



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Tallahassee's Top 20 Young Professionals Recognized for Authentic Community Engagement at Golden A.C.E. Gala**

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals (NYP) announced the winners of the third annual Golden A.C.E awards at a ceremony held Saturday night at Hotel Duval in Tallahassee. The five-star event was held to recognize the top 20 young professionals living in Tallahassee that exemplify authentic community engagement, or A.C.E. With a sold out audience in attendance, the Golden A.C.E. awards were emceed by Ms. Gina Pitisci of WCTV and Mr. Whitney Ray, Press Secretary for Florida Attorney General; Mr. James “DJ” Scully lent his musical talent to make the gala the best ticket in town.

“The 20 bright young professionals that were recognized this weekend truly are engaged in our community, and serve as examples of how to be leaders in their fields,” said Meghan Kelly, President of the Tallahassee NYP. “We hope that they will continue to dedicate their talents to the Tallahassee community, and make our great city an even better place for young people to live, work, play and stay.”

The highest recognition of Top A.C.E. was awarded to Mr. Brandon Clayton of Bond Elementary School. As the Top A.C.E. winner, Brandon has selected the [Tallahassee Area Foster and Adoptive Parent Association](#) as his charity of choice to receive a \$1,000 donation from NYP. In a surprise show of commitment to Tallahassee, Kia AutoSport will contribute an additional \$500 to the donation to the Tallahassee Area Foster and Adoptive Parent Association. “Our sponsors truly are the best in town, we are humbled by their generosity,” said Dia Combas, NYP Vice President.

The Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals congratulates all the Golden A.C.E. winners and wishes to thank all the sponsors who made this event so great!

*Golden A.C.E. winners in their respective 20 categories are:*

### **Administration**

Mr. John Easterbrook – The Florida State University, Senior Admissions Officer

### **Arts & Culture**

Ms. Audra Pittman – Suite P Creative Studio, CEO

### **Beauty & Fitness**

Mr. Sean Dodrill – Crossfit Black Box, Owner

### **Communications**

Mr. Ryan Cohn – Sachs Media Group, Vice President, Social/Digital Operations



### **Education**

Mr. Brandon Clayton – Bond Elementary, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

### **Entrepreneurship**

Mr. Matthew Thompson – Madison Social, Owner and Managing Partner

### **Finance**

Ms. Allison Harrell – Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A., Director, Assurance Services

### **Government Relations & Law**

Ms. Stephanie Kunkel – Stephanie Kunkel, Inc., Legislative and Electoral Consultant

### **Retail & Sales**

Mr. Patrick Monroe – Bean Team, Director of Development

### **Healthcare**

Ms. Maureen LeSerra – Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare, Assistant Nurse Manager

### **Higher Education**

Ms. Glenda Herrea-Gray - Florida State University, TCC, Capital Regional Community Development District Seat 1, Professor, Assistant Industrial Hygienist

### **Hospitality**

Ms. Amanda Morrison – Madison Social, Social Events Manager

### **Journalism & Broadcasting**

Mr. Joe Berg - Tallahassee Villager, Publisher and Locally Owned Tallahassee, President

### **Non-Profit**

Ms. Cat Keen - Volunteer Florida, Director of National Service Programs

### **Public Safety**

Mr. Gary Jamieson - Leon County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Sheriff

### **Public Servant**

Mr. Vincent Evan III - Florida Department of Agriculture, Policy and Rules Research Coordinator

### **Real Estate**

Ms. Christic Henry - Kingdom First Realty, Inc., Managing Broker

### **Science & Engineering**

Ms. Deanna Tremblay – The Florida State University, Research Scientist

### **Insurance**

Mr. Wade Shapiro - Legacy Insurance Solutions, L.L.C., President



## **IT & Computers**

Mr. Blake Dowling - Aegis Business Technologies, Chief Business Development Officer

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*The Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals (NYP) was established in 2003 to help individuals foster an authentic relationship with the community they call home. The organization is dedicated to making Tallahassee a city where young professionals choose to live, work, play and stay. Learn more at [www.TallahasseeNYP.org](http://www.TallahasseeNYP.org), follow us on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/TallahasseeNYP](http://www.twitter.com/TallahasseeNYP)) or like us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/tallahasseenyp](http://www.facebook.com/tallahasseenyp)).*