

2023

# celebration of integrity



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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Welcome

Wayne Lawrence President. Weiss Movers

#### **Awards Presentations**

Master of Ceremonies
Ed "Flash" Ferenc

**Spark Award** 

**Champion of Integrity** Hal Becker

**Students of Integrity** Award Presenters

**Door Prize Drawings** 

#### **Closing Remarks**

Sue A. McConnell, President and CEO, Better Business Bureau

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES



### Ed "Flash" Ferenc

Ed "Flash" Ferenc is a highly regarded hall-of-fame career broadcaster who started his radio career at the age of 19 in 1973 working at WMMS. The "Buzzard Morning Zoo" became legendary for its role in breaking new music and becoming the soundtrack for Cleveland in the 70's and 80's. The popular "Jeff and Flash Show" (1973-1994) set a foundation for drive-time morning shows that is still used by many stations today. Ferenc won the 2002 Cleveland Association

of Broadcasters' Excellence in Broadcasting Award and, in 2004, Ferenc was inducted into the Cleveland and the Ohio Broadcasters Halls of Fame. Recently the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum added a "Jeff and Flash" aircheck to its Northeast Ohio radio legends exhibit and Ferenc was inducted into the Seven Hills Hall of Fame in 2021.

After 21 years in rock radio, Flash migrated to talk radio. The son of a union steelworker, Flash found importance in giving working middle-class families everywhere a "leg-up" through his America's Work Force Radio show on WERE.

Flash and his wife, Deb operate Flashpoint Communications, a public relations and advertising agency. In his spare time, Flash has a full time job working for 12 judges as a Public Information Officer at the Cleveland Municipal Court. Flash is still involved in broadcasting. He hosts a weekday pro-union radio program called America's Workforce and also produces and hosts FlashPoint, a one hour infomercial. Both programs currently air on 1490 AM WERE.







BBB Champions of Integrity consistently display an aggressive commitment to ethical, honest, and fair business practices. They demonstrate leadership in efforts or organizations promoting business self-regulation, ethical business practices, consumer education, and integrity and trust in the marketplace.



# **Cary Root**

Founder of Root-InfoTech
Former BBB Board of Director

The 2023 Champion of Integrity award is being given posthumously to Cary Root. Cary embodied the true spirit of this award in both his personal and professional lives.

He founded Root-InfoTech in 1981 and was a trusted advisor to his clients with over 40 years of IT experience.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Better Business Bureau, Ohio Commerce Bank, Jewish Family Service Association, the BBB Educational Foundation, and the Solon Chamber of Commerce. In addition, he volunteered his IT experience with Ronald McDonald House Charities, the Council of Better Business Bureaus in Arlington, Virginia, Children's Tumor Foundation, and Breakthrough Charter Schools.

He held black belts in Karate, Shito Fu, and Muay Thai and was a Krav Maga Master Instructor at Asian Sun in Hudson. He recently achieved his Master level third-degree black belt from USKMA in Krav Maga.

Cary was a passionate supporter of BBB and a loyal, generous friend to many. BBB is honored and proud to bestow the 2023 Champion of Integrity award to Cary.

In Memory of:

Cary Michael Root

November 14, 1951 - January 6, 2023



The Better Business Bureau Students of Integrity program recognizes high school students in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Lorain counties who, through their actions and life examples, personify ethics and strong character.

# 2022/2023 WINNERS



**Taylor Evans**Heights High School



**Aubriana Hills**Notre Dame-Cathedral
Latin High School



**Yikun Zhou** Westlake High School



**Mohammad Zoraiz** Mayfield High School

2022/2023 HONOREES Dev Ahuja, Solon High School
Shelby Bennett, Lake Ride Academy
Elizabeth Calvis, Berea-Midpark High School
Ethan Moon, Orange High School

Brianna Weaver, West Geauga High School

**Anish Phukan**, Brookside High School

# Congratulations to these outstanding high school students who were chosen to represent their schools in the Students of Integrity Competition!

Ashley Ahrens Andrews Osborne Academy

Dev Ahuja Solon High School

Rylee Anderson Lake Catholic High School

Christina Bencin Hathaway Brown
Shelby Bennett Lake Ridge Academy
Elizabeth Calvis Berea-Midpark High School
Angelica Catacutan Magnificat High School

Sha'Dymond Charlton Horizon Science Academy of Lorain

Reagan Chernisky Olmsted Falls High School Rebecca Cigany Padua Franciscan High Schoo

Mia Dent Laurel High School

Julia DiFranco Chagrin Falls High School

Taylor Evans Heights High School

Sadie Gaye Saint Martin de Porres High School

Amelia Harness-Koehnle iSTEM Geauga

Aubriana Hills Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School

Maria Insana Kenston High School Gabriel Jackam Benedictine High School James Katrakazos North Olmsted High School

Erin Keener Madison High School
Marykate Kessinger Beaumont High School
Lauren Kish Gilmour Academy

Morgan Lehmkuhl Wellington High School

William Liu Brecksville - Broadview Heights High School

Austin Luke Bedford High School
John Masters Saint Ignatius High School
Ethan Moon Orange High School
Alyssa Novak Independence High School

Vyas Pai South High School

Reni Patel Cleveland School of Science and Medicine

Devin Pernell Maple Heights High School
Anisha Phukan Brookside High School
Bracha Pister Beatrice I Stone Yayne High

Bracha Pister Beatrice J Stone Yavne High Aniya Qualls Midview High School

Lauren Sams Harvey High School
Hannah Shue Valley Forge High School

Grace Stroke Pymatuning Valley High School

Zachary Touschner Wickliffe High School Giovanni Tripi Brush High School

Ellie Wakefield Grand Valley High School

Brianna Weaver West Geauga High School Margaret Yug Avon High School

Yikun Zhou Westlake High School Mohammad Zoraiz Mayfield High School

# TRUST MATTERS

BBB is here for you. Last year **BBB.org had more than 150** million visits indicating that trust matters. This has a direct impact not only on BBB Accredited Businesses but the community.

## **OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY IMPACT IN 2022**

Quote Requests Sent to Accredited Businesses	)
Page Views at BBB.org/Cleveland2,100,000	)
Visitors to BBB.org/Cleveland 861,000	)
Local Business & Charity Profiles Issued	)
Customer Reviews Submitted About Local Businesses	,
Buyers/Sellers Assisted With Disputes	)
Digital Ad Impressions323,000	)

# **NEW! Impactful Programs for Accredited Businesses!**

**BBB Job Board:** Post or find employment opportunities on BBB.org. BBB will also share postings on social media and BBB's Consumer Newsletter.

**Digital Advertising:** Accredited Businesses can get affordable and premium placement on BBB.org, Google Display Ads, and more!

**Social Media:** BBB can create custom social media posts and videos to help support your business.

Contact your Accredited Business rep at 216-623-8964 x122 to learn more about these programs.

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**Patrice** Blakemore Ella Fong

