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## Pappajohns honored for their 'clear vision', win Iowa Star award

BY CYNTHIA REYNAUD • CREYNAUD@DMREG.COM • FEBRUARY 11, 2010

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Those who know John and Mary Pappajohn hear the name and think of a generous, yet humble, couple who change the lives of those around them with their gifts.

"Together, they have a very clear vision of what they want to achieve," Des Moines Register Publisher Laura Hollingsworth said Wednesday night after announcing the Pappajohns as the 2009 recipients of the Register's Iowa Star award at the Temple for Performing Arts. "We are all beneficiaries of their generosity and their vision."

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### 38 photos: Iowa Star Awards

The Pappajohns were one of five nominees for the Iowa Star award, which recognizes people who promote unity and self-sufficiency in central Iowa.

"Year after year, I am amazed and inspired by our community leaders," Hollingsworth said.

John Pappajohn has long been recognized as a venture capitalist. He has founded more than 50 companies and served as a director on roughly 40 public boards. He currently serves as the president and owner of Pappajohn Capital Resources and Equity Dynamics Inc.

Mary Pappajohn serves as a board member of several organizations, including the Des Moines

Art Center and the Walker Art Center.

The Pappajohns are among Iowa's top philanthropists with their recent donations to the Des Moines Art Center and the University of Iowa.

In September, Pappajohn Sculpture Park opened in Des Moines' Western Gateway park, featuring sculptures - valued at an estimated \$40 million - donated by the couple.

The following month, the Pappajohns pledged \$26.4 million to the University of Iowa Foundation toward building, equipping and staffing a University of Iowa biomedical research building and institute.

The Pappajohns were not able to attend the awards banquet.

In a statement read by Hollingsworth, John Pappajohn promised to help even more in the future.

"We pledge to continue to do what we can to assist and improve the Des Moines community," Hollingsworth told the crowd of more than 150 people.

Steven Zumbach, a community leader and friend of the Pappajohns, later talked about the couple.

"They started with the humblest of beginnings and made a huge impact on the well-being of literally thousands of people," he said. "One individual with passion, commitment and will can have a huge impact for the good."



ANDREA MELENDEZ/REGISTER PHOTOS

Feisal Sayeed, left, board chairman for Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Iowa, and Sam Carrell, executive director, examine the 2009 Aurora Award that was presented to the organization Wednesday at the Temple for Performing Arts.



REGISTER FILE PHOTO

John and Mary Pappajohn

### Iowa Star finalists

**RENEE HARDMAN** of Des Moines, senior vice president of human resources for Bankers Trust Co.

**KYLE J. KRAUSE and SHARON S. KRAUSE** of Booneville. Kyle is the president of Kum & Go; owner and chairman of Solar Transport Co.; owner of the Des Moines Menace; and owner of AMICI Espresso. Sharon is the owner of Dalla Terra Ranch.

**KENNETH QUINN** of Des Moines, president of the World Food

**Aurora Award:** The Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Iowa was recognized with the Register's Aurora Award, given to central Iowa institutions for their community contributions.

Board President Feisal Sayeed and Executive Director Sam Carrell accepted a \$1,000 check and a plaque for the organization.

The clubs serve youths ages 5 to 18 by providing after-school programs, as well as all-day programs during school breaks. Youths can participate in supervised and self-directed activities designed to help them become successful adults.

The organization has more than 2,200 members and serves another 5,000 youths through its outreach efforts. In 2009, Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Iowa scored among the highest of United Way agencies for its effectiveness.

"There are so many great stories of the youth that we consider our clients, our audience," Sayeed said. "To have individuals succeed in life for the few times we touch them is credit to our unit directors and staff.

"Everyone was well deserved. It's humbling to have received this award," he said.



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**Aurora finalists**

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