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## **LOCAL NON-PROFIT HOSTS 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AWARDS GALA RECOGNIZING TALLAHASSEE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals (NYP) announced the winners of the eighth annual Golden A.C.E Awards & Gala at a ceremony held February 22, 2020 at the University Center Club at FSU in Tallahassee, FL. This prestigious event was held to recognize the top young professionals living in Tallahassee that exemplify authentic community engagement, or A.C.E.

“These awards celebrate the young, undiscovered, emerging leaders who are making a difference in our beloved city,” said Kelli Gemmer, president of the Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals. “The Golden A.C.E. awards celebrate the talented young professionals that exist in our own backyard who help make Tallahassee a city where young professionals choose to live, work, play and stay.”

Tallahassee Mayor John Dailey awarded the highest recognition of Top A.C.E. to Dr. Zemoria A. Johnson, clinical pharmacist with Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and CEO of the DeBoles-Johnson Foundation. A Tallahassee native and 2018 graduate of Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University’s College of Pharmacy, Johnson is a two-time recipient of the Presidential Volunteer Service Award from the Administrations of Presidents Bush and Obama in 2008 and 2011, respectively. When she is not on the clock serving her community at the hospital, she mentors students at her former high school, James S. Rickards High School.

As the Top A.C.E. winner, Johnson selected her family’s non-profit, the DeBoles-Johnson Foundation where she currently serves as CEO, as her charity of choice to receive a \$1,000 donation from NYP. Established in 2019, the Foundation seeks to help college-bound students through scholarships and hosts in-class sessions on how high school seniors can graduate from college debt-free and have successful professional careers.

This event was made possible through our sponsors and partners in the community including Live.Work.Play.Stay. Sponsors Morgan Dental and Tri-Eagle Sales, in addition to featured sponsors Beck Partners CRE, Trulieve, Avant Huston Financial Group, Boler Legal PLLC, The Current Agency, Kimley-Horn, Merrill Lynch – Wright & Associates, Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A. CPAs, Capital City Pedicabs, Foster Photography, the University Center Club at FSU, and Harvest Printing & Marketing Solutions.

The 2020 Golden A.C.E. winners are:

- Kathleen Blackburn – Neighbors of Ox Bottom, Best Version Media
- Katie Britt Williams – Hydro Solutions Consulting
- Christopher Daniels – Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University
- Fletcher Dilmore – Beck Partners CRE

- Erica Eckland – Waggy Tails Pet Sitting
- Samantha Ferrin – Florida Lottery
- Mike Goldstein – Capital City Pedicabs
- Lashawn Gordon – United Partners for Human Services
- Jason Hendrix – Florida Sports Foundation
- Kyndra Light – Housing Leadership Council and Precision Building
- Michele Madison – Farming the Future
- Rafael Marimon – Range Mortgage
- Danielle Price – Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Vickia Rosier – Cultivating Queens Copr.
- Victoria Shelton – Self Decode Genome Analysis
- Lucille Spann Asbury – Greenback Expat Tax Services
- Samantha Vance – Ladies Learning to Lead
- Charlotte Waters – Legal Services of North Florida
- Jamie Wright – Merrill Lynch

To learn more about the Golden A.C.E awards, visit [tallahasseenyp.com/golden-ace](http://tallahasseenyp.com/golden-ace).

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The Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals (NYP) was established in 2003 to help individuals foster an authentic relationship with the community they call home. The organization is dedicated to making Tallahassee a city where young professionals choose to live, work, play and stay. Learn more at [www.TallahasseeNYP.com](http://www.TallahasseeNYP.com)