



ALUMNI NEWS

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Honor an outstanding member with a national award **Deadline to nominate is January 15, 2011**

Mortar Board's extraordinary alumnae and alumni are at the heart of the organization as it continues to grow year after year. To show appreciation for these devoted leaders, Mortar Board annually honors outstanding members. If you know a qualified member or think you deserve an award, submit a [nomination](#) on or before Saturday, January 15, 2011. *Please note this is an advanced deadline from years past.* The award categories follow:

Alumni Achievement Award

Alumni who have been out of school for a minimum of five years and are not currently in a national leadership position or an advisor to a collegiate chapter are eligible for this award. Individuals, collegiate chapters, alumni chapters or national leadership members may nominate potential recipients.

Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award

Alumni who have devoted themselves to Mortar Board throughout their lives and are not currently in a national leadership position or an advisor to a collegiate chapter are eligible to receive this award.

Join Mortar Board in sunny Florida

Connect with other Mortar Board members, mingle with friends and celebrate the 93rd anniversary of Mortar Board in St. Petersburg this January!

Date: Thursday, January 20, 2011

Time: 5 - 7 p.m.

Price: \$20

Location:

[St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater](#)

Pinellas Room

12600 Roosevelt Boulevard

St. Petersburg, FL 33716

Please RSVP on or before Wednesday, January 12, 2011, by :

- Calling the Mortar Board National Office at 800-989-6266 and either mailing a check or paying online (outlined below)
- Sending an e-mail to mortarboard@mortarboard.org with your name, number of guests and phone number
- Mailing a letter along with your name, phone number, number of guests and payment to 1200 Chambers Road, Suite 201, Columbus, Ohio 43212
- Completing [this online form](#)



Connect with Mortar Board



Mortar Board headlines

[Chapter project grants awarded to 10 chapters](#)
(12-8-2010)

[Mortar Board welcomes new staff member](#)
(12-2-2010)

[Mortar Board chapters raised nearly \\$32,000 by participating in the Virtual Book Drive](#)
(11-30-2010)

[Shirley Dunlap Bowser named 2010 Ohio Philanthropy Award recipient](#)
(11-9-2010)

[Mortar Board National Foundation fellowship application is available now](#)
(11-9-2010)

Save on auto insurance and more with GEICO

Did you know that you can save up to 8 percent on auto insurance with [GEICO](#) just for being a Mortar Board member? You can also get great rates for homeowner, renter, condo, boat and motorcycle insurance. Best of all, [GEICO](#) sponsors programs including the Mortar Board National Conference and a \$5,000 postgraduate fellowship.

GEICO
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Is your alma mater in the "spotlight"?

During the academic year, Mortar Board recognizes one chapter for its excellence each month. A list of honorees is available [online](#).

Payment options:

- Online in advance - Visit www.mortarboard.org/rsvp and click on "pay now" to submit payment online by PayPal
- By phone in advance - Please call 800-989-6266 ext. 103 to pay with your credit card by phone
- By check in advance - Please mail a check made out to "Mortar Board" to the Mortar Board National Office at 1200 Chambers Road, Suite 201, Columbus, Ohio 43212
- By check made out to "Mortar Board" or cash at the door (\$5 surcharge added for onsite payment)

Mortar Board National Foundation to award fellowships

Each year, the Mortar Board National Foundation awards [fellowships](#) to members pursuing further study in graduate or professional school. Thousands of dollars will be available for Mortar Board fellowships for the 2011-2012 academic year. [Applications](#) are due on or before January 31, 2011.

The Mortar Board Fellowship Selection Committee has designed applications to provide for a streamlined, yet thought-provoking application process that allows each applicant to showcase her/his accomplishments and plans. This committee reviews all completed applications.

A completed application for a Mortar Board National Foundation fellowship consists of three parts, outlined below. The deadline for receipt of the completed application (*all three parts**) is January 31, 2011.

1. A Microsoft Word application form ([available for download here](#)), completed in full, and sent as an e-mail attachment to fellowships@mortarboard.org;
2. A current, official transcript from every institution of higher education that you have attended, postmarked by January 31, 2011, and mailed to:

Mortar Board National Office
1200 Chambers Road, Suite 201
Columbus, OH 43212

3. Two recommendations as described [here](#).

**An incomplete application will receive no consideration.*

Mortar Board chapters raised nearly \$32,000 by participating in the Virtual Book Drive

The third annual Virtual Book Drive Challenge came to a victorious end with dozens of chapters working together to provide books to children in need in their communities as a part of the national "Reading is Leading" initiative.

Altogether, 52 chapters raised an average of \$600 each for a total of nearly \$32,000, with three chapters rising to the top as the highest donors for the drive. These top chapters received bonus Marketplace bookstore credits from First Book for their recipient groups. These chapters are:

- First place - Hope College (\$500 bonus) - \$10,899.61 raised
- Second place - Kansas State University (\$350 bonus) - \$5,179.11
- Third place - University of California, Los Angeles (\$250 bonus) - \$1,310
- Honorable mention - San Diego State University (\$100 bonus) - \$1,140

National Council nominations accepted through March 15

Becoming a part of the National Council gives members and alumni numerous unique opportunities they won't be able to experience anywhere else:

- Experience participation in the governing body of a nonprofit organization
- Have the opportunity to meet members from all over the country at the national conference and when traveling as a national representative of Mortar Board
- Network with student leaders and diverse professionals on a regular basis
- Execute vital projects and make decisions that will greatly affect Mortar Board
- Utilize distinctive talents and build new skills to help enhance Mortar Board

[Learn more](#) about the positions and how to [nominate](#) yourself or another qualified candidate now.



[Find an alumni chapter](#)

or

[Start a new alumni chapter](#)

Bonus prizes were also given to chapters who raised more than \$500, as well as chapters drawn in a random prize drawing each month of the drive, contributing to a total of \$2,860 in bonus credits awarded by First Book.

[Read the full story and see a list of chapters presented with bonus credits here.](#)

Wear your pin during Mortar Board Week, February 13 - 19

Mortar Board will celebrate the 93rd anniversary of the society's February 15, 1918 founding. Don't forget to honor this tradition by wearing your pin during Mortar Board Week, February 13 - 19. Can't find your pin? Order a replacement for just \$5 by shopping in the [Mortar Board Store](#).

Share your memories for Mortar Board's first-ever history book

Members of the Mortar Board Historical Publication Committee are researching the Society's rich history, and they need your help!

- Do you have great Mortar Board stories, photos or memorabilia?
- Would you like to serve as a chapter's permanent historical liaison to assist with the book?
- Can you help the committee obtain a chapter history from your alma mater? Check to see if we've heard from your chapter [here](#).
- Do you have a creative idea for the title of the book?

You can help! From e-mailing a photo to serving as a committee liaison for a collegiate or alumni chapter, there are many ways you can help to preserve Mortar Board's history. [Learn more and get involved here.](#)

Mortar Board alumni spotlight

***Shirley Brooks-Jones, B.A., ambassador
The Ohio State University (Initiated in 1991)
2010 Mortar Board Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award recipient***

Initiated into Mortar Board in 1991 after her retirement from The Ohio State University, Shirley Brooks-Jones may technically have been considered a nontraditional student, but she became a well-respected peer. Shirley held an executive position in the chapter, participated in campus events and received the chapter's top student honor, the Ruth Weimer Mount Award. Today, she is internationally recognized for her global volunteerism — a devotion that has resulted in awards including the Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award for international volunteer efforts and induction into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador. A former member of the board of directors of People to People International, Shirley's most recent initiative was highlighted during the 2010 Winter Olympics, recognizing her for the scholarship program she founded



Shirley Brooks-Jones accepting her

WHAT DOES
MORTAR BOARD
MEAN TO YOU?



***Members invited to submit
governance
recommendations***

One of Mortar Board's unique qualities is that all members may submit *Bylaws* recommendations to be considered by the national Governance Committee.

All proposed amendments must be submitted to the Governance Committee on or before March 15 at governance@mortarboard.org. Proposed amendments are reviewed by the committee, which submits final recommendations to be voted upon at the 2011 Mortar Board National Conference.

following her unplanned stay after her U.S.-bound flight was diverted to the village of Lewisporte in Newfoundland on September 11, 2001.

Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award at the 2010 Mortar Board National Conference

She says she never thought of herself as a leader until she became a member of Mortar Board, when talents she had not yet realized came to the surface. Mortar Board left her unafraid to accept any challenge. Mortar Board honors Shirley Brooks-Jones, international ambassador, lifelong learner and community servant.

Each year, renowned alumni members are honored with either the Alumni Achievement Award or the Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award. Nominations are accepted through January 15 of the award year. To nominate yourself or another alumna or alumnus to be honored in 2011, please use this form.

Mortar Board *is calling*

Mortar Board's first-ever member directory project is about to begin! Over the next few months, our partner in this project, **Publishing Concepts, Inc. (PCI)**, will be contacting Mortar Board alumni like you by mail, phone and e-mail to ask that you update your information.

Please answer our call.

We understand that you might not want to provide your information to just anyone. So, we want you to know this request for your information is legitimate and from a trusted partner.



For more information about the project and PCI, please visit www.mortarboard.org/directory.

Having problems viewing this e-mail? View it as a [Web site](#) or download a [printer-friendly PDF](#).

Mortar Board Alumni News | January 2011 | Volume IV, Issue II
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