

Award Honoree – Ignatian Award for Community Service

The Ignatian Awards, founded by the Alumni Association's Awards Committee, honor the accomplishments of Le Moyne College alumni and friends, embodying the principles of St. Ignatius and the essence of Jesuit education. The Ignatian Award for Community Service is bestowed for exceptional outreach to the community, presented during Reunion and/or Golden Reunion Weekend.



Most Recent Ignatian Award for Community Service Michael Massiah '79

Mike Massiah has spent a lifetime ensuring that all voices are heard and that those voices reflect the diversity in our communities. He has consistently advanced policies and initiatives that address social justice issues and improve workers' lives. In his 40 years at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Mike held positions of increasing responsibility, serving as director of management and budgets and chief of capital planning and performance. In an earlier role, as director of human resources, he led efforts to rebuild the agency's human resource functions following the Sept. 11 attacks. His final responsibility before his retirement from the Port Authority was to create and serve in the role of chief diversity and inclusion officer. In this position, Mike worked diligently to ensure that diversity and inclusion received the highest focus across the agency and with its external business partners.

Today Mike is active in professional organizations and in educating the next generation of public administrators. He teaches management and human resources in the Executive Master of Public Administration program at Baruch College. He is an active member and past president of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators. Additionally, he served on the American Society for Public Administration's (ASPA) National Council, and Ethics Committee and led the efforts to create the ASPA's Social Equity Center. Mike also served on the Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation for the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration.

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Mike was a member of Le Moyne College’s board of regents for six years. He also served his local community as a member of the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Board. Our Lady of Victory and St. Martin de Porres parishes also benefited from his business acumen in his service as trustee and on the Finance Committee. He is the former president of Our Lady of Victory’s Holy Name Society.

Mike was awarded a bachelor’s degree from Le Moyne College with a major in history in 1979 and subsequently earned a Master of Public Administration from the University at Albany, State University of New York. He is a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. Mike is married to Magalie Hoo Chong Massiah ’80.

Past Recipients

Previous Award Winners	
1994	Brendan Walsh '64
1995	Michael S. Roth, M.D. '69
1996	Elizabeth A. Salvagno '85
1997	Barbara Hafner Caveny '62
1998	Kathleen Gleason Curtin '62
1999	Elaine Ballard Crough '63

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2001	Marie "Pidge" Green James '66
2002	Kathleen Kennedy Dwyer '57
2003	Peter Cappuccilli Jr. '73
2004	Virginia De Lucia Donohue '69 Charles R. Nojaim '54
2005	James J. Dwyer '55
2006	The Rev. Robert S. Jones '56 Dr. Tisha Gallanter '91
2007	James J. Murphy '67 Donna Marie Werner '82
2008	Joyce Thomasmeyer '68
2009	No awardee
2010	M. Jim Burke '60

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	Paul Nojaim '85
2011	Charles Michaud '66 Mary Beth Dunn '86
2012	Edward Long '67 Patricia Long '67
2013	Dr. Richard Buchta '63
2014	Sister M. Agnelle Ching '69
2015	Ellen Finigan Fralick '65 Eileen Normile Weir '90
2016	Paul W. Tonnesen '86
2017	Carl M. Oropallo '62
2018	John A. Miterko '68 Denise (Missigman) Quinn '78

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2019	Thomas H. Glisson, Sr. '69 and Margaret (Carney) Glisson '69 Cecilia (Bresadola) Sindoni '89
2020	Dennis A. Petruzzi '70 and Susan (Montano) Petruzzi '70 Thérèse Wiley Dancks '85
2021	Maureen (Dunn) McBride '71 Sam Monachino '81 and Cheryl (Somers) Monachino '81
2022	Christine (Makhuli) Cotton '87
2023	Cornelius Lewis '73 Beth Scanlon '78
2024	Michael Massiah '79