

Mortar Board

National College Senior Honor Society

Scholars... Chosen for Leadership... United to Serve



MEDIA RELEASE

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MORTAR BOARD PRESENTS EMERGING LEADER AWARD TO PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALIST MAUREEN RICHMOND

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society announced that Maureen Richmond, APR, of West Chester, Ohio, is the recipient of the 2013 Emerging Leader Award. This distinction was presented to Richmond at the Society's national conference, held last month in Atlanta.

The Mortar Board Emerging Leader Award was created this year to recognize extraordinary Mortar Board alumni who are within 20 years of their graduation, have demonstrated exceptional achievement in their careers and are noted for outstanding community service. Honorees serve as remarkable role models and represent Mortar Board's commitment to the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service.

Richmond was initiated in 1996 into the Barbara Cook chapter of Mortar Board at Purdue University, where she earned a baccalaureate degree in communication with an emphasis in public relations. Since graduation, Richmond has excelled in her industry, working in public relations for one of Indianapolis' largest insurers, serving as spokesperson for the nation's biggest seasonal theme park and directing media relations for FirstGroup America, North America's largest transportation company. Ever moving forward, Richmond recently accepted a position in corporate communications and social media for Honda North America. As a public relations specialist, Richmond has provided media relations direction, proactive strategy and crisis response for her employers, working regularly with media outlets like the New York Times, MSNBC, CNN, The Washington Post and the Today Show.

Committed to bettering the community, Richmond has leveraged her career success to promote service to others. As leader of FirstStudent's partnership with thebullyproject.org, an international organization using the documentary *Bully* to promote bullying awareness, she oversaw the transportation of more than 100,000 students to see the film, coordinated a facilitator's guide and educated 7,000 instructors to recognize bully behavior. Richmond was present at the White House screening of the film and was invited to discuss the topic with senior White House staffers. Additionally, Richmond has been a longtime leader of the Public Relations Society of America, chair of the Southwest Ohio Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and officer of the Cincinnati Crown Alumni Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Richmond is a devoted wife and mother to three young children. She is a competitive walker and has competed in more than 20 half-marathons.

Mortar Board is the premier national honor society recognizing college seniors for outstanding achievement in scholarship, leadership and service. Since its founding in 1918, more than a quarter of a million members have held the honor of being initiated at 230 chartered chapters across the nation. Mortar Board provides its members with opportunities for continued leadership development, promotes service to colleges and universities and encourages lifelong contributions to the global community. Some notable Mortar Board members include professional football player and philanthropist Drew Brees, former United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and award-winning actor Marion Ross. Learn more about Mortar Board at www.mortarboard.org.

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