

GM Foundation Earns Leadership Award

The NAB Education Foundation (NABEF) will present its Corporate Leadership Award to General Motors, in recognition of the work of the General Motors Foundation.

The presentation will be made during the 16th annual Celebration of Service to America Awards, June 17, at the National Building Museum.

Each year, the Corporate Leadership Award is given to a non-broadcast business that exemplifies an extraordinary focus on community service and corporate social responsibility, said NABEF spokesperson Ann Marie Cumming.

"Through strong, ongoing support of education, health, community development and environmental initiatives, General Motors and the General Motors Foundation have made a positive impact on American society," said NABEF president Marcellus Alexander. "NABEF is pleased to present GM with the Corporate Leadership Award for its steadfast commitment to serving the public."

Formed in 1976, the GM Foundation over the past decade has granted more than \$265 million in support of vital nonprofit organizations across the U.S., said foundation spokesperson Maria Mainville.

"The GM Foundation is dedicated to making life better for communities across the U.S., and for the people who live there," said Selim Bingol, GM's senior vice president of Global Public Policy and Communications, who also serves as chairman of the GM Foundation. "We thank NABEF for this special recognition and promise to continue trying to make a difference in the lives of Americans."

The GM Foundation's education initiatives include the national Buick Achievers Scholarship Program, Cumming said. Since its inception in 2011, the program, one of the largest in the country, has awarded \$16.5 million in scholarships to 3,300 students pursuing college degrees within science, technology, engineering and mathematics, known as STEM, and those related to the automotive industry.

The GM Foundation has also long supported organizations and events that spark an interest in our nation's history, Cumming said. Most recently, the foundation became a founding donor of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture through a \$1 million grant. The donation will support the design and installation of the Museum's permanent exhibitions.

Closer to home, the GM Foundation in 2010 pledged its largest grant ever - \$27.1 million to United Way for Southeastern Michigan - to turn around seven Detroit-area high schools and raise graduation rates from roughly 50 percent to 80 percent over five years, Mainville said. Nearly three full years into the initiative, attendance rates at all seven schools are reaching 90 percent,

and ACT scores are rising. These are promising early indicators for increased graduation rates, said Mainville. The GM Foundation also recently granted \$500,000 in support of the Education Achievement Authority of Michigan to create 16 preschool classrooms for 256 children in Detroit's most challenged neighborhoods.

GM and the GM Foundation's commitment to education extends outside of the classroom to include child passenger safety, Mainville said. In 2013, the GM Foundation provided \$2 million to Safe Kids Worldwide in support of the organization's national awareness programs that include "Never Leave Your Child Alone in a Car" heatstroke campaign and the "Buckle Up: Every Ride, Every Time" seatbelt safety initiative.

GM and the GM Foundation have a long history of supporting cancer research through donations to the Karmanos Cancer Institute, Mainville said. With a recent \$400,000 contribution, the foundation's and company's support of the Institute is nearly \$7.3 million over the last 17 years.

In the environmental space, over the past few years, the GM Foundation has also provided more than \$200,000 to Earth Force, Inc. to expand the Global Rivers Environmental Education Network program, also known as GM GREEN, Mainville said. As a result, GM and the GM Foundation together engaged 231 teamGM Cares employee volunteers from 42 GM facilities to work with 9,261 students and 167 educators from 112 schools to improve the understanding of local water resources.

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Europe Car Sales Scramble Upward

MILAN, ITALY (AP) - European automakers continue to claw their way out of the industry's longest slump ever, posting the fifth straight month of growth in January.

The European carmakers' association said last week that car sales rose 5.5 percent in January to 935,640 units. Still, the industry's six years of contraction set the bar low: sales were the second lowest for January in a decade. All major markets saw growth: Britain, Spain and Germany all posted more than 7 percent increases.

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