

Distinctive Schools Inaugural Gala Honors Desirée Rogers and Highlights Students and Campuses

CHICAGO, IL, UNITED STATES, November 5, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Corporate, civic, and education leaders attended the inaugural [Distinctive Schools](#) gala, held November 1 at Savage Smyth in Chicago, Illinois. The dollars raised will go to scaling personalized learning at all Distinctive Schools' campuses, as well as curriculum and classroom needs for teachers.

"We are thrilled that so many members of our community, including partners in education such as Chicago Public Schools, Chicago International Charter School (CICS), LEAP Innovations, Summit Learning, Communities in Schools-Detroit, NWEA, and Golden Apple, came together to support Distinctive Schools," stated Joseph Wise, Co-Founder and CEO of Distinctive Schools. "The gala was a testament to what we can accomplish and the opportunities we can provide to our students and the work that we do."



Left to right: Joseph Wise, CEO at Distinctive Schools; David Sundstrom, CAO at Distinctive Schools; Desirée Rogers, Distinctive Citizen Award Honoree; Ron Huberman, Distinctive Citizen Committee Chair; and Scott Frauenheim, President at Distinctive Schools

The positive impact of Distinctive Schools and the future of its work was on display throughout the evening. School teams and Distinctive Schools network leaders shared campus spotlights and flexible learning furniture, from 3 Oaks Resource Group International, was exhibited around the room. Additionally, during the gala, Ron Huberman, Distinctive Citizen Committee Chair, presented the inaugural Distinctive Citizen Award to the first honoree, Desirée Rogers.

Rogers serves on the cabinet of the Conquer Cancer Foundation. She is also the Chair of Choose Chicago, the tourism bureau of the City of Chicago and on the boards of World Business Chicago, Donors Choose, and Northwestern Memorial Hospital. During Rogers' remarks, she shared her family's legacy as teachers and community leaders, as well as emphasized the importance of education and giving back.

"We cannot forget that the best way to ensure a great future of our schools, students, and communities is to invest in the education of today's children," added Huberman.

The Chicago Children's Choir, which featured students from CICS Irving Park, also delighted the room with a musical performance, and CICS Prairie's school director, Jennifer Harth, and staff shared with the audience what Distinctive Schools means to them.

“For me, Distinctive Schools means opportunity. An opportunity for our urban youth to experience safe and loving learning communities that are responsive and personalized based on each child’s academic and social emotional needs,” stated Harth. “An opportunity to receive unconditional love, acceptance, understanding, and a fresh start every single day.”

Gala attendees gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of both the depth and breadth of the the work seen at Distinctive Schools and got to experience what really sets the school network apart: Kindness, optimism, growth, collaboration, and commitment to relationships, innovation and high quality rigorous personalized learning.

“Distinctive Schools is deeply grateful for all the support and for everyone who came to celebrate our inaugural gala with us,” said Wise. “Together, we can paint amazing futures for our kids from the minute they walk into the classroom and as they continue their journey in college, career, and in life.”

For more information on Distinctive Schools, visit www.distinctiveschools.org.

Distinctive Schools is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and accelerating the work of charter schools serving kids from traditionally underserved backgrounds. We will innovate, trailblaze and collaboratively lead a public education transformation that positively impacts the greater education community and ensure that each and every one of our Distinctive Schools students thrives in college, career and life.

Amy Vracar
+1 773-332-4366
[email us here](#)
Distinctive Schools

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