

# dUX SOUP

SPRING 2009



"DUX" IS THE LATIN WORD FOR LEADER. DUX SOUP IS THE SEMI-REGULARLY PUBLISHED NEWSLETTER OF LEADERSHIP BUFFALO, INC.

## LEADERSHIP BUFFALO TO HOST SIXTH VALUES AWARDS LUNCHEON

On Thursday, April 30th, 2009, Leadership Buffalo will celebrate the sixth anniversary of the Values Awards Luncheon. This event, held at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo, will honor five individuals for the exceptional manner in which they lead. Last year, another sold out audience listened as our honorees shared their compelling accounts of how the LB values — service, diversity, inclusion and openness to change — guide their leadership. This year, we are pleased to have two Leadership Buffalo graduates among the awardees. In 2009, our honorees' stories again demonstrate how strong values are essential to success in leadership.

We offer a warm thank you to our luncheon chair Donna DeCarolis, LB '95, and co-chair David Borden, RL '04, for their efforts in making this year's luncheon another success! A personal note from Dave and Donna can be found on page 6.

### SERVICE



Angelo Fatta, PhD, president of The CTC Group, has selflessly devoted his time and resources to area non-profits for many years.

Adhering to the ideals of service, Dr. Fatta has worked as a pro-bono executive for many

organizations, increasing their resources many times over. Noted by peers as "benevolent" and "humble," he led the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra in its successful \$32 million capital campaign, securing the BPO's legacy for future generations. He also assisted with the growth of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. Dr. Fatta is chair of the board of trustees of the University at Buffalo Foundation, Inc., and has served on several boards of directors, including Canisius College, the Burchfield-Penney Art Center, Ronald McDonald Children's Charities, and the Buffalo Transportation / Pierce Arrow Museum. Dr. Fatta and his family also support the welfare and development of Western New York children through their own philanthropic organization, the Fatta Foundation.

### DIVERSITY



Dr. Surjit Singh, chemistry professor at Buffalo State College, uses his own life experiences to promote a dialogue for diversity. Dr. Singh was the first

practicing Sikh to move to Western New York, and he took the initiative to educate others about his religion and culture. He was a driving force in the development of a "Religion in Schools"

policy, which later became a national model. Dr. Singh has been honored by Buffalo Area Metropolitan Ministries, the NYS Social Studies Teachers Association, the Amherst Republican Committee, and the National Federation for Just Communities of WNY, where he also served as a board member. Dr. Singh is a founding trustee of the Niagara Frontier Sikh Society, where he integrated many Sikhs into our community from New York City after 9/11. He is a founding member of the Amherst Diversity Coalition, and is a board member for the Network of Religious Communities.

### INCLUSION



Lana D. Benatovich is the president of The National Federation for Just Communities of Western New York. As president, Mrs.

Benatovich has overseen the development, coordination and promotion of year round programming of youth leadership conferences, youth camps, community policing initiatives, cultural awareness workshops, interfaith/intercultural community events, pro-active, anti-hate and anti-violence programming, and other programs that address the enhancement of human relations in our community.

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## 2009 LEADERSHIP BUFFALO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Chair* **Francisco Vasquez LB '04**  
People Inc.

*Immediate Past Chair*  
**Gretchen Fierle LB '02**  
Invisionit LLC

*Secretary* **Donna DeCarolis LB '95**  
National Fuel Gas Company

*Treasurer* **Anthony Mrozik, Jr. LB '07**  
Gateway-Longview, Inc.

*Treasurer-Elect*  
**Leisha Gordon LB '02**  
First Niagara Bank

*Directors*  
**Marc Adler LB '03**  
Fynn & Friends, Inc.

**Stuart Angert LB '02**

**David Borden RL '04**  
Moog, Inc.

**Brad Dossinger LB '03**  
M&T Bank

**Kathy Egan LB '05**  
Snyder Corporation

**Aimee Gornlak LB '01**  
Catholic Health Systems

**Pete Grum LB '02**  
Rand Capital Corporation

**Michael Keating LB '98**  
Wegmans Food Markets

**Anthony Latona LB '93**  
Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel LLP

**Charles Maclay LB '95**  
nextPoint LLC

**Oswaldo (Oz) Mestre LB '97**  
City of Buffalo-Division of Citizens Services

**Yvonne Minor-Ragan**  
Westminster Community School

**Ann Monroe**  
Community Health Foundation of WNY  
and CNY

**Stephen O'Neill LB '05**  
Damon & Morey LLP

**Thomas Van Nortwick LB '92**  
NYS Division of Housing & Community  
Renewal

**Joost Vles LB '03**  
Moog, Inc.

**Alexandra Wehr**  
KeyBank National Association

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



I bring you greetings as we enter the spring of a new year. As the anticipation of warmer climes and the blossoming of old landscapes are rousing new life, so too do we celebrate

and welcome the new members of the 2009 Class Experience and 2009 Rising Leaders to the Leadership Buffalo family. Membership is the lifeblood of Leadership Buffalo. This past year, Leadership Buffalo engaged in an effort to learn more about our members. We consulted with members and other key stakeholders, and refocused efforts to deliver the programs and services that you have told us you would like to receive. Our goal is to create a vibrant, relevant organization that helps you learn, grow, and achieve professional success as leaders.

Leadership Buffalo is in the midst of a remarkable transformation. This change is manifest in two important initiatives — a marketing study that revealed much about who we have been and what we need to be, and the transition to a new board governance model.

The marketing study places a number of challenges before us. The study speaks to our relevancy as the preeminent leadership network of over 1000 professional, business, and civic leaders in Buffalo. It urges us to provide concrete benefits to our participants and their sponsors and to our members. It compels us to “build a better Buffalo” in definable and measurable ways.

The progression to a new governance model redefines the respective roles of

the executive director and the board. The new model differentiates organizational management (the tactical) from governance (the strategic). This focuses the work of the board on the “ends” of the organization and empowers the executive to determine and implement the “means” to those ends. The board establishes “executive parameters” within which the executive director and the professional team operate as the primary approach to accountability.

These two initiatives will continue to command the attention of the board for the foreseeable future. The road ahead is challenging. Our community’s prospects are fraught with uncertainty. The economic picture remains murky. This reality demands strong, competent, focused leadership. The Leadership Buffalo Board of Directors is committed to building a better Buffalo.

We need your help to accomplish these tasks. We know that you, our members, are Leadership Buffalo’s greatest ambassadors. We invite you to promote the benefits of participation and membership with your colleagues as you champion their success. You are our representatives in your places of work, worship, and civic involvement. You are in an ideal position to speak to the values of Leadership Buffalo. We welcome your participation and your support.

“Leaders establish the vision for the future and set the strategy for getting there; they cause change. They motivate and inspire others to go in the right direction and they, along with everyone else, sacrifice to get there.” – John Kotter

*Francisco Vasquez*

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Colleagues,

It is an honor and a privilege to address you today as the executive director of Leadership Buffalo. Spring is upon us, and the Class

Experience and Rising Leaders classes of 2009 are off to a remarkable start. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome this extraordinary group of leaders into the LB network; and we are confident that they will be a tremendous asset to our organization, and the Western New York community.

The board of directors, the professional team, and I have been working diligently to create opportunities for Leadership Buffalo to better serve our membership and our community. We have utilized our comprehensive marketing survey as a tool to help refocus the compass of our program service delivery, making our services more relevant and impactful. We have initiated a new marketing and communications strategy to deliver a clear message to our sponsors and membership about our value proposition; and we have realigned our professional team to focus more effectively and efficiently on the needs of our members!

In the next few weeks, we will add a new member to our professional team to serve as the membership engagement associate. This team member will be the key point person for member activities, engagement, and communication. The membership engagement associate will develop and maintain a comprehensive calendar of all LB activities and events, including the creation and execution of new members' activities, such as the 1st

Annual Leadership Buffalo Members Reunion BBQ, happening on Saturday, June 27th at the Como Lake Park Gazebo. Bring your family and invite a potential recruit to learn about the Leadership Buffalo network, up close and personal.

The membership engagement associate's primary mission will be advancing and communicating the benefits of active membership to all LB program graduates. Leadership Buffalo is a members-driven organization, and as such, the participation, engagement, and support of our membership are absolutely essential to our success. We believe that a refocusing of talent, resources, and energy into engaging and re-energizing our membership will be the catalyst needed to positively impact our direction and the positive growth that Leadership Buffalo is striving to achieve.

In the past six months, we have conducted over 400 meetings with members, sponsors, partners, and funding organizations. We greatly appreciate your thoughtful perspective, feedback, and advice, especially from you, our valued members. Please don't hesitate to contact me for dialogue on your thoughts and ideas that will help us to keep our organization great. If anyone asks you about LB, let them know that:

*"Leadership Buffalo is a network of 1,000 professional, business, and civic leaders committed to improving our organization and building a better Buffalo."*

My sincere thanks,

*Joseph Abdallah*

## LEADERSHIP BUFFALO 2009 CLASS CHAIRS

Class of 1988	Robert Murphy, D'Youville College
Class of 1989	Kate Bukowski, M&T Bank
Class of 1990	Susan Bring Tobe Judi Spear, RV Rhodes Inc.
Class of 1991	Gayle Barton, United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
Class of 1992	Tom Van Nortwick, NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal
Class of 1993	Anthony Latona, Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, LLP
Class of 1994	Amy Stromberg, Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc. Tom Giles, Citizens Bank
Class of 1995	Barbara Miller-Williams, Erie County Legislator
Class of 1996	Bruce Boissonnault, Niagara Health Quality Coalition
Class of 1997	Courtney Walsh, University at Buffalo
Class of 1998	Jeff McArthur, HSBC Bank USA
Class of 1999	Francesca Mesiah, Kaleida Health
Class of 2000	Max E. Donatelli, Jr., Baker Victory Services
Class of 2001	Katie Hoffman, Headway of WNY, Inc. Maura Cohen, RMC Marketing Services
Class of 2002	Tammy Laughlin, Fiserv Fulfillment Services
Class of 2003	Joost Vles, Moog, Inc.
Class of 2004	Kathleen Christy, The BISON Scholarship Fund
Class of 2005	EJ Flammer, digital@batesjackson llc Ruth Keating, Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
Class of 2006	Anthony Billoni, Erie-Niagara Tobacco-Free Coalition Todd Bushway, Colucci & Gallaher, PC
Class of 2007	Holly Bowser, Catholic Health System Steven Harvey, Every Person Influences Children, Inc.
Class of 2008	Margaret Brechtel, Rand Capital Corp. Mark Mortenson, Buffalo Museum of Science
Class of 2009	Donald Freedman, Ferguson Electric Construction Co. Inc. Andrea Griffla Harden, RW Miller Jr. & Associates
Rising Leaders	
RL '04	Collin Gehl, Buffalo Museum of Science
RL '05	Mohammed Mere, Lockport Memorial Hospital
RL '05B	Jennifer Gorczynski, Manning & Napier Information Services
RL '06	Amity Lippes, Upstate New York Transplant Services
RL '07	Daniel Weinrieb, Independent Health
RL '08	Jennifer Yungbluth, HSBC Bank, NA
RL '09	Kellena Kane, Uniland Development Company Charlie Riley, Exhibio Digital Signage

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PROVIDED BY FLYNN & FRIENDS, INC.

## OPENING RETREAT – 2009 CLASS EXPERIENCE



“TRUST US” PATRICK. WE WON’T LET YOU FALL.

The letter said, “You need to be in your chairs by 8:55 a.m. as we will start promptly at 9:00 a.m.” Forgive me Joseph, but that is not an invitation for fun.

As an attorney, I’m required to attend several hours of continuing legal education classes each year. Although I’ve been to some fantastic seminars, most of them are, well — a good prelude to a long nap. So, I headed to Beaver Hollow last Saturday morning hoping that I had enough coffee to hold my attention after planting myself in my seat promptly at 8:55 a.m.

The day got off to a good start when I met my driving companion, Penny, in Orchard Park at 7:15. A few hours later, I was holding Penny’s feet, as a group of about eight of us turned her 360 degrees, head over heels, while she held onto a cup full of water. Clearly, this was no ordinary seminar. And by the way, we only spilled a little water.

Joseph’s and Gretchen’s introductions to the program were impassioned and sincere. There was no doubt in my mind that Leadership Buffalo had changed their lives, and that membership could change mine as well. Gerry’s opening activities coaxed everyone out of the “comfort zone” and gave life to the camaraderie that is going to allow our class to meld and succeed. We all stood in that circle and sat down on each other’s knees. I hope we all take that image with us through

the year as a reminder that together in alignment — we will not fall.

Alignment — yes, I learned that from Frank this weekend. My DiSC profile is pretty much spot on. Of course, I already knew I was a perfectionist (by the time you are all reading this I will have determined countless ways I could have written it better), but the profile really presented realistic and concrete options for embracing my strengths, balancing them with my weaknesses, and using the overall picture to move forward in challenging situations with others. Believe me, I’ll be thinking about the “platinum rule” the next time I’m talking to potential jurors.



HOW DO I EXPLAIN THIS WHEN I GET HOME?

Personally, I think all you have to do is read the values of Leadership Buffalo — service, inclusion, diversity, and openness to change — to know that membership is a good idea. Attending the retreat is all you need to do to realize that living the values and reinforcing them in our community is going to be an absolutely terrific experience.

I’m not a natural when it comes to networking, so walking into the conference center Saturday morning was not easy. But I am so glad that I took those steps and started shaking hands, because it turned out to be a weekend filled with as many laughs and smiles as it was with learning experiences.

So now I know who is a lawyer and who is a banker, who works for not-for-

profits and who the entrepreneurs are, but I also know Levi dreams of running an animal shelter; Roberto is from Rome; Peter likes to sail; Kelly probably had no idea how tight she held my hand while blind-folded; Joe has three daughters; Patrick really enjoys teaching; Dominick is from the Bronx; Rita had an idea as soon as she heard the word “skit”; Stanton has two cocker spaniels that have shared a crate since they were pups; Karin lived in her dream house in Indiana; Mary recently made the tough decision to move from her long-established neighborhood; Jean shares my fondness for candies and desserts; Deborah can still hear her parents voices if you utter her first and middle names together (Deborah Ann!); Jim has twin girls studying at Fordham; Ken has witnessed the turnaround that has been possible in cities like Jacksonville and Baltimore; Mark is always last (so I’m giving him a break here); and Willie has seen each of the three Godfather movies at least 12 times each. Ask him, and he’ll tell you that the themes of the movie can be lessons to us all as we proceed with Leadership Buffalo.

It was a wonderful retreat. I truly look forward to the 2009 class experience, and the years to come. Maybe next year the instruction letter could read, “Be in your seat by 8:55 a.m. — you don’t want to miss any of the fun!”

*Emily Leach-Downing, LB ’09*



HAPPY CLASS EXPERIENCE MEMBERS CELEBRATE THEIR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE BLINDFOLDED TRUST WALK!

## OPENING RETREAT – 2009 RISING LEADERS



RISING LEADERS SHARING THEIR PASSION COLLAGES AT THE RETREAT.



RISING LEADERS DISCUSSING HOW THEY CAN BE AGENTS OF CHANGE IN WNY.



PATRICK BUTLER, LATRESE BURRUSS, AMY OVERTON, AND ERICA FRANK ENJOYING A NIGHT CAP BEFORE RETIRING.

Apprehension was the name of the game early on, but after 32 hours together at Beaver Hollow Conference Center, the Rising Leaders Class of 2009 found out we have an exciting year of learning, events, service, and a great collection of new friends as classmates.

It can be difficult entering a new scenario, especially when coming from different walks of life. Some are married, others single. Some work in public relations or interior design, while several others come from the banking world. Most come from the Queen City, several transplanted from other areas.

With all of these Type A personalities forced to spend a weekend away from it all, with no cell phone reception, you can expect some tension. Except for this group.

For the 22 promising young leaders congregating for the first time, you would have thought we all were former high school friends coming back for a reunion. There was immediate respect granted to each on their views and opinions, and an

appreciation taken from others' past work and volunteer experiences. Collectively, we understood that the goal for why we assembled in the first place was to grow individually as a leader and to work together communally to enhance the city we work, play, and reside in.

We had an excellent weekend not only making new acquaintances, but with the Class Experience members as well, who lent an accelerated level of knowledge and accomplishment to what we already know.

The team building exercises put into perspective for all of us how to think as a whole as opposed to looking out for ourselves, and gave us some knowledge on how to educate change, which can be more difficult than most think.

Even as we subconsciously understood the lessons trying to be accomplished as we performed tasks such as the X,Y game (I'll still never trust Team 2), there were nuggets of information to be picked up, mostly from an opposing or alternative thought process of a classmate. Personally, that was the best part of

the weekend. While all 22 of us are educated and accomplished in our own right, there was not a single person in that group from whom I did not pick up something that I need to work on, or who made me realize how to see a situation from the other side, and I hope that sentiment is echoed by everyone else.

In the final exercise before departure, we shared our feelings on the weekend, and what could have been improved. Enhancement suggestions were minimal, except Joe avoiding sickness again was one. Besides the sheer dominance of Adam at shuffleboard, the overall recurring theme was that all nervous thoughts of what we got ourselves into were quelled. We all have the same goals, they just might vary in the execution and path to achieving them, but the reassurance of a room full of like-minded individuals with the same drive made it easy to open up, and get excited for the road ahead. Making 21 new friends is just a bonus.

*Charlie Riley, RL '09*

## VALUES AWARDS LUNCHEON: COME ONE, COME ALL!

Spring is upon us and so is an LB spring tradition — the 6th Annual Values Awards Luncheon. This is Buffalo's premier networking luncheon and this year's event promises to be one of the best yet. This is a wonderful opportunity not only to hear inspirational stories of leadership from our five outstanding honorees, but to reconnect with old LB classmates, to meet other leaders in the Western New York community, and to get out of the office on a beautiful spring day in Buffalo.

If you have never attended prior Values Awards Luncheons, come see what you

have been missing. If you have attended before, we look forward to seeing you again this year. Many often ask how they can stay involved with Leadership Buffalo after graduation. What better occasion than the Values Awards Luncheon to jump start your class spirit and seek new opportunities to get involved and make a better Buffalo?

We would love to see a record attendance this year and only you can help us meet this goal. How about a challenge? The class with the most attendees wins the official right to call themselves "The Best Class Ever." We all think our own class was the best.

Here is a chance to prove it!

The 2009 Values Awards Luncheon will have something to offer everyone in return for supporting this fantastic organization in its primary fundraising event of the year. Individual tickets and an array of full table sponsorship levels are still available for this always sold-out event. Get your tickets now to ensure you have a seat. We hope to see you there on April 30th.

*Donna DeCarolis, LB'95*  
Chair

*David Borden, RL'04*  
Co-Chair



# Sixth Annual LEADERSHIP BUFFALO VALUES AWARDS

Service · Diversity · Inclusion · Openness to Change

## RECEPTION & LUNCHEON

11:30 A.M.

Thursday, April 30, 2009  
Hyatt Regency Buffalo

Donna DeCarolis, LB '95, chair  
Dave Borden, RL '04, co-chair

For tickets, go to [www.leadershipbuffalo.org](http://www.leadershipbuffalo.org)  
or call 849-2626, ext. 17.

## LEADERSHIP BUFFALO VALUES AWARDS – CONTINUED FROM COVER

She was the first recipient of the Racial Justice Award from the YWCA in 2007. In 1999, she received the President's Award from the Western New York Women's Bar Association and an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Canisius College. Mrs. Benatovich has also been honored by St. Bonaventure University, Buffalo Area Metropolitan Ministries, and the Buffalo Public Schools Department of Integration. She is the co-chairperson of the Erie County Coordinating Council on Children and Families and a past president on the Buffalo Council on World Affairs.

### OPENNESS TO CHANGE



Stuart Angert may have officially retired in 2006 as president of Fiserv Automotive Solutions, but he remains committed — full-time — to transforming

Buffalo into a healthier and more vital place in which to live and work. His openness to change is exemplified both in his entrepreneurial and innovative career; and in his long-time practice of giving freely of his time, inspiring others to seek innovation and positive change. Many non-profit and business boards have benefited from his considerable intellect and business acumen, including: The Adirondack Park Institute; Boys and Girls Clubs of Buffalo; The Buffalo and Erie County Workforce Investment Board; The Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo; Hauptman-Woodward Institute; Independent Health; Key Bank Advisory Board; Leadership Buffalo; Medaille College; Meszaros International Center for Entrepreneurship; Nichols School; NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; Paul Smith's

College of the Adirondacks; and the University at Buffalo Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership.

### LEADERSHIP IMPACT



Warde Manuel, athletic director at the University at Buffalo, not only brought a major football championship to Western New York, but also earned the respect

and attention of the entire nation. Mr. Manuel has transformed the culture of UB athletics, strengthening student-athlete resources, and placing an emphasis on pride and tradition. He uses his leadership impact not only to celebrate sports, but to acknowledge the importance of academics as well, elevating the status of the University at Buffalo from regional gem to national jewel. Mr. Manuel was selected as an executive mentor for the NCAA Fellows Leadership Development Program, and was named to the Sports Business Journal's National 40 Under 40 of 2008, as well as Business First's 40 Under 40 of 2007. He also received the Women's Sports Foundation Opportunity Award in 2007, for making significant strides in providing equitable athletic opportunities for female student-athletes.

The Sixth Annual Values Awards luncheon begins at 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, April 30. Individual tickets may be purchased for \$60 per person. More information about this event can be obtained by visiting [www.leadershipbuffalo.org](http://www.leadershipbuffalo.org), or by calling 849-2626, ext 17. Leadership Buffalo members will receive invitations by mail.

## The 1st Annual Leadership Buffalo Members Reunion **BBQ**



### SAVE THE DATE

*ALL LB MEMBERS  
AND THEIR FAMILIES  
ARE WELCOME!*

**Date:**  
Saturday,  
June 27, 2009

**Time:**  
12 noon

**Location:**  
Como Lake  
Park Gazebo

## CLASS NOTES – NEWS, UPDATES & INFO

### CLASS OF '88

**Nancy Blaschak** has been elected to Gilda's Club Western New York 2009 board of directors.

### CLASS OF '89

**Jock Mitchell** has been elected to Gilda's Club Western New York 2009 board of directors.

### CLASS OF '94

**Nancy Brock** received the 2009 Public Relations Award at the annual National Federation for Just Communities Community Leaders Awards.

**William Finn** and **Eugene Meeks** have been elected to the 2009 People Inc. board of directors.

### CLASS OF '95

**Celeste Lawson** has been appointed to the board of trustees of Villa Maria College. She will be a featured poet in a program of jazz music and poetry at Rustbelt Books sponsored by just buffalo literary center. Celeste was inducted into the WNY Women's Hall of Fame on March 12, 2009. She has been invited by the City of Cleveland to serve as a panelist on their cultural arts review board in April. Lastly, she will be the commencement speaker for the class of 2009 of Empire State College.

### CLASS OF '96

**Lourdes Iglesias** was a 2009 recipient of the Community Service/Volunteerism Award at the annual National Federation for Just Communities Community Leaders Awards.

### CLASS OF '97

**Sharon Hanson** was a 2009 recipient of the Community Service/Volunteerism Award at the annual National Federation for Just Communities Community Leaders Awards.

### CLASS OF '02

**Joseph Abdallah** has been elected to the 2009 People Inc. board of directors.

**Lavera Johnson** was a recipient of the Community Service/Volunteerism Award at the annual National Federation for Just Communities Community Leaders Awards.

### CLASS OF '03

**Jennifer Parker** has been recognized as one of the "10 People to Watch in 2009" by Business First Magazine.

### CLASS OF '05

**Dale Martin** has been named director of client relations and business development of APA Solutions.

### CLASS OF '06

**John Horn** has been named partner in charge of Harter Secrest & Emery LLP's Buffalo office.

### CLASS OF '08

**Maria Knoebel** was named business development specialist for Rich Products Corp.

**Larry Cohen** was elected to the 2009 March of Dimes board of directors as volunteer department/nominating committee chair.

**Mary Powers** has been elected to the board of Summit Educational Resources.

### RL '04

**Nikki Alieva** has been promoted to director of marketing and public relations for Hunt Real Estate Corporation.

### RL '07

**Joe Hanna** created a charitable foundation, Bunkers in Baghdad, which sends golf clubs and balls to American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

### RL '09

**Charlie Riley** has been named marketing manager for Exhibio Digital Signage of Williamsville.

### EXPERIENCE BUFFALO

**Alphonso O'Neil-White** has been elected vice chair to the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo board of directors for 2009.

# EXPERIENCE BUFFALO

EDUCATIONAL... INFORMATIVE...  
GREAT NETWORKING!

## FIVE EVENINGS – JUNE THROUGH OCTOBER

A unique program designed for newly relocated CEOs, presidents and senior executives, and their spouses/partners. The program offers the opportunity to get to know some of the community's most influential leaders in business, government, and the arts.

To receive more information about the 2009 Experience Buffalo program or to recommend a colleague, please contact Hillary Piedmont at 849-2626, ext. 17 or [hpiedmont@leadershipbuffalo.org](mailto:hpiedmont@leadershipbuffalo.org)