



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

CONNECTICUT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Laura Sheehan, Associate Vice President for Marketing, Media and Communications

Telephone: 860.231.5297

Email: lsheehan@usj.edu

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH TO HONOR FIVE COMMUNITY LEADERS WITH DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

WEST HARTFORD, CONN.(March 3, 2015) – The University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, Conn., will honor five alumni with a 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award, acknowledging their professional achievements, exemplary leadership, and community service. The honorees will be recognized at an awards dinner at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Hartford, Conn. on April 17, 2015. A welcome reception will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed by dinner and the award program.

The honorees include:

Melanie Cecarelli Smith '78 (Business Administration/Economics) of West Hartford, Conn., will receive the Winifred E. Coleman Service Award for her outstanding accomplishments in business and work to support the alumni of the University of Saint Joseph. Cecarelli Smith is the development director at the Children's Museum of Connecticut in West Hartford. She is also a USJ ambassador and former alumni council president.

Jossie O'Neill, Ed.D., '73 (Child Study/Special Education) of Bayside, NY, will receive the Mary de Lourdes Kenney Award for her exceptional work in education. O'Neill is a special education consultant and literary coach at Cypress Hills Community School in Brooklyn, New York. Dedicated to outreach work, O'Neill trained educators in Puerto Rico to better access learning and technology tools, and in India to improve the capacity of a school for children with learning disabilities.

Mary McEnerney Deming '72 (Biology) of Seymour, Conn., will receive the Business and Entrepreneurial Award for successfully building an organization, along with her ability to cultivate a positive and successful image. Deming is the president of Seymour Pink, a non-profit organization that she founded in 2009 in memory of her mother, Theodosia McEnerney, who died from breast cancer. A retired Seymour High School biology teacher, Deming organized an annual town-wide event raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for breast cancer awareness.

Anita Guardo Satriano '53 (Psychology) of Bloomfield, Conn., will receive the Mary Rosa McDonough Award for her tireless commitment to the field of education. Satriano recently retired after working 30 years as a kindergarten teacher at the Annie E. Vinton Elementary School in Mansfield, Conn. She is a longtime member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG), a women's organization dedicated to education. As chair of its Committee on A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World, Satriano helped to develop a curriculum for students in first grade through middle school.

Maureen Hogan Klett '01 (Nursing) of Newington, Conn., will receive the Nightingale Health Science Award for her exceptional work in the field of health science. Klett is a supervising Nurse Consultant for the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Bureau of Health System Regulation. She is also a member of the Newington Town Council and has served on the Board of Education.

The cost to attend the Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner is \$50. To register for the event, contact the USJ Alumni Relations Office at alumni@usj.edu or 860.231.5323.

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The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 25 majors and seven pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at www.usj.edu.

OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

1678 Asylum Avenue ♦ West Hartford, Connecticut 06117-2791 ♦ Tel: 860-231-5204 ♦ Fax: 860-231-5882