playing since the age of 7.

He is a world traveling musician who simultaneously upholds his current role as the Musician for Life Ministries International and shares the stage with many world-renowned artists such as: Earth Wind and Fire, Micheal McDonald, Kenny Loggins, SY Younger, Venessa Bell Armstrong, Tye Tribbet, Fred Hammond, TD Jakes, Marvin Sapp, Noel Jones, Cheryl Brady, Hezekiah Walker, John P Kee, Norman Hutchins, Kim Burrel, Yolanda Adams, Lisa Page Brooks, Vincent Bohanan, Gerald Albright, Najee, Mr. Talkbox, Jason Nelson, Annointed, Ronnie Laws, Derrick Canon, Kirk Whalum, Tom Browne, Phillip Doc Martin, Desi J, Roslyn Pratt, Elec Simon, and currently the keyboardist for Walter Beasley.



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### Tom Piccari

Spotlight Award

The Gala Spotlight Award recognizes a remarkable individual or group whose creativity, commitment, and leadership stand out in the arts community. This award celebrates the positive impact of their work and the inspiration they bring to others.

Tom Piccari is currently the Fine Arts and Social Studies Consultant at the Stark County Educational Service Center. With 44 years of experience, he shares his passion for education and the arts with education professionals in the area.

Before his time at the county office, Tom was an educator in the Canton City School District as a teacher at Gibbs Elementary and Hartford Middle School, followed by principalships at Washington Elementary, Summit, and the Arts Academy at Summit for a total of 31 years in the district.

Tom strives to help students become lifelong learners and develop enthusiasm for the arts. Tom is a lifelong resident of Canton and lives in the city with his husband, a professional artist and landscape designer, Russ Hench.

Coasan Trees FILE EN-RICH-MENT





Drums

Registration begins January 6! Stay tuned for the complete list at www.en-rich-ment.jumbula.com



Danceline





Cooking



Digital Art



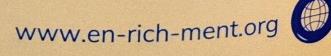
Dance



Music



(330) 546-7724





## 2025 EN-RICH-MENT Impact Report

Mission Statement: Empowering youth, families, and the community through creative arts, education, and healthy lifestyles.

6,500+

Healthy Meals Served 500+

Youth Enrolled Yearly 82

Unique Classes Offered

90%

of young children improve essential life skills, including health development, executive function, and self-regulation, through our programs.

\$53,787.32

raised in EN-RICH-MENT's first capital campaign, 1000 Squares to Grow. Each square is inscribed with the purchaser's name and will be displayed at EN-RICH-MENT.

30+

Partner Organizations

4 (\$500 ea.)

Scholarships Dispersed to Students

85%

Donor Retention Rate

90%

Increased Social Media Reach

# Save the Date!

# Burr: Gh. J. Jent

The 8th Annual Fine Arts and

Community Awards Gala

returns next year,

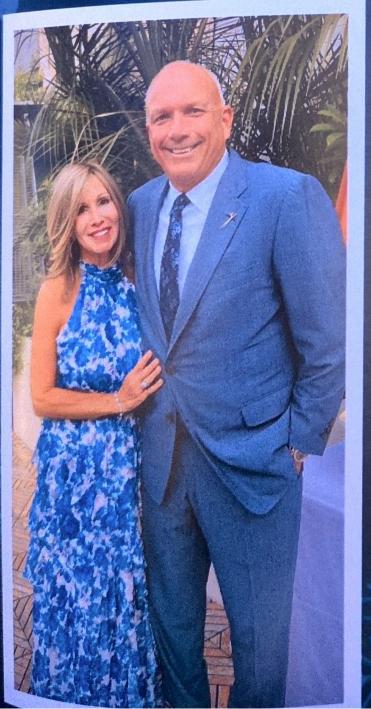
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