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**YMCA of Greater St. Louis and YMCA of Southwest Illinois  
Present Awards at Annual Lamplighter Society Dinner**

**ST. LOUIS (May 23, 2014)** – The YMCA of Greater St. Louis and YMCA of Southwest Illinois are proud to announce the winners of several prestigious awards, which were presented at the Annual Lamplighter Society Dinner on Thursday, May 22.

The J. Clinton Hawkins and Lamplighter Awards are given annually to Y volunteers whose service has been exemplary and sustained over the years. The Dick Stoll Award recognizes a YMCA employee who has furthered the spirit of philanthropy in the YMCA.

*2014 J. Clinton Hawkins Award (St. Louis Association)*

Presented to: Phil Roush

Roush has served in various leadership roles for the Kirkwood-Webster Family YMCA for more than 30 years. He has been a member of the branch's board of directors since 1988, and served as the branch representative to the Metropolitan Board of Directors. He is also active with the Y's International Program, acting as the International Committee Chairman, hosting visitors and traveling abroad with other Y leaders.

*2014 Lamplighter Award Winner (SW Illinois Association)*

Presented to: William P. Gavin

William Gavin has been involved with the YMCA of Southwest Illinois since 1988, and has been an officer of the Board of Directors since 1995. He has always taken an active role in helping raise funds for the Annual Campaign and was instrumental in starting a new scholarship that honors outstanding youth in the Southwest Illinois region who, in addition to being academically accomplished, are also active in their local YMCA.

*2014 Lamplighter Award Winner (SW Illinois Association)*

Presented to: Thomas J. Hartmann

Thomas Hartmann has been involved with the Y for more than three decades. He joined the Board of Directors in 1981, and has served as Board Chairman and as Chairman of both the Annual Campaign Sub Committee and the Association Campaign. Through the years, Hartmann has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Y's Annual Campaign, including \$27,000 in the last three campaigns alone.

### *2014 Dick Stoll "Spirit of Philanthropy" Award (St. Louis Association)*

Presented to: Cesar Silva

Cesar Silva joined the YMCA of Greater St. Louis in 2002, and is now vice president of operations for the Association's western district. Under his leadership, branches have experienced significant growth in volunteerism, membership and donations. In fact, over the past three years, the branches in Silva's district have increased their fundraising dollars for the Strong Community Campaign, United Way and golf events by 26 percent.

"The Y is fortunate to have so many dedicated individuals who believe in, support and help further our commitment to youth development, healthy living and social responsibility," said Gary Schlansker, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater St. Louis. "Phil, William, Thomas and Cesar have contributed immeasurably to our association for many years, and I am very happy to honor them with these esteemed awards."

At the dinner, the Y also recognized new members to the Lamplighter Society for both Associations. The YMCA of Greater St. Louis welcomed: Elizabeth J. Christman, Sue and John Delos (for the Y-Tutor program in memory of their son, Greg Delos), the Graff Family, Dr. Joseph King, Jr., Wendy and Kevin Marquitz, Jana and Greg Rush, Harriet and Arnie Sallaberry, Dan and Stephanie Schulze (In Memory of Mary Schulze), Scott and Jodie Seek and the Yonko Family. The YMCA of Southwest Illinois welcomed Kaitlynn Alexander, Susan Smith Bradley, the LaChapell Family and Will and Ann Welsh.

The YMCA of Greater St. Louis and the YMCA of Southwest Illinois have announced they are combining under one new Y association called the Gateway Region YMCA. The combination is expected to be finalized later this year.

### **About the Lamplighter Society**

The name for the Lamplighter Society comes from the story of the lamplighters, those who were responsible for lighting the street lights of the city at dusk. Sir Harry Lauder said, "Even though the lamplighter had disappeared...you knew he had been there by the lights he left behind."

The Lamplighter Society was established in 1972 by Dick Stoll, then vice president of financial management for the YMCA of Greater St. Louis, in recognition of individuals who remember the Y in their estate plans, make an outright gift to the YMCA Endowment Fund or establish various kinds of planned gifts. Members of the Society are dedicated to the Y promise of building strong kids, strong families and strong communities for generations to come.

### **About the YMCA of Greater St. Louis**

The YMCA of Greater St. Louis is a nonprofit organization dedicated to youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. With 17 traditional Y branches and two Campus Y student leadership facilities on the Missouri side of the St. Louis Metro Area, our Y also includes YMCA Camp Lakewood and Trout Lodge in Potosi, Mo. The Carondelet Park Rec Complex and the O'Fallon Park Rec Complex are owned by the City of St. Louis and operated by the Y. Our Y is a proud member of the United Way. For more information, please visit [www.ymcastlouis.org](http://www.ymcastlouis.org) or call 314-436-1177.

### **About the YMCA of Southwest Illinois**

The YMCA of Southwest Illinois is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the foundations of communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Locally, the YMCA of Southwest Illinois engages over 34,000 men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation’s health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The YMCA of Southwest Illinois operates the Downtown Belleville YMCA Robert L. & Elsie A. Kern Center, East Belleville YMCA, Monroe County YMCA – HTC Center, Collinsville Maryville Troy YMCA, O’Fallon YMCA and the Red Bud Center.

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