



USTA Southern

5685 Spalding Drive
Norcross, GA 30092

Telephone: 770.368.8200

Fax: 770.368.9091

E-mail: info@sta.usta.com

<http://www.southerntennis.com>

PRESS RELEASE

USTA Southern Announces Annual Awards

HONOREES WILL RECEIVE AWARDS IN JANUARY

ATLANTA – November 6, 2014 – United States Tennis Association (USTA) Southern has announced its recipients for its 2014 awards given for outstanding achievements in tennis both on and off the court. Twenty-three categories of winners will be recognized during the USTA Southern Annual Meeting at the Atlanta Perimeter Marriott Hotel. The awards presentation is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015.

Among the winners this year is Conner Stroud, of Rutherfordton, N.C. At 13 years, he is believed to be the youngest honoree (not including family members who won the Mickey McNulty Family of the Year award) since USTA Southern began giving awards in 1985. Stroud became a YouTube sensation when, with only small stubs for legs, he hit with well-known pros Andy Roddick and Jim Courier. In the last year, he transitioned to playing wheelchair tennis and was awarded the Wheelchair Excellence Award after compiling a 20-10 record with three tournament wins.

Selected winners were nominated as candidates by USTA staff and volunteers in the section's nine states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. The winners were then selected from among the nominees by volunteer members of the Awards Committee and numerous other USTA Southern committees.

The winners of three prestigious awards – the Jacobs Bowl, the Charlie B. Morris Jr. Service Award and the President's Recognition Award – will be announced Saturday, Jan. 17.

Here are our 2014 USTA Southern award winners:

Adult Tournament of the Year – Tre'Day.com "Labor of Love" Charity Classic; Little Rock, Ark.

Bill Ozaki Junior Sportsmanship Award – Amy Yang; Alpharetta, Ga.

Community Tennis Association of the Year – Belton Tennis Association; Belton, S.C.

DeWitt Redgrave III Junior Achievement Awards –

Kenya Jones; Memphis, Tenn. and McClain Kessler; Calhoun, Ga.

Educational Merit Award – Paula Bruchhaus; Lake Charles, La.

Gerrie Rothwell Award – Judy Anderson; Georgetown, Ky.

Jr. Team Tennis Coordinator of the Year – Cathy Baldwin; Durham, N.C.

Junior Tournament of the Year – Southern 16s Closed Championships; Little Rock, Ark.

Local League Coordinator of the Year – Maegan Kulich; Atlanta

Mac MacDougal Tennis Official of the Year – Adam Dalton; Warner Robbins, Ga.

Marc Kaplan Media Excellence Award – Ann Green, The Greenville News; Simpsonville, S.C.

Marilyn Sherman Spirit Award – Laura Weygandt; Cary, N.C.

Member Organization of the Year – Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center; Florence, S.C.

Mickey McNulty Family of the Year – The Craig & Traci Courville Family; Columbus, Ga.

NJTL Chapter of the Year – Lowcountry Youth Tennis Association; Isle of Palms, S.C.

No-Cut Coach Starfish Award – Bernie McGuire; Columbia, S.C.
Slew Hester Female and Male Players of the Year
Ann Hunt; Hilton Head Island, S.C. and Neil Hurlbut; Big Canoe, Ga.
Southern Tennis Professional of the Year – Carlos Lozano, Topspin Racquet & Swim Club; Lexington, S.C.
Special Tennis Event of the Year – Ali's Cup; Memphis, Tenn.
Team Tennis Event of the Year – USTA NC 40 & Over Adult League State Championships; Sherrills Ford, N.C.
Tennis on Campus Club of the Year – University of Tennessee; Knoxville, Tenn.
Tennis on Campus Leader of the Year – Zach Errickson, University of South Carolina; Columbia, S.C.
Wheelchair Excellence Award – Conner Stroud; Rutherfordton, N.C.

More information on award winners, including award description and persons who the awards are named after, can be found [here](#).

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The **USTA** is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. and the leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis at every level – from local communities to the highest level of the professional game. It owns and operates the US Open, the largest annually attended sporting event in the world, and launched the **Emirates Airline US Open Series** linking 10 summer tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns approximately 90 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S., and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic games. A not-for-profit organization with more than 714,000 members, it invests 100 percent of its proceeds in growing the game. It is divided into 17 sections, of which **USTA Southern** is the largest. The 175,000+ USTA members living in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee make up USTA Southern, and account for nearly 25 percent of the total USTA membership. USTA Southern also owns a majority share of the **BB&T Atlanta Open**, an ATP World Tour event. A professional staff housed in Norcross, Ga., carries out USTA Southern's daily operations, but policy is formed and much of the organization's work is executed via a board and committee structure of over 200 volunteers. For more information about the types of programs and services offered by USTA Southern, visit www.southerntennis.com.

For more information, contact:

Ron Cioffi
USTA Southern Director of Communications
BB&T Atlanta Open Media Director
cioffi@sta.usta.com