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National Alumni Winners

09.08.2008 | Students, Campus and Community

The alumni association will honor the award winners, which include Dayton City Manager Rashad Young, at an invitation-only reception and dinner beginning 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 19, in the Kennedy Union.

While the winners have served locally as well as around the globe and experienced the University at different eras in the past 50 years, they are each emblematic of a UD graduate, said Bill Hunt, assistant vice president of alumni relations.

"There is great diversity among the recipients this year in terms of what they've done with their lives," Hunt said. "But they all have one thing in common: character. And that leads right back to what UD is all about."

The 2008 University of Dayton Alumni Award winners are:

**John McHale '78, Austin, Texas**

*Distinguished Alumnus Award for national or international achievements*

Electrical engineering graduate John McHale is a leader in business, technology and innovation. His ability to identify emerging trends for consumer and commercial application has resulted in improved lifestyles, higher productivity and increased data security. After building businesses with high value and profitability, he sold his ventures to major worldwide companies and extended the reach of his products to much larger markets. McHale has been generous with his earnings in his home community and with the UD community, committing millions to programs that reflect his beliefs, his values and his passions — arts, diversity, education and athletics.

**Sister Rosemary Wack, S.N.D. de N. '58, Cincinnati**

*Christian Service Award for living out Marianist ideals in today's society*

A secondary education graduate, Sister Rosemary Wack, S.N.D de N., has spent her entire adult life in the service of others in the United States, Kenya and Zimbabwe. In the 1970s, Wack led a joint endeavor with other religious orders to launch secondary schools in Kenya. After becoming a registered nurse in 1983, she spent the 1990s in Zimbabwe, providing health care for people with AIDS. She returned to Ohio in 2002 to care for her retired sisters in Cincinnati.

**Rashad Young '98, Dayton**

*Joe Belle Memorial Award for volunteer service to students and early career achievement*

A W.S. McIntosh Scholar at the University of Dayton, Rashad Young became city manager of Dayton in 2006. His service record shows a strong commitment to youth and the community, particularly those faced with sociological barriers. Besides mentoring youth and emerging professionals, he’s a member of the boards of the Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Outreach Program, the National Youth Sports Program and the Dayton Black Cultural Festival. He has a bachelor's in business administration and an MBA from UD.

**William King ’96, Champaign, Ill.**

*Special Achievement Award for distinction in professional or civic activities*

Mechanical engineering graduate William King has distinguished himself as an eminent young scholar in microscale and nanoscale thermal processing, developing new instruments to study the nanoscale thermomechanical properties of solid materials. In 2005, he received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest federal government award given to an untenured professor. In 2006, he was named to Technology Review's "TR35," a list of the most innovative people under 35. Since 2006, he’s been an associate professor and the Kritzer Faculty Scholar in the mechanical science and engineering department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Vicki Edwards Giambrone ’81, Beavercreek

Special Service Award for volunteer service to the National Alumni Association

Vicki Edwards Giambrone’s service and leadership in the National Alumni Association mirror her extensive contributions of service and leadership in the Dayton community. Giambrone is vice president for marketing and external relations at The Children’s Medical Center of Dayton. Her service to UD comes from her gratitude for the support she received from the University in her undergraduate years, when she was first diagnosed with cancer. Each year, she guest lectures in a sociology course on death and dying. Her volunteer service to UD and the NAA has included three years as NAA president, three years on the University of Dayton Board of Trustees, eight years on the NAA board, 10 years as chair of the alumni services committee, a year as chair of the public relations committee and two years as chair of the nomination committee. She helped develop the Erma Bombeck Writers’ Workshop; the Leadership With Virtue program; Christmas off Campus; Learn, Lead, Serve programs; the Student Alumni Council; the expansion of Reunion Weekend; and the Heritage Center. She now is a community member of the board of trustees’ athletics committee and a member of the advisory board for the expansion of the Immaculate Conception Chapel.