



# 40th Annual Recognition Dinner Hosted by Madison County Urban League

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**Madison County, IL (March 2, 2017)** – The Madison County Urban League (MCUL) will be hosting its 40th annual “*Educate! Empower! Thrive!*” dinner at the Lewis & Clark Community College on Thursday, March 30, 2017. During this notable event, twelve (12) area students will be recognized with the Empowered Youth Award for their exceptional involvement through volunteerism, philanthropy, academic achievement and positivity.

“The education and empowerment of people throughout the world cannot fail to result in a more caring, tolerant, just and peaceful life for all,” says Brenda Walker McCain, MCUL President and CEO.

Empowered Youth Awards recipients include:

- Sydney Shansey - Alton High School
- Macie Miller - Alton Middle School
- Samantha Smith (Sam) - Civic Memorial High School
- Mehak Baig - Edwardsville High School
- Jane Gockel - Liberty Middle School
- Andrew Mills - Lincoln Middle School
- Rayneice Barbee - Madison High School
- Ketoura Ngwa - Marquette Catholic High School
- Ennis Bolden - Roxana High School
- Ethan Bazzell - Roxana Junior High School
- Isabella Garrett - Trimpe Middle School
- Kelbi Cox - Venice Elementary School

The Community Service Award and Chairman’s Award will also be awarded during the annual celebration. Community Service honorees include James Gray and Alice Martin (Posthumously) in recognition of excellence in the area of volunteer work that promotes

the mission of the Madison County Urban League. A special *Posthumous Chairman's Award* will recognize Leonard E. Hawthorne for his dedicated service and contributions to the League.

Entertainment featured this year is provided by Louis Michael Jazz Combo featuring Charles Glenn. Doors will open at 5:30 PM with a cocktail reception and silent auction, followed by a formal dinner. Bob Wills will serve as our Master of Ceremonies.

Tickets for the Annual Dinner are \$65 per person or \$500 per table of eight. Sponsorships and advertisements in the souvenir booklet are available. For more information about the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner, or to purchase tickets, call [\(618\) 463-1906](tel:6184631906).

### ***About Madison County Urban League***

*The Madison County Urban League is a not for profit, community based organization providing service in our community for over 40 years. The Madison County Urban League is one of over 100 affiliates of this nation's oldest and largest community-based movement dedicated to economic empowerment in order to elevate the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities. The mission of the Urban League is to encourage and empower communities in the pursuit of economic self-reliance, parity and civil rights.*