



**Contact:**

Michelle Prater, President & CEO  
North Georgia Community Foundation  
615 F Oak Street  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
Phone: 770-535-7880  
E-mail: [mprater@ngcf.org](mailto:mprater@ngcf.org)

**NGCF Accepting Nominations for Woodrow Stewart Leadership in Philanthropy  
and Gus Whalen Young Philanthropist Awards**

*Philanthropy Award Nominations Accepted through Aug. 12*

GAINESVILLE, Ga. (July 19, 2016) – The North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF) is now accepting nominations for its 2016 Philanthropy Awards which include the Woodrow Stewart Leadership in Philanthropy Award and the Gus Whalen Young Philanthropist Award. Deserving individuals for these awards may be nominated through August 12.

The Woody Stewart Leadership in Philanthropy Award recognizes individuals who provide leadership in support of philanthropic causes and who motivate others to take leadership roles with nonprofit organizations and community projects. Nominees for the inaugural Gus Whalen Young Philanthropist Award should be between the ages of 18 and 30 and show commitment to enhancing the quality of life in our region through volunteer service. Both awards will be presented at NGCF's Celebration of Community dinner on Oct. 13.

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“Our Philanthropy Awards allow the Community Foundation to honor those in the North Georgia region who are continually doing good work,” NGCF President/CEO Michelle Prater said. “These awards are one way to showcase and highlight an organization, individual or donor who has made an impact in the community and demonstrates a passionate commitment to supporting community causes.”

Nominees for either award must live in the Community Foundation’s 15-county service area which includes Banks, Dawson, Fannin, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Jackson, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White counties. For complete eligibility requirements and to submit a nomination, visit [www.ngcf.org/philanthropyawards](http://www.ngcf.org/philanthropyawards). You may also call 770-535-7880, ext. 221 for more information.

### **About Celebration of Community Dinner**

The North Georgia Community Foundation will be hosting a Celebration of Community Dinner Oct. 13 at the Gainesville Civic Center. The evening will pay tribute to the power and impact of good people doing good work across the North Georgia region. At the center of the evening will be the presentation of the Philanthropy Awards and a special tribute to Jim Mathis, who is retiring after 18 years leading the Community Foundation. The evening will be a joyous celebration of the Community Foundation’s past achievements and future possibilities. Sponsorship opportunities are available for this special community event. For more information on the event and sponsorship levels, contact Cheryl Vandiver, Director of Operations, at 770-535-7880, ext. 221 or [cvandiver@ngcf.org](mailto:cvandiver@ngcf.org).

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**About North Georgia Community Foundation**

Founded in 1985 by Lou Fockele and other business leaders, the North Georgia Community Foundation is dedicated to supporting nonprofit organizations and donors by building, distributing and preserving philanthropic assets to enhance the spirit of community and quality of life in the North Georgia region. NGCF serves Banks, Dawson, Fannin, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Jackson, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White counties. To learn more, visit [www.ngcf.org](http://www.ngcf.org) or call 770-535-7880.