

2023 Community Achievement Award

Sponsored by McKool Smith

Tonight's recipient is hailed as "one of those community leaders and volunteers who gives abundantly in all 3 of the "T" categories-"Time, Talent, and Treasure."

“We local residents have long been used to seeing a constant stream of out of town attorneys who represent a great variety of large and small companies involved in patent litigation. But seldom do any lawyers with cases in the federal court see more of Marshall than our downtown Courthouse Square...

Not so for tonight's honoree. A longtime patent attorney and trained engineer, our winner is also a self-described history buff. On each trip to Marshall, he got to know more about us and our town's history. Fascinated by our heritage as the Birthplace of Boogie Woogie and convinced of its potential to attract visitors and favorable attention, he supported our music festivals and other events.

A longtime railroad enthusiast, from his first visit to Marshall, our honoree had been attracted to the Texas & Pacific Railway Depot and nearby buildings along North Washington Street. When he decided to open an office here, the property he wanted to buy, the Ginocchio, was unavailable. A few blocks away, the old Coca Cola Bottling plant was an imposing edifice but had been empty for decades. (Flooded with 4 feet of water, he was not deterred, and trudged forward.)

A beautifully restored Coca Cola Building became the home of our award winner's companies, 511 Technology and mLife Diagnostics, which develops and markets Oral fluids-based drug and diagnostic testing devices and services.

A dream came true when he was able to acquire the property he had fallen in love with on his first visit to Marshall, the historic Ginocchio Hotel. After a two year renovation and acquiring a celebrated Arklatex Chef, the Ginocchio restaurant and bar opened to widespread acclaim.”

It is stated by another nominator “His labors have been a boon to all of North Washington Street...bringing a section of town out of blight and into productive use.”

Launching the Boogie Woogie Festival in 2023 to highlight the unique place Marshall holds in the history of the Boogie Woogie music genre, our award winner saw enormous success. Bringing in a wide variety of performers, gathering citizens together, & yielding visitors who traveled long distances to attend, stay in our hotels, and eat in our restaurants brought economic boost to our local economy. Receiving a proclamation from our City, and wide acclaim locally *and* abroad, our winner truly shows his heart for revitalization.

An inventor, he served as a local partner to our Universities and our citizens during the rough season of COVID offering drive through testing opportunities. Additionally, many of the flashing LED lights which help illuminate road signs in the area and around the country are his. Attending Purdue University to obtain his Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, his Master's Degree from Stanford University in

the same field, and his Juris Doctor from Indiana University in Bloomington, we'd say he's well rounded.

He is a supporter of animal rescue, is a job creator, a philanthropist, a compassionate employer, a supporter of historic preservation, a good neighbor, and so much more. As one nominator wrote: He accurately meets Webster's definition of a Renaissance Man, as "a person who has wide interests and is an expert in several areas." Another stated, "...his soul is pure. To do good is not a common virtue, but with him, it is a way of life."

His award statuette reads: for outstanding and lasting contributions towards the success, growth, and visibility of Marshall and Harrison County as a destination location. It is our honor to recognize the positive impact of tonight's Community Achievement Award Honoree, sponsored by McKool Smith, Mr. Alan Loudermilk.