Alumni Award Winners 2012

St. Norbert College

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Alumni Award winners 2012

Each year the college is privileged to honor a few among many outstanding alumni. Meet this year’s winners, recognized at a celebratory dinner in October.

Kevin Krainz '07
2012 Young Alumni Award

Kevin Krainz once spoke of wanting to live "an uncommon life," and he is well on his way to doing that, in the best way possible.

From his time at St. Norbert until today, Kevin has dedicated himself to serving the common good.

After graduation, he volunteered at the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Amate House, helping to provide free legal services through Cabrini Green Legal Aid.

He is remembered at Amate House not just for adhering to their tenets – faith, community, service, social justice and stewardship – but for his extraordinary commitment to them. He was, noted one nominator, a role model for the entire community.

After Amate House, Kevin traveled to Peru, where he spent a year with Augustinian Volunteers, conducting workshops on voting rights and civic participation, teaching English, and serving as a translator for visiting groups of doctors.

Returning to the states, Kevin worked as a fundraiser for Cabrini Green Legal Aid, and is currently a Toll Public Interest Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. As a Toll Scholar, he has committed to performing five years of public service as a lawyer following graduation, and is already doing pro bono work on projects related to employment law.

From his days at St. Norbert as what one sponsor described as "the single most impressive student I have ever known," to his faithful service today on behalf of the poor and the marginalized, Kevin is an exemplar of Catholic social teaching, and "exactly the kind of person Abbot Pennings prayed would attend this school and extend the legacy of St. Norbert.

Look here for web-exclusive content that expands on topics presented in the current issue of St. Norbert College Magazine.

Rushing to glory
Retired Green Bay Packers running back Ahman Green talks about his career with the Packers and his life after professional football.

SNC Day 2012
Our gallery of images captures the warm welcome and varied activities offered at our popular annual open house.

A $90-million initiative launched
Six minutes that make the case for Campaign St. Norbert: Full Ahead.

Convocation 2012
The arrival and welcome of the Class of 2016, celebrated in pictures.

Living out of order in a broken world
Marcie Paul (Modern Foreign Languages) offers a talk in the popular Last Lecture series.
Norbert himself, fully engaging the world with reverence and joy."

Dr. Casey Barrio Minten ‘00
2012 Distinguished Achievement Award

“Exceptional: Unusually excellent. Deviating widely from the norm. Exceeding the ordinary or expected.”

Casey Barrio Minton’s career has been nothing if not exceptional. She received her doctorate in counseling exceptionally quickly, from a highly respected program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She was granted tenure exceptionally early by the University of North Texas. She has an exceptional reputation for research and professional writing such that, in nationally refereed journals with rejection rates as high as 90%, she has had two manuscripts accepted with no significant revisions – an almost unheard-of accomplishment.

Dr. Barrio Minton’s studies in sociology and communication at St. Norbert, coupled with her volunteer work in the Women’s Center and the Sexual Assault Center in Green Bay, sparked her interest in counseling – an interest that led her first to a master’s degree in counseling, and then to her Ph.D. in counseling and counselor education.

Of her scholarship, one nominator said it is “in the vanguard in the areas of counselors’ emergency preparedness, crisis response competence and professional publication.” With respect to her teaching, another noted that she has for five consecutive years received the best student ratings among the highly regarded faculty at UNT.

Looking at her impressive list of awards, her sterling publication history, and the plaudits she has received for both her scholarship and her teaching, it is easy to overlook a critical underlying point: Dr. Barrio Minton’s work is in service to a particularly worthy cause. She is deeply engaged in advancing society’s ability to help those who are troubled, isolated and most in need. In that pursuit, she honors our Norbertine and Catholic ideals.

Mary Regan ‘74
2012 Distinguished Achievement Award

“She speaks for those who have little or no voice.”

For more than thirty years, Mary Regan has worked tirelessly to better the lives of children with mental illnesses, those in foster care, and those who are homeless.

She began her career as an adolescent care worker here in Brown County, before moving on to work as a mental health specialist in Illinois and pursue her Master of Social Work degree.

Accepting a position as treatment coordinator at the Children’s Residential Treatment Center of Abbott Northwestern Hospitals in Minneapolis, Mary gained a reputation as an innovator, eventually rising to become the center’s director.
Today she is the executive director of the Minnesota Council of Child Caring Agencies. She is also past president of the National Organization of State Associations for Children, and is currently chair of the Minnesota Children’s Mental Health Partnership, co-chair of Youth Moving Forward and co-convener of the Child Well Being Network.

Mary is a constant presence at the Minnesota state legislature, advocating on behalf of children’s health and welfare. As one of her nominators observed, “There is no one else in the state of Minnesota who has demonstrated a higher level of commitment and passion on these issues than Mary Regan.”

Mary combines her passion with an interpersonal style nominators universally admire. They speak of her collaborative spirit … her open heart … her gentle, inclusive leadership … her charm, grace and modesty.

In both the work she does and the way she does it, Mary Regan exemplifies the spirit of communio.

John Burgoyne ’64
2012 Alma Mater Award

You might be mildly surprised to find a retired president of IBM China in Parker County, Texas. You’d surely be very surprised to find him fighting fires there – but that’s precisely what John Burgoyne has been doing over the past decade.

John capped a 30-plus-year IBM career by serving as president and GM of its China operation during the early ’90’s, when he led the organization to explosive revenue growth before taking on the challenge of managing the company’s Asia-Pacific Travel and Transportation Industries.

After retiring from IBM in 1996, John, as founder and president of Burgoyne and Associates, has continued to provide consulting services to other IBM divisions, Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurial startups.

John’s career success was coupled with an enduring passion for social justice and a deep love for humanity. During his time in China, he worked to raise employee pay to unprecedented levels, instilling self-respect and dignity among the workforce. He also helped found an interdenominational church, the Congregation of the Good Shepherd, which is still in operation today.

Carrying his commitment to service back to the States, John, with his wife Nancy, spearheaded efforts to build strong partnerships between Fort Worth, Texas, and its sister city, Guiyang, China, to promote world peace and justice.

John also joined the Greenwood Volunteer Fire Department. The grant proposals he wrote there were so well prepared that FEMA invited him to be a peer reviewer in their grant program. Promoted to fire chief, John found himself in April 2011 joined with firefighters nationwide in battling the worst wildfire in Texas history.
As a businessman, as a global citizen, and as a caring neighbor, John has distinguished himself. He moved one nominator to attest: “I can say that John Burgoyne stands in a class by himself in reflecting the highest values and aspirations of private education, and any college or university in this nation would be exceedingly proud to claim him as one of its own.”

As we are, at St. Norbert.

Nov. 4, 2012