

THE JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM AWARD ANNOUNCES A NEW CLASS OF CANDIDATES

BALTIMORE, MD, USA, July 19, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The 2017 Johnny Unitas <u>Golden Arm Award</u> boasts 47 standout quarterbacks from different divisions and conferences across the nation. The Golden Arm Award is presented at the end of each football season and the winner is selected based on his accomplishments both on and off the field. Candidates must be a college senior or fourth-year junior on schedule to graduate with their class.



This year marks the 30th Anniversary of

the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award and The Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, and we are proud to honor this new class of candidates. After three decades of honoring these quarterbacks' achievements, the Golden Arm Award is the only college football award that has 10 previous recipients still competing in the NFL.

2017 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watch List:

- Austin Allen, Arkansas
- Kyle Allen, Houston
- J. T. Barrett, Ohio State
- Kurt Berkert, Virginia
- David Blough, Purdue
- Ahmad Bradshaw, Army
- Max Browne, Pittsburgh
- Christian Chapman, San Diego State
- Keller Chryst, Stanford
- Brandon Dawkins, Troy
- Jason Driskel, Florida Atlantic
- Jesse Ertz, Kansas State
- Danny Etling, LSU
- Luke Falk, Washington State
- Riley Ferguson, Memphis
- Ryan Finley, NC State
- Nick Fitzgerald, Mississippi State
- Quinton Flowers, South Florida
- Andrew Ford, UMass

- Justice Hansen, Arkansas State
- Brandon Harris, North Carolina
- Kenny Hill, TCU
- Stephen Johnson, Kentucky
- Taylor Lamb, Appalachian State
- Richard Lagow, Indiana
- Tanner Lee, Nebraska
- Matt Linehan, Idaho
- Connor Manning, Georgia State
- Baker Mayfield, Oklahoma
- Trace McSorley, Penn State
- Ryan Metz, Univ. of Texas El Paso
- Hayden Moore, Cincinnati
- Kent Myers, Utah State
- Josh Rosen, Alabama
- Mason Rudolph, Oklahoma State
- Nic Shimonek, Texas Tech
- Bryant Shirreffs, UConn
- Brandon Silvers, Troy
- Wilton Speight, Michigan
- Nick Stevens, Colorado State
- Brent Stockstill, Middle Tennessee
- Dalton Sturm, Univ. of Texas San Antonio
- Clayton Thorson, Northwestern
- Mike White, Western Kentucky
- Troy Williams, Utah
- Logan Woodside, Toledo
- Darius Wade, Boston College

The Golden Arm Award committee will announce the Top 15 finalists for the 2017 Golden Arm Award in September. The 30th Anniversary presentation of the Golden Arm Award will be held on Fri., Dec. 8 at the Embassy Suites Baltimore Inner Harbor & Grand.

"The Golden Arm Award values character, citizenship, integrity, leadership, and sportsmanship – characteristics that were displayed by my father. These attributes were every bit as important as the quarterback's completion rate or the number of touchdowns scored," says John C. Unitas, Jr., President of the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. "Despite his many accolades, my Dad never forgot his humble beginnings and that won him a permanent place in the hearts of everyone who ever knew him."

The namesake of the Golden Arm Award has a storied history. Johnny Unitas was an 18-year veteran of the NFL, who played his collegiate career at the University of Louisville before joining the Baltimore Colts in 1958. His career passing figures include 2,830 pass completions for 40,239 yards, 290 touchdowns and throwing a touchdown pass in 47 consecutive games.

Proceeds from the event help support the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. The Foundation provides financial assistance to underprivileged and deserving young scholarathletes throughout Maryland and Kentucky.

Past standout winners of the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award® include: Peyton Manning (Tennessee, 1997); Carson Palmer (USC, 2002); Eli Manning (Ole Miss, 2003); Brady Quinn (Notre

Dame, 2006); Matt Ryan (Boston College, 2007); Colt McCoy (Texas, 2009); and Andrew Luck (Stanford, 2011), Marcus Mariota (Oregon, 2014), Connor Cook (Michigan State, 2015). Last year's winner Deshaun Watson, Clemson.

Sponsors of the Golden Arm Award include: Maryland Department of Commerce, Under Armour, The Babe Ruth Museum, Baltimore Sun Media Group, Century Engineering, Comcast, Dunbar Security Solutions and Dunbar Cash Management, The Embassy Suites Baltimore Inner Harbor & The Grand, Haddock Investments, HMS Insurance Associates, Inc., Metropolis Funding, PSAV, Panini, TRAY, Harvey Agency, The Scott Garceau Show, MedStar Sports Medicine, Wilson Sporting Goods, and ZBest Executive & Global Transportation Services.

To learn more about the Golden Arm Award, please visit: <u>Golden Arm Foundation</u> or Golden Arm Award. Additionally, please follow the conversation throughout the season on Twitter: <u>@GoldenArmAward</u> or use the hashtag, #GoldenArmAward.

John Unitas, Jr. Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. 410-456-6785 email us here

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