

Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

Biographies for the recipients of the awards listed and linked below have been updated when possible. Otherwise, they represent the information available as of the dates of induction. Send updates or corrections.



- **Livingston College Distinguished Alumni Award:** Established in September 2000 to recognize Livingston College alumni who have distinguished themselves by contributions they have made in their chosen fields of endeavor, by the leadership they have exhibited, and by the general benefits to the larger society resulting from their activities.
- **Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award:** Established in November 2004 in memory of Army Lt. Seth Jeremy Dvorin (LC'02, Administration of Justice; pictured at right), who was killed in Iraq on February 3, 2004. The Seth Dvorin Award was presented to Livingston College young alumni who have distinguished themselves by contributions they have made in their chosen fields of endeavor, by the leadership they have exhibited, and by the general benefits to the larger society resulting from their activities. *The three recipients of this award are noted below. This award is now retired.*

2000 Inductees

RIKI JACOBS (LC'80,
NLAW'89)



Director of AIDS
Support Organization;
Health Educator (*died
in 2009*)

CLIFTON R. LACY
(LC'75, RWJMS'79)



Medical Leader;
New Jersey State
Health Commissioner

JOHN S. LIPORI
(LC'77)



Banking
Executive

**ALFRED E. RAMEY,
JR.** (LC'73)



University Counsel;
New Jersey
Assistant Attorney
General

2002 Inductees

THOMAS F. DALEY
(LC'75)



District Attorney;
Judge; Adjunct
Professor of Law (*died
in 2015*)

SUSAN KILLE
(LC'74)



Newspaper
Journalist

DAVID A. LASKOW
(LC'77, RWJMS'81)



Surgeon; Associate
Professor of
Surgery

STEVEN D. PLOFKER
(LC'78)









Real Estate
Developer;
Attorney

2004 Inductees







FRANK CARVILL (LC'75)

GINA COLLINS CUMMINGS
(LC'84)





**EDWARD E. JOHNSON,
JR.** (LC'79)

		
New Jersey National Guardsman Killed in Iraq (<i>Posthumous; died in 2004</i>)	Environmental, Health, and Social Justice Activist	Wall Street Executive
MICHAEL C. LARACY (LC'74)	KAREN ROGERS (LC'92)	HARRY V. SWAYNE III (LC'90)
		
Advocate for Children and Families	<i>Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award</i> Television Meteorologist/Journalist	Football Executive and Player

2006 Inductees

AVERY BROOKS (LC'73, MGSA'76)	COLLEEN FRASER (LC'74)	MARK HELIAS (LC'74)
		
Actor; Director; Singer; Professor, Mason Gross School of the Arts	Advocate for People with Disabilities; Hero of United Airlines Flight 93 (<i>Posthumous; died in 2001</i>)	Jazz Musician and Composer
LIZA KIRSCHENBAUM (LC'87)	ANDREA D. LYON (LC'73)	GREGG SPIRIDELLIS (LC'93, RBS'93)
		
Advocate for Children in the Courts	Law School Dean; Expert in Death-Penalty Defense	<i>Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award</i> Entrepreneur in Online Entertainment

2009 Inductees

KEVIN APUZZIO (LC'06)	MARLA DIAMOND (LC'92)	FRANCOISE JACOBSON (LC'79)	MARTHA NELL SMITH (LC'77, GSNB'82,'85)
			
<i>Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award</i> Heroic Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician (<i>Posthumous; died in 2006</i>)	Radio Journalist	Advocate for Women and Workers	Professor of English; Emily Dickinson Scholar

2011 Inductees

GREGORY Q. BROWN (LC'82)	EDWARD M. JORDAN (SMLR'15)
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Rutgers Board of Governors Chair;
Business Leader



Rutgers Men's Basketball Head Coach
(2013-2016)
and Player (1973-1977)

2013 Inductees

NDIDI N. AMUTAH-ONUKAGHA
(LC'03)



Assistant Professor
Researcher on Health and
Nutrition

NICHOLAS FERRONI
(LC'03)



Educator and
Historian

JESSIE J. HANNA (LC'07,
RWJMS'14)



Physician
Researcher on Pediatric
Cancer

2015 Inductees

ROBERT P. BERTRAND
(LC'01)



Radio Engineer

KENNETH B. COP (LC'95)



Rutgers University Executive
Director of Police Services / Chief
of Police

DEBORAH L. STOKES
(LC'74)



Museum Curator and Arts
Educator

2018 Inductees

STACI BERGER (LC'94,
EJB/GSNB'04)



Housing and Community
Development Advocate

JEANIE BRYSON (LC'81)



Jazz/Pop/Latin Vocalist

EVERETTE B. PENN (LC'91)



Race/Youth/Justice Scholar

CARLYLE E. SHELTON JR.
(LC'80)



Deputy Inspector
General,
U.S. Marine Corps

ROBERT W. SNYDER (LC'77)



Professor, American Studies
and Journalism

MARIE VARGHESE (LC'03)



College Advisor and
Social Justice Advocate

**Seth Dvorin, LC'02, Was Killed in
Battle in Iraq; Distinguished Young**

Alumni Award Named for Him



Seth Jeremy Dvorin

U.S. Army Lt. **Seth Jeremy Dvorin**, a 2002 graduate of Livingston College at Rutgers University, was killed in battle near Iskandariyah, Iraq, on Feb. 3, 2004.

An improvised explosive device (IED) killed Dvorin, age 24, while he was conducting counter-IED operations.

In 2004, Rutgers' Livingston Alumni Association created the Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award in his honor.

Dvorin had been assigned to Battery B, 3rd Battalion, 62nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 10th Mountain Division, based at Fort Drum, New York.



Sue Niederer and her son, Seth Dvorin

Dvorin's sister, Rebekah, told The Associated Press that the Army informed her that "Seth's unit had been ordered to clear the area of the homemade mines and bombs that have killed dozens of troops. ... They were in a convoy and saw something in the road. My brother, the hero, told his driver to stop. That's when the bomb detonated, when they were trying to dismantle it."

Dvorin earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Administration of Justice from Livingston College in 2002. Born in Freehold, New Jersey, he grew up in East Brunswick and South Brunswick, New Jersey. He graduated from South Brunswick High School, where he played football and baseball.

Dvorin traveled extensively, including to Europe and Israel. He loved animals and cars, especially Mustangs, and was an excellent cook. He had lived in Evans Mills, New York, at the time of his death.

Dvorin was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star for valor. He was buried in Marlboro Memorial Cemetery, Monmouth County, New Jersey.



Seth Dvorin with his wife, Kelly Dvorin

Surviving Dvorin were his wife, Kelly Harris Dvorin, whom he married on August 26, 2003, five days before leaving for Iraq; his mother, Sue Niederer, and her husband Greg; his father, Richard Dvorin, and his companion Ellen Sutton; his sister, Rebekah Dvorin, and her then-fiance, Walter Gruszka; his stepbrother, Joshua Dvorin; his paternal grandmother, Ruth Dvorin; his maternal grandfather,

Jacob Sapir; and his uncles Gary Sapir and Howard Dvorin.

Dvorin's mother, Sue Niederer, has protested the Bush Administration for the US involvement in Iraq, and criticized Donald J. Trump for his insensitivity to Gold Star families who have lost family members in battle.

As of 2018, she continued to speak on behalf of the GI Go Fund, a national nonprofit organization that helps veterans find employment and secure education and health care benefits, and provides assistance to low-income and homeless veterans, according to a May 26, 2018, article from *My Central Jersey*. Friends of Dvorin founded the GI Go Fund in 2006.

Seth Dvorin's father, Richard Dvorin, a U.S. Air Force veteran, worked through his grief by volunteering for a phone hotline for veterans and their families.

Richard Dvorin also served as Past Commander for the Lt. Seth Dvorin Jewish War Veterans Post #972 in Marlboro, New Jersey, renamed for his son in 2004. Richard Dvorin died in 2013.



Seth Dvorin Lane in East Brunswick, New Jersey.