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Orange Circle Awards

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Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on March 23, 2017

Location: Schine Student Center

Remarks: Orange Circle Awards

Chancellor Syverud was introduced by Malcolm-Ali Davis '18 and Serena Deseta '18.

Thank you Malcom and Serena, and thank you to all the members of the Student Philanthropy Council and the Class Act Ambassadors. Congratulations to all our Orange Circle Award winners this year.

I thank you for your dedication to building a philanthropic culture on campus and in the larger Orange community. Your work ensures that Syracuse University will continue to grow and thrive in the future.

I also want to thank the many people who made today possible, including:

- The Office of Alumni Engagement;
- Our Advancement Staff; and
- The University's Marketing and Communications team.

I specifically want to recognize two philanthropists who are with us today:

University Trustee Howard (Howie) Phanstiel ('70, G'71) and his wife, Louise.

For years, the Phanstiels have dedicated their time and resources to helping Syracuse University thrive. Most recently, in 2010, the Phanstiels made a significant investment in our students and their future by creating the Louise and Howard Phanstiel Scholars program.

This wonderful gift supports scholarship grants to middle-class students who have demonstrated the potential for significant academic success and community leadership.

This May, the third class of Phanstiel Scholars will graduate from Syracuse University. The Phansteil scholarship program has transformed their lives and paved the way for years of professional and personal growth and success.

Howie and Louise are here with us today, would you all join me in thanking them for all they have done for our university?

All of us see the positive impact of philanthropy and generosity every day and in many ways on this campus and beyond. Philanthropy:

- enhances the student experience;
- it strengthens our research portfolio and extends our global reach;
- it fosters a culture of innovation and discovery; and
- it empowers success for our nation's veterans.

I want to highlight examples of each of these four impacts of Syracuse philanthropy.

First, philanthropy enhances the student experience:

It transformed University Place into the Einhorn Family Walk. Steve and Sherry Einhorn's generosity helped make this project a reality. The walk is one of the signature projects of the Campus Framework, which Steve helped lead. The Einhorn walk encourages foot traffic and showcases the University's front lawn and iconic Old Row. It enhances accessibility and the way students and visitors interact with one another and with their physical environment.

For the entire fall, you could not walk outside without seeing students taking full advantage of the new space. Whether eating lunch on one of the many benches; sitting on the sidewalk enjoying the view of the iconic Hall of

Languages; or leisurely strolling to and from class - the new space has transformed the way our students experience our campus.

Second, philanthropy strengthens our research portfolio and extends our global reach:

Just this week, Anne Marie Higgins, who earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Syracuse, donated funds to support the installation of the University's first ever red-tailed hawk nest camera.

The nest cam, located in historic Lyman Hall, is a color video camera focused on two red-tail hawk nests, situated in opposite corners of the building's east archway, facing the Life Sciences Complex.

This nest camera will facilitate strategic partnerships with academic, non-profit and government organizations, such as the National Science Foundation. It will enable students to engage - in a tangible way - in conservation science. The camera will also help students learn and conduct field research, resulting in peer-reviewed articles.

This support shows that philanthropy - large and small - can have a real effect on the everyday lives of our campus community members.

Third, Philanthropy fosters a culture of innovation and discovery:

Last year, Susan Klenk, a proud alumna and a generous supporter of the Falk College, provided the financial support to create a teaching and learning space for students in the food studies and nutrition programs at Falk that bridges the gap between theory and practice. It's this kind of innovation, made possible by philanthropy, that positions our students for success long after they've graduated from Syracuse University.

Thanks to Susan's philanthropy, our students are receiving hands-on learning in spaces that replicate the professional workplace via the Susan R. Klenk Learning Café and Kitchens.

Susan is here with us today, let's give her a round of applause for her ongoing support of this University.

This is just one of the many ways philanthropy fosters a culture of innovation and discovery.

Fourth, philanthropy empowers success for our nation's veterans:

Though the University receives much of its philanthropic support from alumni, the University is receiving more and more gifts from parents of current and former students. That parents are giving is a testament to the positive experience their students have at Syracuse University.

Paul Dottle is an example of that. He felt compelled to give - not only to his son's alma mater and his daughter's university, but in support of our many veterans initiatives.

A former specialist in the United States Army Reserves, Paul's recent gift is providing valuable support to the Institute for Veterans and Military Families; the Office of Veterans and Military Affairs; and our ROTC students. Military service runs in Paul's family. His son, an alumnus, currently serves in the Air Force ROTC.

We thank the Dottle family - not only for their support but for their service to our country. They recognize Syracuse University's leadership in helping our veterans and their families succeed.

I am thankful for these and so many other examples of philanthropy from all our friends and supporters.

I am grateful for that young alumna who made her first ever gift of \$44 on Giving CuseDay this past fall.

I am grateful to supporters like the Phanstiels, the Einhorns and Dan D'Aniello for thinking big and envisioning an even better Syracuse University.

I am grateful to people like Ann Marie Higgins and Susan Klenk for giving our students experiential learning opportunities that they otherwise wouldn't have.

And I am grateful to our alumni, who have gone on to enjoy incredible career success, who cherish the opportunity to dedicate their hard earned financial resources to their alma mater.

Thank you all for being with us as we acknowledge those friends of the University whose dedication helps make Syracuse University a great, engaged, thriving, diverse, international research University.

Thank you.

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