



THE ADVOCATE

Press Release

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Annual Awards Luncheon

The 2018 Arc of Alabama awards were bestowed at the annual awards luncheon, held during the Alabama disABILITY Conference at the Renaissance Hotel Montgomery. Alabama Secretary of Labor Fitzgerald Washington gave the keynote address stressing the role of his department in helping all Alabama citizens who want to work find work. Jon Holder served as emcee, while executive director of The Arc of Alabama Gena Richardson, former Miss Alabama Liz Cochran, and Arc of Alabama Board president Bruce Koppenhoefer had the honor of handing out the awards.

Award winners were as follows:

Agency of Distinction: The Arc of Walker County

Inclusive Employer: Jack's Family Restaurant, 3204 East Highway 78, Jasper, AL

Distinguished Professional of the Year: Joy Cox, The Arc of Madison County

Distinguished Advocate of the Year: Dr. Maureen Baldy, The Learning Tree (Mobile)

Self-Advocate of Distinction: Sissy Reed, The Arc of Walker County

Exemplary Educator: Lynetta Owens, The Arc of Calhoun/Cleburne Counties

Distinguished Direct Support Professional: Mary Montague, The Arc of Madison Co.

National Award for Distinguished Service: Chris Stewart, The Arc of Central Alabama

Employee of the Year: Joey Kyle, The Arc of Central Alabama

Promising Young Leader: Elyse Peters, The Arc of Walker County
Executive of the Year: Chris Stewart, The Arc of Central Alabama

For photos of the 2018 Annual Awards Luncheon, see our [Facebook page](#)

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We want to share your activities and achievements with our readers. Please submit material to bkopy490531@gmail.com (<http://www.thearcofal.org/so/2M8TGTBQ/click?w=LS0tDQowZmYwMzkwMC03YTI1LTRkM2ltMTg0Ny04Zjg0Y2U0MjAwODcNCm1haWx0b2pia29wcHk0OTA1MzFAZ21haWwuY29tDQotLS0>). Images and video welcome.

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