

North Syracuse Central School District

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NORTH SYRACUSE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

North Syracuse Central School District

HONORING OUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

2021-2022

WALL OF DISTINCTION

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022 - 7 P.M.

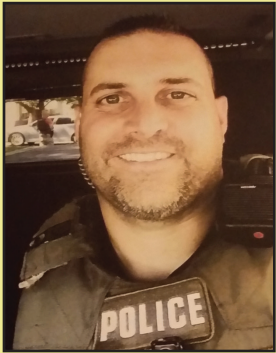
Cicero-North Syracuse High School

2021-2022 Inductees:

Paul Clayton Keyes III
John W. Kuryla
Bendita Cynthia Malakia
Breanna Mackenzie Stewart

North Syracuse Central School District

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Paul Clayton Keyes, (deceased) was a graduate of the Cicero-North Syracuse High School Class of 1995. Sadly, Paul passed away in February of 2018 after a courageous year-long battle with leukemia. Paul was devoted to his family and a loving father to his four children, Alexis, Jasmine, Zachary and Logan. Paul's mom, Mary Keyes, proudly nominated Paul for the Wall of Distinction.

Paul was a founding member of the United States Marshals Service Special Response Team. He received numerous commendations for his service as part of the prestigious and well-respected team. Paul was involved in the apprehension of violent criminals and led several efforts to protect high-level government officials and judges. Paul received the Robert Forsyth Valor Award that honors employees who demonstrate unusual courage, good judgment and competence in hostile circumstances along with those who have performed an act or service which saved the life of another person while endangering their own.

Paul was a veteran of the US Army and US Air Force, serving 18 years combined. He was passionate about serving his community and specifically sought to help children in need through the law enforcement community. His efforts to give back included: Shop with a Cop, Santa Cop and National Night Out. Paul was also a volunteer fireman.

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WALL OF DISTINCTION



John W. Kuryla graduated with the Cicero-North Syracuse High School Class of 1985. John is a resident of Cicero, NY, and life-long member of the North Syracuse Central School District community. John is married to Katie Kuryla, an NSCSD art teacher, and father to 3 children, John (22), Chris (20) and Sophie (19).

John received his Bachelor of Arts and Masters degrees in Health Education from SUNY Cortland and has been a health educator at the North Syracuse School District since 1998. He has served on the board of the North Syracuse Education Association (NSEA) since 2003 and became President in 2010. He now also serves on the Board of Directors for NYSUT (New York State United Teachers).

John is passionate about service and is involved in a number of charitable organizations. John organizes a team of NSEA members in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk to benefit the American Cancer Society (ACS). He also organizes events such as Real Men Wear Pink and Relay for Life as well as serving on the ACS Advisory Board. John is a member of the Plank Road Chamber of Commerce and Secretary of the Onondaga County Teachers Association.

North Syracuse Central School District

WALL OF DISTINCTION



Bendita Cynthia Malakia graduated in 2001 from Cicero-North Syracuse High School. While at C-NS, Bendita served as President and was instrumental in forming UMOJA, a cocurricular group which literally means “unity,” to the school. The group continues to offer a supportive atmosphere for the growing, diverse student body of the District. She went on to graduate from Barnard College in 2005 (Summa Cum Laude) and Harvard Law School in 2008 (Cum Laude). Bendita is the recipient of numerous

accolades for innovation, finance law and justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) in the legal profession. While previously serving as a lawyer supporting emerging market investment and ultra high net worth individuals from the World Bank to Wall Street, Bendita currently serves as the Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer at Hogan Lovells, one of the world’s most highly regarded and profitable law firms. In this role and through her JEDI consultancy, she serves as a trusted advisor to executives, boards and professionals around the globe.

An entrepreneur, certified coach and supporter of more than 100 mentees, Bendita is a sought-after speaker and thought leader and serves as a board member for several non-profit organizations, including as Treasurer of the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association among many others. Bendita is the daughter of the inimitable Lue and Antonio Malakia, and sister of renaissance man Kwama Malakia, and is honored to share life with her partner Lauren Matthews, her best friend Jessica Moore, and the best family and friends around.

North Syracuse Central School District

WALL OF DISTINCTION



Breanna Mackenzie Stewart is a 2012 graduate of Cicero-North Syracuse High School. In high school, Breanna, or Stewie as she is known, was named Gatorade National Player of the Year, Gatorade Female Athlete of the Year, and a McDonald’s All-American. Stewie went on to play at the University of Connecticut and led the Huskies to four national championships. She was named the Final Four’s most outstanding player a record four times and was a

three-time consensus national player of the year. At the 2016 WNBA draft, Stewie was drafted first overall by the Seattle Storm. Her professional career flourishes and, although all of her accolades and awards are too numerous to list here, recent highlights include, in 2020, being named one of Sports Illustrated’s Sportspeople of the Year for her activism off the court and winning her second Finals MVP in her fourth WNBA championship with the Storm and, in 2021, being named to The W25 as one of the top 25 players in the history of the WNBA as well as earning a second career Olympic gold medal.

Stewie is involved with numerous charitable organizations including the Ronald McDonald House, March of Dimes, Special Olympics and the Salvation Army. She is married to former WNBA basketball player Marta Xargay and together are parents to daughter Ruby Mae Stewart-Xargay born August 9, 2021.

North Syracuse Central School District
WALL OF DISTINCTION

Welcome

DANIEL D. BOWLES
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Purpose/Introductions

CHRISTOPHER R. LEAHEY, ED.D.
ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Presentation of Inductees

PAUL CLAYTON KEYES, III (DECEASED)

JOHN W. KURLA
BENDITA CYNTHIA MALAKIA
BREANNA MACKENZIE STEWART

Closing Remarks

CHRISTOPHER R. LEAHEY, ED.D.
ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

CICERO-NORTH SYRACUSE HIGH SCHOOL

STRING QUINTET

Maddie Rodoski, violin

Kaley Otis, violin

Lily Misco, viola

Emily Bradley, cello

Aiden Hanas, bass

Mr. John Harnois, Director

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING CEREMONY

North Syracuse Central School District
WALL OF DISTINCTION

The North Syracuse Central School District Wall of Distinction was created in 1990 for the purpose of recognizing and honoring graduates of North Syracuse High School, Cicero High School or Cicero-North Syracuse High School. Each year, an advisory committee considers nominated graduates who have achieved a high level of prominence in their personal and/or professional lives and who have participated in extensive community service or volunteer activities for induction to the Wall of Distinction.

John Abulencia '11
Diana G. Adlowitz '14
Mark Atkinson '10
Richard Bader '90
William C. Baker '04
Tricia Rose Bienick '17
Anthony Bottar '92
Michael J. Bragman '90
Toni'Lyn Brauchle '04
Mary P. Bronner '09
David Burdick '00
Glenn Burdick '90
Roger Burdick '00
Ruth Burdick '90
Dennis Burns '90
Earl Butterfield '90
Helen Byrnes '09
Judy Byron '93
Lynn A. Calpeter '07
Angelo Capozzi '97
Richard Carroll '98
Thomas Carroll '90
Thomas J. Carroll '05
Janet Adams Chalifoux '15
Roger Chandler '09
Catherine Cifaratta-Brayton '95
Philip M. Cleary '06
Bryan Crandall '12
Yolanda Blair Copeland '90
Tracey Smith Cottle '92
Warren Darby '92
Jodi Dunn DeAugustine '17
Vera Desimone '00
Dana Drisko '99
Chester A. Dudzinski '04
Sharon Mattes Edick '13
William F. Edwards '06
David Essel '03
William Farone '95
Hank Fengler '11
Fred Ferguson '92
Lewis Ferguson '09
William Fisher '90
Lona Flynn '95
Lawrena Walter Foland '94
Capt. Connie Frizzell '08
Christopher S. Gaiser '06
David Gere '05
Joanne Gere '05
Laura Gere '05
Richard Gere '05
Susan Gere '05
Dave Giusti '91
Kimberly Sharp Green '15
Ronald Grethel '09
Wayne Guenther '96
Charles L. Hafner '11
Linda Hafner '11
Charles Haven '02
John C. Heindorf '08
Beverly Hill '10
Joleen DesRosiers Hill '12
Tiffany Farish Hill '12
Ron Hodge '90
Capt. Owen Honors, Jr. '06
Amy Sonich Hysick '17
Phyllis Initzki '99
Curtis Irwin '90
Brian Kesel '14
Joan Zinsmeyer Kesel '96
Anne DesRosiers Killen '17
Howard E. Krueger '08
Douglas G. Ladd '05
Steve LaValle '95
Paul Linnertz '94
Ronald Lukas '14
Dr. Archie A. MacKinney '07
Kathleen M. MacPherson '98
Malcolm Mallette '96
David H. Mathews '14
Kayla McKeon '17
Suzanne (Argy) Meyer '20

Jackie Robinson Melchor '90
Gloria Mitton '08
Pete Moore '20
Greg Mort '91
Elizabeth Mowins '12
Sean T. O'Hara '06
Chloe Ann T. O'Neill '04
David Oliver '93
Sheila Duffy Patterson '96
Nichole Frezza Polos '07
Kathleen Rowe '03
Kathryn Howe Ruscitto '91
Joseph Sanfilippo '98
Patricia Ruggiano Schmidt '01
James Shampine '92
Duret Smith '93
Paul Henry Smith, Jr. '13
Barbara St. Pierre-Teller '13
Thomas Stimson, Jr. '04
Christopher J. Tanski '07
Susan E. Tehon '09
Renee St. Pierre Teller '13
David F. Thomas '14
Marjorie L. Thomas '14
Robert Tomeny '93
Thomas Trask '91
Roxanne (Corl) Trew '20
Lee James Turner '20
John Unger '13
Dr. Craig S. Vinch '07
Paul Wagner '97
Chuck Wilbur '08
Gary L. Wilmer '07
Paul Wilson '94
Pamela Wintle '06
Carol York '01
Mary Yuill '91
Robert Zacholl '03
Doreen Zangari '90
Jack Zinsmeyer '00