

TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Established by the Class of 1982, the award is presented annually in November to alumni or former students who have distinguished themselves in their professional life and in their civic or public service and who, through these accomplishments, have brought great credit to their alma mater. The “Tradition of Excellence Awards” are sponsored jointly by the Board of Education and the Student Council.

Tradition of Excellence nominations may be made directly to Oak Park and River Forest High School c/o the Assistant Principal for Student Activities, 201 N. Scoville Ave., Room 174, Oak Park, IL 60302. A form is provided on the school’s website at www.oprfhs.org > Alumni/Development.

2008	Paul Broucek	Class of 1970	Film/Music – Former President of Music/New Line Cinema, overseeing music on many films, including <i>Austin Powers</i> , <i>Wag the Dog</i> , <i>Blow</i> , <i>I Am Sam</i> ; executive music producer for <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> film trilogy, winning 3 Oscar nominations for music; launched career as assistant engineer on <i>Apocalypse Now</i> to famed Sound Designer Walter Murch; currently producer/consultant on music productions, working w/ record producer Salaam Remi and as executive producer for score of <i>Laundry Warrior</i> .
	Joe Cantafio	Class of 1973	Music – Youngest Music Director of Dick Clark’s live <i>Good Ol’ Rock & Roll Show</i> , performing w/ artists like Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis, The Beach Boys; noted voice over artist; created “Let Freedom Sing” one-man show, benefiting NY firefighters in 9/11 aftermath; his <i>101st Rock Division</i> band entertains troops in Mideast and his Forgotten Hero Foundation produces entertainment for veterans; Board member/Director, National American Veterans Museum.
2007	Charles P. Carey	Class of 1971	Finance – Three consecutive terms, Chairman/Chicago Board of Trade, transitioning it to a NY Stock Exchange-listed public company; Anti-Defamation Leagues’ Lifetime of Achievement Award; Ellis Island Medal of Honor award; Rerum Novarum Award; President of the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame; Distinguished Alumni Award – Western Illinois University.
	John Register	Class of 1985	Athletics/Olympian – Silver medalist and long-jump record holder in the Paralympic Games (2000 Sydney); manager of the U.S. Olympic Committee’s (USOC) Paralympic Academy; Director of USOC Paralympic Sport Military Program; NCAA All-American honors winner; U.S. Army Meritorious Service Medal.
2006	Jayne Carr Thompson	Class of 1964	Government/Law – Former first lady of Illinois; noted public affairs specialist and public relations practitioner, as well as former trial and appellate lawyer; severed three Illinois governors on issues on issues relating to health and human service systems and status of women.
	Sara Giddings Bode	Class of 1953	Government – Recipient of Rudy Bruner Award for “excellence in the urban environment;” served on boards of Michigan Avenue National Bank and the First Bank of Americas monitoring red-lining; Mayor Daley’s Task Force on Welfare Reform; former trustee/president of Village of Oak Park board and Director of the Oak Park Development Corporation.

	Terry C. Isaacson	Class of 1960	Education – Vice Provost at Arizona State University, overseeing the conversion of the former military base into the vibrant university campus now serving 6,500 students; U.S. Air Force career of 27 years, holding many command positions, including Wing Commander at Williams AFB.
	George Trafton - Posthumously awarded	Class of 1916	Athletics – Elected to Professional Football Hall of Fame in 1964; partnered with George Halas in development of National Football League, playing 13 seasons with the Chicago Bears; coached Green Bay Packers.
2005	Paul Harvey Aurandt, Jr.	Class of 1966	Author/Radio Producer – Creator, Producer, and writer of the longest-running and most popular series in radio history, “The Rest of the Story®”. Inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2001
	Mike Feinberg	Class of 1987	Education – Co-founder of the KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program) Foundation and the Superintendent of KIPP Houston
	Patricia S. Paulsen	Class of 1945	Community Service – Served as the President of the League of Women Voters and in 1973, she became the first woman elected as a Trustee of the Village of Flossmoor
	Alex Wurman	Class of 1984	Music/Composer – Versatile film composer with compositions including piano melodies of “Confession of A Dangerous Mind”, orchestral chases of “Hollywood Homicide”, the Emmy-nominated HBO film “Normal”, and soulful melodies combined with ethereal orchestrations for “March of the Penguins”
2004	E. Paul Braucher	Class of 1939	Military – Graduated from West Point Military Academy, MIT, and George Washington University. He went on to a distinguished 30-year career in U.S. Army and achieved the rank of Brigadier General in 1970
	Robyn Davis	Class of 1981	Dance – Has been a member of the Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theater and has performed in several performances at the Civic Center for Performing Arts in Chicago under the artistic director, Randy Duncan
	Gregory V. Fera	Class of 1974	Film and Television – Producer, writer and director. Among his many films and television shows are “Mysterious Ways,” “Muppets Tonight,” and “News in Review.” Additionally, he has produced music videos for the Rolling Stones and Elton John
2003	Bruce Hay	Class of 1981	Law – Graduated the top of his class from Harvard Law School in 1988. He went on to clerk for Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and is currently a Professor of Law at Harvard University
	Evelyn Holmes	Class of 1983	Journalism – Has been the weekend morning anchor at CLTV in Chicago and is now a reporter for ABC 7 in Chicago
	Amy Morton	Class of 1977	Theatre – Has been a member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company since 1997.

	Martin Pearlman	Class of 1963	Music – Founder and Director of the Boston Baroque. This group is internationally acclaimed and has been nominated three times for the Grammy Award
2002	Stewart Gold, M.D.	Class of 1977	Medicine – Currently is the Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Northwestern University School of Medicine and Medical Director of Neuro-Oncology at Children’s Memorial Hospital
	John Maienza	Class of 1977	Architecture/Design
	Danielle Tyler	Class of 1992	Sports – Was on the 1996 U.S. Olympic Women’s Softball Team that won the Olympic Gold Medal in Atlanta, Georgia
2001	Donna Conlon-Brosal	Class of 1973	Public Service
	Laura Kragie, M.D.	Class of 1975	Medicine – Current Adjunct Research Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Division of Clinical Pharmacology at Georgetown University Medical School in Washington D.C.
	Jacqueline Schiff Nemerovski	Class of 1950	Community Service – Served as President of the San Francisco Arts Commission, Chair of the San Francisco Education Fund, and Former Associate Director of Development of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art
	Jay Ruby	Class of 1953	Anthropology
2000	Stephen Gawne	Class of 1974	Medicine – Accomplished physician and teacher
	Elsie Lunde Jacobsen	Class of 1932	Community Service
	Kevin R. Roy	Class of 1986	Journalism – Reporter and news anchor
	Alice Sinkevitch	Class of 1971	Architectural History – Edited the “AIA Guide to Chicago” / written several pieces on historical buildings in Chicago
1999	Amy Ellen Anderson	Class of 1981	Arts – Sang with the Aldeburgh Festival, appeared with Aspen Opera Theatre and the Bronx Opera
	Robert Condor	Class of 1974	Journalism – Writer for Chicago Tribune’s “Food Guide” and “Feeling Good”
	Percy Lavon Julian, Jr.	Class of 1958	Law – Specializes in Civil Rights Cases
	Janet Wolter	Class of 1943	Medicine – Professor of Medicine. Oncologist known for her breast cancer research
1998	Richard C. Atkinson	Attended 1942-44	Science – Member of National Academy of Sciences / President of the University of California system
	Anthony T. Browder	Class of 1969	History – Founder/Director of the Institute of Karmic Guidance / Historian specializing in Egyptology
	Robert Follett	Class of 1946	Business/Publishing – Former president and CEO of Follett Corporation / Community Service
	James J. McClure, Jr.	Class of 1938	Law/Public Service – President, Village of Oak Park 1973-81 / <u>Who’s Who in America</u>
1997	Wallace S. Broecker	Class of 1949	Science – Distinguished scientist and researcher in geochemistry. Noted professor and author of numerous textbooks. Exceptional leader in earth sciences

	Clissold (Budd) Hill	Class of 1949	Theatre/Set Design – Noted costume designer and researcher from Broadway to TV commercials to regional theatre. Specializes in Shakespearean and other classical plays. University of Delaware instructor in costume design
1996	Thomas G. Colmey	Class of 1953	Medicine – Distinguished local physician
	John W. McCarter	Class of 1956	Community Service –Director of Field Museum, Chicago
	David A. Morowitz	Class of 1956	Medicine – Distinguished physician in Gastroenterology, author, and photographer
	Lewis R. Pope	Class of 1938	Business – Outstanding business leader
1995	Lincoln S. Dring, Jr.	Class of 1952	Humanitarian – Civil rights leader
	Jane Hamilton	Class of 1975	Literature – Banta Book Award / PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award
	Carol Warner Shields	Class of 1953	Literature – Pulitzer Prize in Literature, 1995
	William Zwecker	Class of 1967	Journalism – Columnist, <u>Chicago Sun-Times</u>
1994	Dan Castellaneta	Class of 1975	Performing Arts – Performed with “Second City” and is the voice of Homer Simpson on the TV show “The Simpsons”
	Marjorie Judith Vincent	Class of 1983	1991 Miss America – Traveled throughout the world as an Ambassador of Goodwill
1993	William J. Adelman	Class of 1951	Education – Professor, Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Illinois-Chicago / <u>Who’s Who in America and Who’s Who in the World</u>
	Virginia Cassin	Class of 1942	Community Service – Clerk of the Village of Oak Park, 1973-1993 / Served as advisor to the presidents of Rosary and Concordia Colleges / Board Member of the Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park
	Vida Brown Olinick	Class of 1940	Dance – Prominent ballerina of the 1940’s and 1950’s / One of Balanchine’s major dancers and served as his assistant
1992	Allen D. Moses	Class of 1947	Architecture
	Loren M. Smith	Class of 1974	Environmental Science
	John V. Wehausen	Class of 1931	Mathematics
	Marcelline Hemingway Sanford	Class of 1917	Arts and Letters
1991	Betsy Rasmussen-Guyer	Class of 1945	Medical Physiology – Missionary in Thailand
	William F. May	Class of 1933	Business – Dean of the New York University Graduate School of Business Administration, 1980-84 / Chairman and CEO of American Can Company, 1965 – 1980 / Chairman and CEO of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation
	Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio	Class of 1976	Drama – Academy Award nominee
	Charles Simic	Class of 1956	Literature – Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, 1990

1990	Helene Alexopoulos	Class of 1976	Dance – Prima Ballerina – New York City Ballet
	Roberta L. Raymond	Class of 1955	Government/Public Service – Executive Director, Oak Park Housing Center / Board of Directors, National Federation for Neighborhood Diversity / Community Merit Award (OPDC), 1987 / Award for High Achievement in Social Services presented by the National Organization of Women, 1990
	Anitra Thorhaug	Class of 1958	Marine Botanist – Professor, Florida International University / Global 500 Honour for Environmental Achievement, 1987 (UNEP) / Former President, Club of Rome
	Edward C. Wagenknecht	Class of 1917	Biographer – Professor Emeritus, Boston University, <u>Who's Who in America</u> / Featured Reviewer, <u>Chicago Sunday Tribune</u> / Principal Biographer: Lillian Gish, Geraldine Farrar, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain
1989	James Duffy	Class of 1944	Broadcast Journalism – President, ABC Communications, Capital Cities/ABC, Inc. / President's Volunteer Action Award, 1987 / Illinois State Broadcaster of the Year, 1978
	Kermit E. Krantz	Class of 1941	Medicine – Professor and Chairman, Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics; Professor of Anatomy and Lecturer – History of Medicine, University of Kansas
	Donald Lesh	Class of 1949	Public Service – Executive Director, Global Tomorrow Coalition / Former Foreign Service Officer / National Woodrow Wilson Fellow
	Howard Nemerovski	Class of 1950	Law – Senior Member of Howard, Rice, Nemerovski, Canady, Robertson and Falk / Board of Trustees, American Conservatory Theatre / Board of Trustees, San Francisco Chamber Symphony / White House Fellow, 1965-1966
1988	John Dreiske	Class of 1925	Journalism – Political Editor, <u>Chicago Sun-Times</u> , 1942-1972 / Marshall Field Award – Editorials / Outstanding Contribution to the Newspaper Industry, Chicago Newspaper Guild / Distinguished Service Award, Chicago Press Veterans
	Robert Fritts	Class of 1952	Foreign Service – Ambassador, United States Department of State / Superior Honor Award, Department of State
	Phil Neal	Class of 1936	Law – Dean, University of Chicago Law School, 1963-1975 / Chairman, White House Task Force on Antitrust Laws, 1968 / Professor, Stanford Law School, 1949-1961 / United States Supreme Court Law Clerk, 1943-45 / Director, American Bar Association, 1963 – 1977
	Nan Stockholm	Class of 1972	Environmental Law – Associate Majority Counsel, US Senate – Committee on the Environment / President, Stanford Environment Law Society / Director, Conference of Western Attorneys General, 1984-85 / President's Environmental Merit Award, 1972
1987	Don Canham	Class of 1937	Intercollegiate Athletics – Athletic Director, University of Michigan / United States Track and Field Hall of Fame

	Howard Hamilton	Class of 1937	Medical Science – Chief, Clinical Laboratories, Atomic Bomb / Casualty Commission, Hiroshima, Japan / <u>International Who's Who of Contemporary Achievement</u> / Science Award, United States National Academy of Science
	Thomas Soderstrom	Class of 1953	Botany – Curator, Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institute / Fellow of the Linnean Society (FLS), London / Honorary Associate, Botanical Society of Brazil
1986	Harry John Brown	Class of 1942	Music – Distinguished Professor, SUNY, Fredonia, New York / Founder, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra / Founder, Chautauqua Civic Orchestra, New York
	Robert L. Kroc	Class of 1925	Science – President, Kroc Foundation / Director of Physiology, Warner-Lambert Corporation / Humanitarian Award, Juvenile Diabetes / Found International, 1984
	Alice Lohrer	Class of 1924	Library Science – Professor Emeritus, Library Science, University of Illinois / Former President, Illinois Library Association / Rockefeller Grant, University of Keio, Tokyo, Japan
	Bruce Morton	Class of 1948	Broadcast Journalism – CBS News Correspondent / Peabody Award, 1977 / Emmy Award, 1971, 1974
1985	Edith Heal Berrien	Class of 1922	Literature/Education – Author, Professor, Fairleigh Dickinson University
	Kenneth Douglas	Class of 1940	Business – Chairman and CEO, Dean Foods Corporation / Director, Centel Corporation / Director, Milk Industry Foundation
	Faith Jefferson Jones	Class of 1923	Social Work – Dean of Women, Hampton Institute / Director, Parkway Community House
	Wilton Krogman	Class of 1921	Forensic Anthropology – Professor, Physical Anthropology, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania / Director, Philadelphia Center for Research in Child Growth
1984	Thomas F. Barnum	Class of 1957	Business – Chairman and Division Executive, Citicorp Services / Senior Advisor on International Trade to the United States Secretary of Commerce
	Richard Christiansen	Class of 1949	Journalism – Entertainment Editor, <u>Chicago Tribune</u>
	Bruce Davidson	Class of 1952	Photography – Guggenheim Fellowship / One-man Show, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1963 / First Prize – Fiction, American Film Festival
	Prentice H. Marshall	Class of 1944	Law – Judge, United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois
1983	Bruce Barton	Class of 1903	Advertising – Founder, Batten, Barton, Dustine & Osborne, Inc. United States Congressman, 1937-1941
	May Estelle Cook	Class of 1884	Civic Leadership – A Founder of the 19 th Century Woman's Club / Author, <u>Little Old Oak Park</u>

	Frederick J. Doyle	Class of 1937	Space Science – 1 st Chairman, Department of Geodetic Science, Ohio State University / NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement, 1971
	Walter Burley Griffin	Class of 1896	Architecture – 1 ST member of Chicago School of Architecture to be awarded a foreign commission for the plan of new Australian capital, Canberra
	Ernest Hemingway	Class of 1917	Literature – Nobel Prize, Literature 1954 Pulitzer Prize, Fiction 1953
	James Herrick	Class of 1877	Medicine – Founder, Chicago Heart Association / Founder, Chicago Society of Internal Medicine
	Ray Kroc	Class of 1920	Business – Founder, McDonald's Corporation
	John La Montaine	Class of 1938	Composer – Pulitzer Prize, Music 1959
	George Schaefer	Class of 1937	Performing Arts – Emmy Award Winner, Directors of American Award