

AN EVENING TO CELEBRATE

Celebration 2013 was a resounding success, drawing a sell-out crowd to the Pleasantdale Chateau in West Orange and raising a record amount for the endowed scholarships the annual fundraising gala supports. There was indeed a lot to celebrate as the NJIT community marked the occasion by honoring generous donors, accomplished alumni, and some of the region's outstanding citizens as the rhythm and blues icon Roberta Flack sang from her storied repertoire.

“What makes Celebration so special are the students, the recipients of the evening's largesse. The caliber and commitment of those individuals – and what they've been able to accomplish in such a short period of time – are so impressive,” says Michael Wall, executive vice chair of the university's Board of Overseers and master of ceremonies for the 2013 event.

For those in attendance, he adds, the event is an occasion to make a difference in the lives of students while also acknowledging “that we've all been recipients of largesse ourselves, whether it's from organizations or families, and this is a great opportunity to pay it forward.”

Since the inaugural gala in 1995, Celebration has raised more than \$4.6 million for the university's endowed scholarship funds. Donors can specify a college to support, while undesignated gifts are distributed evenly



Master of ceremonies Michael Wall

among the university's colleges.

Paula McCarter, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering and the recipient of five NJIT scholarships, recounted to the crowd of more than 300 how financial support had freed her to flourish.

“One of the important things that has allowed for my success is the freedom that I have had. Since I do not have to



PHOTOS: LARRY LEVANTI

Honored for 2013 (from left): Anthony J. Sartor received the President's Medal for Lifetime Achievement and Anita M. Rubino was awarded the Edward F. Weston Medal for Professional Achievement. Paula McCarter, an Albert Dorman Honors College scholar, was the student speaker. Nicholas J. Masucci, president and CEO of Louis Berger Group Holdings, accepted the Outstanding Corporate Partner Award on behalf of the company.

worry about how to pay for my education, I have been able to do exactly what I thought was the best for me. I have chosen the jobs, internships and opportunities that would benefit me the most,” McCarter said, pointing to her recent summer internship at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, where she worked on methods for determining the thermal conductivity of materials. “NJIT has taken me higher than I ever would have expected.”

The university community paid tribute at Celebration to the enduring impact of philanthropy by announcing the renaming of two academic departments and a building to honor alumni who gave generously to support students. The Electrical

and Computer Engineering Department is now known as the Helen and John Hartmann Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering in honor of John Hartmann '51 and his wife Helen. The two established the John C. Hartmann Endowed Scholarship.

The Civil and Environmental Engineering Department has been named the John A. Reif Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in honor of John Reif '52, who established the Reif Family Endowed Scholarship, a need-based scholarship that will support NCE students who graduate from a Newark high school or a New Jersey inner-city high school, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John A.

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Reif, Charles W. Reif, and John A. Reif, Jr.

The Mechanical Engineering Building will now be called the J. Ray and Manuelita Michaud Mechanical Engineering Building in honor of Ray Michaud ’40 and his wife Manuelita. Both were long-time friends and supporters of NJIT whose gift established the J. Ray and Manuelita Michaud Scholarship and the J. Ray and Manuelita Honors College Endowed Scholarship, endowments that will provide merit scholarships for students enrolled in Albert Dorman Honors College and support for undergraduates who demonstrate financial need.

In awarding the President’s Medal for Lifetime Achievement, the Special Friend of the University and Outstanding Corporate Partner Awards this year, NJIT sought to honor exceptional professionals who have worked tirelessly and ingeniously to rebuild the World Trade Center site following the devastation of September 11, 2001.

Anthony J. Sartor, PhD, recipient of the President’s Medal for Lifetime Achievement, is the chairman and CEO of the consulting engineering firm Paulus, Sokolowski and Sartor, a commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and chair of the World Trade Center Redevelopment Subcommittee. Steven Plate, the deputy chief of capital planning and director of World Trade Center construction for the Port Authority, was honored with a Special Friend of the University Award.

Louis Berger Group Holdings, the university’s Outstanding Corporate Partner for 2013, has provided its considerable expertise in developing critical infrastructure, preserving and enhancing the environment, and spurring sustainable economic development in the rebuilding effort. The company has supported NJIT for many years through the Louis Berger International Scholar Award, which provides financial support for students pursuing graduate education, and through assistance to NJIT’s Science and Technology

more broadly, to the New Jersey/New York metropolitan region illustrates our can-do American spirit and the engineering backbone this nation was built upon,” says Wall, who is the executive director of the Greater Newark Enterprises Corporation. “It’s a new day and a new era.”

Anita M. Rubino ’83 received the Edward F. Weston Medal for Professional Achievement in recognition of alumni who demonstrate outstanding professional and civic accomplishments and singular commitment to the development of NJIT. Rubino, who held executive leadership positions with the Nielsen Company while also achieving success as an independent business consultant and restaurateur, has aided her alma mater in numerous ways. She works with the Alumni Association of NJIT, the Board of Visitors for the College of Science and Liberal Arts, and the NJIT NEXT Campaign Committee and the Planned Giving Committee. ■



Steven Plate, recipient of the Special Friend of the University Award, with NJIT President Joel S. Bloom.

Enrichment Program, which encourages high school students’ appreciation of science and technology, with particular emphasis on participation by women and minority students.

“Their contribution to the economic revitalization of the World Trade Center site and,

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