

2026

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

AWARDS

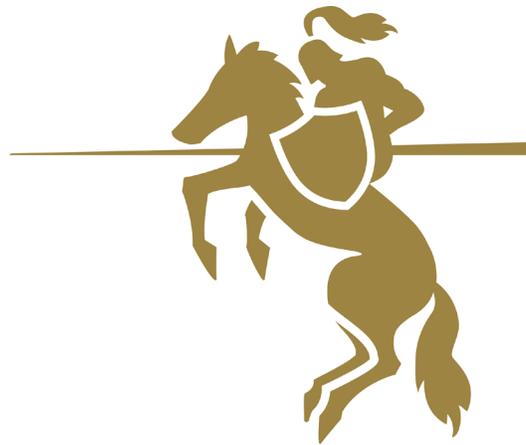


*Our Lady of Angels College,
now Neumann University,
celebrates 47 years of recognizing
alumni excellence.*



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PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Opening Remarks:

Dr. Charles Sack, *Executive Director of Alumni Programs*

Opening Prayer:

Sr. Pat Hutchison, OSF, '70, *Chair of Awards Committee*

Presenters:

Sharon Gebhardt-Williams '91, *President of the Alumni Executive Board*

Jennifer Blake '94, EdD, *Vice President of the Alumni Executive Board*

2026 Neumann University Alumni Award Recipients

◆ ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS ◆

Outstanding Senior Award

Dominic Petruzzelli '26

◆ DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI ◆ BY SCHOOL

The School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Education

Frederick H. Mitsdarfer, III, '12

The School of Health Sciences

Harrison Grube '18, DPT

The School of Business

Vincent D. Sculli, III, '10

◆ ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS ◆

Honorary Alumni Award

Richard Sayers, PhD

Young Alumni Achievement Award

Amaris I. Manning '21

Volunteer of the Year Award

Arthur J. Halstead '02

Spirit of Francis and Clare Award

Lisa Annette Desamour '20

Recognition Award

Linda Vonderschmidt-LaStella '70

John Neumann Award

Arianne Missimer '10, DPT

◆ PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD ◆

Sr. Marie Angela Presenza, OSF, '71

Closing Remarks:

Sharon Gebhardt-Williams '91, *President of the Alumni Executive Board*

Jennifer Blake '94, EdD, *Vice President of the Alumni Executive Board*



Dominic Petruzzelli '26

Alumni Association Outstanding Senior Award

Awarded to recognize an outstanding senior student. The recipient of this award has maintained a good GPA, performed community service, shown excellent leadership skills, and has given evidence of a search for truth and respect for all of creation.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- 1999 – Cheryl A. Grosso '99
- 2000 – Susan A. Nolek '00
- 2001 – Vanessa M. Cecilio '01
- 2002 – Edward L. Schaeffer, III, '02
- 2003 – Amy N. Lukas '03
- 2004 – Amy M. Klinger '04
- 2005 – MarySue E. Facht '05
- 2006 – Kristin Y. Hofstee '06
- 2007 – Jaffir A. Rice '07
- 2008 – Paris J. Coleman '08
- 2009 – Catherine E. Fiandra '09
- 2010 – Annemarie D. Vizoco '10
- 2011 – Melissa A. Mullin '11
- 2012 – Caitlin M. Lotty '12
- 2013 – Frederick H. Mitsdarfer, III, '13
- 2014 – Elizabeth A. Blevin '14
- 2015 – Teka White '15
- 2016 – James Reif '16
- 2017 – Katrina Terry '17
- 2018 – Dylan Diodato '18
- 2019 – Amanda Wolfgang '19
- 2020 – Megan C. Bates '20
- 2021 – Ciani Hodges '21
- 2022 – Ariana Peña '22
& David Shertel '22
- 2023 – Dariana Troilo '23
- 2024 – Casandra Nguyen '24
- 2025 – Nadirah N. Roberts '25

Dom Petruzzelli is a definitive student leader whose journey to Neumann University is a masterclass in resilience. Joining the community in January 2024 following the closure of Cabrini University, Dom did more than just transfer; he intentionally sought a home rooted in tradition, service, and excellence. He quickly realized that Neumann was the ideal stage for his dual commitment to academic rigor and athletic leadership.

Dom transformed a period of uncertainty into a catalyst for growth. Even before his first day on campus, he proactively engaged with student organizations, driven by a singular determination to contribute. This forward-thinking mindset allowed him to become a cornerstone of the campus community in record time. Now widely known as “Mr. Neumann,” Dom’s nickname is a testament to his visible dedication, his gift for building connections, and his unwavering alignment with the university’s mission.

Dom’s leadership is multifaceted, bridging the gap between athletics, student life, and academic support. Whether serving as a campus ambassador for prospective families or advocating for student-athlete mental health, he leads with intentionality. As the men’s soccer team captain, his influence extends beyond the field; his legacy is defined not by the titles he holds, but by the inclusive, relationship-driven culture he has built at Neumann.

A true embodiment of Neumann’s Franciscan values, Dom leaves a lasting mark defined by resilience and clarity of purpose. As he transitions into his professional career, he remains dedicated to academia, aspiring to serve as a secondary mathematics educator and soccer coach. By leading with integrity and fostering meaningful connections, Dom is poised to impact his future students just as he has his peers—making him a truly deserving recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS BY SCHOOL

Selected by the deans of their respective schools, this honor recognizes graduates who have made exemplary contributions to society through research, practice, education, or service. Recipients are chosen for their professional excellence, commitment to Neumann University's core values, and the distinction they bring to our community.



PAST RECIPIENTS

Adult Continuing Education

2016 – Brenda Wilson '15
2017 – Jacqueline R. Powers '14 '16
2018 – Ethelind Baylor '14

Arts and Sciences

2016 – Curtis Crowther, Esq., '90
2017 – Kimberly A. Wilson, Esq., '96
2018 – Roberta D. Pichini, Esq., '77
2020 – MaryAnn Melisi '73
2021 – Katherine Joan Sullivan '14
2022 – Kiriakoula Gregor '14
2023 – Kevin Copeland '00, MD

Business

2016 – Stephanie Ellis '04
2017 – Chad Rolston '01

2018 – Ashley L. Dabb '10

2020 – Ryan M. Hammond '00

2021 – Saje A. Knight '18 '19

2022 – James Patrick Lynch '09, EdD

2023 – Denada Ramnishta '04

2024 – Magogodi Makhene '08

2025 – Malik Willard '18

Education and Human Services

2016 – Sr. Deborah Krist, OSF, '87

2017 – Msrg. Joseph M. Corley '89 †

2018 – MaryAnn Wallen '04

2020 – Dr. Cassandra Pistorius '18 †

2021 – Adjani Diana Mone Jenkins '19

2022 – Nicole A. Draper '14 '16, MEd

2023 – Kimberly LaCoste '91, EdD

Nursing and Health Sciences

2016 – Dr. Darren Rodia '05 '07

2017 – Michele A. Szkolnicki '86

2018 – Kerry Ronan '09

2020 – Annette C. Frawley '92, RN, MSN

2021 – Dr. Jillian Fontana '13

2022 – Dr. Madeline E. Lambrecht '77

2023 – Sr. Rose Raymond Barba, OSF, '78

2024 – Judith A. Neubauer '10 '13, DNP

2025 – Nafees Kareem Norris '20

School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Education

2024 – Sheila F. T. Sandapen '89, PhD

2025 – Lori Simons '91, PhD

† Deceased



Fred Mitsdarfer, III, '12

The School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Education Distinguished Alumni Award

Frederick H. Mitsdarfer, III, Class of '12, is an equity partner at Tarabicos Grosso, LLP, a nationally recognized boutique commercial real estate and land use law firm. Fred focuses his legal practice on all facets of commercial real estate (CRE) transactions, guiding a diverse clientele through the entire property lifecycle—from initial acquisition and financing to development, land use approvals, assessment appeals, and final disposition.

Fred's trajectory of excellence began at Neumann University, where, among other things, he was a University Honors Student, served as Student Government President, and cocreated the LEAD Conference. Following graduation from Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, he sharpened his expertise within the highly regarded real estate groups at three preeminent firms: Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, Richards Layton & Finger, P.A., and Greenberg Traurig, LLP.

A dedicated leader within the legal community, Fred currently serves as Treasurer of the Delaware State Bar Association's Executive Committee. His influence extends to the American Bar Association (ABA), where he is a member of the Standing Committee on Professionalism and Vice-Chair of Real Property Skills Training for the RPTE CLE Committee. Committed to giving back, he is an active contributor in multiple mentorship programs, which range from elementary students to new attorneys.

Fred is consistently recognized by peers and clients alike, including routinely in the prestigious The Best Lawyers in America "Ones to Watch" for his work in Real Estate, Land Use and Zoning, Project Finance, and Municipal Law. His legal excellence is further underscored by his repeated inclusion in Super Lawyers Magazine as a "Delaware Rising Star" and his regular recognition as a Top Lawyer in Delaware Today. A sought-after voice in the industry, he frequently speaks nationally at ABA conferences and is a widely published author on evolving CRE and land use topics. Ultimately, his career reflects a steadfast commitment to excellence, community service, and the strategic advancement of the CRE legal landscape.



Harrison Grube '18, DPT

The School of Health Science Distinguished Alumni Award

Harrison Grube '18, PT, DPT, ATC serves as the Lead Medical Return to Performance and Assistant Athletic Trainer/Physical Therapist for the Carolina Panthers. Harrison joined the organization in April 2024, bringing a wealth of elite-level experience in athlete rehabilitation and injury prevention.

His career began at the University of Delaware, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Athletic Training in 2012. During his undergraduate years, Harrison completed three consecutive training camp internships with the Seattle Seahawks (2010–2012), later returning for a seasonal internship in 2014. He went on to earn his Doctor of Physical Therapy from Neumann University in 2018.

Prior to joining the Panthers, Harrison spent five seasons (2019–2024) as a full-time physical therapist and assistant athletic trainer for the Seattle Seahawks. He currently resides in the Charlotte area with his wife, Aubrey, and their daughter, Noelle.



Vincent Sculli, III, '10

The School of Business Distinguished Alumni Award

Vincent D. Sculli, III is a distinguished leader in the Sports Commercial Printing and collectibles industry, currently serving as the President and Majority Owner of Choice Marketing, Inc. and the newly established Choice Insignia, LLC. A cum laude graduate of Neumann University ('10) with a degree in Sport Management and Business Administration, Vince's career is a quintessential story of dedication and growth. He began his journey with Choice Marketing as an intern during his time at Neumann, eventually rising through the ranks to Account Executive and Vice President before acquiring the company in September 2024.

Under his leadership, Choice Marketing has secured its position as a dominant force in the sports licensing landscape. Vince has been instrumental in overseeing the contracts that established Choice SportsCards as the exclusive licensee for Minor League Baseball (MiLB) trading cards through 2030. His strategic vision also secured high-profile licenses with the MLB Players Association (MLBPA) and the MLBPA Alumni Association, ensuring the company remains a premier partner in professional baseball through 2027 and beyond.

Vince's professional success is built upon a foundation of academic excellence and early hands-on experience. His dual focus on Sport Management and Business at Neumann provided the framework for his rapid ascent within the industry. By leveraging his deep understanding of market trends and contract negotiation, he has transformed Choice Marketing into a multi-faceted organization capable of navigating the complex world of professional sports memorabilia and corporate branding.



Richard Sayers, PhD

Alumni Association Honorary Alumni Award

This award is presented by the Neumann University Alumni Association to individuals (non-alumni) who have performed continuous exemplary service to the University or made significant contributions of time, talent or wealth to the University. The Neumann Alumni Association, through its Executive Committee has created the Honorary Alumni Award for non- alumnus/a past, present, and potential impact on Neumann University community qualifies them for alumni status.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- 2010 – Dr. Rosalie Miranda †
and Mr. Anthony Miranda
- 2011 – Fred Savitz, PhD
- 2013 – Mary McCoy, PhD
- 2014 – Larry S. Friedman †
- 2015 – Sr. Margaret Grace Gannon, OSF
- 2016 – Ann Giunta
- 2017 – Jude D. O’Shea
- 2018 – William V. Gagliardi
- 2020 – The Cultural Arts Forum Board
Nicholas J. DiMarino – *Coordinator*
Janice H. Mancuso – *Chair*
Anne Barlow
Patricia Bruggeman
Mary G. Domes
Diane M. DiMarino
Splendor DiMarino †
Pat DiNicola ’79
Diane Fleck
Marie Luke †
Mary Mascioli
Fay McManus ’84
Mary Militello
Vickie Pasternack
Lulu Grace Smart
Leona Swiacki
Patricia A. Thomas
Theresa Venello
- 2021 – Scott Bogard
- 2022 – Sandra M. Weiss, EdD, MLS (ASCP)
- 2023 – John C. Ford
- 2024 – Anthony A. Latini, Jr.
- 2025 – Thomas P. Phiambolis, MD

† Deceased

Dr. Richard (Rick) Sayers is a Professor of Music and a cornerstone of the intellectual and cultural community at Neumann University. As the Coordinator of the University Honors Program, Dr. Sayers mentors high-achieving students through both the University and Freshman Honors tracks, fostering a culture of rigorous research and academic excellence. In that capacity, he coordinates the annual LEAD Conference, a signature campus event where students deliver TED-style presentations on diverse research topics.

Beyond the classroom, Dr. Sayers is a dedicated advocate for the arts. He serves as the Director of the NU Jazz Band, leading the ensemble through various popular styles and their celebrated concert series. He has served as musical and vocal director for the NU Players, and he even composed the Neumann University Alma Mater. His influence also extends into the local arts scene as a speaker for the Delaware County Symphony “Meet the Music” pre-concert talks.

A vocal proponent for campus creative spaces, he played a supportive role in a fundraising event for the Nick DiMarino Black Box Theater. Dr. Sayers holds a Ph.D. from the Catholic University of America, an M.M. from West Chester University, and a B.A. from LaSalle College. Known for his ability to make complex subjects accessible, he remains deeply committed to cross-disciplinary mentorship and helping families navigate the academic landscape of higher education.



Amaris I. Manning '21

Alumni Association Young Alumni Achievement Award

This award is given to a living alumni member, who is a graduate of Neumann University, who is less than 40 years old by January 1st in the year the award is presented, and who is outstanding in their profession. The Neumann University Alumni Association, through its Executive Committee, has created the Young Alumni Achievement Award for alumnus/a in recognition of outstanding achievement in their profession while upholding the mission and values of Neumann University.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- 2013 – Jessica Sabato '12
- 2014 – Jamal Green '00
- 2015 – William M. Pezzotti '05
- 2016 – Kathrina R. Chesser '04
- 2017 – Alloyius K. McIlwaine '04
- 2018 – Maria Sotomayor-Giacomucci '13
- 2020 – Christina L. Summa '12
- 2021 – Tiffany E. Connelly '14
& Frank A. Altamuro, III, '14 '15
- 2022 – Kwaku Owusu-Agyemang '09
- 2023 – Dontae Timothy Phillips '10
- 2024 – Tahirah Austin-Muhammad '09
- 2025 – Katrina Marie Terry '17

A member of the Class of 2021, Amaris Manning has put her BA in Communications and Digital Media, complemented by minors in Criminal Justice and Political Science, to dynamic and purposeful use. With a deep passion for storytelling and critical media analysis, she found her calling in journalism and media production to capture the broader context of a story through four guiding questions: Why does this matter? Who does this impact? How does it relate to the audience? What is the takeaway? These principles continue to shape her work in media and broadcast journalism, as well as her creative pursuits as an independent author and visual artist.

Born with a heart condition, Prolonged QT Syndrome, Amaris approaches each day using her platform to amplify Black and Brown voices and those often marginalized or silenced, while challenging systemic racism, unconscious bias, and harmful stereotypes. She earned her Master's degree in Media Studies and Production from Temple University, where she simultaneously published a dark supernatural webcomic. Accompanying this creative work, her thesis examined the portrayal of Black and Brown male characters in U.S. comics, focusing on character appearance, archetypes, masculinity, sensuality, and mental health. The project applied critical theories, including the Looking-Glass Self, symbolic interactionism, social construction, and parasocial relationships, while incorporating ethnographic research to evaluate audience responses to narrative and character representation.

Amaris is a recipient of multiple awards, including recognition for her short documentary March for Our Lives, her poetic still-animation film The Little Airplane, and her radio talk show Fri-Dee Knights. She is also the author of two published books, We, pEOPLE and Depend on Me, distributed through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, and international publishers. Beyond media, she operates businesses in graphic design, illustration, web design, and production, while continuing to write and publish creative work.



Arthur J. Halstead '02

Alumni Association Volunteer of the Year Award

This award is given to any living alumni member, who is a graduate of Neumann University and who has been distinguished in such a way as to bring honor to the individual, the University and/or the Neumann University Alumni Association. The Neumann University Alumni Association, through its Executive Committee, having created the Alumni Volunteer of the Year Award for an outstanding alumnus/a who demonstrates a personal commitment to Neumann University through volunteer service and has exemplified the values of the University.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- 1995 – Brendan P. Kelly '87
Scholarship Committee
- 1997 – Frances A. Cook '84 †
- 1998 – Neumann College Parents
Committee
- 1999 – Bonnie Stuffleet '73
- 2000 – Lucy Martin '80 †
- 2001 – Michele Sellers '89
- 2002 – Dr. Rosemarie Collins '77
- 2003 – Peter Vink '91
- 2004 – Richard F. Klineburger, III,
Esq., '92
- 2005 – Marian Moskowitz '91
- 2006 – Jennifer April '04
- 2007 – Sandra E. Evans '92 '02
& Scott J. Kirkland '96
- 2008 – Michael Criscuolo '00
- 2009 – Elena Barrar '11
- 2010 – Christina Bolopue '09
- 2011 – Francis D. Winkey '04
- 2012 – Martin H. Milligan, Jr., '89
- 2013 – Jaclyn S. Ritter '01
- 2014 – Shirley Puccino '09
- 2015 – Richard C. Boulay '04
- 2016 – Patricia DiNicola '79
- 2017 – Jason T. B. Peterson '03 '12
- 2018 – Noelle Stack '09
- 2021 – Maureen E. Tracy-Irving '83
- 2022 – Lauren Christine Shipman '15
- 2023 – Courtney Curcio '18
- 2024 – Mark Bennett '16
- 2025 – Elizabeth Ann Del Re '11

† Deceased

Artie Halstead, BA Communications '02, is an accomplished sporting event Producer and Director with a proven track record of overseeing the in-arena experience for world-class events globally. After graduating from Neumann University, Artie began his career working with his hometown Philadelphia teams, including the Flyers, Sixers, Eagles, Phillies, and Wings. In 2004, he transitioned into a key leadership role as a Director/Producer with Comcast Spectacor at what is now known as the Xfinity Mobile Arena.

Throughout his tenure, he also served as the Video Production Manager for the Philadelphia Flyers and Comcast Spectacor. In this role, he managed creative direction and production schedules for a diverse team of video editors, graphic artists, videographers, and producers. Together, they delivered award-winning content across multiple NHL, NBA, and NLL seasons, as well as major live events for one of the busiest arenas in the world.

As Senior Producer for the Philadelphia Flyers and Comcast Spectacor, Artie has spearheaded the game-day presentation for numerous NCAA Championships—including Basketball, Wrestling, and the Frozen Four—while also directing the Overwatch League (OWL) Grand Finals. The hallmark of his career remains his work with his childhood team, the Philadelphia Flyers, where he has been a driving force behind marquee productions like the NHL Draft, the Stanley Cup Final, and outdoor showcases such as the Winter Classic and Stadium Series. This expertise extends to the global stage, where he was selected to Direct and Technical Direct during two Olympic Games: the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi (Ice Hockey) and the 2016 Summer Games in Rio (Boxing).

Artie credits the values and work ethic instilled in him at Neumann University as the foundation of his leadership, distinguishing him as a producer and director who excels at developing staff, solving creative problems, and collaborating across departments to execute world-class events. For him, the ultimate reward comes when the house lights dim and the music swells; leading a team through those high-stakes minutes—where months of preparation culminate in a show for 20,000-plus fans—remains the singular driving force behind his career.



Lisa Annette Desamour '20

Alumni Association Spirit of Francis and Clare Award

The Spirit of Francis and Clare of Assisi Award recognizes a graduate whose demonstrated commitment to the Catholic Franciscan tradition and values has led him/her to develop an initiative that makes a significant impact in one or more of the following areas: Support of persons who are poor or underserved Advancement of understanding and support for the environment Promotion of peacemaking Development of intercultural understanding

PAST RECIPIENTS

2020 – Brian M. Dolbow '99

2021 – Kevin T. Barr '79

2022 – Helen Kain '87

2023 – Patricia Demiranda '14

2024 – Alana D. Ward-Lee '02 '06

2025 – Tasliym Amatullah Morales '13

A proud Philadelphia native, Lisa Desamour '20 was raised in the Francisville section of North Philadelphia, where her early education at Parkway Center City High School sparked a lifelong passion for literature and the arts. Today, that foundation of creativity and discipline supports her most cherished role as a mother of two and a dedicated caregiver to her three “fur-babies.” Lisa’s journey from the neighborhood streets to the front lines of public safety stands as a testament to the power of community, family, and a calling to serve.

Lisa dedicated 20 years of unwavering service to the Philadelphia Fire Department, where she refined her craft in fire suppression and emergency medical services. Stationed at Engine 45, Ladder 14, and Medic 25 in North Philadelphia, she played an integral role in the safe operation of an American LaFrance Pumper and was honored with two Engine Unit Citations for her essential role in the rescue of trapped fire victims. Her commitment to excellence culminated in her promotion to the rank of Fire Lieutenant in November 2019.

Beyond the fire line, she has emerged as a specialized leader in community risk reduction. As a certified Fire & Life Safety Educator and Youth Fire-Setter Prevention Specialist, she co-produced and hosted the Fire Commissioner’s public safety television show, “Freedom from Fire,” in collaboration with LaSalle University. These roles allowed her to bridge the gap between emergency response and proactive education, utilizing her Pro Board certification as a Fire Service Instructor to mentor the next generation of first responders.

Lisa’s professional evolution is anchored by elite academic training. She earned a BS in Public Safety Administration from Neumann University while stationed at Fire Headquarters and successfully completed the Emergence Program at the Naval Postgraduate School – Center for Homeland Security and Defense. This intensive six-month innovation lab allowed her to examine emerging trends in technology and homeland security, ensuring that her two decades of experience are matched by a forward-thinking approach to public safety and leadership.



Linda Vonderschmidt-LaStella '70

Alumni Association Recognition Award

This award is given to any living alumni member, who is a graduate of Neumann University and who has been distinguished in such a way as to bring honor to the individual, the University and/or the Neumann University Alumni Association. The Neumann University Alumni Association, through its Executive Committee having created the Alumni Recognition Award for an outstanding alumnus/a whom has shown dedicated and devoted service to Neumann University, and has exemplified the values of the University.

With a career spanning over four decades, Linda Vonderschmidt-LaStella's '70 work is rooted in the conviction that the arts are the bedrock of community. After earning an MFA in ceramics and painting, she balanced a rigorous studio practice with teaching at every level, from pre-K to university. During her early career at Canticles in Clay, she focused on large-scale sculptural tiles and complex glaze overlays, resulting in permanent installations across corporate and educational institutions in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina. These efforts include the Canticle Mural that is displayed in the lobby of the Rocco Abessinio Building at Neumann University.

Since establishing Earthsongs: Works in Clay in Metuchen over thirty years ago, Linda has served as a driving force in the New Jersey arts scene. Her administrative footprint includes founding and directing multiple galleries, such as the Elizabeth Ann Seton Gallery and the internationally recognized Nails in the Wall. By securing grants and designing innovative programming, she has transformed local spaces into professional hubs that bridge the gap between regional artists and the public, earning consistent recognition for organizational excellence.

Linda specializes in “dreaming into being” large-scale initiatives that energize the local spirit. As the visionary behind the Junebug Artfest and the recent Clay Days in Metuchen, she has successfully moved art out of the studio and onto the streets. Her public commissions, including the Capital Health Medical Center murals and the collaborative Community Peace Mural—demonstrate a unique ability to manage complex, multi-year projects that invite hundreds of citizens to leave their own permanent mark on the landscape.

Following a 40-year retrospective of her work at the Catholic University of America in 2024, Linda's practice has evolved toward an exclusive focus on studio production and high-impact commissions. While Earthsongs no longer hosts regular classes, it remains a vibrant center for the creation of mixed-media ceramic works for residential, public, and commercial spaces. She continues to explore the spiritual and healing power of clay, seeking new ways to engage the community through the quiet, transformative strength of visual art.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- 1995 – Mary Kay Hamm '71
- 1996 – Ronice Robinson '81
- 1997 – Collette Rogers Dugan '88
& Joseph M. Dugan '88
- 1998 – Elizabeth Cord '72 †
- 2000 – Dr. Nancy J. Simons '78
- 2001 – Mary Anne Varacalli '86
- 2002 – Sr. Carmel M. Earls, OSF, '71
- 2003 – Rosemary Coletta '91
- 2004 – Michael Kaczinski '89
- 2005 – Mary Ann Melisi '73
- 2006 – Betty Paulanka '77, EdD
- 2007 – Susan Cotterall Homer '88
- 2008 – Marcia Perkins '87
- 2009 – Megan A. Yeager Zabel '92
- 2010 – Sr. Patricia Kerezsi, OSF, '02
- 2011 – Suzanne T. Mullarkey '94
- 2012 – Cheryl A. Grosso '99
- 2013 – Regina Black Lennox '77
- 2014 – Patricia Kaeser '87
- 2015 – Sr. Linda DeCero, OSF, '01
- 2016 – Michael Hawley, Esq., '89
- 2017 – Rose J. Morris '79 †
- 2018 – Annmarie J. Kelly '01
- 2020 – Vincent P. Cipollone, Jr., '04
- 2021 – Scott Giacomucci '13, DSW
- 2022 – Nancy Gorevin Costello '03
- 2023 – Gabriel Angemi '16
- 2024 – Demi L. Moore '11, EdD
- 2025 – Malcolm J. Yates '16

† Deceased



Arianne Missimer '10, DPT

Alumni Association John Neumann Award

This award is given to any living alumni member, who is a graduate of Neumann University and who has been distinguished in such a way as to bring honor to the individual, the University and/or the Neumann University Alumni Association. The Neumann University Alumni Association, through its Executive Committee having created the John Neumann Alumni Award for alumnus/a whom through his or her professional development, service to Neumann University and community service, has exemplified the values of the University.

Dr. Arianne Missimer is a nationally recognized leader in integrative medicine, holistic physical therapy, and nervous system-based rehabilitation. As the CEO and Founder of The Movement Paradigm™, she specializes in identifying the root causes of complex, chronic conditions by integrating movement science, functional medicine, airway optimization, and somatic healing. One of a select group of professionals globally certified through the Institute for Functional Medicine, she has dedicated her career to empowering individuals to move beyond symptom management toward sustainable, whole-body healing.

A cancer survivor, elite athlete, and lifelong educator, Dr. Missimer bridges the gap between clinical excellence and personal resilience. Her work has been featured on ABC, CBS, FOX, and NBC, and she is a TEDx and keynote speaker on movement science, nervous system regulation and nutrition. Her extensive accolades include being named Main Line Today's Power Woman and Health Care Hero, the NSCA Sports Medicine Rehabilitation Specialist of the Year, and a featured cover athlete, columnist, and advisory board member for STRONG Fitness Magazine.

Central to her mission is the Movement Paradigm™ Pay It Forward Campaign, a community-driven initiative designed to bring care and compassion to those often overlooked. Through this campaign, Dr. Missimer and her team provide outreach to assisted living facilities and nursing homes, using movement and mindfulness to restore dignity and joy. This initiative reflects her core belief that true healing extends far beyond the clinic, beginning instead with presence, kindness, and dedicated service to the community.

Through her clinical practice, media presence, and educational platforms, Dr. Missimer continues to advance a compassionate, evidence-informed approach to health that bridges science and human connections. Guided by a deep commitment to mentorship and service, she remains a driving force in the industry, helping individuals worldwide reclaim their health, vitality, and independence.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1979 – Benjamin Levin '76 † | 1995 – Patricia A. Rigby '80 | 2011 – Fay L. McManus '84 |
| 1980 – Marianne Marchlik Virgilio '74 | 1996 – Sr. Patricia Smith, OSF, '72 | 2012 – Michele A. Szkolnicki '86 |
| 1981 – Constance Connelly Taylor '70 | 1997 – Ronice H. Robinson '81 | 2013 – Salvatore Mattera '07 '09 |
| 1982 – Judith B. Wentz '75 | 1998 – Thomas P. Tague '87 | 2014 – Carol Dougherty '86 & |
| 1983 – Kathleen Power '74 † | 1999 – Mary Glatts '82 | Sr. M. Frances Cassidy, OSF, '70 |
| 1984 – Mary A. Hagenbach '78 † | 2000 – Teresa Coffey '83 '96 | 2015 – Bruce D. Egan '03 |
| 1985 – Marion Parker Wrease '76 | 2001 – Ann T. Loftus, Esq., '81 | 2016 – Melissa Maginnis '01, PhD |
| 1986 – Eileen O'Day Sosa '82 | 2002 – Margaret S. Ambrose '90 † | 2017 – Angel Smedley '90 |
| 1987 – Margie Coffey-Lane '75 | 2003 – Sr. Elizabeth Howe, OSF, '76 | 2018 – Honorable Diane M. Holfelder '10 '12 |
| 1988 – Diane Rawski '85 † | 2004 – Deborah Love '77 | 2020 – Kathleen M. Afkhami-Ardekani '88 |
| 1989 – Jacqueline Blundin '81 | 2005 – Msgr. Federico Britto '05 | 2021 – G. Stephen Williams, Jr., '09 |
| 1990 – Francis Trelvelino '76 | 2006 – Sr. Marguerite O'Beirne, OSF, '70 | 2022 – Annette Hargadon '87 '09 |
| 1991 – Catherine E. Walmsley '79 | 2007 – Sr. Mary K. Farrell, OSF, '85 | 2023 – Sr. Clare Andrew D'Auria, OSF, '72 |
| 1992 – Joan B. McNeal '84 | 2008 – Kristen A. Varley '03 | 2024 – Edith Anne Burnham Maletsky '76 '95 |
| 1993 – Anna Dressler Ferguson '80 | 2009 – Rogers Glispy '03 | 2025 – Fred William Wurster, III, '16 '22 |
| 1994 – Mary Mylin Francis '80 | 2010 – James T. Britt '06 | |

† Deceased



PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Distinguished Alumni Awards are chosen by the president of Neumann University, and presented to a graduate whose career is characterized by continuous and exemplary contributions to society through research, practice, education, or service. The recipient must be an individual who brings enduring honor to Neumann University and to the community and exemplifies the core values of the University.





Sr. Marie Angela Presenza '71

President's Distinguished Alumni Award

Awarded by the President of Neumann University to an outstanding alumnus/a who exemplifies the characteristics of leadership, dedication and a commitment to Neumann University.

Sister Marie Angela Presenza, OSF '71, is a beloved pillar of the Neumann University community, embodying the Franciscan tradition through her dedicated service and compassionate leadership. As a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, Sister Angela has spent decades nurturing the spiritual and personal growth of students, faculty, and staff.

A graduate of Our Lady of Angels College, Sister Angela began her professional journey as an elementary educator and administrator. It was during these foundational years that she affirmed her joy in helping students and families experience the positive impact of learning and leading. Her vocation led her to participate in and lead various programs and committees at St. Paul's parish in South Philadelphia, St. Raphael's parish in White Horse, NJ and St. Anthony's parish in Trenton, NJ, always centering on the needs of the community.

Over time, it became clear that Sister Angela was a transformational leader. With a focus on pastoral care, mission integration, and community building, she was invited to serve as a member of the Board and Mission and Ministry Committee of St. Francis Medical Center in Trenton, NJ. Her distinguished work on this board, among many others, paved the way for her to join the Neumann University Board of Trustees.

From 2008 to 2025, Sister Angela held multiple vital roles within the Board, including Board Chair and Secretary of the Board. In these capacities, she was instrumental in ensuring that the core values of RISES—Reverence, Integrity, Service, Excellence, and Stewardship—are not just words on a page but lived experiences for every member of the Neumann family. And concurrent to her roles on the Neumann University Board of Trustees she has served as the Program Coordinator of the Franciscan Spiritual Center since 2004.

Known for her gentleness, warmth and wisdom, Sister Angela remains a steadfast advocate for the transformative power of a Franciscan education. Her presence on campus serves as a daily reminder of the University's commitment to graduating ethical, compassionate leaders anchored in the Franciscan tradition.

PAST RECIPIENTS

1995 – Cynthia Taylor '70 †
1996 – Roberta D. Pichini, Esq., '77
1997 – Mary Kay Hamm '71
1998 – Sr. Patricia Smith, OSF, '72, PhD
1999 – Sr. Kathleen A. Parisi, OSF, '69
2000 – Sr. Ann Forrest, OSF, '69
2001 – Maryanne Lieb '79
& Sr. Jean Margaret McDevitt, OSF, '68 †
2002 – Rocco A. Abessinio '79
2003 – Sr. Jane LaManna, OSF, '75
2004 – Sr. Lynn Patrice Lavin, OSF, '78 †
& Sister Ann Michele Zwosta, OSF, '68
2005 – Sr. Nora Nash, OSF, '75 †
2006 – Albert Fasano '87
2007 – Sr. Patricia Hutchison, OSF, '70, EdD
2008 – Sr. Marijane Hresko, OSF, '68
2009 – The Class of 1967
Ms. Eleanor M. Haworth '67
Sr. Mary P. Johnson, OSF, '67 †
Ms. Rosanne M. Kury '67
Mrs. Lynne Lavelle '67

Ms. Pauline M. Lutostanski '67
Sr. Kathleen McCabe, OSF, '67
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Meyer '67
Sr. Kathleen M. Moffatt, OSF, '67
Sr. Julia Mulvihill, OSF, '67
2010 – Mary Ann McLane '76, PhD
2011 – Sr. Christa M. Thompson, OSF, '69, PhD
2012 – Eileen P. (O'Day) Sosa '82
2013 – Joan G. Thomas '85
2014 – Joseph Neary '00
2015 – Elizabeth G. Sushereba '88
2016 – Sr. Christopher Wagner, OSF, '69 †
2017 – Kelley Robinson Stenger '90
2018 – Regina M. Haney '72
2020 – Ronaldo I. Tello-Marzol '08 '10 '19, PhD
2021 – Reverend Stephen Thorne '15
2022 – Michael Kaczenski '89
2023 – Regina Black Lennox '77
2024 – Jason Cannon '15
2025 – Sr. Linda M. DeCero, OSF, '01

† Deceased

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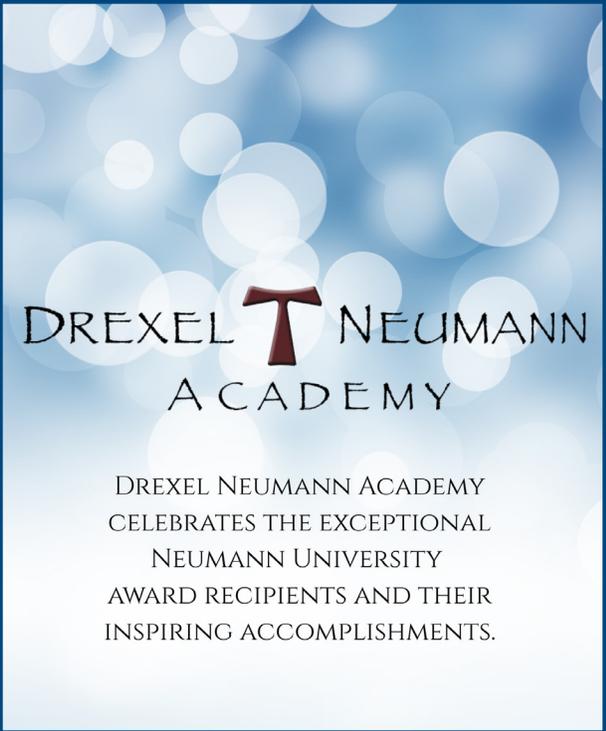


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The logo for Neumann University. It features a square icon on the left containing the letters 'N' and 'U' stacked vertically, with a horizontal line separating them. To the right of the icon, the words 'NEUMANN' and 'UNIVERSITY' are stacked in a serif font. Below 'UNIVERSITY' is the tagline 'CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE FRANCISCAN TRADITION' in a smaller, sans-serif font.

**NEUMANN
UNIVERSITY**
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Your belief, your generosity, and your hope can empower others to find their purpose.

Where you found home, help others find their future.

Give Where It All Began —
THEN. NOW. ALWAYS.

Where possibilities begin.

