

Award Honoree – Ignatian Award, Carl Thomas '65 Spirit Award

The Ignatian Awards, established by the Alumni Association's Awards Committee, honor the achievements of Le Moyne College's alumni and friends, reflecting the philosophy of St. Ignatius and the core principles of Jesuit education. The Ignatian Award, Carl Thomas '65 Spirit Award, is bestowed upon an alumnus or alumna who mirrors the values demonstrated by Carl Thomas during his tenure as Director of HEOP. The recipient embodies academic excellence, integrity, and a strong commitment to the College's mission and community. This award is presented during Reunion and/or Golden Reunion Weekend.



Most Recent - Ignatian Award, Carl Thomas '65 Spirit Award Kofi Addai '04

Kofi Addai has made a difference in the lives of many in the Syracuse area, promoting intercultural understanding, and literacy and assisting newly arrived refugees in becoming independent and active participants in our community. Kofi is also committed to improving the lives of the community he left behind in his native Ghana.

Kofi emigrated to the United States at age 16 to live with his brother in New York City. Knowing little English but determined to make the most of this opportunity, he finished high school in New York City and then enrolled at Le Moyne College, graduating in 2004 as a business administration major. While still students, Kofi and Melanie Stellrecht '04, founded People in Action for Cultural Enrichment (PACE) - Ghana. Their first major project was establishing a library in Kofi's hometown. The Okyeame Dankwa Memorial Community Library in Worawora, was named after Kofi's father. To fund the project, the leaders of PACE-Ghana sought donors at Le Moyne and Central New York churches, bought the building and enlisted Kofi's older brother to renovate it. Kofi and his friends gathered 4,000 books and three computers to send to the new library, which was dedicated in 2004. Kofi has also aided the Le Moyne Nursing Department on their annual service trips to Ghana since 2010 and Fordham University Global Outreach's annual service trip to Ghana since 2008.

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Kofi is currently the associate director, bias education and response in the Office of Community Standards at Syracuse University. In this position, he manages and delivers educational programs to disrupt bias incidents on campus and works collaboratively with the campus community to respond to reported bias incidents. Kofi previously worked at the North Side Learning Center, Interfaith Works of CNY and ProLiteracy Worldwide, where he focused his efforts on the promotion of intercultural understanding and educational opportunities for underserved populations.

Past Recipients

Previous Award Winners	
2019	Giavonni Lucas '95
2020	Alexis E. Powell '85
2021	Todd Corley '91
2022	Omairys G. Rodriguez '12
2023	Stanley Brown '83
2024	Kofi Addai '04

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