



NEWS RELEASE

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(Assistant Director of News Services)

Ferris Foundation holds annual benefit

BIG RAPIDS – The Ferris Foundation is hosting its seventh annual Foundation for Excellence Benefit on Friday, Nov. 4, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids.

The evening will begin with a welcome from Big Rapids resident Gary Trimarco of Gary Trimarco Automotive, chair of the Ferris Foundation Board of Directors. Ferris State University assistant professor Ronald A. Mehringer, also of Big Rapids, will then speak on behalf of the Exceptional Merit Grants Award recipients. The awards were established by the Ferris Foundation to promote excellence in faculty and staff and given to those who were interested in pursuing projects that demonstrate exceptional merit in advancing the mission of Ferris State University.

The Foundation also awards scholarships to promising first-year Ferris State University students. A video will be shown during the evening that showcases the stories of several scholarship recipients and how they have benefited from the generosity of donors who care so much about Ferris and its students.

Providing entertainment for the evening will be impressionist, entertainer and TV personality Roy Firestone. Firestone is recognized for his talents as an interviewer, journalist, commentator and stage performer. He has won seven Emmy Awards, is an author of two books and has appeared in numerous television shows including “Late Night with David Letterman,” “Larry King Live” and “Everybody Loves Raymond.” He currently hosts ESPN’s “Up Close Primetime,” HDNet’s “Face to Face with Roy Firestone” and FOX’s “Beyond the Glory.”

The Ferris Foundation, through events such as the Foundation for Excellence Benefit, carries forward the message of Ferris State University’s founder, Woodbridge N. Ferris, that the world improves over time through human action. By strengthening the University and benefiting its students through endowed scholarships, grant funding for faculty and staff, prudent stewardship and strong advocacy, Ferris State University is able to provide opportunities for students, faculty and staff that otherwise may not be available.

Individual tickets for the event are still available or you may choose from a range of sponsorship levels. Funds raised support the Foundation for Excellence Scholarship Endowment, the Exceptional Merit Grants Award program and other University endowments.

To buy tickets, reserve a sponsorship or receive additional information, please call Kim Erickson or Christa Walker at (231) 591-3815. You may also order tickets online by visiting www.ferris.edu.

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