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UNIVERSITY

---

*Annual Scholarship Event*

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## WELCOME



Welcome to the Centenary University Annual Scholarship Event!

This has been an extraordinary year at the University. Through your generous contributions to Centenary Now: The Campaign for College & Opportunity for Everyone, we have provided scholarship support to grateful students, launched innovative academic programs, and strengthened Centenary's brand recognition—in New Jersey and around the world!

As you know, many Centenary students need an additional \$5,000 or less in scholarship support to graduate. The goal of tonight's event is to raise funds to ensure that no Centenary student drops out of college for financial reasons.

In addition to raising money for our students, tonight we will honor some extraordinary friends of Centenary with the Gold Dome Award, the University's highest honor:

- Carol Valentine Allen '72/74, a member of the Centenary University Board of Trustees, past president of the Alumni Association Executive Board, and longtime benefactor
- Shirley Wilson McCune '50/76, a former member of the Centenary Board of Trustees and former president and secretary of the national alumni association
- Laurie Rapisardi, executive director of the Hackettstown Business Improvement District (BID) who has collaborated with Centenary to advance the University and local businesses

I am grateful that you have joined us tonight in celebrating these exceptional people, as well as our students. Thanks to you, many more Centenary students will be able to graduate on time and succeed in life after college. Enjoy this special celebration of Centenary!

Dale Caldwell, Ed.D.  
President





## *Gold Dome Award Recipient*

Laurie Rapisard: Executive Director of the Hackettstown Business Improvement District



Laurie Rapisardi is the Executive Director of the Hackettstown Business Improvement District. The Business Improvement District brings new businesses to town, hosts events that bring visitors into Hackettstown to support SHOPPING SMALL and SHOPPING LOCAL and creates a clean and safe environment for the businesses, community and visitors.

In continuing her love for volunteerism and her commitment to the business in the Hackettstown area, she also serves in the Hackettstown Rotary as Past President, current Assistant Governor to the Rotary District as well as District Annual Giving Chair, Chair of the Warren County Bicentennial Cultural and Advisory Board, member of the Warren County Economic Development Committee, Advisory Board Member and Friend to the Centenary Enactus Team and other many other groups within Warren County.

One of Laurie's favorite things to do is work with Centenary University. The Businesses Improvement District, or the BID, works with many of the Centenary staff and students to make Hackettstown an inviting place for the staff, students, and their families to dine, shop and visit Hackettstown. Over the last few years since becoming the Executive Director, Laurie has made it her mission to create many opportunities for the town and Centenary to partner and collaborate through events, volunteerism, and business/student's partnerships.... And she looks forward to many more opportunities upcoming.

Laurie, and the BID, are honored to be an "unofficial" part of Centenary University.

Laurie is a lifelong resident of the Hackettstown community. She raised her two children, David, and Alyssia, in Hackettstown as well. She has many family members in Hackettstown as well.



## *Gold Dome Award Recipient*

### Alumna Shirley Wilson McCune '50/76



Gold Dome Award recipient Shirley Ann Wilson earned an Associate of Arts degree from Centenary Junior College, a predecessor to Centenary University, in 1950. Married in 1951 to Robert James McCune, Shirley took courses toward a bachelor's degree, but after her first child was born in 1954, she became a stay-at-home mom of five children: Four sons and a daughter. As her children grew, Shirley decided to complete her college education and returned to Centenary as a day student. Through hard work and many trips to campus from her home in Montclair, NJ, she earned her bachelor's degree in May 1976.

Through the years, Shirley became involved in Centenary alumni activities, serving as treasurer of the northern New Jersey chapter and fundraising for Centenary. Later, Shirley served as president and secretary of Centenary's national alumni association. With her commitment and support of Centenary,

Shirley was invited to join the Board of Trustees, serving for 21 years. Her tenure included 15 years on the executive committee—the only woman—and several terms as corporate secretary. Shirley worked closely with President Seay, and became good friends with both him and his wife, Helen. She also arranged and hosted the trustees luncheon following graduation each year, which was held to honor the commencement speaker. She retired from the board in 1990.

Highlights of Shirley's tenure on the board include witnessing her daughter, Shirley Ann, graduate from Centenary with an associate degree in 1984 and a bachelor's degree in 1986, serving on two rigorous reviews by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and serving on two presidential search committees.

She also played an important role when Drew University proposed absorbing Centenary to create a satellite campus in Hackettstown. There were strong opinions on both sides of the proposal, and Shirley cast the deciding vote to forgo the offer to ensure that Centenary remained independent.

Shirley cherishes and values all of her time and experiences related to Centenary, beginning with her days as a young student until receiving tonight's Gold Dome Award. She is thankful: To Centenary for this award and honor, to her late husband and five children, and most of all, to God for the opportunity to give back to society using her talents and abilities.



## *Gold Dome Award Recipient*

### Alumna Carol Valentine Allen '72/74



Carol Valentine Allen is a graduate of Centenary University (then College), earning an associate in arts degree in 1972 and receiving the first Bachelor of Arts Degree ever conferred by Centenary in 1974. She continued her studies at the graduate level at Marist College, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Stevens Institute.

Carol has a rich history with Centenary University. She was employed by Centenary for 15 years and held the positions of Associate Dean of Students; Director of Residential Living and Student Life; Director of Special Giving; member of the Faculty; Coach; Admissions Counselor, and others. Following her employment she continued to serve in a volunteer capacity.

Carol was an outstanding athlete and was a team member in multiple sports, including field hockey, lacrosse, and badminton. She received the George E. and Blanche B. Denman All-Around Athlete Prize in 1972.

In addition to her higher education experience, Carol was a catering manager for many years. She served as the manager for Mermaid Lake Swim and Golf Club, a large corporate catering facility for up to 10,000 guests. She also taught woodworking to children at Twin Spring Farm Day Camp, which was founded and run by Beatrice Randal Hood, Centenary College for Women Class of 1949 whose daughter, Karen Hood Salvatori '84, is also active in running the camp.

Carol is an active volunteer, serving many organizations in multiple capacities. Some of her major volunteer accomplishments include serving as the president of the Centenary University Alumni Association Executive Board, a member of the Centenary University Board of Trustees, president of the Delaware Valley Region Automobile Club of America, and president of the Peter Wentz Farmstead Society. Carol was a valuable member of the North Penn Community Health Foundation, serving clients in the Philadelphia region. She also worked with the Hackettstown Director of Recreation on the Summer Softball League for 16 years.

One of Carol's proudest accomplishments was co-chairing (with Nancy Johns Paffendorf '79/'80/'06) the Centenary 150th Anniversary Celebration in 2017. The event was a huge success, bringing many Alumni and community members to the campus to enjoy the festivities.

Carol has a passion for classic cars and enjoys touring, showing and participating in parades. She represents Centenary Alumni in the Hackettstown St. Patrick's Day Parade driving her Tin Lizzie reproduction miniature car.

Carol is tireless in her volunteerism commitments, and she continues to make a positive difference for multiple organizations.



## RECEPTION

Hors d'oeuvres and Cocktails  
Silent Auction  
6:30 pm

## PROGRAM & AWARD CEREMONY

Upstairs | 8:00 - 8:30 pm

DESSERT & COFFEE  
SILENT AUCTION CLOSES  
9:00 pm

## ABOUT CENTENARY UNIVERSITY



Centenary University has been helping students achieve their personal and professional goals for over 157 years.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

To be the intellectual, economic, & cultural Heart of the Skylands region.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Centenary University delivers accredited degree programs and other dynamic learning experiences to prepare students for regional and global professions of critical thought and purposeful action within a supportive environment immersed in a culture of service.

### **FLEXIBILITY & ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

With traditional, online, evening and accelerated courses, Centenary students have the flexibility to build their studies around their lives. Our diverse student body thrives in a demanding, yet collaborative learning environment. With a 13 to 1 student-to-faculty ratio, our professors, staff, and administrators know their students. They provide the individualized attention needed to ensure success — from emotional well-being to academic support to career development, including internships with some of New Jersey's top employers.

### **WE VALUE SERVICE**

Centenary also upholds a tradition of promoting service to others as a critical component of higher education — a core principle since our founding in 1867 by the Newark Conference of the United Methodist Church. We develop professionals that employers desire, and leaders that communities need.

## ABOUT CENTENARY UNIVERSITY



### CENTENARY UNIVERSITY LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)

#### **Communication**

Communicate verbally, in writing, and visually in ways that indicate an understanding of diverse audiences, genres, and mediums

#### **Critical Thinking**

Critically and creatively apply knowledge to evaluate, synthesize, connect, and critique qualitative and quantitative information across disciplines

#### **Information Literacy**

Locate, evaluate, integrate, and cite properly vetted qualitative and quantitative evidence

#### **Diversity/Global Citizenship**

Integrate and apply knowledge from multiple perspectives using integrity, social responsibility, and ethical behavior and problem solving required for a diverse global society

#### **Collaboration**

Work thoughtfully and respectfully with culturally and socially diverse individuals and groups

# CENTENARY UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## OFFICERS

Rochelle Makela-Goodman '97, *Chairwoman*  
David Dallas, *1st Vice Chair*  
Michael T. Catapano '92, *2nd Vice Chair*  
John Johnson, *3rd Vice Chair*  
David W. Johnson, *Treasurer*  
Audrey Hines Bonaparte-Watts '78, *Secretary*

Carol Valentine Allen, '72/74	Esther A. Poulsen
Les Aron	Sunita A. Pradhan
Mark Avondoglio	Angela Rodriguez-Moore '90, <i>Alumni Trustee</i>
Cathleen Compoli	Dr. Wendy E. Ross
Joyce Hansen	Bishop Jon Schol
Dr. Phil Linfante	Dr. M. Alden Siegel '14HA/24 HA
Dr. Denise Littleton	Timothy L. Smith
Jill Kracov-Zinckgraf	Vicki S. Sylvain
Frederick A. Mangione '93/15 HA	Andrew Witemberg
Lynn Moran, MBA, ACC '88	Dr. Edward J. Yaw
Darlene Panzitta	

## EMERITUS

Wolfgang Gstattenbauer '84/13 HA, *Chair Emeritus*

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

Yolanda Sheffield Williams '06, *President*  
Bryan Watkinson '07, *First Vice President*  
Devon Paffendorf '10/11, *Second Vice President*  
Nancy Johns Paffendorf '79/81/06, *Recording Secretary*  
Faith Hyndman '63, *Corresponding Secretary*  
Brooke Smith Westenberger '13, *Treasurer*  
Angela Rodriguez Moore '90, *Alumni Trustee*  
Carol V. Allen '72/74, *Immediate Past President*  
Jacqueline McRae Jones-Banks '04/06, *Past President*  
Audrey R. Hines Bonaparte-Watts '78, *Nominating Committee Chairperson*

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

Isaiah Anderson '23	Melissa Mandas '95
Justin Dalcourt '19	Sandile C. Manzini '11
Angie Desai '07	William McNier '14
Cara Gibson-Gallop '10/12	Kathleen Notillo Nolan '98/02
Margarita Snead Gravesande '85/14	Tamiko Scian '96
Lauren Hope Kreeger Windrow '10	Vita Romanelli-Young '78/80

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Jenna Glinko '23      Onoshope Itunoya-Musa '24

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## **SPECIAL TRIBUTES**

**Laurie - With love & admiration for all you do! Love Tom & the Mama's Café Baci Team**

**Congratulations to our honorees, including my incomparable friend Carol Allen. To all of those who make Centenary such a special place, including students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni, trustees and friends, my sincere thanks for all you do on behalf of this wonderful community. - Les Aron**

**Centenary gave me the opportunity to learn and achieve in a college/university atmosphere and environment, that was a personal, challenging and rewarding educational experience most of all! - Bill Bates '00**

**Dr. and Mrs. John Crow congratulate the 2024 Gold Dome Honorees!**

**Congratulations to the 2024 Gold Dome Honorees! We are proud to support Centenary University! Dr. and Mrs. Ronald and Merri Millman**

## SPECIAL TRIBUTES

**Congratulations to all of the honorees! Mrs. Angela M. Rodriguez Moore '90**

**Congratulations to Gold Dome Honorees Shirley Wilson McCune '50/'76, Carol Valentine Allen '72/'74, and Laurie Rapisardi. With gratitude, Major George W. Paffendorf HA '07 and Nancy Johns Paffendorf '79/'81/'06**

**We would like to honor all those educators who believed in us, guided us and helped make us the people we are today.**

**Drew Wintenburg - Centenary University Trustee**

**Congratulations to Laurie Rapisardi! From your friends at Everitt House Bed and Breakfast**

**"Congratulations to all the honorees we are proud to call our friends"  
The Perona Farms Team**

**Congratulations to the 2024 Gold Dome Honorees! We are pleased to support Centenary University! - Robertet Groupe, Fragrance Creation from the Source**

**Congratulations Gold Dome Honorees 2024 and thank you, Dr. Caldwell for your strong leadership and friendship. Wolfgang '84/13 HA and Phyllis Gstattenbauer**

**Sovereign Insurance is a proud supporter of Centenary University. Congratulations to Laurie Rapisardi, Shirley McCune, and Carol Allen, 2024 Gold Dome Recipients!**

**Visions Federal Credit Union supports Centenary University and its students!**

**Congratulations to all Gold Dome Honorees, and wishing you all much success in your future!  
Esther Poulsen, Trustee**

**Jim, Beth, William, and Sara '13 Freeman extend their heartfelt congratulations to Shirley, Carol, and Laurie. Through different eras and with distinct contributions, you share a common thread: standing with the university and its students, and building a stronger tomorrow.**

**May the blessings overflow to our CU undergrads! Also, congrats to all the gold dome recipients. - Margarita (Snead) Gravesande '85/14**

**St. Luke's University Health Network is proud to support Centenary University Athletics on a daily basis through our Sports Medicine team's compassionate care to the student-athletes; assisting them in accomplishing their goals. St. Luke's looks to continue being a committed partner to Centenary University, its students, and the vision of President Caldwell to develop resiliency through higher education experiences.**

**May the blessings overflow to our CU undergrads! Also, congrats to all the gold dome recipients. Margarita (Snead) Gravesande '85/14**

**Congratulations to all of the honorees. I am pleased to support Centenary University.  
Dr. Denise M. Littleton**

## SILENT AUCTION DONORS

**Thank you to the following businesses and individuals who donated to our Silent Auction. On behalf of our deserving students, thank you for your generosity!**

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Social, and Behavioral Sciences  
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Jacqueline McRea Jones-Banks '04/06  
Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice  
Kendra Scott  
Knight Riders Limo  
Land of Make Believe/Maria Maier '06  
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Ms. A. Lynn Moran '88  
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Yolanda Sheffield Williams '06

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Annual Scholarship Fundraiser



*Congratulations to the Gold Dome Honorees!*

**Laurie Rapisardi**, Executive Director of  
the Hackettstown Business District

**Carol Allen**, Alumna

**Shirley Wilson McCune**, Alumna

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# *Congratulations & Thank You*

THIS EVENING, WE CELEBRATE NOT ONLY A  
REMARKABLE INSTITUTION BUT ALSO THE  
INCREDIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MADE IT  
ALL POSSIBLE. PLEASE JOIN ME IN  
CONGRATULATING OUR ESTEEMED HONOREES,  
**LAURIE RAPISARDI, SHIRLEY WILSON MCCUNE  
'50/76 AND CAROL VALENTINE ALLEN '72/74.**  
THEIR DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO CENTENARY  
UNIVERSITY HAVE BEEN TRULY INSTRUMENTAL IN  
SHAPING THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS STUDENTS.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXTEND MY DEEPEST  
GRATITUDE TO **ALDEN AND DOLL SIEGEL** FOR  
THEIR UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO  
CENTENARY UNIVERSITY. THEIR GENEROSITY  
AND LEADERSHIP HAVE BEEN A DRIVING FORCE  
BEHIND THE UNIVERSITY'S CONTINUED GROWTH  
AND SUCCESS.

*Rachelle Makela-Goodman '97*

**CHAIR, CENTENARY UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

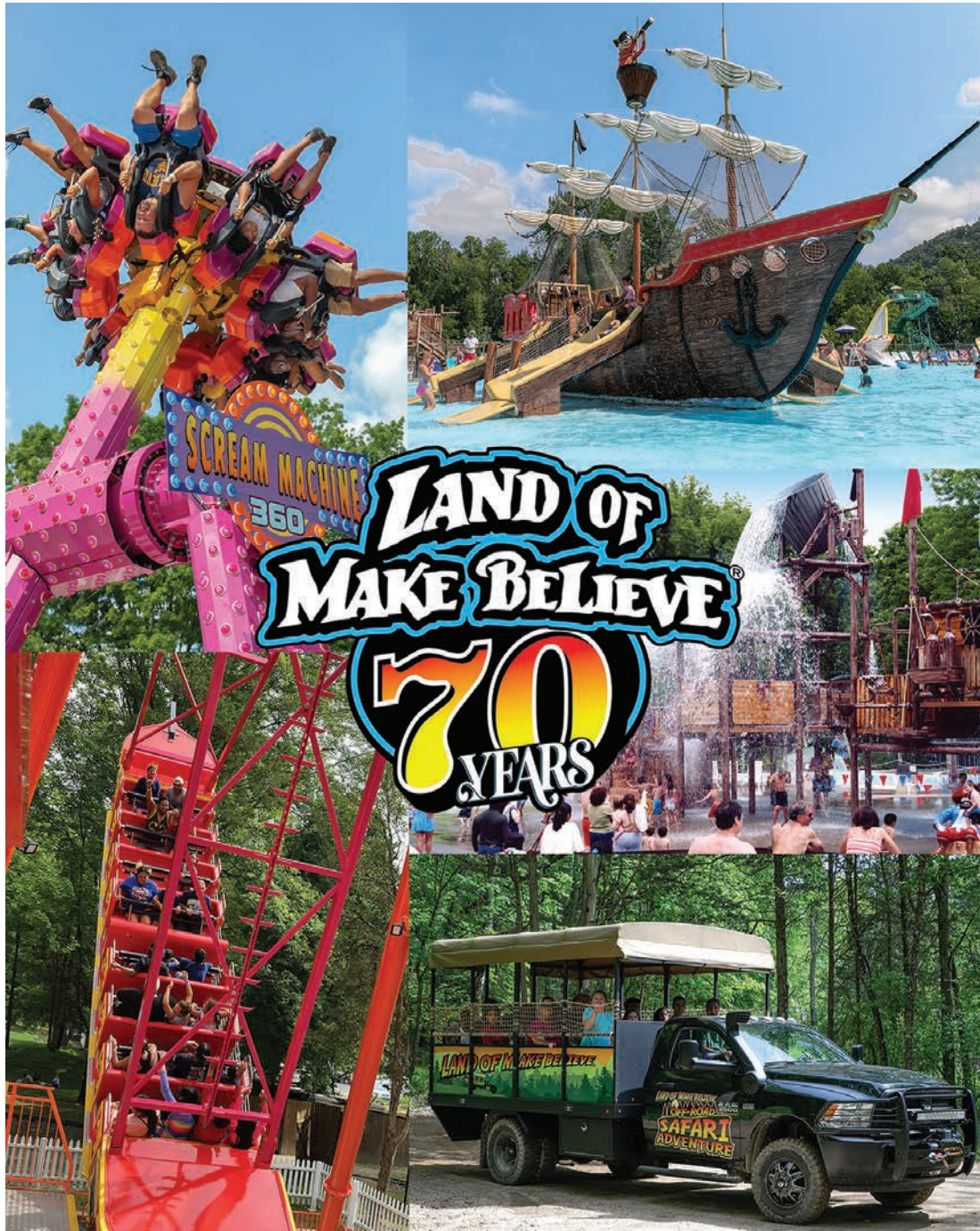


*Congratulations to*  
Centenary University President  
**Dale Caldwell, Ed.D.,**  
and tonight's honorees.



*Your transformational leadership  
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the future for Centenary students.*





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Congratulations to this year's  
Gold Dome Award winners



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**Gold Dome Award**

**CONGRATULATIONS to**

**SHIRLEY WILSON McCLUNE**

**ROTARIAN CAROL VALENTINE ALLEN**

*AND OUR OWN*

**ROTARIAN LAURIE RAPISARDI**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE  
OUR COMMUNITY & UNIVERSITY  
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Congratulations to

**LAURIE RAPISARDI**

Executive Director of the Hackettstown BID

**CAROL VALENTINE ALLEN**

Alumna, '72/ 74

**SHIRLEY WILSON McCUNE**

Alumna, '50/ 76

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*CONGRATULATIONS*  
*Centenary University*  
*Gold Dome Award Recipient*  
*Laurie Rapisardi,*  
*Executive Director of the Hackettstown BID*



*From the BID Board & Trustees*



*The Centenary University  
Alumni Association Executive Board  
Congratulates the 2024 Gold Dome Honorees:*

- **Alumna, Shirley Wilson McCune '50/76**
- **Alumna, Carol Valentine Allen '72/74**
- **Laurie Rapisardi, Executive Director of the Hackettstown Business Improvement District**



# *Congratulations*

to the

## **Gold Dome Recipients**

Alumna, Shirley Wilson McCune, '50/76

Alumna, Carol Valentine Allen, '72/74

**and especially to our friend**

## **Laurie Rapisardi**

**Executive Director of the Hackettstown Business District**

Mayor Emeritus Maria DiGiovanni

and

CU Trustee Dr. Phil Linfante

## *Celebrating Excellence*

To the esteemed Gold Dome Awardees, our deepest congratulations on your outstanding achievements.

We are incredibly grateful for your contributions.

Our profound appreciation also goes to the Advancement team, Elizabeth Freeman, Jenna O'Connor, Ariana Schiantarelli, and Jen Vance whose behind-the-scenes contributions made this evening so spectacular.

**Jordan Glatt**

VP of Advancement and Special Assistant to the President

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**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**TO ALL OF OUR HONOREES**

LINDA VAN WINKLE WATKINS '62 AND SKIP WATKINS



SAVE THE DATE  
**OCTOBER 5, 2024**



**ALUMNI  
& FAMILY  
DAY**





**Congratulations Laurie Rapisardi on receiving Centenary University's highest achievement, the Gold Dome Award. This is a testament to your hard work and dedication. Best wishes for continued success!**



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# Congratulations

*Laurie Rapisardi  
Shirley Wilson McCune  
and Carol Valentine Allen*



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# Gold Dome Award

CONGRATULATIONS to

**SHIRLEY WILSON McCLUNE**

**ROTARIAN CAROL VALENTINE ALLEN**

AND OUR OWN

**ROTARIAN LAURIE RAPISARDI**

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE  
OUR COMMUNITY & UNIVERSITY  
STRONG AND VIBRANT



FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT  
**HACKETTSTOWN ROTARY!**



**Marie D. Suozzo PC**  
Attorney-at-Law

CONGRATULATES

Gold Dome Award Recipients  
Laurie Rapisardi  
Shirley Wilson McCune  
Carol Valentine Allen

and

PROUDLY SUPPORTS

*CENTENARY UNIVERSITY*

and

*ITS SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS*

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A big congratulations to  
Laurie Rapisardi, Shirley  
Wilson McCune '50/'76, and  
Carol Allen '72/'74 on being  
named this year's Gold  
Dome recipients at  
Centenary University!

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