

Educator of Humanity Award:

Michael Banks began volunteering at Empire Computech when his son attended elementary school there over 12 years ago. Though his son is now grown, Mike Banks never stopped volunteering. He is a one-man organization for the empowerment of inner city youth – founding and running Onyx, a boy's club teaching pride, manners and responsibility, coaching the after-school basketball team, and mentoring Empire students all the way through high school graduation and beyond.

After retiring from his first career, Dick Sebastian discovered a second career changing lives at Cuyahoga Falls High School. As in-school restriction coordinator and advisor, he gets to know each student personally and treats every student with caring and respect. As the faculty advisor for the school's own Project Love group, he helps students design and implement service projects. Dick fosters student leadership through listening, trusting, and, most of all, modeling the Sebastian brand of loving kindness.

Michael Banks and Dick Sebastian, we thank you both for your outstanding service as educators of humanity.

(165 words)