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Did You Know?

Did you know that during the summers of the late 1970s, Lindenwood hosted a professional acting company called Summerstage? Summerstage performed shows like *Godspell*, *Wait Until Dark*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Lindenwood renews that tradition this summer with shows from the Lindenwood Summer Repertory Theater Company ACT INC.

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## Evans to be Honored with Lifetime of Progress Award

Lindenwood University President James Evans will be among the honorees at the Partners for Progress of Greater St. Charles' Celebration 2015 later this month.

Evans will be presented the 2015 Lifetime of Progress Award "for his dedicated 41-year career at Lindenwood University as a teacher, scholar, leader, and administrator, including these last nine years as president," according to a press release from the organization.



Greg Prestemon, president of Partners for Progress, expressed a similar sentiment.

"Dr. Evans is the second person to be recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award," he said. "It is an award that we don't give out lightly. The increasing enrollments, the new and refurbished buildings, and the enhanced profile of Lindenwood University are powerful testimony to (him)."

In addition to his work at Lindenwood, Prestemon feels Evans' character should be recognized as well.

"On a personal level, I am grateful to Dr. Evans for his steady leadership style," Prestemon said. "He is unfailingly humble, much more concerned about getting things done than getting the credit. It is an old-school term, but Dr. Evans is a true gentleman and a genuine servant of the whole community, of which Lindenwood is a key part."

For his part, Evans said he is more than honored to be receiving the award.

"I am so gratified by this public honor that Partners for Progress has bestowed upon me, because it says my work at Lindenwood across the past four decades has improved our community in the eyes of regional leaders," he said. "It caps my career in the best possible way, and I am both pleased and humbled by the award."

Partners for Progress' Celebration 2015 is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday, May 29, at the St. Charles Convention Center.

Individual tickets are \$100, and \$1,000 sponsorships are available. To register, visit [edcregistrations.com/partnership](http://edcregistrations.com/partnership).

The theme for this year's event is "The Celebration of Partnership."

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## School of the Osage High School Chooses Parisi to be Commencement Speaker

Dr. Joe Parisi, Vice President for Enrollment Management, will be the keynote speaker at the School of the Osage High School's commencement ceremonies on May 21.



Mike Williams, principal at Osage, said Parisi was asked to be the keynote because of his reputation as an excellent and energetic speaker.

"We felt he would deliver an excellent message to our graduating senior class," Williams said.

Parisi plans to deliver on that reputation.

"I'm honored to address the School of the Osage class of 2015 and hope they take away an important theme of my speech: Step up and embrace the grind," Parisi said. "You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams."

Parisi's career at Lindenwood began in 1998 as head wrestling coach and executive director of the American Humanics/Human Services program. He was named Dean of Day Admissions in 2006, and Vice President for Enrollment Management in 2013.

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## Leahy Named Belleville's Top Employee for March

Brendan Leahy has been named the Belleville Employee of the Month for March! Leahy plays a vital role at the Belleville campus, as can be seen by the many positions he currently holds, including Chair of the Communication Department, Assistant Professor of Communications, and most recently, Interim Humanities Division Chair. He first joined Lindenwood in 2011 as an adjunct instructor teaching Advanced Video Production and began duties as Assistant Professor in 2012.



Leahy has overseen several major growth projects within the Belleville Communications program, including the final stages of construction on the LBTV television studio and the facilitation of student participation in the television and web-stream broadcasts. He also serves as advisor to many of the communication majors and has had a direct role in the selection of several new faculty, staff, and adjuncts.

Leahy was nominated for Employee of the Month by Amy Gangloff, associate professor of history. "Brendan oversees a TV studio, radio studio, coverage of sporting events, meetings with town officials, as

well as a host of other duties,” said Gangloff. “He helped to build those stations, and he inspires loyalty in his students. He is a great colleague to have.”

“The faculty and staff of the Communications Department, and across campus, are wonderful, talented, generous individuals,” said Leahy. “I’m thrilled to be recognized as Employee of the Month! Thank you!”