

OUTSTANDING FUNDRAISER AWARD

Mary Ann Jackson



Mary Ann Jackson specializes in making the impossible possible. As one of the premier special event planners and fundraisers in Northeast Ohio she has raised millions of dollars for the Greater Akron community. Her signature “parties with a purpose” are legendary for their innovative and awe-inspiring themes certain to coax every attendee into helping fund her cause.

The scope of her volunteer fundraising is diverse and broad. She established First Night Akron and chaired the 2010 Sapphire Ball for Summa Health System, the Urban League’s 50th Anniversary Gala, the Akron Symphony’s 50th Anniversary Gala, the grand reopening of the Akron Art Museum and the Akron-Summit County Public Library, National Inventors Hall of Fame Inaugural Airdock Gala, and many more. Her generosity and passion for helping others are manifested through her volunteer efforts and community activism.

Presenting Sponsors



Special events are her expertise, but Mary Ann is also a dedicated board member who participates in fundraising strategy and planning for multiple organizations. She is on the boards for the Summa Foundation, Blossom Music Center Board of Overseers, U of A Advancement Council, United Disabilities Services, American Cancer Society, and many others. She co-founded the Akron Area Arts Alliance and is an appointed member of the Summit County Arts and Cultural Board. Her strengths also include mentoring others to become volunteer fundraisers and encouraging their participation as leaders in community benefit events.

Her professional career consisted of marketing and development positions with several local arts organizations. She also served as project manager for David Brennan for eight years. Mary Ann and her husband, Dr. Tom Jackson, have three children and five grandchildren.

nominated by

**Summa
Foundation**

Mary Ann incorporates a strong business acumen with the art of persuasion to accomplish community-based philanthropic goals no one else would dream of, helping to make Northeast Ohio a better place for us all.