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1ST PRIZE

Heat'n Sweep (\$500.00 Gift Card)

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Douglas J



Annual Award Celebration and Fundraiser

September 22, 2022

The Impact of East Lansing Educational Foundation

5:30pm Hors d'oeuvres and Raffle

- Music performed by the ELHS band and orchestra students
- Artwork provided by ELHS art classes
- Centerpieces on loan from ELHS Ceramics Class
- Display of Diversity and Inclusion books in partnership with the ELPS District
- Running slideshow of the Impact of ELEF, our business partners, sponsors, donors, list of retiring teachers from ELPS, and listing the Board of ELEF

6:15 pm Opening RemarksJulie Thomas-Beckett

6:30 pm Superintendent
Dori Levko

6:40 pm Presentation of Awards

Kacie Kefgen, Julie Thomas-Beckett, and Curtis Hertel Jr

7:45 pm ELEF Development

Julie Thomas-Beckett, and Erin Cazal

7:50 pm Closing remarks
Julie Thomas-Beckett

Award Celebration Winners

SALVATORE (SAL) DIFRANCO

Dr. Salvatore (Sal) DiFranco is receiving the East Lansing Educational Foundation Award and served as an educator in East Lansing Public Schools from 1967 to 1993, including in roles as principal and director of secondary education.



Dr. Salvatore holds an undergraduate degree from Wayne State University as well as an M.A., an Ed.S., and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He served in the Third Infantry Division in Korea, leaving with military with the rank of sergeant.

Dr. DiFranco has been married to Joanne DiFranco since 1953, and the couple have three children and seven grandchildren.

DONNA KAPLOWITZ

Donna Kaplowitz is receiving a Theda Assiff Award and serves as the faculty director of The Program on Intergroup Relations at the University of Michigan. She provides campus leadership in student learning in the areas of intergroup relations and social justice education.



Prior to working at the University of Michigan, Donna created and developed the Michigan State University Dialogue program.

Donna served on the East Lansing School Board for 6 years and helped run the Edgewood Village Scholar's Program supporting low-income students attain college access.

Donna's BA is from the University of Michigan in English and Latin American Studies and her M.A. and Ph.D. are in International Relations from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Donna and her husband Michael raised four children who are all ELHS graduates.

KEVIN MAYES

Kevin Mayes is receiving a Theda Assiff Award and is a 24-year veteran teacher and has been serving the children of East Lansing Public Schools since 2001. In addition to his academic teaching, Kevin coaches junior varsity basketball and volunteers as the president



of the East Lansing Basketball Club, which provides about \$12,000 annually to the high school boys and girls basketball programs.

Kevin is married to Susan Mayes, who he credits with giving him the time to do so much for our community. Together, they are committed to foster parenting and supporting all children. They have 5 children: Gabe, Allie, Ben, Jase, and Juliana.

ADAM SPINA

Dr. Adam Spina is receiving the Outstanding Alumni Honor Roll Award. He is a 1997 graduate of East Lansing High School. He participated in varsity football, basketball, and baseball as well as orchestra and various student groups.



He currently serves as superintendent of the Williamston Community Schools. Prior to being named superintendent, he worked in a variety of administrative and teaching capacities in several school districts in the US and abroad.

Dr. Spina also holds a commission as a lieutenant colonel in the Michigan Army National Guard and is a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dr. Spina earned a doctoral degree in educational administration from Bethel University, a master's degree in history from Michigan State University, and a bachelor's degree in education, also from MSU. Dr. Spina is married to Vanessa Nieto Arroyo. They have two children, Ayla and Seneca.



STEVEN NEAL

Steven Neal is receiving the Spartan Village GLOBAL Education Award and has been teaching English and English as a Second Language for the last seven years, five of which have been in East Lansing Public Schools. An avid reader and storyteller, he has been working



toward establishing a love of stories and a culture of literacy with his students.

When he is not teaching, he can be found working with the Greater Lansing Area's youth at All-of-us Express Children's theater, playing tabletop games with his friends, or pouring over his endless to-be-read pile.

DAVID RADELET

Dave Radelet is receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award and is a 1974 graduate of East Lansing High School. He attended Michigan State University where he lettered in football for three years, followed by law school at the University of Michigan.



Dave has been labor and employment lawyer in Chicago for over 40 years. He has been recognized as a leading labor and employment lawyer by various organizations and was named by Leading Lawyers magazine as the #2 management-side labor lawyer in Illinois in 2018.

Aside from his law practice, Dave has been active for decades in various community outreach and social justice initiatives, including as both a long-time member and three-year chair of the Board of Directors of Heartland Alliance. This Chicago-based global organization advances human rights and responds to human needs of the less fortunate, the isolated, and the displaced with programs throughout the country and globally.

Dave is married to his high school sweetheart, Peggy Brennan Radelet ('74). The couple has four daughters and five grandchildren.

