

AMBASSADORS BALL TO HONOR FIDELITAS MEDALISTS

This spring, we come together once again to renew the important tradition of the Ambassadors Ball returning to The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, Michigan, on Saturday, April 20, 2024. We are thrilled to bring back this in-person event and recognize and honor our Ambassadors, an esteemed group that has made a lasting impact on the Orchard Lake Schools, and the Fidelitas Medal tradition.

The Fidelitas Medal, first awarded in 1949, is presented in recognition of one's fidelity in serving God, country, and the Orchard Lake Schools. Fidelitas Medalists are evaluated for their realization of the religious and cultural ideals of Orchard Lake Schools founder, Rev. Józef Dąbrowski, a Polish missionary priest, who established the original education institution in Detroit in 1885.



With great joy, we want to share the news of two distinguished 2024 Fidelitas Medalists:
MR. STEPHEN M. GROSS AND DR. STAN MAJEWSKI
who will be presented with their well-deserved honors at the Ambassadors Ball.

STEPHEN GROSS

Stephen Gross' sense of faith and love for the mission of the Orchard Lake Schools called him to serve Orchard Lake, build upon its traditions and help create a future filled with opportunity.

"As a Catholic American, loving husband and father of three St. Mary's Preparatory alumni, former Chairman of the Board of Regents, and current board member, I truly feel God has guided me as his instrument to help lead the Orchard Lake Schools and build upon the foundation of Fr. Dąbrowski's mission and vision," said Steve Gross. "I am humbled to receive the Fidelitas Medal and so grateful for all those whose collaborative efforts contribute to the 139-year history of the Orchard Lake Schools."



Upon receiving his B.A. from the University of Michigan, Gross earned a J.D. from Wayne State University. He began practicing law and was the managing partner and founder of Lindahl Gross Lievois. He then became the original managing partner of the McDonald Hopkins Detroit office, served on the Board of Directors, and is currently chair of the firm's Strategic Advisory and Business Restructuring Department and Chair of the Automotive Practice Group. For over 40 years, he has been extensively involved in assisting clients address complex business issues, including creative strategic solutions to restructuring, acquisitions or divestitures.

"As a member and former Chairman of the Board of Regents at Orchard Lake, a lot of what we've had to do is controversial but consistent with Fr. Dąbrowski's ideals and his mission," added Gross. "His mission and vision of faith, education, and the celebration of Polish culture and tradition required financial stability, and are fostered by the addition of the Girls Division at St. Mary's Preparatory as well as

improved relations with the cultural aspects of the Orchard Lake Schools, including the formation of the Polish Institute of Culture & Research and the St. John Paul II Liturgical Center.”

Gross and his family are deeply rooted in the Orchard Lake Schools community. His wife, Maureen, is the catalyst of The Mary Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the beautification of the Marian Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Orchard Lake St. Mary’s, and host of the annual Advent by Candlelight Mass and Dinner. “The Orchard Lake Schools community means a great deal to my family and I, and we will continue to support and collaborate with this extended community to build upon its origins in faith, education, culture, and tradition to help perpetuate this foundation.”

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND:

- University of Michigan • *Ann Arbor, Michigan*
- Wayne State University • *Detroit, Michigan*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Admissions – Court

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

Admissions – State

- Michigan

PRACTICE:

- Lindahl Gross Lievois
- McDonald Hopkins

PRACTICE FOCUS:

- Strategic advisory and restructuring
- Franchise restructuring
- Distressed M&A
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Automotive
- Automotive restructuring

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE:

Gross has represented clients and a variety of industries, including:

- Automotive
- Aerospace
- Manufacturing
- Steel Industry
- Franchising
- Wholesale Pharmaceuticals and Retail Drugstores
- Trucking and Logistics

HONORS AND AWARDS:

- Lawdragon 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers (2020, 2022)
- Designated “Lawyer of the Year” in Detroit for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law by *Best Lawyers in America* (2017)
- TMA Chicago/Midwest Small Transaction of the Year for Lee Steel restructuring and sale (2016)
- AV Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Selected for inclusion in *Michigan Super Lawyers* (2006-2022)
- Named one of the Best Lawyers in America (2011-2023)
- Honored by *Best Lawyers* as a Lawyer of the Year for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization (2020)
- Winner of *Crain’s Detroit Business* 2013 “Best Deal of the Year under \$100 Million” Award for restructuring and sale of Kazi Foods
- Named DBusiness Top Lawyer (2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY:

- Former Chairman of the Board of Regents, Orchard Lake Schools
- Regent of the Orchard Lake Schools
- Board of Trustees, St. Mary’s Preparatory
- President of St. Mary’s Preparatory Moms and Dads Club (Steve and Maureen Gross)
- Jr. Varsity Football Coach, St. Mary’s Preparatory (2007-2027)

DR. STAN MAJEWSKI

“Having attended St. Mary’s Preparatory, served as a Chairman of the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees, and as a Trustee of the Polish Institute of Culture & Research, my religious, educational, and cultural values are deep rooted,” said Detroit native, Dr. Stan Majewski. “To be honored with the Fidelitas Medal by the Orchard Lake Schools is the utmost honor for me.”

Majewski recalls his faith-based high school years at the Prep with great admiration. “I was profoundly influenced by the priests and teachers, including Msgr. Milewski, Fr. Ziembra, Msgr. Koper and many others,” he adds. “They became great friends of mine, sharing conversations about family, faith, and culture. I credit them, along with my wife, Alice, and children, Sue and Michael, plus the brotherhood that is St. Mary’s for supporting me in my service to God, country, and the Orchard Lake Schools. My daughter, Sue, earned her PhD in Economics and resides in Washington, D.C. where she works for the Justice Department in the Antitrust division. My son, Michael, passed away in 2020 at the age of 45.”

After high school, Majewski earned his B.S. at the University of Michigan followed by dental school at the University of Detroit where he also completed his residency in Orthodontics and earned a M.S. in Dentistry. His Post Graduate training in Prosthodontics at the University of Southern California was followed by specialty training at the United States Naval Hospital in San Diego. He always had a passion for caring for others and donated his dental services to the Children’s Hospital to assist with patient needs and help teach and perform craniofacial techniques for those in need around the world.

“I missed Orchard Lake and Michigan,” said Majewski. “Fr. Len Chrobot, my classmate who became a seminary faculty member, and Fr. Ziembra convinced me to join the board here on campus. The love I had for this campus deepened even more when I became a board member and helped start the Polish Mission where I served as Chairman and a board member.” To this day, Majewski loves returning to campus. “I’m thrilled to serve as a member of the Polish Institute of Culture & Research’s Board of Trustees,” he added. “I voted in favor of adding the Girls Division of St. Mary’s Preparatory and am very proud of the administration for making this happen. I encourage the girls to put their own stamp on OLSM. You will achieve fabulous goals!”



ACADEMIC BACKGROUND:

- University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, Michigan
- University of Detroit
- University of Southern California
- United States Naval Hospital

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Children’s Hospital of Michigan
 - ◆ *Staff Attending Physician, Dept. Of Pediatric Dentistry*
 - ◆ *Director of Clinical Orthodontics and Craniofacial Disorders team*
 - ◆ *Member of the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Disorders team*
 - ◆ *Clinical Instructor, Pediatric, Orthodontic, Oral Surgery Residents*
- University of Detroit, School of Dentistry, Part-time Instructor
- Private Practice, Birmingham, MI; Owosso, MI
- Lecturer, Professional Organizations
- Member of many professional organizations, including ADA, AAO, MDA, OCDS, MAO, ACLP, IFO
- Member of the National Medical Association
- Member of the Detroit Medical-Dental Arts Association, Past President

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY:

- Regent of the Orchard Lake Schools
- Former Chairman of the Board of Regents
- Chairman of the Board, The Polish Mission of Orchard Lake
- Trustee, Board Member, St. Mary's Preparatory
- Former Chairman of the Board of Trustees

CIVIC ACTIVITY:

- Lt. Commander, United States Navy, Dental Corps
- Member of the VFW, American Legion
- Alumni Associations, UM, UDM, OLSM
- Former member of UM Alumni Association, Family Camps Board of Control
- Former member of the Parents Board of Sacred Heart School

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY:

- Knight Commander, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem
- Member, St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Troy, MI; former member of Council, choir, Lector
- Member, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Stuart, FL; Eucharistic Minister

EVER FORWARD!

ZAWSZE DO PRZODU!

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ZAPRASZAMY

You are invited to join us for Polish 1st Sunday!

A special Mass at the Orchard Lake Schools to pray for Polonia

Sunday, May 3rd • 1:00 PM

- There will be a Polish Dinner after the Mass - \$20 per person
- Please RSVP for the dinner by Tuesday, April 30th
- Call (248) 602-7579 or bernardwitek@yahoo.com



at the Shrine of St. John Paul II, celebrated by Fr. Bernard Witek