****

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

 **Contact: Logan Stubbs
678-584-2261**lstubbs@leadershipgwinnett.com

**LEADERSHIP GWINNETT ANNOUNCES 33rd CLASS**

**Duluth, Georgia (June 15, 2017)** Forty leaders have been selected to Leadership Gwinnett Class of 2018, Gwinnett’s premiere and most sustained community leadership program for business, civic, and community leaders. This 33rd class will delve into the many sectors of Gwinnett – infrastructure, economics, education, health and human services, justice, and regional relations. These leaders are committed to give their time, talent and resources to strengthen their personal and professional connection to the community.

These 40 leaders have been selected because of their influence, commitment, and dedication in their field of expertise.  Executive Director of Leadership Gwinnett, Lisa Zaken shares, “selection of these top candidates requires balance of occupation, qualifications and a representation that reflects a cross section of the county.  Over the coming year, this diverse group will gain a true understanding of the people and issues shaping our community's future - and more importantly, how they can impact those issues.”

Since 1985, Leadership Gwinnett has graduated 1,118 alumni, a powerhouse of influence and networking, who continue to champion the betterment of Gwinnett County. “Leadership Gwinnett is truly an organization that makes leaders better. It is a thoughtful process of exposing leaders to the threads that binds the community together, to meet the needs of the community. This organization has been my launch pad for my personal civic engagement. I’m excited and more informed to enhance Gwinnett County,” shares Angilla Jones, Class of 2017 graduate, and Owner & Director of The Schoolhouse Preschool Academy.

The 2018 Leadership Gwinnett program kicks off in August with an orientation, an opening retreat, seven learning days, monthly study groups, tours and hands-on experiences within the county and a closing retreat. Through these efforts, the Class of 2018 will explore critical community issues, evaluate themselves as leaders, and build lasting relationships.

**The Class of 2018:**

**Faraz Ahmed**, Owner, Amitrace
**Scott Andrews**, Economic Development Director, City of Sugar Hill
**Julian Arias**, Director of Site Operations, Junior Achievement of Georgia
**Donald Bolin**, Executive Director, Sequent Health Physician Partners, a subsidiary of Gwinnett Medical System
**Bo Braswell**, Customer Field Services Manager, Georgia Power
**IV Bray**, Principal, GSMST, Gwinnett County Public Schools
**Mary Kate Chapman**, Associate Executive Director, GUIDE, Inc.
**Marc Cohen**, VP, Global Marketing & Communications, ACS Group (Sugar Hill City Council)
**Margaret Collier**, VP, Behavioral Health Services, Eastside Medical Center
**Johnny Crist**, Mayor, City of Lilburn
**Hunter Cummings**, Lead Pastor, Harvest Community Church of the Nazarene
**Jennifer Fennell**, Commercial and Industrial Marketing, Jackson Electric Membership Corporation
**William Bo Ford, Jr.**, Principal, Brookwood High School, Gwinnett County Public Schools
**Kim Hartsock**, Partner, Warren Averett, LLC
**David Hern**, Director, Valuation Services, Alvarez & Marsal
**Alex Hill**, Supervisory Special Agent, FBI
**Jonathan Holmes**, Managing Partner, Mighty 8th Media
**Catrina Jones**, Founder, The Calena Firm
**Russell Knick**, Assistant Chief, Operations, Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Services
**Patience Mason**, Director, Center for Student Affairs, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Georgia Campus
**Brittany Mayweather**, Teacher Leader/Educator, Mulberry Elementary School, Gwinnett County Public Schools
**Kevin Middlebrooks**, Client Service Manager & Project Manager, CH2M
**John Orr**, Manager, Transportation Access and Mobility Division, Atlanta Regional Commission
**Ethan Pham**, Attorney, Nguyen & Pham, LLC
**Tonique Reynolds, DMD**, Dentist, Family Smile Center, LLC
**Nicholas Reynolds**, Volunteer Coordinator, Hi-Hope Service Center
**Felicia V. Robinson**, Finance and Accounting Controller, Greater Atlanta Christian School
**Chrissy Rosen**, Executive Director of Individual Engagement, Georgia Gwinnett College
**Mark Ross**, Senior Vice President, Brand Mortgage
**Robin Sansone**, Tax Manager, Rhodes Young Black & Duncan
**Linda Schoepf**, Co-Owner/Community Coordinator, ABS Franchising/Little Caesars
**Shelly Schwerzler**, Development Manager, Gwinnett County Public Library
**Stephanie Stewart**, Project Manager, Xana Management
**Randy Strunk, PE**, Associate, Columbia Engineering and Services, Inc.
**Eadaoin Waller**, Partner, Anderson, Tate & Carr, P.C.
**Ian Waller**, Partner, Nichols, Cauley & Associates, LLC
**Rachael Warnsley**, Gwinnett County Engagement Director, United Way of Greater Atlanta
**Brett West**, Deputy Chief, Gwinnett County Police Department
**Tadia Whitner**, Judge, Juvenile Court, Gwinnett County
**Jonathan Williamson**, Financial Advisor, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.

**About Leadership Gwinnett**
Leadership Gwinnett, LLC is the home of two leadership programs. [Leadership Gwinnett](http://www.leadershipgwinnett.com), a nine-month educational, networking and community development experience and [Glance Gwinnett,](http://www.glancegwinnett.com) a 2.5-day short program that gives a sneak peak of what the full program experience is all about. Both programs develop leaders that ultimately create a legacy of success by applying their talents to drive positive change for our community.
[www.leadershipgwinnett.com](http://www.leadershipgwinnett.com)

###