



African American Golfers Hall of Fame

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

“AAGHOF Founder Receives UMES Presidential Award”

West Palm Beach, Fla. (June 14, 2011) – Thelma B. Thompson, Ph.D., President, University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) formally presented Malachi Knowles, Founder, The African American Golfers Hall Of Fame with its “Presidential Award” on today at UMES with a standing room only crowd at UMES

In making the presentation, Dr. Thompson stated:

“Mr. Malachi Knowles, you founded the Inner City Youth Golfers’, Inc., a 501, c, 3 tax exempt organization that seeks to provide academic excellence, mentoring and golf to youth between the ages of seven and 18 years of age. Under your leadership ICYG uses the game of golf to promote academic excellence and mentoring of youth in order to prepare them for future leadership roles. A committed civic leader, you established the “International Youth Golf Challenge” to give young golfers from around the world an opportunity to compete and establish global friendships.

As a friend of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, you have proven invaluable, as you helped to secure and promote the University’s PGA Golf Management Program. Your commitment to the success of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore PGA Golf Management Program enables new generations to build productive and rewarding golf careers and to spend their lives enjoying the game they love.

Mr. Malachi Knowles, in recognition of your dedication and commitment to golf as a diversity ‘game-changer’ in preparing professionals for success in the business of golf, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore is proud to present you with its “Presidential Medal.”

Mr. Knowles’ outstanding achievement was acknowledged during its “7th Annual African American Golfer’s Hall of Fame Conference, Golf Tournaments, Reception, Dinner, Auction & Awards Celebration” at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriott, Palm Beach Gardens, FL during the period May 26-30, 2011 by Ernest P. Boger, Ph.D, Chairman, Hotel & Restaurant Management, UMES.

Dr. Boger stated that “it was Malachi who started the golf team at Morgan State College in 1960 and it is he who planted the seed in about 2001 for UMES to ultimately ‘behind the scenes’ be the 20th and only HBCU to be certified to offer the PGA of America’s distinguished Professional Golf Management Degree Program.” To a lot of his credit, the first class will graduate in December 2012.

Other AAGHOF Members who were present included Jim Dent, Renee Powell; James W. Black; Norris Brown, Jr; Madelyn Turner and Selina Johnson.

Inner City Youth Golfers’, Inc. established the AAGHOF annual event in order to give African-American Legends of Golf an opportunity to be recognized for their contributions to the sport, to continue being role models to our youth, to network with their peers, to interact and share their own stories about golf “then and now.” The ultimate purpose of the AAGHOF is to honor the legacy and achievements of African Americans in the game of golf and build a permanent place for the world to see their collective contributions.

SAVE THE DATE: 8TH Annual Celebration May 24-28, 2012 Celebration. Call us at (561) 844-8774 for further information!

"Celebrating the Accomplishments of Yesterday While Paving the Way for Tomorrow!"