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Leaders in Diversity

University of Dayton

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Monday September 11, 2023

The Dayton Business Journal is recognizing two women who lead work to support entrepreneurs.

Greater West Dayton Incubator Director Whitney Barkley and GWDI Advisory Board Member Stacy M. Thompson will receive the [2023 Leaders in Diversity Awards](#) for making “a positive difference in others’ lives through contributions to social justice, equality and diversity.”

Barkley is recognized as an Outstanding Community Voice. According to her nomination, she works passionately to support underrepresented entrepreneurs, small businesses and nonprofits. She has led the launch of programs such as the Business Blitz, Urban Elevation Accelerator, GWDI Business Clinics, and others. She also is a leader in mentoring students

and deepening their connections with the community. Her work includes acting as advisor for Flyer Consulting, which allows students to consult with nonprofits and award microloans to entrepreneurs.

Thompson is recognized as a Board Champion. She provides her expertise and guidance to advance the Incubator's efforts as a member of the advisory board since its inception. She also serves as a community board member for The Hub Powered by PNC at the Dayton Arcade. In her role with The Hub, she has helped initiate efforts to build a more inclusive entrepreneurial community through Hub memberships and supply chain.

More information will be published in the *Dayton Business Journal* Oct. 27.

The Greater West Dayton Incubator offers access to working space, consulting, training, capital and other resources, with a focus on Greater West Dayton neighborhoods. It was developed in partnership by community leaders of Greater West Dayton and the University of Dayton with support from The Entrepreneurs' Center to help create a more inclusive economy, which can drive positive change in the community.

[More information is available online.](#)