

DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
REPORT

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28th Annual

Russell H. Perry

Free Enterprise Award Dinner

honors Lee Roy and Tandy Mitchell

From left to right: Norm Miller (honorary chair), Lee Roy and Tandy Mitchell (award recipients), and Wayne Stevenson (dinner chair).



2015 Russell H. Perry Dinner Awardees, Lee Roy and Tandy Mitchell. The Mitchells have been friends of the University for several years providing scholarship funds for DBU students.



Denny Rydberg, who served as the keynote speaker for the evening, and his wife, Marilyn. Mr. Rydberg has served since 1993 as the president of Young Life, an international Christian ministry that reaches young people for the Lord.

RUSSELL H. PERRY 28th Annual FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD DINNER

Dallas Baptist University named Lee Roy and Tandy Mitchell, co-founders of Cinemark, as the recipients of the 2015 Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award during the annual dinner, which was held on November 23 at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas. Norm Miller, 2011 Russell Perry recipient and chairman of Interstate Batteries, served as honorary chair for the dinner with more than 1,200 people in attendance.

Ron Harris, founder and president of MEDIAAlliance International, served as the evening's emcee.

The 28th annual gala event recognizes and honors Texas leaders who use their God-given talents and abilities to make the most of opportunities created for them by the American free enterprise system. The event is named in memory of Dallas leader and philanthropist Russell H. Perry, whose life of service to Dallas impacted the lives of many. Mrs. Russell H. (Phoebe) Perry continues to be a friend to Dallas Baptist University. She and her late husband began their support of DBU in the 1960s.

Over the past 28 years, the dinner has raised nearly \$5 million in scholarship funds for over 2,200 DBU students.

As emcee, Ron Harris welcomed the attendees to the dinner and introduced Shannon Sanderford and Boone Powell. Shannon Sanderford, a DBU student and Miss Texas 2015, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge, Boone Powell, former Russell Perry recipient, led the audience and offered the invocation.

As the program began, Ron Harris provided the evening's introductions, and Wayne Stevenson, chair of the dinner, invited Dr. Gary Cook, DBU chancellor, to the podium to provide a word of gratitude to those present. Dr. Cook gave

special thanks to the Mitchells for allowing DBU to honor them with the award and also shared about his scholarship campaign and the goals he has for raising fund for students.

Afterwards, DBU's Grand Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Steve Holcomb, DBU professor of music and director of choral activities, performed a patriotic medley entitled, "One Nation Under God," with Dr. Bob Brooks, dean of the Graduate School of Ministry, providing narration.

After the performance, Ron Harris welcomed to the podium the evening's keynote speaker, Denny Rydberg, who spoke about the importance of a faithful Christian presence to serve our troubled world.



Current Miss Texas, Shannon Sanderford, addresses the crowd and leads in the Pledge of Allegiance. Shannon is a native of Coppell and is currently a student in the DBU Master of Arts in Communication program.



Patsy Smith (left), along with John and Nita Ford. Each have been wonderful friends to DBU through the years, and both Patsy and Nita are current members of the DBU Board of Trustees.



Former Russell Perry Award recipient and DBU supporter Andy Horner, along with his wife, Sarah.

At the conclusion of Rydberg’s talk, Cheryl Hall of *The Dallas Morning News*, introduced a special video tribute to the Mitchells from friends, family, and colleagues who offered their praise and congratulations. Hearing the words of those closest to them was a bold testament of how deserving they are of this distinguished award.

Following the video, Norm Miller came to the podium to introduce the honorees, Lee Roy and Tandy Mitchell, and present them with the Russell Perry Award.

During his introduction, Miller described the life and work of the Mitchells, who have made an incredibly unique impact on the entertainment industry.

**2015 RUSSELL H. PERRY
FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD DINNER COMMITTEE**

Honorary Chair — Norm Miller

Chair — Wayne Stevenson

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
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| David Cook | Boone Powell |
| Gary Cook | Forrest Smith |
| Millie Cooper | Betty Turner |
| David Dean | Julie Turner |
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Jim and Sally Nation. Jim is a current member of the DBU Board of Trustees, and Sally is a past member. The two recently gave the lead gift for DBU’s new Nation Hall.



Former chair of the DBU Board of Trustees and past recipient of the Russell H. Perry Award, Dr. Wright Lassister, along with his wife, Dr. Demetria Wright.

RUSSELL H. PERRY



Former Russell H. Perry Award recipient Boone Powell, along with his wife, Peggy. He was honored in 1993 along with his father, Boone, Sr.



Dr. Kenneth Cooper (left), a former Russell H. Perry Award honoree, along with his wife, Millie, and Dr. Adam Wright, vice president and dean of the DBU Gary Cook School of Leadership, and his wife, Candice.



Former award recipient, David Dean, along with wife Jean. The Dean Family recently gave the lead gift for a new DBU building, the Dr. William B. Dean Learning Center.

Over the years, the Mitchells identified some very special and talented individuals and created a strong and experienced management team to implement their vision. With the help of this team and over 25,000 employees worldwide, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell have built Cinemark into a theater company that ranks #1 in total attendance in the world.

The Mitchells are dedicated supporters of not only Dallas Baptist

University, but also Bill Glass Prison Ministries, Young Life, Samaritan's Purse, Campus Crusade for Christ, and many other wonderful organizations.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell's successes are largely attributable to their ability to put their vision and values at the forefront of the company's business strategy. They respect and invest in local people, communities, and countries where Cinemark operates.

Even though the Mitchells have

traveled the world and have business interests all over the globe, their favorite place is home in Dallas with their family. The Mitchells have been married for over 30 years and have five children and eight grandchildren.

At the conclusion of the dinner, Dr. Wright Lassiter, former Russell Perry award recipient and also past chair of the DBU Board of Trustees and chancellor emeritus of the Dallas County Community College District, gave the benediction.



More than 1,200 individuals attended this year's gala event. Since 1988, the Russell H. Perry Dinner has raised nearly \$5 million in scholarship funds for students.

FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD DINNER



Dr. Gary Cook, DBU chancellor (center), along with his wife, Sheila, and their son, Mark (right), and David (center left), and his wife, Nicole.



Freddie Hodges (center), wife of the late Don Hodges, who was a past recipient of the award, along with their children, Craig (left), and his wife, Joanne, and Clark (right), and his wife Kristina.



Current chair of the DBU Board of Trustees, Dr. Gary Singleton, along with his wife, Kim.



Former award recipients, J.L. Sonny and Gretchen Williams, along with their daughter, Claire. Sonny is a past chair of the DBU Board of Trustees and a DBU alumnus.



*Ron Harris, founder and president of MEDIAI-
alliance and current DBU Trustee, served as emcee
for the event.*

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

- 2014 Don Hodges
- 2013 Bob Buford
- 2012 Vester Hughes
- 2011 Norm Miller
- 2010 Wright L. Lassiter, Jr.
- 2009 Tom Leppert
- 2008 Drayton McLane, Jr.
- 2007 Andy and Joan Horner
- 2006 David A. Dean
- 2005 Pete Schenkel
- 2004 Noble Hurley (posthumously)
- 2003 The Weir Furniture Family
- 2002 George A. Shafer
- 2001 Mary C. Crowley (posthumously)
- 2000 Erle Nye
- 1999 Ross Perot, Jr.
- 1998 Jim L. Turner
- 1997 Rodger Meier
- 1996 W. Forrest Smith
- 1995 Lonnie 'Bo' Pilgrim
- 1994 Bob Minyard,
Liz Minyard,
Gretchen Minyard Williams,
J.L. Sonny Williams
- 1993 Boone Powell, Sr.,
Boone Powell, Jr.
- 1992 Dr. Kenneth H. Cooper
- 1991 Tom Landry
- 1990 Maurice and Ebby
Halliday Acers
- 1989 Trammell Crow
- 1988 John M. Stemmons, Sr.

We would like to thank all of the Russell H. Perry Free Enterprise Award Dinner supporters for providing scholarships for DBU students.



Cheryl Hall, columnist for The Dallas Morning News, introduced the video tribute to the Mitchells.



Eric Wyatt, DBU assistant vice president for development, and his wife, Carri. Eric organized this year's Russell Perry Dinner.



Doug Lawson (left), president of Baylor University Medical Center and current DBU Ph.D. student, along with Roy Lamkin, member of the DBU Board of Advisors, and his wife, Bev.



Dr. Brent Taylor (left), pastor of First Baptist Church Carrollton, and DBU Trustee along with Dr. Bob Brooks, Dean of the DBU Graduate School of Ministry.

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