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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Leadership Akron Selects Class 31

AKRON, OH - Leadership Akron has selected a class of 34 leaders for its 2014/2015 Signature program. The class includes participants from greater Akron's business, government, and non-profit sectors. With an impressive application field of over 80 qualified applicants, the selection process was especially competitive for Class 31. Entering its thirtieth year, Leadership Akron enables participants to achieve greater levels of involvement and effectiveness in the community.

Over the course of the year, Leadership Akron Class 31 will develop a well-rounded perspective on the Akron community, and set the stage for further involvement as community leaders. Beginning the year with a City Tour and two-day Opening Retreat, they will spend a full day each month focusing on a specific aspect of the community. Topics include Social Services, Health Care, Education, Justice, and others. Each day gives the class a hands-on look at the key organizations, decision-makers, and issues in that field.

Members of the new class are:

**Dr. Terry Albanese**

Assistant to the Mayor for Health, Education and Families  
City of Akron

**Dr. Nichole M. Booker**

Senior Director, Collective Impact  
United Way of Summit County

**Mr. Dirk M. Breiding**

Vice President of Sales  
Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Mr. Shon M. Christy**

President  
Focal Point Social Media

**Mr. Perry L. Clark**

Founder/President  
Truly Reaching You Ministries

**Mr. Phillip R. Duryea**

Division Manager  
JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

**Mr. Jerome C. Fiume**

Partner

NAI Cummins Real Estate

**Mr. Sergio A. Garcia**

Chief of Staff

Northeast Ohio Medical University

**Ms. Dawn R. Glenny Jones**

President/CEO

Greenleaf Family Center

**Mrs. Leanne Graham**

Executive Director

Victim Assistance Program

**Mr. David R. Hertz**

Managing Director

Dix & Eaton

**Mr. Dale M. Highsmith**

Major Account Manager

ComDoc, Inc.

**Mr. Paul L. Jarrett**

Executive Director

Greater Akron Musical Association

**Mrs. Margaret Lazzerini D. Jordan**

Marketing Associate

SS&G, Inc.

**Mr. Jeffrey R. Kerr**

Executive Vice President

Environmental Design Group

**Ms. Amanda M. Leffler**

Attorney

Brouse McDowell

**Mr. W. Glenn Leppo**

CEO

Leppo Group, Inc.

**Dr. Paul E. Levy**

Professor and Chair, Dept of Psychology

The University of Akron

**Ms. Cindy Mitchell**

Sr. Tax Manager

Bober Markey Feodorovich

**Mr. Phillip J. Montgomery**  
Deputy Director of Public Service  
City of Akron

**Ms. Karen L. Mullen**  
President, Visiting Nurse Service and Affiliates  
Akron General Health System

**Mr. James M. O'Rourke**  
Vice President Corporate Purchasing  
The JM Smucker Company

**Mrs. Christy L. Page**  
President & CEO  
Better Business Bureau of Akron, Inc.

**Dr. Kendra L. Preer**  
Director UBMS and FAME  
Stark State College

**Mrs. Maureen R. Putt**  
Sr Global Category Manager, Reinforcements  
Goodyear Tire & Rubber

**Mrs. Mellissa R. Reed**  
Director  
Cohen & Company, Ltd.

**Mrs. Veronica R. Sims**  
Administrator, Special Projects/Government Affairs  
Akron Summit Community Action Inc.

**Mrs. Beth L. Smith**  
VP, Public Relations and Marketing  
Akron Children's Hospital

**Ms. Nicole L. Squire**  
Manager of Consumer and Commercial Compound Development  
Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations

**Mr. Steven R. Staub**  
Vice President & Treasurer  
FirstEnergy Corp

**Mr. Andre Thornton, Jr.**  
VP Administration  
ASW Global, LLC

**Mr. Todd W. Wade**  
Senior Vice President  
Key Bank

**Mr. Keeven White**  
President/CEO  
WhiteSpace Creative

**Ms. Alexandra S. Wright**  
Executive Director/CEO  
Youth Excellence Performing Arts Workshop (YEPAW)

For 31 years, Leadership Akron has equipped participants for community involvement and leadership. The signature program offers intensive study of community issues and interaction with top decision-makers, enabling participants to expand their effectiveness as community leaders. In addition to the signature Program, Leadership Akron empowers leaders across generations through its other programs. For more information on Leadership Akron, go to their web site at [www.leadershipakron.org](http://www.leadershipakron.org).