



10th annual

Grit, Gratitude & You

Friday, November 5

A Virtual Event Celebrating
the Positive Impact of Coaches



Building Game Changers

Getaway Raffle

2 first-class, round-trip tickets on Delta Air Lines to anywhere in the continental 48 U.S. – \$50 per entry

Drawing is Monday, Nov. 8 at Noon

10th.givesmart.com

first tee
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Peelman

Gratitude Raffle

Enter at: 10th.givesmart.com
\$20 per chance

Closes at noon on Monday, Nov. 8
Winners will be notified by email.

- **Memorial Tournament 2022** at Muirfield Village Golf Club – **2 skybox tickets** for June 4 courtesy of Germain Lexus of Dublin and Easton
- **\$500 Golf Galaxy** Gift Card
- **\$400 Heinen's** Gift Card
- 1 week of **Ninja Warrior Summer Camp** at **Adrenaline Monkey** courtesy of Denise Carkhuff
- 4 tickets to **THE PROM** at **Playhouse Square** courtesy of Jim Wilcosky

Challenge Accepted!

Your gift can go further thanks to the Charles Schwab Challenge Grant.



Welcome to Grit, Gratitude & You!

Today, kicks off our year-end giving campaign and the season of gratitude! We're excited to announce the Charles Schwab Challenge Grant giving our chapter the opportunity to receive \$25,000 each year for the next five years. Your support can help us achieve our goals!

Please consider donating to First Tee – Cleveland through one of the following ways:

- 1 – Text the keyword **FTC** to **26989** to donate from your mobile phone.
- 2 – Donate online at www.firstteecleveland.org/donate
- 3 – Mail a check made payable to **First Tee – Cleveland** to:
3841 Washington Park Blvd.
Newburgh Heights, OH 44105

Thank you for your support!

Our Mission

To impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.

State of The Tee 2021

Thank you for joining our celebration of coaches. They are the key to our success in empowering the youth in our community to be the best they can be.

You are the reason we can expand and help more deserving youth throughout our community.

2021 has been a year of challenges and a year of impact as we have served more than 2,300 youth with our Life Skills Curriculum that uses the platform of golf. As we grow so grows the financial gap between participant fees and actual cost per child per year. We will never turn away any child that can embrace our program. Participant fees represent only 7% of our total revenue.

We know you have many worthy organizations asking for your valuable resources, and we appreciate the opportunity to share our impact of building strong character and instilling core values for the children in our community.

Independent research confirms that participants are thriving with a significant increase in self-confidence, academic achievement and social responsibility. In today's environment, the kids need our social, emotional and physical components now more than ever.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in helping us impact more deserving youth as we continue to **BUILD GAME CHANGERS**.

Special Thanks to:

Event Chairs: Karen Adame, Nick D'Angelo & Anna Lang
First Tee - Cleveland's Events Committee
Rock The House Entertainment



Daryl Deckard
Board Chair



Patricia LoPresti
Executive Director

Enjoy our program line-up including:

Special Guests:

- **Damian Cosby** | Director of Golf, Cleveland Metroparks
- **Ryan Virtue** | Regional Partner Manager, Positive Coaching Alliance

First Tee Representatives:

- **Patricia LoPresti** | Executive Director
- **Tom Lawrence** | Director, Chapter Relationships, Eastern Territory, First Tee
- **Coach Brian McFarland** | Program Director, First Tee - Cleveland
- **Coach David Alexander PGA** | Manager of Player Development, First Tee - Cleveland

First Tee Coaches:

- **Karen Steigerwald**
- **Leslie Kleinman**
- **Bobby Kleinman**
- **Michael Riccardi**
- **Tom Federico**
- **Patty Giudice**
- **Neil Vyas**
- **Anita Bigham**
- **Jim Lenavitt**
- **Reginald Glossett**
- **Tim O'Rourke**

First Tee Parents:

- **Cortez**
- **Cory**
- **Kate**
- **Chris**

First Tee Participants:

- **Daniel McKee** | 2021 Doris A. Evans, MD Merit Scholarship Recipient
- **Kathleen**
- **Colleen** | Junior Volunteer
- **Lauren**
- **Maria and Mallory**

First Tee Alumni:

- **Brice Peake** | Volunteer Coach
- **Antonio Jofferion**

Featured Guest: Coach Dennis Gates

Cleveland State University named **Dennis Gates** as the Vikings head men's basketball coach in 2019, becoming the 16th head coach in Cleveland State men's basketball history. Gates enters his third season at the helm of the Cleveland State Vikings, fresh off of a 2021 NCAA Tournament appearance and his second straight Horizon League Coach of the Year recognition.



Coach Gates with First Tee - Cleveland Program Director Brian McFarland

Cleveland State finished the 2020-21 season with a 19-8 record, including 16 regular season conference wins, marking the most wins in league play in team history. The 2020-21 season was capped off with the program's third-ever appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

Last season, Gates led Cleveland State to its best start in conference play in program history, as the Vikings rattled off nine straight wins in December and January, capped off by a thrilling win at Wright State in an ESPN nationally-televised game. The nine wins also marked the program's longest winning streak since winning 12 consecutive games in the 2010-11 season. Gates, who garnered Horizon League Coach of the Year honors in 2019-20, is only the second head coach in Cleveland State history to be named Horizon League Coach of the Year, joining Gary Waters (2007-08).

Gates, who owns 16 years of Division I coaching experience, has spent the previous eight seasons on Leonard Hamilton's staff at Florida State. Gates' tenure at Florida State mirrored the Seminoles rise to national prominence. With Gates on the staff, the Seminoles played in four NCAA Tournaments, advanced to the Elite Eight of the 2018 NCAA Tournament and advanced to the Sweet 16 in both 2012 and 2019.

Gates has learned from some of basketball's all-time great coaches. Gates, a Chicago native and graduate of Whitney Young High School, was a two-time Pac-10 First Team All-Academic Team selection, was named Cal's Most Inspirational Player in 2001 and was named the Bears' Outstanding Student-Athlete in 1999 and 2001. In addition, he was awarded the 2002 Pac-10 Medal of Honor, which is presented to the Pac-10 Universities Top Graduating Student-Athlete.

Gates earned his bachelor's degree in sociology from Cal in just three years and played as a master's degree candidate in education during his senior campaign. He earned his Master of Science degree in Adult Education and Human Resource Development from Florida State University in 2005.

Del de Windt Leadership Award for Civic Engagement

In 2012, the Board of Directors of First Tee - Cleveland established the "Del de Windt Leadership Award for Civic Engagement," which is awarded annually to an outstanding member of the Greater Cleveland community.

The recipient exemplifies the values and spirit of community service and civic engagement that Mr. de Windt represented throughout his life. Mr. de Windt was Eaton Corporation's chairman of the board and chief executive officer from 1969 to 1986. Mr. de Windt was a director of 15 major corporations and was active in a number of industry bodies, such as the Business Council and the Business Roundtable.



Importantly, his legacy transcends well-beyond his career in business to his many contributions to the Northeast Ohio community through an unwavering commitment to and leadership of many important civic initiatives. Mr. de Windt received numerous local, state, national and international awards as a result of both his professional and community leadership. Mr. de Windt was an avid and excellent golfer and served as chairman of the Tour Policy Board, the governing body of The PGA Tour, for 12 years. Through his love of the game of golf as well as his son Mike's involvement with The First Tee of Cleveland, Mr. de Windt became a strong supporter of The First Tee of Cleveland.

Due to the virtual format of this year's event, the 2020 & 2021 de Windt Awards have been deferred to 2022.

Past Award Recipients



2019

Rick Buoncore



2018

Jerry Sue Thornton, PhD
& Walter Thornton



2017

James C. Boland



2016

George V. Voinovich
(posthumously)



2015

Steven Minter &
Robin Minter Smyers



2014

Richard W. Pogue



2013

Bill & Mary
Conway



2012

Iris Wolstein

The Doris A. Evans, M.D. Merit Scholarship

Doris A. Evans, M.D. was named the first Executive Director of The First Tee of Cleveland in 2004. Dr. Evans worked collaboratively with a talented Board of Directors and staff of TFTC to raise the funds for and oversee completion of the capital projects.

Concomitantly, chapter programming was strengthened, gaining national recognition and serving as a model for TFT network. Doris Evans retired as Executive Director on June 30, 2010.

Dr. Evans is still an active supporter and ambassador of First Tee – Cleveland, and we are proud to present a yearly merit scholarship to a participant in her honor. The funds will be directly sent to the college of choice in the name of the applicant.



2021 Scholarship Recipient: Daniel McKee

Daniel McKee is a nine-year participant. Since 2018, Dan has been a tremendous help to the chapter. He consistently volunteers to greet guests at events, assists with set up & cleanup of classes, and is a leader in class with the newer participants.

Coach Brian said, "Dan is an amazing young person. He balances well his school work, extracurricular activities, and remains a committed participant of First Tee. He works hard on his game and on himself, remaining open-minded to more ways to grow and learn in the world around him. Dan represents First Tee with the highest moral integrity."

Dan's commitment to our chapter is unmatched. Dan is a familiar face and a consistent, reliable leader. Dan successfully participated in our Caddie Training Program and has become a quality caddie. After Dan's first year as a caddie, he offered to volunteer his time and be a coach in the program. He now comes to every planning meeting, creates program structure and curriculum and leads a group on course. His leadership skills will only continue to grow with this positive attitude and level of involvement.



Daniel McKee
Senior
North Royalton
High School
Varsity Golf Team

Scholarship Finalists

Angela Catacutan
Magnificat High School

Michael Farrell
Brush High School

Sophia Vitantonio
Beaumont School



Past Recipients

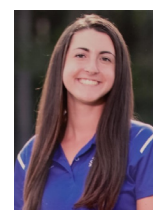
The Doris A. Evans, M.D. Merit Scholarship



2020
Anjali Mishra



2019
Kate Hickey



2018
Paige Rider



2017
Caitlin McKee



2016
Patrick McKee



2015
Evan Steigerwald



2014
Nikki Johnson



2013
Paul Lewandowski



2012
Alicia Sapp

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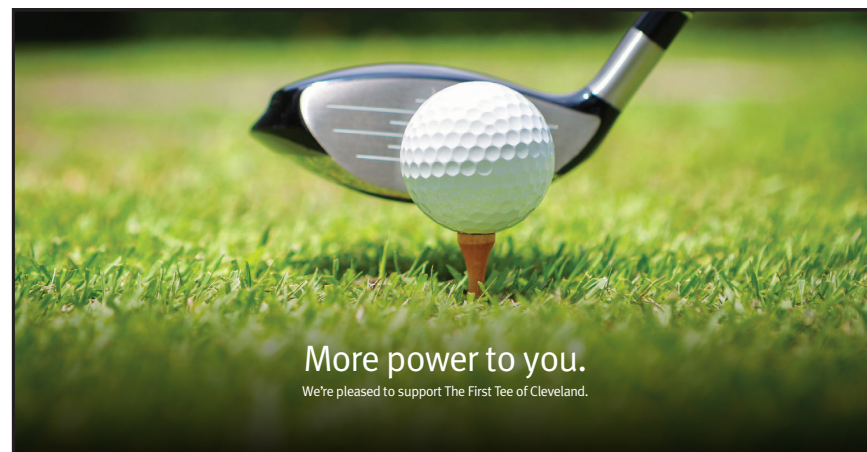
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that improve their
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Foundation

Nine Core Values of First Tee

Honesty
Respect
Perseverance

Integrity
Confidence
Courtesy

Sportsmanship
Responsibility
Judgment

We build
experiences
that build
character.

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The First Tee of Cleveland's
Grit, Gratitude & You Breakfast.

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today and tomorrow.



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Proud Supporters of
First Tee - Cleveland

Doris A. Evans, M.D.

Executive Director
The First Tee of Cleveland
2004-2010

With warm approval and
high regard, I congratulate

Daniel McKee

for receipt of the

Doris A. Evans, M.D. Merit Scholarship.



Check out First Tee - Cleveland's Team Shop!

Our latest Team Shop is now live!



Shop for First Tee Spiritwear including,
athletic apparel, gift items and more
with our First Tee - Cleveland logo!

Visit: **www.bsnteamssports.com**

Access Code: **FIRSTTEECL**

Order by November 15

CSU Basketball Ticket Discount

All Grit, Gratitude & You guests are invited to take advantage
of a promo code good for Cleveland State University's Men's
Basketball home opener vs. the Ohio University Bobcats on
Saturday, November 13 at 7PM. Go Vikings!

Visit: **<http://bit.ly/CSUTix>** Promo Code: **FIRST**

First Tee - Cleveland Program Locations:

Washington Golf Course in Newburgh Heights
Meadowood Golf Course in Westlake
Briardale Golf Course in Euclid
Grantwood Golf Course in Solon
Black Brook Golf Course in Mentor
ProXimity Golf Lounge in Cleveland Heights
Whiskyville Golf Club in Elyria

Thank You, First Tee Coaches!

Alycia Ales Holt
 Jeff Basch
 Rick Beren
 Daniel Berlin
 Anita Bigham
 Susan Bilyeu
 Christy Bittenbender
 Phillip Brusk
 Edward Bruss
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 Neil Vyas
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 DeBora Pollard
 James Daniloff

Junior Volunteer Coaches:

Chanelle Graubard
 Sachin Singh
 Jack Gerborg
 Chris Bridge
 Emily Jones
 Colleen Staddler
 Samantha Stone

What coach had the greatest impact on your life?

Tom Kidd: Al Raymond – Shaker Football & Baseball

Chris Kramer: Wayne Muskovitz. He really motivated me in my tennis career. He recognized my athletic ability as a young woman and, with humor, really pushed me to compete at a high level.

Patricia LoPresti: Watching our First Tee Coaches is the most inspirational experience I am proud to be part of

Therese Sweeney Drake: Virginia Nolan

Adam Zangerle: Tim Alexander, Rocky River HS hockey coach

Dosie Rymond: Ted Lasso—life over sports

Julie Lamb: Steve Selby. Mr. Selby was my martial arts teacher from age 6 to 13. He taught me discipline, he taught me respect, he taught me resilience and, of course, taught me martial arts. He pushed me to succeed in a sport dominated by boys and young men at the time. He never stopped believing in me and my ability to compete. He had a major impact on self-esteem at a young age, for sure! Thank you, Mr. Selby!

Mary Bondy: Sr. Carol Naumann, RSCJ – inspired me.

Lolita McDavid: Ruth McDavid, always cheering me on!

Helen Nagusky: Rita Nagusky, mother in law--make people and your surroundings better by your having interacted with them.

Patricia Clarke: Patricia LoPresti

Patty North: my mother. Her words of advice: Anything worth doing, is worth doing to the best of your abilities. Do not waste the talents God gave you.

Debra Rush: My parents

Samantha Benedict: My Mom! Coached my soccer team growing up and have wonderful memories during that time.

Kyle Kerner: My father, he has continually pushed me to try and be the best person that I can be.

Andrew Hanneman: My Father – Taught Perseverance, Integrity and Always Give 110%

Dana Hastings: My Dad: He gave me a strong work ethic

Jeff Heisler: My Dad – he taught so many life lessons through the game of golf that has helped me with my family, friends and in the business world.

Debbie Berry: Mrs. Grimes – taught me the importance of teamwork

Valerie Murray: Mr. Tony Piliou, my first boss at McDonald's. Gained valuable experience with several core values; Honesty, Integrity, Responsibility and Respect.

Enid Rosenberg: Marty Schliessberg Taught me to be "natural"

David Nagusky: Mark Nagusky, father--his example taught me to play hard and always by the rules.

John Schloss: Mark McGuire (Wrestling coach & accounting teacher). He is the reason I am an accountant.

“EVERY CHILD IS
 ONE CARING ADULT
 AWAY FROM BEING
 A SUCCESS STORY”
Josh Shipp

What coach had the greatest impact on your life?

Liesel Schmader: Mark Dingman – pushed me and believed in me when I didn't myself. Had higher standards for me than I thought I could achieve; pushed me beyond my comfort zone – and always ended up exceeding what I thought I was capable of.

Nancy Seelbach: Marge Donley– Lakewood High School, Jack Horner– University School

Karen Steigerwald: Margaret Warner– cheerleading & gymnastic coach, Health/PE Educator & YMCA Wellness Director...Margaret taught me the importance of maintaining a fit and healthy body from age 14 years to present. She is extremely knowledgeable “practices what she preaches and researches” and has been a role model for me as well as my family!

Cheryl Miller: Jerry Meizen. He improved my mind, body and outlook regarding aging and strengthening.

Heather Pauly Schmidt: Herb Pauly. He embraces each of his players as his own. He is demanding of them on and off the court, but the first one to be by their side or having their back when needed.

Zak Schweda: Greg Urbas – His servant leadership coaching style drove home core values which are needed to excel in sport and life – hard work, perseverance, mental toughness, etc.

Jack Miller: George Carter – he taught me a great deal about working in a corporate atmosphere.

Kurt McMaken: Dr. Doris Evans, Intellectual rigor and passion for The First Tee – Cleveland

Anita Magovac–Bigham: Dorothy Kasper has the grit and warmth to all participants and coaches

Lee Weingart: David DiCarlo (high school football)

Fiona Connor: David Clay came in as our Welsh National Coach my junior year in high school and facilitated my applying to and coming to Texas A&M from Wales to play golf and got me where I am today.

Kevin Dudgeon: Dave Pearson

Carolyn Rains: Dad

Jason Russo: Coach Spitale! He taught me to work hard, care about your team, have fun, be humble when you win and don't lose :) Love you Mr. Spitale

Andrew Piech: Coach Jerry Smith. Instilled strong values, hard work and determination which was instrumental in my development

Rick Rymond: Coach Callow–stood up for his players

Thomas Niehaus: Coach Murphy. He gave me an opportunity.

Matt Hricko: Coach Bob Dunn

Ann Harlan: Coach Bill

Heather Ettinger: Bob Ceplikas–instilled true passion for ice hockey and helped me develop more skills than I thought I could and gave me confidence in how I could play a critical role in helping my team to win and be successful.

A good coach is:
Positive, enthusiastic,
supportive, trusting,
focused, goal-oriented,
knowledgeable,
observant, respectful,
patient and a clear
communicator.

What coach had the greatest impact on your life?

Tina Tamburro: As softball coach, athletic director and volleyball club director, my mom, Terri Tamburro, is a game changer. She fought for me, my sister and our classmates to have every opportunity to play youth sports when our schools threatened to cut girls sports programs. She personifies strength, perseverance, integrity and sportsmanship. Without her securing opportunities for me, my classmates and hundreds of other girls that followed, I wouldn't have had the life changing experiences sports provided in my life.

Bonnie Matthew: Ann Nealon my college tennis coach. If I can touch one person's life the way she touched mine I would consider myself a success.

Abbey Deckard: Allison Lipinski. She taught me how to shoot and how to be myself

Suzanne Gaul: A high school coach whose belief in me and in hard work caused me to exceed my own expectations. The experience of being on a team taught me invaluable life lessons.

Mary Patton: Coach Kathleen Manning, John Carroll University Tennis Team



“A good coach can
change a game,
a great coach can
change a life.”

**John
Wooden**

Leadership

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