



2017 Convivium Civitas Awards

At Washington Latin, we often look to role models whose lives and work can demonstrate the core values we aspire to instill in our students. These include service, sacrifice, integrity, fortitude, honesty, empathy and generosity. Beginning this year, we launched a new tradition – an annual event in which we publicly recognize such role models and invite them to speak to an audience of supporters. This event – our first ever **Convivium de Civitate** celebration – was held on Wednesday.

At our school, we regularly award students the Civitas award for showcasing leadership, service and citizenship in their time in and outside of the classroom. Teachers make speeches, at each assembly, to honor awardees in each grade. For our annual celebrations, we have elected to extend Civitas Awards to graduates of our school, members of our “extended family” of school personnel, donors or volunteers and a citizen from the local community. This year’s recipients were journalist, Lulu Garcia-Navarro, Founding Board President, Glenn Kautt and class of 2012 graduate Anaka Osborne.

Lourdes "Lulu" Garcia-Navarro, host of NPR's Weekend Edition Sunday and a long-time NPR international reporter. Ms. Garcia-Navarro, a reporter and radio host with National Public Radio, has a fascinating background. Since January of this year, she has been the host of National Public Radio's Weekend Edition Sunday, moving to the District from Brazil. Ms. Garcia-Navarro has reported from nearly everywhere around the globe, including Cuba, Syria, Panama, Kosovo, Colombia, Afghanistan, Brazil, Israel, Iraq, Mexico, and Libya. Her coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and her vivid dispatches of the Arab Spring uprisings brought Garcia-Navarro wide acclaim and five awards in 2012, including the prestigious Edward R. Murrow and Peabody Awards for her coverage of the Libyan revolt, adding to the many other awards she has received for her reporting.

At Washington Latin, we often look to role models whose lives and work can demonstrate the core values we aspire to instill in our students. Our school is committed civil discourse, believing that reasoned debate is essential to sustaining a democratic society. Ms. Garcia-Navarro’s work as a journalist represents the ideal that underpin this concept – that as citizens, we must be informed, be open, and systematically question to

develop our understanding of any idea or situation. This is the foundation of the classical approach to education on which our program at Washington Latin is based. We recognize that Ms. Garcia-Navarro's exceptional work in journalism reflects the most essential values of our classical school. Her reporting from around the globe has produced a body of work that is a testament to the power of informative yet human stories that help us shape a deeper understanding of the world. We admire her ability to artfully combine facts and personal experiences in stories that illuminate complex situations, revealing the human truths and essential moral questions intrinsic to them.

Ms. Garcia-Navarro joined our school earlier in the month to speak to history classes about the role of a free press in civil society and her own approach to journalism. In her speech, she outlined the importance of finding middle ground at a time in our history when our country seems so polarized.

Glenn Kautt, founding Board President, helped to get the school going in the beginning – helping to turn an idea into a charter and working hard to get us started. He has remained engaged with the school, attending every graduation ceremony, introducing us to his friends and showing leadership in his financial support. Glenn is a principal at Savant Capital Management, a \$10,000 sponsor of tonight's event. His leadership of Savant has been stellar, and he has a long list of accolades and honors for his work as an investment advisor, named repeatedly by Barron's, Worth, Mutual Funds, and Medical Economics magazines as one of the nation's top investment advisors. Washingtonian magazine named Glenn to its list of top financial professionals in the greater Washington, D.C. metro area.

Glenn has been generous with his time and support to Washington Latin. The fact is that we would not be here today were it not for Glenn's contributions in those early days, which, of course, he did as a volunteer. He stepped down from the board but has come back to us in recent years, becoming a real supporter of Latin. He has attended every graduation to date, and he is one of our most generous donors. Above all, Glenn is a believer in the idea that is the foundation of Washington Latin – an excellent, rigorous classical education should be accessible to all as a public school.

Anaka Osborne, who joined Washington Latin in her seventh grade year, always stood out because of the ways in which she encouraged and supported her peers and the zest for learning she demonstrated in the classroom. When she was a senior she earned a Posse full-tuition scholarship to attend Pepperdine University. At college, she served as a residential advisor in a dorm, took a summer job as a middle school teacher for Higher Achievement, became a campus campaign coordinator for Teach for America, and earned a certificate in Conflict Management and Dispute Resolution from the school's Straus Institute. It was no surprise to teachers who had worked with Anaka to learn that after graduation she decided to pursue a career in education and return to her home town to teach. She is now working with seventh grade students as a special education teacher at KIPP Academy.