

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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UNITED WAY TO HONOR EXCEPTIONAL CAMPAIGNS AND VOLUNTEERS

The United Way of the Greater Clarksville Region invites the community to its 2008 Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Ceremony to recognize and honor those who support what matters in our community. The event will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2008, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Clarksville Country Club.

The event is held each year to honor outstanding campaign volunteers and businesses that have conducted exceptional in-house campaigns. The evening's festivities will also include dinner, entertainment by Xample, and the annual meeting of the membership to elect officers and board members for 2008-2009. In accordance with the By-Laws, any individual who contributed \$100 or more to United Way this past year is eligible to vote during the membership meeting.

The very special group of young individuals from the Abundant Life Outreach Center who perform as Xample and operate R.E.A.L. Media Studios produced this year's United Way campaign video, and the United Way is pleased to be able to spotlight Xample's singing talents at this year's Annual Meeting.

The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of campaign awards, including the esteemed Ben C. Parks Award. Established in 1990, the Ben C. Parks Award recognizes the company or business that has conducted the top overall in-house campaign. The winner is selected by the volunteers serving on the campaign cabinet based on several criteria, including the percentage of employee giving potential achieved, increase in giving over the last year, number of leadership donors, as well as other factors. The award was named in honor of Mr. Ben C. Parks, who faithfully demonstrated his full support of the mission of our United Way and its member agencies. This year, seven companies were nominated for this prestigious award.

A number of other awards to honor outstanding achievements of businesses, agencies, and volunteers will also be presented during the United Way's Annual Meeting, including the Ambassador's Award which recognizes a local business leader, the Director's Award that is awarded to an exemplary partner agency; the Campaigning to Potential Award that acknowledges the employees of the business who gave most in terms of their potential to give; and the "Above and Beyond" Awards recognizing the work of outstanding campaign volunteers.

This event is open to the public and reservations are required. To make a reservation, call your United Way at 931-647-4291. Reservations for dinner must be received by Tuesday, February 21st. The cost for the event is \$20 per person. For more information about the annual meeting, visit the United Way's website at www.unitedwayofclarksville.org

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