



THE WESTIN SAVANNAH HARBOR GOLF RESORT & SPA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Release - The [Savannah Harbor Foundation](#) awards \$50,000 to over 20 local charities at the 2015 Partner Breakfast held at The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa. (Feb. 2, 2015).

Savannah, GA (Feb. 2, 2015) -The Savannah Harbor Foundation is delighted to announce that it presented **\$50,000** to over 20 local charities at the 2015 Partner Breakfast on February 2, 2015 inside The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa. The 2015 recipients are: Xcel Strategy, Memorial Health Foundation, Humane Society, COPE for Change, Armstrong University Foundation, Performance Initiatives, Benedictine Military School, Girls on the Run, Urban Hope, SCMPD Foundation, Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, Greenbriar Children's Center, 200 Club, Lowcountry Down Syndrome, Voice Experience, Savannah Music Festival, First Tee of Savannah, West Broad Street YMCA, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Park Place Outreach Center, Give One Glove, The Living Vine, & the Empty Stocking Fund.

Savannah's Resort also recognized its Partners of the Year with Certificates of Appreciation and invitations to Savannah's "Best [Sunday Jazz Brunch](#)" at [Aqua Star Seafood Kitchen](#). The 2015 Partners of the Year are: Adfish Group, United Distributing, Old Town Trolley, Ann Howell of Cobblestone Connections, The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra, Savannah International Trade & Convention Center, FreshPoint, and Bloody Point Golf Club & Resort.

The Foundation's mission is to organize and promote community events with the aim of raising money for youth and family charities based in Savannah. The Savannah Harbor Foundation is also excited to continue its fundraising efforts in 2015 through April's Savannah Harbor Golf Classic, AquaCurean Seafood & Spirits Festival in late August, ongoing silent and live auctions through biddingforgood.com, the [Festival of Lights](#) and other community event initiatives.

Mark Spadoni, President of the Foundation, remarked, "This event to present checks to worthy organizations is the highlight of my year. When we started the Foundation over 13 years ago, the thought of impacting so many organizations annually didn't even register. Through the giving of others, either of their time to volunteer to help us put on our events or through their financial resources, we are able to help some great charities perform the much needed services they provide to the community. In other cases, to be able to offer resources to help children through

the arts, is humbling. We are already looking forward to a successful year of creating and delivering events in 2015 that will enable us to help even more people next year”.

UPCOMING SAVANNAH HARBOR EVENTS:

The Fabulous Equinox Orchestra will again be performing inside Aqua Star Seafood Kitchen at [Savannah River Sessions February 16th](#) in a Mardis Gras themed extravaganza! See Davis, Johnson and the Fabulous Equinox Orchestra sight read new sets and hone new material and enjoy a three course gourmet dinner from Executive Chef, Steve Black and Chef de Cuisine Shaun Hinson. Cocktails at 6:30pm, show starts at 7:00. Reservations available at open table or call 912.201.2085. \$40 includes concert and 3 great New Orleans courses.

As always, the setting for this year's Golf Classic on **April 2nd** is The Club at Savannah Harbor, a PGA Championship course with all the beauty of the Lowcountry. The foundation is currently seeking teams & hole sponsors to reach a goal of raising \$25,000 for children's charities here in Savannah. Platinum (\$1000), gold (\$750), silver (\$600) and bronze (\$300) levels of sponsorship are available. More information can be found at www.savannahharborfoundation.com.

On **August 28-30**, The Westin Savannah Harbor will again be the home of [AquaCurean Gourmet Seafood & Spirits Celebration](#). A weekend of the best seafood and spirits in the country will be abundant - with emphasis on coastal cuisine. Proceeds from the weekend's events will support children's charities here in the Savannah metro area. Corporate sponsorships are available, which include generous ticket packages. More information can be found at www.aquacurean.com.

The Festival of Lights continues to get bigger and better with no signs of slowing down for 2015. Kicking off the holiday season with a show-stopping bang, the Boat Parade of Lights is scheduled for **November 28th**.

About The Savannah Harbor Foundation

[The Savannah Harbor Foundation](#) is a 501(3)c non-profit charitable organization designed to support local children's' charities and to present family-oriented community events. The Foundation first began as a response to the tragedy of 9/11 – the General Manager of The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa, Mark Spadoni, felt the need to bring some feel-good, family-friendly, uplifting events to the city in the tragedy's aftermath. To this tune, he and other area business leaders like Rick Sibley, the late Ben Tucker, Mark Dana, Whip Triplet and Drew Ernst joined forces to form the Savannah Harbor Foundation. Supported by an all-volunteer board and staff, the Foundation presents several events throughout the year.

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For more information about this topic, get high resolution images, inquire about the Foundation, or to schedule an interview with Mark Spadoni, please call David Moses at 912-596-2525.



About the 2015 Savannah Harbor Foundation Recipients

Empty Stocking Fund, received by Michael Traynor

The Empty Stocking Fund, started in 1971 by the Savannah Morning News to offer a helping hand to those who were facing tough times, begins its holiday fund drive on Thanksgiving Day. The Empty Stocking Fund relies solely on private contributions generated by stories of real people and the situations that put them in need.

200 Club, received by Mark Dana

The principal objective of The 200 Club is to provide immediate financial assistance to the surviving spouse and children of local law enforcement officers and firefighters who lose their lives in the line-of-duty while protecting their communities.

Memorial Health Foundation received by Bill Lee on behalf of StayinSavannah.com

The Memorial Health Foundation is a nonprofit organization authorized to receive gifts for Memorial University Medical Center and its qualifying tax-exempt charitable affiliates. The Foundation's mission is to help ensure that Memorial has the resources necessary to provide world-class healthcare programs for the community.

Humane Society Received by Lauren Grant

Nuzzle Buddies Book Club, Our NEW Reading Program for Youth Volunteers. This program is offered after school and on Saturday mornings to reading aged children, 7-13 years old, whom are interested in reading aloud to shelter pets.

Park Place Outreach Received by Katrina

The mission of Park Place Outreach Youth Emergency Shelter is to provide services to at-risk youth and their families, increase their functional level, and reunify families whenever possible.

COPE for Change received by Sandy Baker

COPE offers family-based, after-school programs that target three major areas to reduce and prevent childhood obesity. These are: nutrition education, physical fitness, and a therapeutic/behavioral component.

Armstrong University Foundation Received by Bill Kelso

The Foundation specifically seeks funds to provide scholarships for deserving students, to support and improve selected academic enterprises, to support the faculty and staff of the University, to support the University's service to the community, to improve economic and community development, and to provide aid and advice to further the strategic initiatives of the University.

Xcel Strategies received by Jay Thompson

Excel exists to see young men mature into productive individuals through the direction of life-coaching strategies and advisor mentoring these young men have lost parental oversight through death, divorce, abuse, incarceration or neglect.

Performance Initiatives received by Kerry Goodrich

The purpose of the organization is to educate and mentor youth and adults mentally, physically and spiritually by using athletics and fitness, with olympic-style weight lifting as the base.

Benedictine Military School

Benedictine Military School is a Catholic, Benedictine, college preparatory school which forms and educates young men from diverse backgrounds, supports a deeper commitment to their faith, prepares them for life through a quality academic program, and instills leadership skills through a JROTC program, athletics, extra-curricular activities and community service.

Girls on the Run received by Beth Aldridge

Girls on the Run is a transformational physical activity based positive youth development program for girls in 3rd-8th grade. We teach life skills through dynamic, interactive lessons and running games.

Greenbriar Children's Center received by Gena Taylor

The mission of Greenbriar Children's Center is to promote the healthy development of children and the strengthening of families. We provide services that include an emergency shelter, runaway/homeless, residential care, independent living, family preservation, early childhood education & care, and Project Safe Place.

World Ocean School

The World Ocean School is an internationally focused nonprofit, nonsectarian organization dedicated to providing challenging educational programs aboard the schooner Roseway.

Urban Hope

Urban Hope is a ministry devoted to children and provides inner-city children an alternative to the streets.

LowCountry Down Syndrome

The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society is a family support group to benefit people with Down syndrome and their families through local leadership in support, outreach, education and advocacy.

SCMPD Foundation

The department joined with area businesses to create a non-profit organization to help raise money for extra equipment, services and training.

Savannah Music Festival

The Savannah Music Festival (SMF) is Georgia's largest musical arts festival and one of the most distinctive cross-genre music festivals in the world.

Savannah Voice Experience received by Lesley Francis

The VOICEexperience Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, established by world renowned baritone Sherrill Milnes and his wife, soprano Maria Zouves. Its mission is to pass on the traditions of great singing and develop new audiences for opera.

Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia received by Tara Nobles

GSHG is home to approximately 20,000 Girl Scouts, and is the historic home of our founder, Juliette Gordon Low.

First Tee of Savannah received by Barbara Essig & Mimi Kupp

The First Tee provides young people with character-building and life skills lessons using golf as the platform. Through The First Tee, young people discover how skills essential to success on a golf course can also help them flourish in life.

West Broad YMCA received by Zadonna Slay

The mission of the West Broad Street YMCA is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Interfaith Hospitality Network received by Lavanda Brown

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Coastal Georgia was developed to alleviate homelessness among families with children by providing emergency shelter, meals, and comprehensive support.

Living Vine, received by Debbie Blackburn

The Living Vine Christian Maternity Home is answering God's call to minister to expectant mothers and their unborn children by providing a safe and loving residential program, teaching the principles of a disciplined Christian life, and building reconciliation in broken families.

Give One Glove, received by Whip Triplett

Tristan Triplett asks for donations of new or used baseball gloves and other gently used baseball equipment to send to baseball players and teams in need. Monetary donations are also more than welcome and are used to purchase used baseball gloves through retailers like Play it Again Sports. Most of us take for granted all that we have, but something as small as the gift of a baseball glove to a young player could change the direction of that young player's life.

Lynx Baseball received by Dan Pavlin

Be Well,

DAVID
MOSES

Marketing Manager

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Passion for Excellence Award | *AIMIA, 2014*

Top 100 Resort Golf Courses & Best Courses You Can Play | *GolfWeek, 2013*

Green Seal certified for environmental stewardship | *Green Seal, 2013*

