



"Connecting and inspiring citizens to create a better community."

For Immediate Release

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Sept 5, 2012

SCOPE Annual Celebration to Honor Boundary Crosser Awardee Dr. Larry R. Thompson

(Sarasota, Florida) Do you believe that an engaged and connected community is the fuel for improvement? SCOPE, a community engagement organization in Sarasota County, invites you to celebrate the power of citizen-led change at the 2012 Annual Celebration and Boundary Crosser Award event on Sept. 27.

"We are celebrating eleven years of citizen-led efforts with the community," said Roxanne Joffe, SCOPE board chair. "We'll also be honoring Ringling College of Art and Design president, Dr. Larry R. Thompson, as the 2012 Boundary Crosser award winner for his innovation, collaborative spirit and contributions to our community."

Past honorees include Diane McFarlin, Pam Truitt, Dan Bailey, Isabel Norton, C.J. Fishman, Bob Richardson and Syd Adler (posthumously). "Boundary crossers play an invaluable role in our community, stepping out of their comfort zones to connect others in a way that promotes positive change," said Joffe. "Honorees are presented with a hand-crafted sculpture of a tree, symbolizing the crossing of boundaries and branching out to find unmarked territories and new possibilities for the future."

SCOPE website visitors can test their knowledge of Boundary Crosser accomplishments past and present with this [interactive infographic](#).

With a mission to inspire and connect citizens to create a better community, SCOPE focuses on asset-based community building, partners on initiatives with citizens, organizations and government entities and serves as a catalyst for citizen-led efforts. Achievements include CHIP (Community Health Improvement Partnership, Aging with Dignity and Independence, the Summit for Environmental Action, GLI (Grassroots Leadership Initiative) and ITN (Independent Transportation Network).

The most striking example of the power of citizen-led change is the new Institute for the Ages, an innovative organization formed in 2011 to explore and activate ideas to prepare for the opportunities and challenges associated with aging populations. Because of the Institute for the Ages, Sarasota County is poised to lead the nation in innovative solutions in policy, products and services for the unprecedented global phenomenon of the 'silver' population explosion.

“Citizen-led change can lead to powerful results,” said Joffe. Presenting sponsors are Gulf Coast Community Foundation and Ringling College of Art and Design. SunTrust is a Civic Connector sponsor and Bridge Builder sponsors include Willis A Smith, Layton & Co. and PNC Wealth Management.

The community is invited to attend SCOPE’s annual celebration on September 27, 2012 at Michael’s on East from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Please RSVP to SCOPE at 941.365.8751 or e-mail Maureen Hadden at Maureen@scopexcel.org.



SCOPE is a community engagement organization in Sarasota County with a mission to connect and inspire citizens to create a better community. SCOPE partners with residents on initiatives for a better community.

Note: Link to interactive infographic on SCOPE website.

http://scopexcel.org/annualcelebration2012/bc_infographic/bc2012.htm