

FACES & PLACES

Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon virtual gala fundraiser a success

The Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon hosted its annual gala on a virtual platform June 8 that was originally scheduled for March and was postponed due to the pandemic.

The event raised more than \$560,000 in support of the club, which was founded in 1912 as the Boys Club of Mount Vernon. The program featured honorees, including **Pat Simone**, founder of Simone Development Cos., with the Lifetime Achievement Award (Posthumous); **Robert P. Welsz**, president and CEO, RPW Group with the Leadership Award; **April Horton**, External Affairs and Government Affairs, Verizon with the Corporate Citizen Award; and **Jack McArdle**, vice president, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. with the Alumni Honoree award.

The Youth of the Year Award was presented to **Jhaydan DeVaughn**, who received a \$1,000 scholarship and will be eligible for additional scholarships from the regional competition in New York State and the national award later this year.

1. **Fred Schwam**, vice president, Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon Board of Directors; Mel Campos, chief professional officer, Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon
Shawyn Patterson-Howard, Mount Vernon Mayor
2. **Jhaydan DeVaughn**, Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon Youth of the Year
3. **Joe Simone**, president, Simone Development Cos.
4. **Laura R. Lavan**, Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon Board of Directors, Gala Committee co-chair
5. **Lowes Moore Jr.**, former executive director, consultant, Boys & Girls Club of Mount Vernon

