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### Alumni Awards Celebration

Kent Syverud  
*Syracuse University*

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# Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud  
Delivered on Friday, October 19, 2018  
Location: Goldstein Auditorium  
Remarks: Alumni Awards Ceremony

*The Chancellor was introduced by SUAA Board President/University  
Trustee, Tracy Barash*

Thank you, Tracy. Good evening, everyone, and welcome home to Syracuse University.

I thank everyone who has planned this wonderful Orange Central this year, including:

- The Office of Alumni Engagement;
- The Office of Special Events;
- The Communications and Marketing team; and
- Members of the Alumni Association Awards Committee.

Most of all, I thank all of you who have returned to Syracuse University for Orange Central weekend, the largest Orange Central ever. Tonight we bestow the George Arents Award. It is Syracuse University's highest alumni honor.

This year, at this event, we are also honoring the recipients of the Melvin A. Eggers Senior Alumni Award and the Generation Orange Award. We are uniting three great award ceremonies in this event.

It is fitting to unite the generations tonight and to inspire younger alumni to seek our highest alumni honor one day. Tonight's award recipients define what it means to be Orange. To be Orange is to be an innovator. To be Orange is to engage in the world. To be Orange is to achieve and

to advocate for others. To be Orange is to be dedicated to Syracuse University, and our university is a great work which, in the words of our Erastus Haven, will always be evolving and will never be complete.

The Generation Orange Award, recognizes great graduates of the last ten years. Tonight it goes to New York On Tech co-founders Evin Floyd Robinson and Jessica Santana.

The Melvin A. Eggers Senior Alumni Award is presented to alumni whose leadership and service to society is linked with many years of loyalty and service to Syracuse. This year's recipients are Helen Lefkowitz, Larry Bashe, and Fred Silverman. All steadfast advocates for our university, Helen spent her career addressing issues of domestic violence, child abuse and juvenile delinquency; Larry is a former Alumni Association President and past trustee; Fred is the only person to direct the programming of all three major networks: NBC, CBS, and ABC.

The George Arents Awards recognizes our most outstanding alumni who are truly pioneers and leaders in their fields.

This year the Arents Awards go to:

- Kevin Bell: CEO of the Lincoln Park Zoological Society and a dedicated advocate for wildlife conservation;
- Dr. Sharon Brangman: the inaugural chair of the Department of Geriatrics at Upstate Medical University where she directs the Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease;
- Emme: an iconic, world-renowned supermodel and leader in the fashion industry and advocate for positive body image and self-esteem;
- Joseph Strasser: a lifelong public servant whose career was dedicated to improve public finance in municipal governments; and
- Abdallah Yabroudi: CEO of Dubai Contracting Co. and a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a philanthropic leader.

To all of our awardees this evening, I extend the thanks and gratitude of your alma mater for all you have done to make everyone who is Orange very proud. We are proud to call you our own. We are proud you define Orange. Thank you.

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