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23rd ANNUAL TEMPE MAYOR'S DISABILITY AWARDS

Tempe, AZ – This Wednesday afternoon, Tempe's Mayor Hugh Hallman, in partnership with the City of Tempe Commission on Disability Concerns and [Tempe Community Council](http://www.tempe.gov/tcc), will present awards to 15 extraordinary individuals during the 23rd annual Tempe Mayor's Disability Awards. These members of the community come from all walks of life and have overcome significant barriers to succeed in the workplace; provide a workplace that supports the full participation of people with disabilities; and have dedicated their lives to honoring individuals from all walks of life. The award ceremony will take place Wednesday, April 27 from 3:00-5:00pm in the Community Room of the Tempe History Museum. A keynote address entitled "You Don't Look Deaf" will be delivered by City of Phoenix Recreation Supervisor, Michele Stokes. Tickets are free, but seating is limited. Please call 480.858.2300 or log-on to tempedisabilityawards.eventbrite.com to reserve your space today.

Eleven students from the Tempe Union High School District schools will receive Outstanding Student Employee awards through their work in the District's Workbridge program.

Tempe High School: **Charlie Osuna, Francisco Rodriguez** and **Kenneth Dale-Angulo**.

Mountain Pointe: **James Shook** and **Michael McCloskey**

Marcos de Niza: **Madison Ryan** and **Fabian Ulate**

Compadre High: **Kayla Howell**

Corona del Sol: **Travis Anderson, Katoria Seward** and **Lillie Molnar**.

The [Tempe Diablo's](http://www.tempe.gov/tcc) will generously provide scholarships to all these extraordinary young people who have shown exceptional dedication and performance as part-time employees or volunteers while completing their school requirements.

Victor Horton has been selected as the Outstanding Employee of the Year. Mr. Horton is an employee and resident of [The Centers for Habilitation \(TCH\)](http://www.tch.org). He is a Training Associate for TCH's Assured Security Document Destruction and demonstrates extraordinary resilience and positivity.

The **United Blood Services** were selected as the Employer of the Year for their intent and commitment to provide volunteer internship and employment opportunities for individuals with a disability. They truly live their mission of "Find the HERO in you!"

Ms. **Elizabeth Smith** is being honored with the Valued Community Service Award for her personal and civic accomplishments as a woman dealing with a myriad of disabilities that have not slowed her down one bit. In fact, she is an accomplished Special Olympics athlete – winning over 60 medals since 1987!

Finally, the Pride of the City Award is being bestowed upon **Dave Cutty**, President and CEO of TCH. Mr. Cutty has received numerous awards for his dedication and hard work surrounding the lives of people with significant disabilities. Working for TCH for nearly 40 years, Mr. Cutty says this work is his “life calling”, and has been the vision and driving force behind TCH to create homes, quality programs and jobs for individuals with disabilities. A great leader and dedicated member of the Tempe community, the City of Tempe and TCC are honored to recognize this exceptional individual.

About Tempe Community Council

Tempe Community Council is a private non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is connecting those in need with those who care. Tempe Community Council works in partnership with the City of Tempe and community organizations to serve as a planner, advocate, and resource to improve the funding and policies affecting human services in Tempe and the surrounding communities. 34 E. 7th St., Building A ▪ Tempe, AZ 85281 ▪ (480) 858-2300 ▪ www.tempe.gov/tcc

About the Commission on Disability Concerns

The Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns advises and makes recommendations to the City Council and assists City departments and the City Manager in the establishment of essential policies, rules and regulations relating to compliance with federal and state disabilities legislation or regulations and on other disabilities concerns and issues as needed and prepares and submits an annual report to the City Manager and City Council. The Commission is composed of fifteen (15) members selected from Tempe residents. Terms are for three years and meetings are usually held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road. http://www.tempe.gov/ada/disability_commission.htm

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