



APRIL 29, 2017

MARTIN'S CROSSWINDS
7400 GREENWAY CENTER DR. | GREENBELT, MD



April 29, 2017

We do not live in a world that celebrates kindness. Many of us frequently complain about the negativity of the news. Have we trained the media to focus on these things?

There can be few things that pay as big a dividend as simple acts of kindness. Selfless acts of giving, be it a smile, a compliment, or a helping hand, result in an emotional uplift not only for others, but also for the person providing them.



Research shows – when we perform acts of kindness, it has a positive effect on the brain, can help us to live longer, and makes us happier.

That is why my mission is to have a positive impact on society by Celebrating the Excellence in People, and that is what the Acts of Kindness Awards is meant to do.

I'd like to personally welcome you to the Acts of Kindness Awards. I am so happy that you decided to attend.

Congratulations to this year's Acts of Kindness Award recipients. What they do for others inspires us to want to make a difference in our communities. I encourage each of you, to meet and greet the award recipients at the reception which immediately follows the awards ceremony.

In closing, thank you for attending the Acts of Kindness Awards. We could not accomplish what we do without your support, and I look forward to seeing you again at next year's Acts of Kindness Awards.

Sincerely,

Wanda L. Adams



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 29, 2017
The Acts of Kindness Awards Gala
Accolade Celebrations, LLC
Greenbelt, Maryland

A Message from Governor Larry Hogan



Dear Friends:

Welcome to The Acts of Kindness Awards, hosted by Accolade Celebrations, LLC!

Genuine service is a critical part of what makes communities strong. Often, we are never made aware of the selfless and wonderful service that is performed by others. As Governor, I am honored to join in offering congratulations to those individuals who will be recognized tonight for their acts of kindness.

Again, I welcome you to this event, offer my appreciation for all those that made it possible, and extend my very best wishes to each of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Larry Hogan in black ink on a light yellow background.

Larry Hogan
Governor



Program

Jen Croneberger - Host

8:05PM Invocation/Food Blessing
Bishop Tony Medley, Sr.

Dinner

9:12PM Song Selection
Mosaic Harmony

9:24PM Outstanding Community
Service Award

9:35PM Song Selection
Mosaic Harmony

9:48PM Outstanding Human
Service Award

10:00PM Song Selection
Mosaic Harmony

10:14PM Good Samaritan
S/Hero Award

10:26PM Closing Remarks

10:30PM Reception/Meet & Greet



Special Thanks

To the Acts of Kindness Awards Benefactors

Go to www.accoladecelibrations.com to click on the icons for special deals or information.



Lyft utilizes a mobile-phone app to facilitate ridesharing by connecting passengers with drivers.



Templarmill Classic Toy Train is a fantasy display designed for kids of all ages. The layout includes circus themes, tin toy items, antique treasures and a Christmas display.



Uber Technologies Inc., is a multinational online transportation network company that develops and markets the Uber mobile app, which allows consumers to submit trip requests.

Monica Rachelle Fitness

Monica Rachelle Fitness is here to break barriers, create new norms and re-define what it means to be a woman. Monica Rachell Fitness is a new age manifestation of the phrase beauty and beast, because as women they CAN play both roles. Monica Rachell Fitness wants women to not only embrace their delicate side, but also their strong side – not only their curves but also their muscles.

Thank You

SPONSOR

eXp Realty

HOST

Jen Croneberger

INVOCATION/FOOD BLESSING

Bishop Tony Medley, Sr.

HONORABLE MENTION RECIPIENTS

Renee Brooks

Jason Burns

Joan Dorsey

Food Link, Inc.

Mary Frances Garner

Deborah Shipman

Marvin Thorpe, II

Robert Watson

PRESENTERS

Cynthia Brooks

Emarii Lopes

Cheriss May

Thank You

PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick Brezzel

PERFORMANCES

Mosaic Harmony

SWAG BAG DONOR

Primrose Boutiq

PRODUCTION TEAM

Alicia Adams	Kabrina Queen
Larry Adams	Denise Rogers
Mike Adams	Colette Russell
Monica Adams	Dan Sepulveda
Michele Churchill	Jeredine Williams
April Goff	Alexis Wilson
Lauren Jones	Margaret Wilson
Jina Perry	Tyrese Wilson
Malik Perry	William Wilson
Camden Queen	



Key Dates

The 2018 Acts of Kindness Awards

June 5, 2017	Call for Sponsors
August 1, 2017	Call for Award Nominees
October 2, 2017	Deadline for materials from nominees (nomination form, bios and images for website)
December 4, 2017	Acts of Kindness Awards Nominations announced
December 29, 2017	Deadline to become an Acts of Kindness Awards Sponsor Sponsors' advertising artwork due
January 2, 2018	Online Voting for Award Finalists Begins
January 31, 2018	Online Voting for Award Finalists Ends
February 1, 2018	Call for Ads for the Souvenir Program Booklet
March 13, 2018	Deadline for Ads (and advertising artwork) for Souvenir Program Booklet
April 28, 2018	The Annual Acts of Kindness Awards Gala Martin's Crosswinds, Greenbelt, MD, 7:00PM Award Winners Named



Lauren Puryear

Acts of Kindness Awards

Outstanding Community Service Award Recipient

Lauren Puryear is a Cancer Survivor, Motivational Speaker, and Extreme Couponing Queen. She understands that living is less about her and more about the legacy she leaves behind. The 29-year-old philanthropist, mental health clinician and proud mother was born in Coral Springs, Florida and raised in Paterson, New Jersey. Lauren completed her undergraduate studies at Virginia Union University, and possesses two Masters Degrees and later obtained her Ph.D. in Psychology. Lauren's environment as a small child instilled in her the importance of giving back to the community. Lauren started a charity organization, For the Love of Others, LLC with a mission to assist those in need, specifically focusing on eradicating hunger. She has already fed over 6,000 people, and with a goal to feed 30,000 people before her 30th birthday, Lauren's decision to celebrate the lives of those she can help instead of herself is commendable. Lauren credits her grandmother who taught her the significance of having "love for others." As a result, Lauren stands grounded in believing that if she can help somebody as she passes along; if she can cheer somebody with a word or song; if she can show someone that he or she is traveling wrong, then her living shall not be in vain. After beating cancer twice, Lauren's resilience and strength has been incredible! Lauren is a living example of overcoming life's challenges, at the same time being able to help others appreciate one of the real treasures in life – which is love. Her goal is to share her story with the world in hopes to not only raise awareness but to inspire & encourage. Lauren and her son reside in Woodbridge, Virginia. Lauren prides herself in giving back to her community because the community is where she finds pride.

Spring Dell Center, Inc.

Bridging the Gap Since 1967

Acts of Kindness Awards

Outstanding Human Service Award Recipient

Spring Dell Center, Inc. provides services focused on enhancing the quality of life people with disabilities desire within the community. Services are designed in consideration of every participant's interests, preferences, strengths and challenges to ensure each person achieves the highest level of independence possible. The center employs over 150 staff that focuses on various areas of daily living including employment placement, social connections and residential assistance, as well as transportation services for over 200 adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities in Charles County, MD. This is a long way from the organization's humble beginnings in the basement of a church nearly 50 years ago.

Originally organized as the first county day care program for disabled children under the Charles County Handicapped and Retarded Citizens Association in 1962, the program was separately incorporated in 1967 becoming known as Spring Dell Center, Inc. As other local programs began serving the most capable segments of the county's developmentally disabled citizens, Spring Dell made efforts to serve the segment of this population that required more specialized and intensive services.

The center's growth has led to the continuous expansion of not only residential program, but a transportation fleet of approximately 60 vehicles and supplementary programs such as Music Therapy as well as Movement and Wellness. Keeping with the organization's motto "Employment and Community First"; partnerships have expanded to foster individual skill development throughout Maryland at places like Meal on Wheels, Farming for Hunger, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue and St. Charles Town Center. Additionally, renovations to the center's two Hooks & Hangers Quality Resale stores have increased sales, bringing in added funding to support programs.

Whether it is providing supports so a person can take his or her first steps, obtain their first home or a simple paycheck, agency staff continues to bridge the gap between the development of personal goals and the achievement of them. As the organization moves towards Maryland's Employment First Initiative, fostering integrated employment opportunities for individuals within programs, agency staff will continue to strive towards developing a stronger Maryland by being advocates for people with developmental or intellectual disabilities.



Reverend Hollie M. Lopes

Acts of Kindness Awards

Good Samaritan-S/Hero Award Recipient

Rev. Hollie Lopes is founder and Assistant Pastor of the Priceless Gems ministry at Beloved Community Church, in Accokeek, Maryland. The purpose of the Priceless Gems ministry is three-fold: 1) educate the community and church; 2) develop meaningful relationships with survivors; and 3) support organizations that provide shelter, clothes, food, and critical life skills to survivors of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence. Rev. Hollie is also the founder and Executive Director of Open Arms Ministries, whose purpose is to establish educational awareness platforms, equip churches and other faith base organizations with the necessary information to impact their communities, and provide the critical and essential necessities to survivors of Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, and prison gentrification. Rev. Hollie's commitment to the survivors of these social justice travesties led her to become an active participant of the Prince George's County Human Trafficking Taskforce and the Maryland State Human Trafficking Taskforce. The Priceless Gems and Open Arms ministries have established partnerships with FAIR Girls, Courtney's House, and Still I Rise, Inc. These three phenomenal non-profit organizations focus on Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence awareness, survivor services and benefits, legal affairs, and mental health support.

Through Rev. Hollie's ministries, and by utilizing established partnerships and existing Human Trafficking task forces, Rev. Hollie has hosted several educational seminars that focus on Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence. Providing what survivors need is Rev. Hollie's main heart burden. She works diligently with intake centers, emergency centers, and temporary housing services to understand what survivors need and holds fundraising/collection drives to obtain what's needed. Rev. Hollie has also introduced survivors to the Theater and Arts, by taking them to the Kennedy Center.

Rev. Hollie holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business and International Finance from Northeastern University, a Degree in Programming from Cambridge Institute, an Executive Management Diploma from Johns Hopkins University, and a Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University School of Divinity. Rev. Hollie is also a Technology professional with over 25 years of experience in the field. In addition to her Technology career and her devotion to Ministry, Rev. Hollie is a mother of two wonderful children, Emarii and Andrew.



Jen Croneberger

Acts of Kindness Awards

Host

Jen Croneberger is a widely sought-after speaker for corporations, schools and universities, organizations and teams all over the country and is the president of JLYnne Consulting Group, LLC.

Most of her last 10 years have been spent working with people of all ages, from all walks of life, instilling confidence and building deeper connections and awareness. Her Master's Degree is in Sports and Performance Psychology and some of Jen's clients have included professional athletes and big Division 1 programs across the country.

Jen was consulted by MTV's show "MADE" as a mental skills/fear coach for one of its subjects in the Fall of 2007. She has also been interviewed on four different occasions by Philadelphia's ABC affiliate, Channel 6 Action News and was selected by the Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry as the 2009 Female Business Leader of the Year.

Jen has been on the TEDx stage as a speaker three different times in 2013 and 2014. She runs a group coaching program called the Soul Tribe Evolution Project, has a radio show called The Possibility Project, and writes monthly columns for a variety of publications. She published her first book in 2012, called "These Five Words Are Mine."

Jen was named "Best of 2015 and Best of 2016: The #1 Motivational Speaker in the Philadelphia and Washington, DC Regions" respectively, by Thumbtack based on client reviews.



www.mosaicharmony.org

Unifying the world... one song at a time

Mosaic Harmony is an interfaith, multicultural community choir of the Washington Metropolitan Area that draws on the rich heritage of African-American inspirational music. As a human mosaic, the choir strives to illustrate and encourage unity in the midst of diversity, one song at a time. Committed to the belief that inspirational music can create a community of interfaith and racial harmony, the choir members represent several different races, numerous faith traditions, and a variety of occupations. They are joined together by the ministry of music, their beliefs uniting them as a choir, energizing them to share their message and connect to others. Together they celebrate a commitment to creative expression, musical excellence, commitment to service and shared joy and support. Mosaic Harmony endeavors to infuse joy and lift the spirits of its audiences through their music and message, while offering encouragement to those who may be struggling through difficult times. The choir aims to remind its audiences, and the choir members as well, that anything is possible. Mosaic Harmony is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has been funded over the years by donations from devoted members and fans, through paid performances and arts grants, and by annual Mosaic Harmony fundraising concerts. During its concert season, which runs from September through June, the choir performs in locations throughout the Washington metropolitan area.



Congratulations Rev. Hollie Lopes!!!

*Nominated for the
Good Samaritan Shero
Act of Kindness Award
We are so Proud of you!*

*Your Family from
Beloved Community Church UCC
17500 Indian Head Hwy Accokeek, MD
Pastors Guy & Sherry Molock*



Now Is The Time

23rd Annual Spring Fundraiser Concert
Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 7:00pm
Reston Community Center (Hunters Woods)
Sponsorship opportunities and tickets on sale NOW!
www.mosaicharmony.org



Get social with us and tell your friends!
Find us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn



Best Wishes to the Annual Acts of Kindness Awards - 2017

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ACCOLADE *Celebrations, LLC*

Our Guiding Scripture

Philippians 4:8 (NIV)
Finally, brothers and sisters,
whatever is true, whatever
is noble, whatever is right,
whatever is pure, whatever
is lovely, whatever is
admirable - if anything is
excellent or praiseworthy
- think about such things.





The Acts of Kindness Awards

Saturday, April 29, 2017

The Acts of Kindness Awards™, a signature event produced by ACCOLADE Celebrations, LLC, is a premier awards and recognition gala to celebrate the EXCELLENCE in People. Rewarding and recognizing the Excellence in People not only makes the person feel great, it promotes behavior that we expect from everyone. People need to sense that they are valued by others and feel that they are making a contribution to the world. Being nominated and selected for a recognition award can play a role in fulfilling this need.

In an era where more attention is given to negative publicity and the ills of the world, ACCOLADE Celebrations, LLC understands the need and importance of setting special time aside to recognize and show appreciation for the good things people do. ACCOLADE Celebrations, LLC, strives to meet this need, while especially focusing on workers in the service, public safety and health care industries, but also your “average Joe and Jane” who display Acts of Kindness.

Simply put, ACCOLADE Celebrations, LLC strives to follow, in spirit and in deed, Philippians 4:8 – “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things” (NIV).

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