



*The 73rd Annual  
Outstanding Young  
Virginians  
Awards Ceremony*

**November 14, 2015  
Holiday Inn Ballston  
Arlington, Virginia**



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**W**elcome to the 73<sup>rd</sup> annual Outstanding Young Virginians ceremony. Tonight we will be honoring five individuals who are “Leading the Way” through their personal and professional accomplishments. They strive to change the world around them by creating positive and sustainable change in our communities.

Each of our Outstanding Young Virginian honorees exemplify the ideals expressed in the Jaycee Creed and have demonstrated their commitment to personal growth, leadership development and community involvement. Their actions demonstrate that service to humanity is the best work of life!

This year, we honor two Outstanding Young Virginians, an Outstanding Young Emergency Medical Services Responder, and two Outstanding Future Leaders. We received several outstanding nominations this year and it is certainly inspiring to see the impact these individuals are having in their communities.



Thank you for joining us this year for the Outstanding Young Virginian celebration. Please enjoy your evening and join me in congratulating these impressive honorees.

*Amy Tenhouse*  
81st President

# ~Event Program~

**Welcome & Introductions**      *Jackie Julien*  
*Chairman of the Board*

**Invocation**                      *Michael Raymer*  
*Chaplain*

## ~Dinner~

**Opening Remarks**              *Jennifer Ray, 95th President,*  
*United States Junior Chamber*

*Amy Tenhouse, 81st President,*  
*Virginia Jaycees*

## ~Outstanding Young Virginian Celebration~

**Master of Ceremonies**        *The Honorable William "Bill" Euille*

**Keynote Speaker**              *Steven Olikara*  
*President and Co-Founder*  
*Millennial Action Project*

***Outstanding Future Leaders***

***Outstanding EMS Responder***

***Outstanding Young Virginians***

## ~Jaycee Presentations~

*Life Memberships*

*Ambassadorships*

*Return the Favor*

*JCI Senatorships*

*3rd Quarter Awards*

*Jaycee Creed*

## ~Adjournment~

# History of the Outstanding Young Virginian Program

The Virginia Jaycees have been dedicated to publicly recognizing Outstanding Young Virginians since 1942. Modeled on the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce's Ten Outstanding Young Americans program, this program gives the state organization the opportunity to recognize young Virginians who best exemplify through their activities the ideals expressed in the Jaycee Creed.

The Outstanding Young Virginian Program began as the Distinguished Service Award in 1942 with the first recipient being Martin B. Williams of Richmond. In 1954, the Jaycees introduced the Outstanding Young Farmer award. This program recognizes young farmers for achievements in agri-business as well as contributions made through the involvement in community, agriculture, and other organizations.

In 1971, the award was changed to the Outstanding Young Men and that year a special presentation was made to honor all POW/ MIA's in Southwest Asia. In 1984 with the introduction of women into the Jaycees, the award was changed to the Outstanding Young Virginians.

The Virginia Jaycees in 1992 established the Outstanding Young Emergency Medical Technician award to honor unselfish, life-saving contributions of pre-hospital providers. This award not only recognizes the contributions of the recipients, but also to honor the world's first rescue squad, established in Roanoke, Virginia by Julian S. Wise.

Progress toward a better world has been the central purpose in selecting the Outstanding Young Virginians. Essential to this purpose has been the theme of the Outstanding Young Virginians program, "the hope of mankind lies in the hands of youth and action." The young men and women selected over the past 65 years have represented the cultural, economic, and personal progress of their time. Each honoree has shown commitment to mankind and reminds each of us that no problem is too difficult when handled with grace, ingenuity, courage, and determination.



# Special Guest

## Jennifer Ray

95th President

United States Junior Chamber

Jennifer J. Ray has been a member of the Jaycees since March 2001 when she joined the Cockeysville/Timonium Jaycees (currently known as the Northern Baltimore County Junior Chamber) located in Maryland. At the chapter level, she served as the Membership Vice President, Treasurer, and a two-term Chapter President.



Jennifer moved to state leadership where she served as the Outstanding Young Marylander Program Manager, Membership Vice President, Dues Administrator, Chaplain, and Executive Vice President. In 2009, she served as the 69th President of the Maryland Junior Chamber with a theme inspired by Walt Disney: "DREAM! If you can dream it, you can do it!"

Jennifer has served at the national level as the 2010 Passport to Leadership Program Manager and 2011 National Vice President with the theme, "Pay it Forward." Jennifer was recognized with the Don Cavelli Memorial Award as the 2011 Outstanding National Vice President. In 2012, she served as the National Chaplain and was recognized for her efforts with a National Presidential Medallion. Jennifer continued to serve the National organization as the State Presidents' Coach in 2013 and Membership Director in 2014. Jennifer is proud to continue to serve the National organization in 2015 as the National President.

During her time at the National level, Jennifer has trained chapter and state organizations across the country and participated in Junior Chamber International (JCI) events and trainings. She is a 10th Degree Jaycee, Maryland Jaycees Militia Major (Lifetime Member) #782, US Jaycees Ambassador #4222, and JCI Senator #68957.

Jennifer resides in Nottingham, Maryland, with her husband Rob. She is a civil engineer specializing in transportation and transit projects working for over 15 years at Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (JMT) where she is a Senior Associate. In her spare time, she is a charity runner, completing half and full marathons in support of raising funds and awareness to cure cancer NOW, and since 2007, she has raised nearly \$20,000 for this endeavor.



# Master of Ceremony



## **The Honorable William "Bill" D. Euille**

Mayor, City of Alexandria

A native of Alexandria, Virginia, Mayor William "Bill" Euille graduated from T.C. Williams High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Quinnipiac University in 1972. Mayor Euille began his business career as an accountant with an Alexandria construction company in 1972, and within eight years, he advanced to Vice President/Controller, ultimately having responsibility for all contracting, financial and administrative functions.

Mayor Euille was first elected to a three-year term on the Alexandria City Council in 1994, and was reelected twice. He was elected the City's first African-American Mayor in May 2003 and was re-elected Mayor three times.

The Mayor is active in community affairs in Alexandria and Washington, DC, including his dedicated involvement with the William D. Euille Foundation, which he founded in 1994. Mayor Euille has received many major awards and honors, such as the Virginia NAACP Entrepreneur of the Year; Outstanding Young Men of America Award; and Small Business Person of the Year from the US Small Business Administration. Additionally, Mayor Euille is Chairman of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments, and serves on the Governor's Council on Virginia Future, and President of the Virginia Municipal League.

Mayor Euille is a former member of the Alexandria Jaycees and received the Keyman Award in 1998, the highest honor bestowed upon an Alexandria Jaycee.



# Keynote Speaker

## Steven Olikara

Co-Founder and President  
Millennial Action Project



Steven Olikara is a political entrepreneur, public servant, and Founding President of the Millennial Action Project (MAP).

MAP is a national, nonpartisan organization dedicated to activating young policymakers to overcome partisan conflict through cooperative political leadership and governance. In this role, he organized the nation's first and only bipartisan caucus for young members of Congress, the Congressional Future Caucus. Steven's leadership of this movement at the national and state levels has led to landmark achievements advancing entrepreneurship, social impact investing, 21st century skills training for veterans, and other key issues affecting Millennials in America. Steven also serves as Senior Adviser to multi-platinum recording artist Akon's Lighting Africa, an initiative to electrify 600 million homes in Africa with solar power.

Previously, Steven was a Truman Fellow at the World Bank and advised eight-time Grammy winner Usher's Foundation on global youth initiatives. He also served as the Harry Ott Fellow on Coca-Cola's Environment Team, spearheading public-private water projects with USAID in Africa.

He serves on the Board of Directors of The Constitution Project, the Advisory Board of Issue One, and the Advisory Board of the University of Wisconsin International Division. He is also a member of the National Press Club, which honored him with the Vivian Award for service. Raised in Wisconsin, Steven graduated Phi Beta Kappa as a Udall and Truman Scholar, the nation's highest undergraduate honor for public service leadership. In 2012, the Wisconsin Legislature recognized Steven with the State Assembly Citation for outstanding contributions to his home state. Steven has been named the Millennial of the Year, an Aspen Institute Ideas Scholar, and one of the Most Influential Leaders Under 40 by Washington Life magazine.





# Honorees

## *Virginia Jaycees Outstanding Future Leader*



### **Grayson Covey**

Pulaski County High School  
Draper, Virginia

Grayson Covey is currently a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Pulaski County High School and is active in several school and community organizations. He has maintained A honor roll through his academic career.

In 2014, Grayson was selected to be a Page in the Virginia House of Delegates and because of his maturity and leadership skills, was chosen to be the male Head Page for the 2015 General Assembly Session. In this role, Grayson was responsible for supervising forty-two House Pages.

Grayson is an active member of the Boy Scouts. In 2013, he was inducted into Boy Scouts of America's Order of the Arrow and currently serves as a Senior Patrol Leader, the top leadership position in the troop. In 2016, Grayson he will become an Eagle Scout.

Grayson has also been a volunteer with the Annual Pulaski County Kids Fishing Day since 2010.



# Honorees

## *Virginia Jaycees Outstanding Future Leader*

### **Halley Stapleton**

Virginia High School  
Bristol, VA



Halley Stapleton has proven to be a dynamic youth leader at school and in the Bristol community. Halley has been selected to serve as the Virginia High School student representative for the Bristol City Planning Commission and also represents VHS as a student member of the Bristol Youth Development Board.

This young leader also serves as State Vice President of the Future Business Leaders of America and works with fellow officers to lead approximately 13,000 of Virginia's future leaders.

Halley has accumulated over 150 volunteer service hours by working with various groups in the community such as Communities in Schools Backpack Program, Bristol Rotary, BVPS School Board, and her church, Jackson Memorial.

While maintaining her busy lifestyle, Halley has maintained a GPA of 4.25, and currently placing 3rd in her graduating class. Her many accomplishments include the Jefferson Scholar Award, University of Virginia; Golden V Award of Excellence; and honor roll throughout her high school career.



# Honorees

## *Virginia Jaycees Outstanding Emergency Medical Services Responder*



**Jessica Cambridge**

Farmville, Virginia

Jessica Cambridge has served with the Prince Edward Volunteer Rescue Squad for sixteen years, in several capacities, including training officer, supply officer, and spokesman. She has also attained numerous EMS certifications and is a registered nurse (RN).

Ms. Cambridge has responded to several calls which deserve special recognition. Most recently, in August 2015, she identified a man who was having a heart attack and not a heat related illness, as originally thought. Had Jessica not responded so quickly and recognized his need for immediate medical care, he would have died.

For many years, Ms. Cambridge has participated as a team member in the Friends of Barnabas Mountain Medical Mission teams to Honduras. These teams travel throughout the impoverished areas of central Honduras and serve between 1,500 and 2,000 people through their traveling clinics. The teams set up anti-parasite and Vitamin A stations as well as general medicine, eye, and dental clinics in small schools and churches. The majority of the patients have never seen a healthcare provider.

Ms. Cambridge has been the recipient of the local Jaycees Squad Person of the Year award as well as the recipient of the VFW Paramedic award.



# Honorees

## *Virginia Jaycees Outstanding Young Virginian*

### **Cord Thomas**

Arlington, Virginia



Growing up, Cord Thomas had anything but a typical childhood, losing his mother when he was 10 years old and his father 5 years later. Mr. Thomas then found himself a ward of the state at 15 years old. After graduating from the University of Denver, Cord moved to Arlington as he was in search of a community that shared his desire to make a difference.

Mr. Thomas started to make his mark in the world by creating the world's first 100% hybrid taxi fleet. That company, enviroCAB, has forced an entire industry, usually not known for its forward thinking, to adapt or be replaced. Cord built the business from the ground up by setting up a 24 hour dispatch center and implementing state of the art technology and recruiting staff and drivers. Cord operated enviroCAB until mid-2012 when he sold it to focus on another business he helped found in 2007, Elevation Franchise Ventures (EFV).

EFV is the franchising arm of Elevation Burger, a burger restaurant that believes "Ingredients Matter." At EFV, Mr. Thomas is not only a founding partner but has also taken on the role of International Development VP and has opened over 24 restaurants in six international countries. Today, Elevation Burger boasts close to 60 restaurants, including Mr. Thomas's own privately held Elevation Burger in Fairfax City, Virginia.



# Honorees

## *Virginia Jaycees Outstanding Young Virginian*



### **Elizabeth Young**

Newport News, Virginia

Elizabeth Young, a graduate of Old Dominion University, is a certified paralegal with James City County in Virginia. Through her work, she is able to improve financial and quality of life issues that face her locality and ultimately enhance the day-to-day lives of the individuals who live there.

An active leader in her community, Ms.

Young serves on Newport News boards and commissions such as the Public Library System Board of Trustees, Wetlands Board, and the Human Services Advisory Board. She has also taken on leadership roles in professional organizations including the Virginia Peninsula Paralegals Association as well as the Local Government Paralegals Association of Virginia.

Ms. Young has also made her mark through the Junior League of Hampton Roads, where she chairs the Community Research and Issue Development committee. In this capacity, she works to improve the lives of disadvantaged women and children, and has developed measurement tools to provide real data on the success of the Junior League's programs, allowing the organization to better focus its programming.

Because of several personal challenges she has overcome, Ms. Young is determined to make a meaningful contribution to the community. She has chosen to focus her efforts on civic engagement and public service and in so doing, has become a role model for many.



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Beth Fujishige  
JCI Senator #69219



Virginia Jaycee  
Foundation



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## GOLD SPONSORS



**Amy Tenhouse**  
81st President  
Virginia Jaycees



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Paul (#65156) and Sharon  
(#70987) Showalter,  
JCI Senators





# Jaycee Creed

## WE BELIEVE:

*That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;*

*That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;*

*That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;*

*That governments should be of laws rather than of men;*

*That earth's great treasure lies in human personality;*

*And that service to humanity is the best work of life.*

