

2010 Nashville Emerging Leader Award Winners



Architecture, Engineering and Construction

Richard Perko

Lee Company; President

Richard Perko established industry-leading safety and training programs for the Lee Company, which creates job and educational opportunities for high school graduates. These programs allow field-level personnel to learn a trade and increase their quality of life through trade education and growth opportunities. In his first year as president, Perko led his company through a transition from a traditional mechanical contracting firm into a position as a leader in facility services, home services and energy services, while remaining profitable throughout the economic downturn. Perko pushes the Lee Company toward leading the industry in sustainability and improving the energy efficiency of buildings and homes in Middle Tennessee. He also serves his community with time and resources through organizations including Nashville Union Rescue Mission, the YMCA of Middle Tennessee, American Heart Association and Boy Scouts of America.



Arts, Entertainment, and Music Business

Lucia Folk

CMT; Senior Director Public Affairs

Lucia Folk has been a leader in creating the first-ever public affairs department for CMT. She oversees the network's pro-social initiative, CMT ONE COUNTRY, which promotes civic participation and inspires CMT viewers to actively bring about change in their communities. Under Folk's leadership, CMT ONE COUNTRY has received multiple awards, engaged more than 1 million viewers, and donated substantially to five national nonprofits and multiple local nonprofits. Because Folk also guided the governmental affairs for the channel, CMT was able to secure the final three presidential candidates to participate in the opening of the 2008 CMT Music Awards, as well as the participation of former President George W. Bush in the show *CMT Giants*, honoring Alan Jackson. In addition to her dynamic accomplishments at CMT, Folk also serves on the boards of Hands On Nashville and Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity, and she is president of the Tennessee chapter of the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications.



Business Services

Justin Dell Crosslin, Jr.

Crosslin & Associates, PC; Chief Operating Officer

Justin Crosslin has led Crosslin & Associates through a successful reorganization throughout the last two years, which included the development and implementation of a new multi-year strategic plan. The plan required a new set of company goals, software conversions, educational initiatives, a mentoring program, a new website, marketing and public relations initiatives, as well as a company-wide development program. The company experienced a new client revenue growth of 26 percent in the first year following these changes. Crosslin also pours his leadership skills into the community through mentoring and volunteering with the Boy Scouts. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Nashville Health Care Council, Young Leaders Council and Leadership Health Care.



Community Service and Nonprofit

Chatiqua M. Vaughn
Hope Empowerment Center; Founder and CEO

Chatiqua Vaughn has dedicated her life to reaching out to the growing population of aged-out foster youth through Hope Empowerment Center. She received the Local Hero Award for the state of Tennessee in 2008 for her work in bettering the Nashville community. Vaughn has overcome her own obstacles of poverty and homelessness to obtain higher education and establish a nonprofit organization serving homeless young ladies. She works to reduce the number of homeless, aged-out foster youth in the area, and guide them to a better future. Vaughn is a member of the Davidson County Community Advisory Board and the National Foster Care Alumni Association.



Education

Jill Robinson
The Scarlett Leadership Institute at Belmont University;
Director of Executive Learning and Marketing

Jill Robinson manages the marketing and educational programs that inform Middle Tennessee's top executives. Through the educational meetings she coordinates, Robinson helps Nashville's leaders make better decisions for the futures of their industries. She also volunteers her time with various organizations in fundraising events, such as the Cancer Society, Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Bethany Christian Services. Robinson serves on the boards of directors for Nashville Emerging Leaders and Young Leaders Council.



Financial Services

Brian R. Shaw, Jr.
Reliant Bank; EVP/Chief Retail & Deposit Officer

Brian Shaw works diligently to challenge not only himself, but his entire company, to higher standards within the banking industry. He recently attended an industry-leading university in banking education to obtain a graduate degree, which allowed him to further Reliant Bank with new ideas and strategies that have increased their bottom line and expanded their customer services. Shaw is a member of the American Bankers Association and the Tennessee Young Bankers Association. He also serves on the board of the Brentwood Family YMCA and is head coach of the Crieveewood Baptist High School boys' basketball team.



Government and Public Affairs

Jennifer Hagan-Dier
State of Tennessee, Department of Revenue;
Assistant Commissioner & Liaison to the Department of Economic and Community
Development

Jennifer Hagan-Dier stepped in to serve the State of Tennessee in an unprecedented role, creating a niche and definition for her position in economic development. Through her leadership, the position is now an integral part of the state's economic development team, and a role that is respected by the statewide economic development community. Beyond Hagan-Dier's professional impact on the community, she also commits her time to Manna-Food Security Partners and the Nashville Earth Day Festival Planning Committee, and she is president and co-founder of Friends of the Nashville Farmers' Market. Hagan-Dier is a member of Nashville Emerging Leaders and the Martha O'Bryan Young Professionals Committee.



Hospitality and Tourism

Dave Herrell

Nashville Sports Council and Music City Bowl, Inc.;
Vice President of Marketing & Development

Dave Herrell has worked on nearly 100 sporting events that have yielded more than \$350 million in direct economic impact. Under his direction, the Nashville Sports Council, which was named 2003 National Sports Commission of the Year, developed one of the largest and most comprehensive membership programs for sports commissions. In addition, he served on the team that helped create Nashville's post-season collegiate bowl game, the Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl. He was also involved in the NFL relocation for the Tennessee Titans and the NHL expansion bid for the Nashville Predators. Herrell serves on the Football Bowl Association Marketing and PR Committee, on the board of directors for the Nashville Downtown Partnership, and is board chairman for the DISTRICT. He is also past president of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the American Marketing Association.



Human Resources

Tiffany Coursey

Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon; Human Resources Representative

Tiffany Coursey provides human resources for many aspects at Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon; she has worked with the implementation of a performance management system and a learning management system, she helps managers develop new positions, and advises on all HR issues. Previously, Coursey worked solely in recruiting, but was able to successfully take on a role that delves into every HR aspect. In addition, she volunteers with Junior Achievement, serves as the workforce planning chair for the MT|SHRM board and volunteers with the Safe Haven Family Shelter.



Legal Services

Samuel P. Funk

Sherrard & Roe, PLC; Member and Attorney

Samuel Funk became a partner at Sherrard & Roe after just four years of practicing law in Nashville. He was recently named to the Best Lawyers in America for the third year in a row, and was listed in Mid-South Super Lawyers and Corporate Counsel Super Lawyers. Funk's service on the Second Harvest board has helped the organization grow exponentially. He led the organization in one of its strongest years in fundraising and amount of distributed food. Funk also works with the International Justice Mission as a volunteer lawyer, fighting for justice for the oppressed. He earned a spot on the *Nashville Business Journal's* 2009 "Forty Under 40" list, and is a member of Young Leaders Council and the Nashville Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division.



Medical and Health Care Services

Michael Dale Warren, M.D., MPH

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt; Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Michael Dale Warren works to pave the way for future successes for others in the health care community, and one of his major contributions has been his establishment of the Resident Advocacy Group that involves medical residents in school and community health activities. With the Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination, Warren advocates the medical home model, a comprehensive and coordinated approach to providing health care. He also helped establish the first-ever Child Health Week for Tennessee, complete with a proclamation from the governor. Warren is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and serves on the board of directors for Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee and the Tennessee Rural Health Partnership.



Public Relations, Advertising and Marketing

Jenny Barker

Centennial Medical Center; Manager of Public Relations & Marketing

Jenny Barker is one of the youngest PR practitioners in the country to have earned the Accredited in Public Relations designation, and is one of only 5,000 PR professionals worldwide to hold the certification. Barker received the Public Relations Society of America's Mercury Award in 2009 for her demonstrated accelerated progress in her career field. She serves on the board of the Oasis Center, is an alumna of Nashville Emerging Leaders, a member of the Junior League of Nashville, and she volunteers at Safe Haven Family Shelter and the Pencil Foundation.



Real Estate Services

Jessica Averbuch

Zeitlin & Co. Realtors; Broker, Partner

Jessica Averbuch has set high standards for herself as a broker and partner of a successful realty company. Despite unprecedented market conditions, Averbuch achieved her best sales year in 2009. The opportunity to take on the position as a partner at Zeitlin & Co. allows her to share her positivism, expertise and leadership skills, impacting the success of others. She also stays active in the community, sitting on various committees at West End Synagogue, as well as the board for the National Council of Jewish Women. Averbuch is a board member with Renewal House, and has chaired their annual "A Women's Thanksgiving" event. She is a member of the Greater Nashville Association of Realtors, Tennessee Association of Realtors, and National Association of Realtors.



Technology

Mark Burnette

MainNerve, Inc.; President, Central Region

Mark Burnette has helped found several information security organizations and entities to provide an avenue for security leaders and professionals to further their education, build a network, and share their expertise among peers. In 2009, Burnette was named one of *ComputerWorld* magazine's Top 100 Information Technology Leaders. Additionally, he serves as a board member for the Foundation for Advanced Science Through Distributed Computing, is the co-founder of the Middle Tennessee chapter of the Information Systems Security Association, and is a member of Young CPAs.

Thanks to our Sponsors:

Presenting Sponsor:



Associate Sponsor:



Media Partner:



Supporting Sponsor:

