

# DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

*The Distinguished Service Awards recognize and honor alumni who have distinguished themselves through their professional endeavors and exemplary service to mankind.*



## **CHRISTINA KATONA CANFIELD '86**

Christina's career in family medicine at the Fisher-Titus Medical Center in Huron County has encompassed leadership roles including Chief of Staff, Chief of Practice, and Chief Medical Officer for outpatient areas. During the pandemic, she welcomed visiting nurses from the Philippines, assisting them with transitioning to life in rural Ohio. She is active in her community and her church, and has traveled on numerous international medical mission trips. She earned her BS in Chemistry and her MD from The Ohio State University.



## **CHRISTOPHER HAVEL '04**

As Sea World San Antonio's Senior Aquarist, Christopher helped create the park's Turtle Reef and Aldabra Island Tortoise exhibits. Dedicated to species conservation and freshwater turtle research, he has helped rescue more than 600 endangered sea turtles in the wild. He earned his BS in Biology and first discovered his passion at age 5 when he found 2 turtles near his Mentor, Ohio home. They still reside with him, his wife Erin, and their three children in San Antonio.



## **JOHN W. GARDNER '68**

John has led a distinguished career in financial management for the manufacturing industry. He holds a BA in History cum laude, MBA from Indiana University-Bloomington, and honorary Muskingum Doctor of Humane Letters degree, and he was a U.S. Air Force Captain. He is Vice Chair of the Stratford Festival of America Board, and serves on the Boards of First State Bank of Middlebury, Bethel College, and Muskingum. He and his wife Therese reside in Mishawaka, Indiana and are generous philanthropic supporters of the University.



## **G. ALLEN (AL) MCFARREN '52**

Al inspired generations of teachers as a social studies education faculty member from 1965-1990 at Buffalo State College (New York). A Korean War Army veteran, he earned his BA in History from Muskingum, MEd from Kent State University, and PhD from The Ohio State University. Al and his late wife Jean Finney McFarren '54 shared 10 extended family members in the Long Magenta Line, and their generous scholarship philanthropy helps support current and future Muskies.



## **ANN HAVEN THOMPSON '87**

A radio and television journalist in the Cincinnati, Ohio area market for more than 30 years, Ann is currently Digital Media Producer at WCET-TV, where she leads "Brick by Brick," a public affairs initiative partnership with Dayton's WPTD-TV dedicated to bringing solutions to long-standing housing issues in the metro areas. She was heard for 25 years on WVXU where she was a regular NPR contributor. She earned her BA in Speech Communication, and she and her husband Scott reside in Cincinnati.

# EMERGING ALUMNI AWARDS

*The Emerging Alumni Awards recognize and honor alumni, who in the first 15 years of their careers, have made significant contributions to their profession and their world.*



## DALLAS ALLEN '17

The Suicide Investigations and Postvention Specialist for the Franklin County Forensic Science Center (Columbus, Ohio), Dallas is the first person nationally to hold this role. He conducts psychosocial investigations, provides grief support to individuals, facilitates suicide fatality reviews, and is the co-creator of a statewide guide for community prevention strategies. Dallas earned his BA in Criminal Justice. He and his wife Jaedyn Wentz Allen '19 welcomed their son Kohen in May.



## SARAH GOTSCHALL '17

An outpatient art therapist and counselor, Sarah serves the Southeastern Ohio region, treating individuals with needs ranging from mood disorders, severe trauma, and LGBTQ+ issues. She has a passion for serving youth in the rural Appalachian regions that often lack visibility and support in their communities. After earning her BS in Psychology and Art, she completed her MA in Counseling and Art Therapy at Ursuline College. During her time in grad school and in recent years she has done service work in a Peru school for students with disabilities, the Cheyenne River Reservation working with indigenous youth, and in Nepal working with children whose parents are incarcerated. Sarah has recently completed her Nature and Forest Therapy Guide training and is a 200 hour registered yoga teacher. She has had many opportunities to return to serve the Muskingum community, guest lecturing and facilitating programming for students.



## SHECKY BAPTISTA HALLIDAY '12

Graduating summa cum laude from Muskingum in 2012 as part of the first traditional BSN class, her career took off at Genesis Hospital before she relocated to Florida in 2014, joining Advent Health Orlando's Surgical Progressive Care Unit. At Advent Health, Shecky quickly climbed the ranks, becoming Assistant Nurse Manager in 2016 and later Nurse Manager for the Neurology/Epilepsy Progressive Care Unit in 2019, where she guided her team through a successful Stroke DNV Certification. In 2021, Shecky joined Avant Healthcare Professionals as a Clinical Nurse Manager, skillfully overseeing international nurses across the United States. Her exceptional performance led to her current role as Clinical Operations Manager II in 2023, where she collaborates with senior leadership to shape strategic vision and implement innovative solutions. Shecky's expertise is reinforced by her certifications, and she remains actively involved in professional organizations, representing Avant at prestigious conferences and events. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Shecky is committed to community service, regularly volunteering at local food banks and participating in mental health awareness events. When not advancing healthcare and helping others, Shecky enjoys a fulfilling personal life with her husband Corey, exploring nature through hiking, traveling, and spending quality time with their pets, Kingston the Aussiedoodle and Jimi the cat.



## KINSI CARPENTER KING '06

The 2007 site-based New Teacher of the Year, 2019-2020 site-based Teacher of the Year, a 2018 United States Holocaust Museum Teacher Fellow, and 2024 Echoes and Reflections Teacher Leader, Kinsi integrated Holocaust-based learning into her district's curricula, developed statewide Holocaust education curricula, and pandemic online platform English curricula for the state. She holds her BA in English, Curriculum Specialist MA from Appalachian State University, and National Board Certification. The co-founder of Three Branches Education and Events, she, her husband Scott, and their three children reside in Statesville.