

Mortar Board

National College Senior Honor Society

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



MEDIA RELEASE

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MORTAR BOARD PRESENTS TOP AWARD TO MABEL G. FREEMAN CHAPTER AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society announced that the Mabel G. Freeman chapter at The Ohio State University is the recipient of the 2012-2013 Ruth Weimer Mount Chapter Excellence Award, the top honor for a collegiate chapter. Chapter president Jennifer Mayer accepted the award at the Society's national conference, held this summer in Atlanta. Chapter namesake Mabel G. Freeman was also present to receive the award.

The Ruth Weimer Mount Chapter Excellence Award is presented annually to Mortar Board's most exceptional collegiate chapter. The award winner is selected based on superior chapter operations, campus visibility, member participation, advising, communications and chapter projects. Currently in its eleventh year, the Ruth Weimer Mount Award is the ultimate recognition of chapter achievement.

Led by 2012-2013 chapter president Ben Hemmelgarn, the members of the Mabel G. Freeman chapter at The Ohio State University set out to be the best chapter in the nation by forming strong bonds that would last throughout the year, including tapping, orientation and initiation of the 100th class this spring. One of the hallmarks of the chapter was its ability to engage in several new projects, expanding its established niche on campus. Chapter initiatives included a Last Lecture Series, featuring three high-level faculty and staff leaders, and the Emerging Eminence Awards, a program recognizing outstanding sophomores. The chapter also hosted an inaugural statewide event for all Ohio chapters to come together to serve the local community and to network with and learn from alumni. With a rich history of strong communication, sound finances, a refined membership selection process and a storied initiation ceremony, the achievements of the Mabel G. Freeman chapter exemplify Mortar Board's commitment to its ideals of scholarship, leadership and service.

Ruth Weimer Mount, in whose honor this award is named, was an initiate into the Phi Delta Psi chapter of Mortar Board at the University of Illinois in 1947. Mount became one of the first women to hold the position of dean of students at a major university when she was selected for that role at The Ohio State University. She provided crucial leadership to Mortar Board over the course of many years as president of Mortar Board, Inc., the Mortar Board National Foundation and the Association of College Honor Societies. A legend at Ohio State, Mount's friends and colleagues established the Ruth Weimer Mount Leadership Endowment Fund after her death in 1997 in tribute to her unparalleled commitment to students and to Mortar Board.

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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Photo caption: Jennifer Mayer, president of the 100th class of the Mabel G. Freeman chapter at The Ohio State University, receives the Ruth Weimer Mount Chapter Excellence Award from National President Susan Caples.