

THANK YOU



RecognizeGood[®] NEWS

Leadership Austin Joins Ethics in Business & Community Program



From: *Amy Moore*

... **Mike Forcucci**, thank you for your constant hard work and energy you put in each and every day! You put everyone before you and go above and beyond in everything you do. I have tremendous amounts of respect for you and would be incredibly lost without your supervision.

From: *Anonymous*

... **Carole Price**, the compassion and kindness you show is an inspiration to our community. Thank you!

From: *Anonymous*

... **Bill Miller** is one of a kind. He never boasts or even talks about all he does for others. He is loved by many!!

From: *Bonnie Kelly*

... **Flo Macklin**, what an inspiration!! 42 YEARS, delivering over 17,000 meals for those in need. Such dedication!! Imagine how it would have been without her.

From: *Anonymous*

... **Frankie Fowler**, In gratitude for all you have done and continue to do in the field of domestic violence and healing, as a world culture.

From: *Anonymous*

... **Mike Coffin**, for all the lives you changed because of your dedication and hard work, Thank You!

To post a RecognizeGood Thank You, visit recognizegood.org.

RecognizeGood is proud to announce a new partnership with **Leadership Austin** for the **15th Annual Ethics in Business & Community Awards**. Leadership Austin will select alumni from its renowned program to serve as the selection panel for the 2017 awards.

"We're honored to be part of this effort," said **Christopher Kennedy**, Leadership Austin CEO. "The Leadership Austin core values of Community Trusteeship, Inclusiveness, Collaborative Decision Making and Personal Responsibility align so well with the vision of RecognizeGood and we are excited to be part of the process that celebrates those businesses, non-profits and civic leaders who practice these values each day."

Ethics in Business & Community Program Director **Scholley Bubenik** commented, "When I first got involved with the program, it was more of an annual event. Through the efforts of many people who care deeply about the value of what Ethics in Business & Community represents,

it's gained lots of momentum over the past few years and has truly become a year-round movement. We are honored to expand the movement to include Leadership Austin."

Leadership Austin ignites passion for community leadership. Since 1979, the organization has developed and created community among leaders from the business, non-profit and public service sphere. Leadership Austin offers a variety of programs that explore critical community issues, develop the leadership skills to address those issues, and foster relationships to work collaboratively for positive change. Members of the Leadership Austin family influence the community in measurable, meaningful ways to improve the quality of life for all in our region.

Visit leadershipaustin.org for more!

Austin Says Thanks to Inspiring Volunteers



Over 125,000 acts of gratitude were registered in this year's Say Thanks, Austin campaign as all of Central Texas turned its attention and appreciation toward nine inspiring local volunteers. Calvin and Carter Miller of Ten At A Time finished the campaign with the most Thank You votes, and a \$10,000 pay-it-forward donation was presented in their names at City Hall on Friday, February 17th. Emceed by RecognizeGood board members Bobby Jenkins and Earl Maxwell with a special message from Austin Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, this seventh annual Say Thanks Austin Closing Ceremony showed what extraordinary impacts can be made by those all around us.

Bobby Jenkins, of ABC Home & Commercial Services, began the celebration with an earnest message. "I don't think that you could celebrate something more important in Austin than people doing good. This award represents a heartfelt thank you, and I think that's the key thing in all that's transpired in this process, that the people we're recognizing today are being thanked – and the sheer number of thank yous is simply amazing."

Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo told the audience she was glad to deliver a message of thanks on behalf of the city. "RecognizeGood helps identify those individuals who are doing good things every day but who may not appear in the Statesman or on the ten o'clock news. It is really important to be able to say thank you. Austin is a great city, but we are not without our challenges. Many of those who are going to be recognized today are actively engaged in addressing those

challenges in positive and productive ways – and we rely on you. We very much appreciate all the work you do in this community to make greater Austin a better place to live for all of us."

Say Thanks, Austin is the annual event which presents the Austin area with a unique opportunity to say "Thank You" to a select group of remarkable individuals who contribute their time and talents toward exemplary acts of good - our RecognizeGood Legends. Over the course of January, the community is able to say Thank You to each participant by voting for one or all by means of a variety of voting methods including online, email, text, hand-written Thank You forms, and social media platforms. Most importantly, our community focuses attention on those who truly deserve it, and are inspired to find ways to contribute themselves.

Pay-it-forward donations were also made to **Bill Miller** (Drive A Senior), **Carole Price** (Hospice Austin), **Dianne Doggett** (Autism Society of Central Texas), **Connie Bellows** (Project Care Case), **Flo Macklin** (Meals on Wheels Central Texas), **Mike Rogan** (Ecology Action of Texas), **Frankie Fowler** (SAFE Alliance), and **Mike Coffin** (Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area).



RecognizeGood Board Members

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RecognizeGood Partners



Ethics in Business & Community Award Finalists



RecognizeGood is proud to announce the finalists for the 15th Annual Ethics in Business & Community Awards. Finalists were notified Thursday, March 2 at an event hosted at Concordia University Texas. This prestigious award recognizes the best in Central Texas leadership. Businesses, nonprofits and individuals in five categories have been nominated by the community for their exemplary ethical leadership, outstanding ethical practices and excellent business principles including respect, fairness, honesty, justice, and sustainability.

This year's finalists include technology companies large and small, a regional grocery chain, a local automotive repair chain, three very different financial services firms, a yoga instructor, a youth sports pioneer, a renowned philanthropy expert, and nonprofits providing services to newborn babies, underprivileged youth, and the homeless. Once again, we learn that ethical business practices exist in every sector, at every level and within organizations of all sizes!

"On Texas Independence day, it's fitting to say that the students who sign up for this class are not unlike those who fought in the Alamo," said Dr. Jack Allen. "This is way, way more than they thought they signed up for."

Jokes aside, he continued, "Education promises more independence by expanding our choices. Really, our goal is to prepare these young people for the real world - and ethical companies, nonprofits and individuals are out there."

Nominations were accepted through December 2016, then vetted by the students of the College of Business at Concordia University Texas, who reviewed and researched nominees before narrowing the candidates to 15 finalists. Next, the students will begin a rigorous, in-depth review of each finalist and present their findings to a selection committee made up of business and community leaders from Leadership Austin, who will vote on the final award recipients. Concordia's involvement is led by Dr. Lynette Gillis, Dean of the College of Business and participating students are taught by adjunct professor Dr. Jack Allen.

The final awards will be announced at the annual awards luncheon in May 2017. It is attended each year by hundreds of Central Texas business leaders and is expected to draw more than 600 attendees in 2017. This year's Honorary Chairs are Bobby Jenkins, CEO of ABC Home & Commercial Services, and Earl Maxwell, CEO of St. David's Foundation.

Large Business

H-E-B
NXP Semiconductors
Silicon Labs

Mid-size Business

Kasasa
Lamb's Tire & Automotive
WP Engine

Small Business

Corvalent Corporation
Five Stone Tax Advisers
Per Stirling Capital Management

Individual

Fayruz Benyousef
Ashley Spence Clauer
John Lorek

Nonprofit

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area
Foundation For The Homeless
Mother's Milk Bank at Austin



With Appreciation



Joel Coffman, Executive Director

In March, RecognizeGood held two **Ethics in Youth Education** events that taught me a lot. Both delivered the same message, but in different formats. In partnership with Round Rock ISD and the Round Rock Partners in Education Foundation, we held our second Ethics in Youth Conference where high school juniors and seniors heard from community leaders on the subject of ethics as it related to their future careers. As part of Georgetown's Youth Career Fair, we held two panel discussions centering around the question, "Does doing the right thing help you succeed in your career?" Both seemed to me not only valuable for the students who attended, but for the schools themselves as well as for the gracious business owners and leaders who agreed to be part.

Students seem to genuinely enjoy hearing from different perspectives, and our message of **"Do good, and you'll do well"** seemed to be received as more than just a feel-good pep talk – this was real advice from truly successful people, and wasn't something they'd necessarily learn in the classroom. Educators and parents more than ever seem to be focused on setting their kids up for future success at a young age, and with more opportunities constantly hitting today's students than would have been imaginable in my high school days (not THAT long ago!), part of me feared that relating GOOD to successful futures might get lost in the noise. But as more and more successful organizations and their leaders identify the true value in GOOD employees and colleagues, the idea is validated time and time again – and as educators look more and more toward industry to integrate what's needed in the workforce with what students learn in the classroom, our Ethics in Youth Education program is picking up speed in a way I don't think any of us could have predicted. I'm thrilled with the possibilities and really, really excited about the way **this program helps complete the triangle of business, community, and the people who make both thrive.**

About Us

We are a local nonprofit that provides a means for individuals, businesses and other nonprofits to illuminate selfless volunteers, charitable acts and community service throughout the greater Austin area. Our mission is to elevate the spirit of community by catalyzing a movement of good deeds and unselfish charity through recognizing, rewarding and promoting good in our businesses and the communities in which they reside. RecognizeGood® has several active programs that work toward this mission from different angles, but the common theme is simple – **illuminating GOOD in our community** and encouraging others to contribute, while becoming **the voice for socially responsible businesses.**

There's plenty of good happening all around us, right here in the Austin area - all you have to do is shine a light! Go out of your way to say thank you to a courteous driver, salute the volunteerism of a co-worker or give kudos to a local business for their corporate citizenship. Opportunities to show both large and small acts of gratitude are endless, but by making your thank you public at recognizegood.org you have the chance to inspire others. To learn more about us and our programs, log on to recognizegood.org, sign up for our e-mail newsletter or connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Pinterest or Instagram.

Recognizing good in your daily life is easy and only costs a few moments of your time – help us illuminate the GOOD in our community by joining our "Community Reporters" and reporting the GOOD you see at recognizegood.org.



RecognizeGood
Programs

RecognizeGood.org



Speaker / Book Series

Nonprofit Partnerships



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Scan using your phone's QR app to go directly to our website.