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Marymount U. Awards Ceremony Celebrates Outstanding Catholic Students and Donors

13 Nov 2015 11:24 AM | [Kenneth Fanelli](#) (Administrator)



Marymount University hosted the third annual Catholic Business Network of Northern Virginia Awards Reception and Ceremony at its Emerson G. Reinsch Library auditorium on Wednesday evening, November 4. CBN NOVA officers, members and joined Bishop Paul Loverde to show their appreciation to four exemplary Catholic high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in scholarship while giving back to their schools, communities and the needy in developing countries. Also recognized was the 2015 Catholic Business Person of the Year, Parker Teel, president of Great Falls, Virginia-based Teel Construction, Inc. CBN NOVA is one of several charities that the commercial builder supports.

In a surprise introduction of his father, an emotional Spencer Teel characterized the honoree as “one of the hardest working and most level-headed individuals you’ll ever meet. These leadership traits come from his southern upbringing,” which values honest labor and Christian values. Spencer Teel went on to praise his father for being generous and fair to his four dozen employees by saying: “He handles every situation equitably and with professionalism while maintaining a key agenda in his life: which is to provide for his family and staff.”

The ceremony’s emcees, CBN NOVA President and Chairman Richard Fanelli and CBN Tyson’s Chair Lucia Jason introduced short videos about Parker Teel and each of the four Y.E.S. (Youth Exemplifying Service) Award recipients. The Y.E.S. Award winners each received \$1,500 scholarships from CBN NOVA. Alexander Aguilera from Paul VI High School in Fairfax, Kristina Colevas from Bishop Ireton High School in Falls Church, William Adams from Saint John Paul the Great High School in Dumfries, and Isabel Anderson from Bishop Ireton in Alexandria were selected by school administrators and teachers from among their peers. Earlier this fall, each had learned of his or her selection at student assemblies with Fanelli, Jason and Bishop Loverde in attendance.

In keeping with the theme of supporting Catholic schools, Robert Muller, director of the Foundation for the Diocese of Arlington gave a brief presentation on how the faithful can give the gift of Catholic education through the Virginia Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit program, which extends a 65 percent tax credit to donors.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by the Bishop O’Connell jazz band and string orchestra under the direction of Ron Isaacson. The Bishop O’Connell Singers, under the direction of Peter Kadeli, serenaded Bishop Loverde on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood with a Gaelic prayer set to music and a rendition of Ave Maria.

In his remarks to the assembled, Bishop Loverde praised the honorees for their spirit of service and being examples for others. “We all want heroes in our lives. You have modeled for us the spirit of YES. We’re all inspired by that. We leave tonight energized to be disciples. We all have a call from God to go out and serve others ... a call that is rooted in Christ, the Lord.”

To learn more about the Catholic Business Network of Northern Virginia or to become a member, go to www.cbnnova.org.

PHOTOS BY HOWARD LANSAT





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