

CYO ANNOUNCES 2017 CLUB OF CHAMPIONS HONOREES

New York City – April 19, 2017 – The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), a division of Catholic Charities Community Services of the Archdiocese of New York today announced the recipients of this year's Club of Champions awards, to be presented by His Eminence Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan at the 81st Annual CYO Club of Champions Tribute. The event, emceed by Chris Russo from SiriusXM's *Mad Dog Radio*, will be held on May 2, 2017, at the Mandarin Oriental in New York City.

CYO is proud to bestow its premier Gold Medal Award to international business executive George Pyne. Pyne will join the illustrious ranks of previous awardees, including: Joseph Grace, J. Peter Grace, Rose Kennedy, Wellington Mara, Terence James Cardinal Cooke, John Mara, Michael Bloomberg and Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan. Also being honored at the dinner on May 2 are New York Giants head Coach Ben McAdoo, recipient of the John V. Mara Sportsman of the Year Award; NBA All-Star Caron Butler, who will receive the Terence Cardinal Cooke Humanitarian Award; Brooklyn Nets shooting guard Sean Kilpatrick, who will receive the CYO Hometown Hero Award; and inspirational athlete and author Eric LeGrand, who will receive the Spirit of CYO Award..

ABOUT THE HONOREES:

- **George Pyne, CYO Gold Medal Award**

Internationally-recognized business executive George Pyne built Bruin Sports Capital into a global sports, media, marketing and branded lifestyle company, with over 1,100 employees across twenty-four offices in nine countries. Pyne also serves as Non-Executive Chairman of Courtside Ventures, a venture capital fund investing in early stage technology and media companies that focus on sports. Pyne previously served as President of IMG Sports and Entertainment and as a member of its board of directors. Prior to his role at IMG, he was Chief Operating Officer of NASCAR.

- **Ben McAdoo, John V. Mara Sportsman of the Year**

Ben McAdoo was named the 17th head coach of the New York Giants on January 14, 2016. In his first season as head coach, he led the team to an 11-5 record and its first postseason berth since 2011. McAdoo first joined the franchise in 2014 and served as the offensive coordinator in 2014-15. Prior to the Giants, McAdoo spent 8 years as an assistant coach with the Green Bay Packers, the first six as the team's tight ends coach and the final two as the quarterbacks coach. During his tenure in Green Bay, the Packers earned six playoff berths, won four NFC North titles and defeated Pittsburgh in Super Bowl XLV.

- **Caron Butler, Terence Cardinal Cooke Humanitarian Award**

Caron Butler has been a member of the National Basketball Association (NBA) since 2002. He was drafted the 10th overall pick by the Miami Heat and went on to play for seven other teams including the Los Angeles Lakers, Washington Wizards, Dallas Mavericks (2011 NBA Championship season) and most recently with the Sacramento Kings. Butler has long been an advocate for young people and youth-related causes through his 3D Foundation with charitable

programs that donate bikes, coats and monies across the country and in his hometown of Racine, Wisc. In 2015, Butler released his memoir Tuff Juice: My Journey from the Streets to the NBA, which is being made into a film produced by award-winning actor Mark Wahlberg.

- **Sean Kilpatrick, CYO Hometown Hero**

Yonkers-native Sean Kilpatrick has been a star addition to the Brooklyn Nets since joining the team in 2016. He previously played for the Minnesota Timberwolves, and the Denver Nuggets. He attended the University of Cincinnati, playing for the Bearcats from 2010 to 2014.

- **Eric LeGrand, Spirit of CYO Award**

After suffering a severe spinal cord injury in 2010 while playing for Rutgers University, Eric LeGrand has been on a personal mission to walk again – and motivate others while doing it. He received the Unsung Hero Award by the New Jersey Hall of Fame and the Jimmy V Award for Perseverance at the 2012 ESPYs. In 2012, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers symbolically signed LeGrand before his retirement.

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About Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York

Currently celebrating their 100th year, Catholic Charities is a federation of approximately 90 agencies and programs located throughout the 10 counties of the Archdiocese of New York, helping to solve the problems of New Yorkers in need – non-Catholics and Catholics alike – with services that protect and nurture children, strengthen families and resolve crises, assist the hungry and homeless, support the physically and emotionally challenged, and integrate immigrants and refugees.

In 2017, Catholic Charities is marking a 100-year legacy of service and launching the next century of providing help and creating hope for New Yorkers in need. Catholic Charities is recommitting to providing basic human services that are efficient, effective, accountable and caring – and to being a valued partner in building the fabric of a caring New York.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). For more information on how to donate or volunteer, please visit our website at catholiccharitiesny.org.

About Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)

The Catholic Youth Organization strives to develop values and strength of character in our youth through spiritually based athletic, cultural, apostolic and social activities.

CYO operates a comprehensive program of athletic activities for young people. The wide range of programs include art and essay contests, basketball, baseball, softball, golf, track and field, scouting, theater, and cheerleading. This past year, there were over 165 parishes and schools that participated in the CYO of the Archdiocese of New York. This past year, CYO athletic teams registered more than 26,000 participants. This is all made possible by the more than 3,000 volunteers that dedicate their time and effort to ensure the CYO mission is accomplished.

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