

# BRONZE CATEGORY

## **TINA ALBRIGHT.....KOREAN ARTS INSTRUCTOR**

Tina is a US Marine Veteran with 2 Tours in Iraq and 1 in Afganistan. She holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Budokwan American Combat Karate and a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt in Marine Corps Martial Arts Program. She is a Full Instructor and Military Instructor in Krav Maga under Professor Marty Cale. Tina also studies and holds rank in Tae Kwon Do and Hapkido.

## **STEVEN BAGSHAW.....BLACK BELT OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Bagshaw holds the rank of 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Okinawan Kenpo and Kobudo under Instructor Robyn Rush. He has also studied Tae Kwon Do, Hapkido and Tai Chi. He is a member of the Universal Martial Arts Association.

## **JAMES BOONE.....BLACK BELT OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Boone holds the rank of Black Belt in Kajukenbo under Grandmaster Dan Frazier. He also holds a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. He has competed at the National level, winning first place in multiple events.

## **DANIEL BRAYMAN JR.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Brayman is the owner and Chief Instructor at Gilbert Martial Arts Center. He holds the rank of 4<sup>th</sup> Dan Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. He also teaches Muay Thai and Advanced Combat Tactics.

## **JOHN CARPENTER JR.....BRONZE LIFE AWARD**

Mr. Carpenter holds the rank of 6<sup>th</sup> degree Black Belt in the art of Lin Su Chuan Fa. He has cross trained in Jujitsu, Wing Chun, Tae Kwon Do and Filipino Stick Fighting. He is the owner of The Kwoon of Kung Fu.

## **JASON CHAPMAN.....OUTSTANDING MARTIAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Chapman holds the rank of 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt in the style of Che-Lu under Grandmaster John W. Mason. He has been studying the Martial Arts for 23 years and teaches at Capital City Martial Arts in Kentucky.

**MICHAEL CRAIN.....FOUNDER**

Mr. Crain has been in the arts for 25 years. He is the President and Founder of The American Martial Forces Association. He has studied numerous styles including Tae Kwon Do, Judo, Jujitsu, Hapkido and Boxing.

**DARRELL D’ANTONOLI.....CHIEF MASTER INSTRUCTOR**

Mr. D’Antonoli has been training in the Martial Arts for 22 years. He has studied Aikido, Hapkido, Karate, Ninjutsu, Jujutsu, Aiki-Jujutsu. He holds a 7<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in Bushin Ryu Aiki Bujutsu. He is the owner and Master Instructor at Budo Shingi Kan in Gilbert Arizona.

**JESUS ESCALANTE.....MASTER**

Grand Master Jesus Escalante, a 9<sup>th</sup> Dan in Kenpo Karate, has been training in the Martial Arts for more than 40 years. He is currently the International Kenpo Karate Federation Country Director for Venezuela.

**TODD GILBERT.....MASTER**

Mr. Gilbert studies, trains and teaches the Art of Shorei Goju Ryu and holds the Rank of 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt under Master Dean Bergman. He has also studied Shotokan. RyuKyu Kenpo. He owns and operates Gilbert Karate Studios. He competes in the Illinois State Martial Arts Circuit, The AKA and PKC.

**GABRIEL GONCALVES.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Gabriel holds the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu under Grandmaster Carlson Gracie Sr. He has also studied Muay Thai, Boxing and Wrestling. He is a member of the International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation.

**CHRISTOPHER HANES.....MASTER**

Mr. Hanes holds the rank of 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in Tang Soo Do. He has also studied Hapkido, Chun Kuk Do and Defensive Tactics. He trains and teaches at his school Hanes Tactical Martial Arts in North Tonawanda, New York.

**AMY HAWKINS.....WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

Amy Hawkins started her Martial Arts training in 1988 at the Martial Arts Training Institute. She became an Instructor in 2002 and currently holds the Rank of 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in the Art of Shorinji Kempo Karate under Grandmaster Irwin Carmichael. She also holds a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt in Shorinji Kubodo Yarara. She has been a Gastonia Police Officer for 23 years.

**SCOTT HILE.....MASTER INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Hile is a 5th Degree Black Belt in Moo Duk Kwan Tang Soo Do under Master Carl MacDermott. He has also studied Tai Jujitsu, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Kenpo and Uechi Ryu. He is a member of the International Tang Soo Do Federation and the American Tang Soo Do Association. He is the owner and Chief Instructor of Precision Tang Soo Do.

**ADRIAN HILLYER.....BLACK BELT OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Hillyer holds a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Shotokan Karate under Professor Rod Elliot. He has also studied Goju Rye, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Aikido and Kobudo. He has spent the last quarter of a century studying the Kata and Bunkai of these Karate styles. He is a member of the AKF, ISKA, Kuro Tora Karate Association and Gracie Barra.

**LAZERIC HUDSON.....JUDO BLACK BELT OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Hudson holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan in Kodokan Judo. He has trained at the Jiu-Jitsu Institute, Chicago Police Judo Club, Kokushikan Judo Academy and Yorkville Judo Club. He is a member of the United States Judo Association, Pan American Judo Confederation. He has won numerous medals throughout the United States by competing in Judo Championships.

**RICHARD HUDSON.....MASTER INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Hudson holds a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in the art of Shinsei Kokoro Do under John and Rebecca Glarum. He has also studied Toyama-Ryu Iai-Do under Shihan Dana Abbott. He began his Martial Arts training at the age of 54, primarily for exercise and stress release. Today he is an active Martial Arts Instructor at the Shinsei Kokoro Do Dojo at the age of 67.

**ANNE HUFF.....BRONZE LIFE AWARD**

Mrs. Huff holds a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do under the International Tae Kwon Do Federation. She has also studied Shotokan Karate and is a student of Grandmaster John Sharkey. She is also a member of the American Karate Association.

**DAPHNE IBARRA.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Ms. Ibarra holds the Rank of Black Belt in the Art of Ninjutsu and Jujutsu. She has been studying the Martial Arts for 7 years. She trains and helps teach at the Bitokukan Senshi Bugei Renmei under her instructor Renshi Juan Carlos Ibarra.

**MICHAEL KANEEN.....OUTSTANDING MASTER INSTRUCTOR**

Sifu Kaneen began his Martial Arts training more than 20 years ago. He has trained in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino and Western Boxing systems. He is currently ranked as a 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt and Master Instructor under Jerry Cook. He trains and teaches at 9 Dragons Kung Fu.

**TAMARA KANEEN.....OUTSTANDING TAI CHI WELLNESS INSTRUCTOR**

Simu Kaneen is a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt Instructor in Kung Fu under Grandmaster Jerry Cook. She is an Instructor at 9 Dragons Kung Fu where she teaches classes, seminars, and provides private coaching for health, wellness and the art of Kung Fu.

**JAMES LEE.....MASTER OF THE YEAR**

Sensei Lee began his Karate training at the age of 14. He holds the Rank of 5<sup>th</sup> Dan Black Belt in the art of Chung Do Kwan Tae Kwan Do. He has also studied Okinawan Goju Ryu and Okinawan Kobudo. He is an 8 time World and National Champion in Kumite and Kata. He is a member of the United States Karate Alliance, where he serves as the Colorado State Representative.

**BERNARD LOFTIN.....COMBAT ARTS OPERATOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Loftin has been studying the Martial Arts for 11 years. He is a Certified Instructor in Muay Thai. He has also studied Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and is a member of the United World Muay Thai Association.

**GABRIEL MACIAS JR.....INSTRUCTOR**

Gabriel holds the Rank of Black Belt in the Art of Ninjutsu and Jujutsu under Renshi Juan Carlos Ibarra. He has also studied Toyoma Lai Batto Do, Chanbara and Hakko Ryu. He is an Instructor at Bitokukan Senshi Bugei Renmei.

**LUCY MAILLOUX..... SENSEI OF THE YEAR**

Lucy has practiced the Art of Aikido for over 16 years. She started her Aikido career at Aikido of Phoenix under Sensei Fred Mastison. Mrs. Mailloux is now Chief Instructor at her own Dojo Satori Aiki Budo where she has the great pleasure of teaching alongside her Sempai Thorin Mailoux (her husband) and Dojo Cho, Amanda Redington.

**DAVID MORGAN.....COMPETITOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Morgan holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Shorin Ryu, a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and a Brown Belt in Goju Ryu. He is an Assistant Instructor with the Arkansas Bushido Kai. He has won tournament competitions in 8 different states, including 2 World Titles and 7 Grand Championships.

**BRUCE NELSON.....MARTIAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Nelson holds 2<sup>nd</sup> degree Black Belt in the Art of Kenjutsu under Shihan Dana Abbott. He has also studied Reality Defense Training. At the age of 61 he has more than 20 years in the Arts. Mr. Nelson is a Doctor in General Dental Practice in Phoenix, Arizona.

**WILLIAM NELSON.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

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**ROBERT NICHOLS.....NINJUTSU MASTER**

Mr. Nichols holds a 6<sup>th</sup> degree Black Belt in Ninjutsu under Roman Garcia. He has also studied Tae Kwon Do and is a member of the United Tae Kwon Do Association. He is owner and Instructor at Union United Tae Kwon Do Academy in Union, New Jersey.

**ROBERT NORTON.....FOUNDER**

Mr. Norton has studied Shotokan, Tae Kwon Do, Aikido, Tai Chi and Wing Chun. He is Founder of the Art Shoto-Chi. He is a member of the US Grandmasters Council. He is an active Instructor at the Shoto-Chi Martial Arts School in Ontario, Canada.

**PHILLIP POE.....MASTER INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Poe has been studying the Martial Arts for more than 28 years. He has studied Tae Kwon Do, Hapkido and Jujitsu. He is the owner and Chief Instructor at Poe’s Martial Arts Academy where he teaches his own eclectic system of American Freestyle Fighting System. He is a member of the International Fighting Arts Affiliation, Universal Fighting Arts Fellowship, The World II Do Kwan Federation and the US Grandmasters Council.

**GUSTAVO PRIETO.....MASTER**

Mr. Prieto holds the rank of 8<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in the Art of Wha Do Kwan Hapkido. He is a member of Spanish Martial Arts of Korean Federation. He is a member of the Spain Hall of Fame.

**DONNY ROBERTS.....MOST DISTINGUISHED BLACK BELT**

Mr. Roberts holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree black Belt in Judo under Grandmaster Tony Mondejar. He has also studied Shudokan Karate and Tae Kwon Do. He is a member of the USJA and the USMA. He has received numerous awards from Ada Judo Club and his Instructor Grandmaster Mondejar.

**JESSIAH RUECKERT.....OUTSTANDING MARTIAL ARTIST**

Mr. Rueckert is a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation school owner and will be testing for his 6<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt at the ATA Championships in Little Rock, Arkansas this July. Jessiah has also studied Goju Shorei, Judo, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Kensho Do. He is a member of the American Tae Kwan Do Association. He has won numerous State Championships in weapons, forms, sparring and stick fighting.

**JOE ROQUE.....BLACK BELT OF THE YEAR**

Sensei Roque holds the Rank of San Dan in Shorei Goju under Master Todd Gilbert. He has also studied Jujitsu and MMA . He has been training in the Arts for more than 20 years. He is a member of the American Karate Association, Professional Karate Commission and the Illinois State Martial Arts Association. He currently teaches at Dragon Fire Karate in New Lenox, Illinois.

**ROBYN RUSH.....MASTER INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Robyn Rush holds the rank of 6<sup>th</sup> Dan Black Belt Master Level in the Art of Okinawa Kenpo Karate Kobudo under Grandmaster Larry Isaac. She has also studied American Freestyle Tae Kwon Do. She is a member of the UMAA. During her Martial Arts career she was highly ranked in National Competitions in Forms, Sparring and Weapons. She owns and operates Rush Okinawa Kenpo Karate School.

**AL SEAM.....BUSHIDO**

Mr. Seam holds the rank of 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt in the Art of Kenpo Karate. He has studied numerous forms of Self Defense and is currently developing his own unique system. He is a member of the Worldwide Kenpo Karate Association, Black Dragon Society and IMAC. He is known as the Traveling Sensei, as he travels to different locations teaching what he loves the most, The Martial Arts.

**ZACHARY SHORT.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Zachary Short holds the rank of 4<sup>th</sup> degree Black Belt in Tang Soo Do. He has also studied Chun Kuk Do and Defensive Tactics. He is a lifetime member with IMAC and Combat Martial Art Practitioners Association. He has been in the Arts for 19 years and currently focuses on Private Lessons.

**KEVIN SNELL.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Snell holds the Rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Shito Ryu Karate and Shukokai. He is a member of Yamada Ha Shito Ryu Shukokai World Union and Shito Ryu Shukokai USA.

**GREG SQUIRREL.....RING ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR**

Greg has been announcing Boxing and MMA Cage Fights for the past 10 years. He has announced in numerous of states including Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Texas, Kansas and Nevada. He has announced both amateur and professional fights. He has also announced Boxing events for Showtime and ESPN Friday Night Fights. Greg has participated and been a professional Wrestler. He was named WCCW Television Champion and WCCW North America Heavy Weight Champion. He currently takes Krav Maga classes under Professor Marty Cale in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

**ALEXANDER STICK.....KUNG FU INSTRUCTOR**

Mr. Stick has been training in Kung Fu for more than 25 years. He holds the Rank of Black Belt in the style of Praying Mantis Kung Fu. He was ranked nationally during his competitive years 1993-1996 and receiving a two time National Champion in 1994 for Weapons Competition.

**BRIAN TABABA.....MARTIAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

Brian has been a student of the Martial Arts since the age of 8. He currently holds a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in the Art of Tae Kwon Do. He also holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Ninjitsu. He is a 5 time New Jersey Top Ten UTA State Champion.

**DEMETRIO TALAVERA.....MARTIAL ARTIST**

Mr. Talavera holds the Rank of Black Belt in the Arts of Ninjutsu and Jujutsu under his Instructor Renshi Juan Carlos Ibarra. He has also studied Toyama Lai Batto Do, Chanbara, Hakko Ryu. He is a member of the Bitokukan Senshi Bugei Renmei and currently is an active Instructor under Mr. Ibarra.

**WAYNE TANGUAY.....MASTER**

Mr. Tanguay is a 5<sup>th</sup> degree Black Belt in Kenpo. He has also studied Modern Arnis. He is a member of the International Arnis Federation and the New England Martial Arts Teachers Association.

**JEANELLE VAN BUSKIRK.....LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTRUCTOR**

Jeanelle holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black belt in Hapkido. She has studied numerous Martial Arts throughout the last 10 years. She is a member of the World Hapkido Association. She has earned her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Central Oklahoma in Criminal Justice. She started her career with the Oklahoma County Sheriff’s Office. She currently works for Oklahoma’s Council on Law enforcement Education and Training as a full time Defensive Tactics Instructor.

**SARAH WESOLOWSKI.....WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

Sarah is an inspiration and holds the standards to which all Martial Artist should live by. She is kind, caring and considerate of other people. She has helped many people through hard times. Her unselfish acts make her a guanine role model. Sarah attends school fulltime, holding a 3.9 GPA while caring for her disabled mother and raising a 3 year old daughter. She has given moral support to a local Martial Artist that wishes to honor her here today.

**TOM WIEHE.....LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Wiehe first trained in Karate as a teenager. In 1990 he began studying boxing, muay thai, kali, grappling and Jun Fan Jeet Kune Do under Sifu Eldon Clem. He was mentored by Sifu Rick Teeple and certified as a full instructor under Sigung Richard Bustillo. He also holds a black belt under Supreme Grand Master Cacoy Canete in Doce Pares Eskrima. He is the lead Defensive Tactics instructor for the University of Cincinnati Police. He instructs Police and Security officers in Subject Control, Impact weapons, and use of force principles. He wrote and maintains the Less Lethal force curriculum for the department. He continues to train and instruct a private group in Cincinnati.

**KEENAN WILLIAMS.....INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Williams has been studying various styles of Escrima since the age of 18 months under his father Grandmaster Wade Williams of Williams Martial Arts Academy. His ranks include Professorship in Williams Escrima, Master in Kabaroon and 6<sup>th</sup> Degree in the Professional Martial Arts Alliance.



**GLENFRED WONG.....MAN OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Wong began his Martial Arts training at the age of 13. He started Tae kwon Do and earned his Black Belt in 2001. In 2005 he opened JB Martial Arts Academy. He currently holds a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Jhoon Rhee Tae Kwon Do under Master Francis Pineda and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Black Belt under Master Paul McGowan and a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt in Hapkido under Master McGowan.

**REBECCA WREN-SCHEMMER.....WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

Rebecca holds a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt in Shorei Goju Karate under Master Todd Gilbert. She has been studying the Martial Arts for more than 15 years and is a member of the American Karate Association. She is an active Instructor at Dragon Fire Karate in New Lenox, Illinois.

**THOMAS WUJEK JR.....MARTIAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Wujek is a member of the International Kenpo Karate Federation. He holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Chu-Go-Ku Kenpo Karate under Master Jose Hernandez. He also studies Ufuchiku Kobudo. His goal is to give back the lessons and life achievements that he has learned through training to those that are less fortunate.

**PATSY ZARILLA.....BLACK BELT OF THE YEAR**

M.r Zarilla has studied many Martial Arts and holds a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt in Chon-Tu Kwan Hapkido under Grandmaster John Pellegrini. He is the Head Instructor at New Castle Martial Arts and Senior Instructor at Slippery Rock Martial Arts. He has also studied Jeet Kune Do and Russian Systema. He is a member of the International Combat Hapkido Federation, World Hapkido Association and the World Jeet Kune Do Association.