

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Roger Mastroianni

Gary Hanson, Arts

Partnership, outreach, collaboration, innovation: Gary Hanson's fresh business model as the eighth executive director of The Cleveland Orchestra includes introducing world-class music to public schools, neighbors and the community.

"We are changing The Cleveland Orchestra by taking it outside Severance Hall to serve new audiences and broaden our artistic scope—and even to spread the word and invite people to come back to Severance Hall to hear the orchestra here," says Hanson, who assumed the leadership role in 2004.

The Cleveland Orchestra is a University Circle anchor, attracting thousands of children and adults to hear music at its home, Severance Hall. But leaving the "nest" is part of Hanson's plan to broaden the orchestra's programming. His initiatives include taking The Cleveland Orchestra into public schools such as John Hay and John Adams, appealing to casual listeners through the Fridays@7 series, and partnering with other University Circle institutions like the Cleveland Museum of Art and The Cleveland Play House.

"The orchestra is well aware that the way to maintain traditions and high-quality and continue to provide the community value is to be responsive to changes in the community, and in that regard, we have made a lot of changes over the past few seasons in how we serve the community inside and outside of Severance Hall," says Hanson, who also serves on the board of trustees for University Circle, Inc. and the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture.

What's most gratifying about the orchestra's move "out" into the community is how individual musicians have formed relationships with a broad cross-section of community members, Hanson says. Also, the unique dedication of Music Director Franz Welser-Möst to community engagement is unusual in the professional orchestra industry, Hanson points out. "He totally gets it – that the way to sustain the institution and to preserve and share the art of great music-making is to be relevant to the community," Hanson says.

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

David Deming, Arts

While attending the Cleveland Institute of Art (CIA), David Deming's mentor — renowned sculptor and professor William McVey — once told him, "David, one day you're gonna make a great department chairman." The 1967 graduate never dreamed this statement was a foreshadowing of his later return in 1998 to serve as the institution's ninth president and CEO.

"In my gut, it was a no-brainer," Deming says on CIA's offer to return, even though he'd spent the majority of his career as a sculptor, professor and finally a college administrator at the University of Texas. "My five years at the Cleveland Institute of Art formed me as an artist and a person. It made me who I am."

During his 12-year tenure before his retirement last June, Deming made an enormous impact on the institution. He launched CIA's first digital arts department; oversaw the creation of a visiting artists endowment; and transitioned the bachelor's of fine arts program from five years to four.

But perhaps Deming's lasting impression was the \$55 million revitalization plan for a unified campus. The project centered around the complete renovation of the Joseph McCullough Center for the Visual Arts and the addition of a new building next door. To date, the project is not only driving economic development in the Circle, but also it is attracting more students to CIA — enrolling its largest class in history last year.

Reflecting on his career, the sculptor, whose work has been exhibited around the globe, offers this advice to CIA recent grads: "Be confident and go for things," he says. "Don't sit around waiting for things to happen."

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

Robert Conrad, Philanthropy

He's the radio voice of The Cleveland Orchestra and the longest-serving commentator of any American orchestra. He won second place in a contest sponsored by NBC for the most beautiful voice in America, and he served his country in the U.S. Army, 14th Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Battalion in Hawaii.

He's Robert Conrad, co-founder of 104.9 WCLV with Cecil K. ("Pat") Patrick. Together, they built and grew an internationally recognized classical music and culture listening hub. Today, Conrad serves as president of WCLV, producer and host of Cleveland Orchestra broadcasts and of the weekend radio program. He has also earned the orchestra's Distinguished Service Award. Through his radio station, 104.9 WCLV, he has helped raise more than \$5 million for northeast Ohio arts and charitable organizations – more than all other Cleveland radio stations combined.

Conrad grew up in radio, working his first job at age 14 at a local radio station in Kankakee, Ill., where he was raised; then later he pursued broadcast radio at Northwestern University. He is highly decorated with Lifetime Achievement Awards from broadcasting associations and an honorary doctorate from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Baldwin-Wallace College. Conrad received a Special Citation for Distinguished Service to the Arts awarded through the Cleveland Arts Prize.

His passion for giving back to northeast Ohio's arts community runs deep. In 2001, he and WCLV partners traded the radio station's broadcast frequency for a less powerful one plus an additional A.M. license and a cash payment. They created WCLV Foundation and donated the stock of Radio Seaway Inc. to it. Since then, The Cleveland Orchestra and five other Cleveland arts organizations affiliated with WCLV Foundation have benefitted from its financial support.

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners

James Ireland III, Philanthropy

James Ireland III is arguably University Circle's biggest cheerleader. As chairman of University Circle Inc. (UCI) and a trustee and past president of the Musical Arts Association — which operates The Cleveland Orchestra — he is a face behind the vitality of the Uptown neighborhood.

Ireland has been busy with UCI President Chris Ronayne and his team creating a neighborhood that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Together, they are working to achieve this goal through eight community-development campaigns that include mixed-use developments and streetscape improvements along Euclid Avenue; plans to build 1,000 new homes in partnership with local developers; and links between public spaces through programs such as the Circle Walk Project, a series of self-guided tours that highlight the neighborhood's cultural treasures.

When he's not in the Circle, Ireland leads the charge on portfolio transactions as the managing director of Early Stage Partners, a venture capital investment company. He also can be found contributing his time to the boards of the Great Lakes Museum of Science, Environment and Technology; NorTech (Northeast Ohio Technology Coalition); the Greater Cleveland Partnership; Team NEO and others. In addition, Ireland is a member of the Leadership Cleveland Class of 1997.

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

Alanna Smith, Volunteerism

The music, food, people—the diversity—attract Alanna Smith to University Circle. Wade Oval Wednesdays are a convergence of these qualities, and Smith fell in love with the weekly event when she worked there on detail as an investigator with University Circle police department.

Last year, she decided to volunteer at the University Circle Inc. (UCI) kiosk, where the festive Wednesday night crowd can buy popcorn, candy and beverages. “You get to listen to the music, walk around, interact with the people who attend the concerts—you can meet all walks of life in University Circle,” Smith says, sharing her passion for Cleveland’s cultural soul.

Smith joined UCI police department nine years ago, and prior to that worked as a police officer at Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland State University. She’s drawn to University Circle: “I wouldn’t go anywhere else,” says Smith, 38, who lives in Fairview Park. “I absolutely love the environment.”

During summer, Smith is on bike patrol, so she cruises around the Circle. Meanwhile, she looks forward to her weekly volunteer gig at Wade Oval Wednesdays, where she can gather a different perspective of the event than when she’s working detail at the beer garden or looking for missing children.

One of the best parts of volunteering at Wade Oval Wednesdays? “Eating the really great food they serve,” Smith says—that, and getting to know the people who attend the event each week.

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

Howard Kimmell, DPM, Volunteerism

Howard Kimmell, DPM, is a community unsung hero. But although he has donated more than 400 volunteer hours at The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland, Kimmell does not give of his time for the recognition. His inspiration to give back comes from something his father once said to him as a child: "If you're ever feeling down in the dumps and you think your situation is bad, there's always someone worse off in your life."

"I think it's important to give back some of my talents," says Kimmell, residency director for podiatric surgery at Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, who also has shared his time with children community-services group Bellefaire JCB. "There's no payment like seeing someone smile and really appreciate your service."

Throughout his 17 years' service, where he admits he only missed three or four times, Kimmell has volunteered once a month to run the free clinic's podiatry practice. He services patients, who otherwise may not have access to quality care, by preventing, diagnosing and treating common foot disorders, such as wounds, ulcers, ingrown toenails and warts.

In addition, Kimmell has worked to expand the influence of the clinic by recruiting students from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine to offer them observation and hands-on training.

Looking back, he would recommend this experience to every physician. "Medicine is an art, not a science and you need to perfect your art," Kimmell says. "The more patients I see, the more experience I get and the more that I can pass on to younger generations. It broadens my horizons from an educational standpoint and it enriches my life just helping people out."

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

Taura Salter, Education

As an intervention specialist for kids with multiple disabilities, Taura Salter not only contributes to the vitality of her students' lives, but also the community in which she teaches — University Circle. The Cleveland School of Science and Medicine teacher works tirelessly to encourage organizations and society to be more accepting of people with disabilities, while preparing her students to better acclimate into their communities post high school.

Using what she calls functional curriculum, Salter takes kids out into the community to apply the skills — those most take for granted every day — by going grocery shopping, catching the bus and taking safety walks around the Circle.

“It’s a different method of teaching,” she says. “You can’t teach them just with paper and pencil. They don’t know unless they actually do it.”

In addition, she launched a collaboration with Judson’s Day Enrichment Center, adult daycare program, where her students visit twice a month to interact socially with participants to gain conversational skills. What’s more, Salter coordinated a partnership with University Hospitals where her kids work in the food services department once a week.

She points to one quiet student that comes alive with the older adults at Judson and has become more comfortable in social settings and another student that accepted a paid position for this summer at University Hospitals.

“Beyond my daily charge of academic instruction, I want to improve my students’ quality of life,” says Salter, whose long-term goal is to set up a home for kids with disabilities. “In order for them to be prepared and accepted into society, they must become a part of it.”

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

David Simpson, Healthcare

David Simpson is a catalyst for growth and expanding access to quality end-of-life care. Since he joined Hospice of the Western Reserve as executive director in 1985, he has facilitated the nonprofit's explosive growth. He took the organization from an annual budget of just \$392,000 to one that's more than \$80 million supporting more than 1,700 employees, 6,000 patients and nine community sites that service five counties.

At the helm, Simpson led the opening of Cleveland's Hospice House, a 42-bed residential facility, in 1995. In addition, he led the development of a pediatric team, AIDS team, a Cardiopulmonary program and a specialized team for patients in hospitals, just to name a few. Not stopping there, he is leading the charge to open a 32-bed facility, Ames Family Hospice House, in Westlake next summer.

What's more, Simpson has worked tirelessly to promote quality end-of-life care by serving on the boards of the Ohio and National Hospice and Palliative Care Organizations and as a charter member of the Center to Advance Palliative Care's National Advisory Committee.

But if asked, Simpson admits the biggest hurdle in his position is identifying when it's the right time for hospice care for people in the community — and not leading an organization from infancy to the behemoth hospice care organization it is today.

"The kind of miraculous things that we're seeing happen in medicine that weren't available 50 to 70 years ago begin to shape really what happens to people in health care," explains Simpson. "Those kinds of [medical] interventions have such a compelling attraction that it becomes a challenge to know when to say when."

2011 Judson Smart Living Award Winners



Photo by Barney Taxel

Elizabeth O'Toole, M.D., Healthcare

Elizabeth O'Toole admits after nearly 20 years in the medical field, she is still learning from her older adult patients. That's why as a professor of medicine at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) and the medical director at Judson at University Circle, she connects students who are beginning their careers with those that have ended theirs.

"[Students] see folks that have been pioneers in their field; they see folks who have had a very different road but are in the same chosen field," says O'Toole, who also serves as the director of the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care at MetroHealth Medical Center. "Those things are really gratifying to see and I think they are very enriching for both the geriatric patient and for the student."

In her role, she exposes students to the field outside the classroom. O'Toole brings students along as she makes her rounds at Judson for observation and hands-on training. In addition, she has worked with her students to develop elective training programs, such as the American Geriatrics Society Student Chapter at CWRU, a membership to the national nonprofit dedicated to improving health and quality of life for older adults.

Through her efforts, O'Toole points to students who have pushed this agenda forward by creating and implementing two geriatric course electives for first- and second-year students in CWRU's School of Medicine.

Reflecting on her experiences, she offers this advice to recent grads: "Find an area that will make you feel fulfilled as a human being," O'Toole says. "Don't focus on the compensation for it. The rewards can be measured in non-monetary ways."