

Year 2012 – US Martial Arts Hall of Fame Inductees



Special Honors from USMAHOF

Jeff Speakman.....Life-Time Achievement

American actor and a martial artist. Mr. Speakman began training in American Kenpo under his principal instructor, Mr. Larry Tatum, as well as under the founder of the system, Mr. Ed Parker. Mr. Speakman received his 1st degree black belt in American Kenpo in 1984. He has subsequently obtained an eighth-degree rank in kenpo karate and also currently holds a 7th-degree black belt in the Goju-Ryu Karate under Grandmaster Lou Angel. Mr. Speakman started acting in 1988 and became an action movie star in 1991 with the release of The Perfect Weapon. He followed this up with the feature film Street Knight. In the United Kingdom, this movie was released straight to video in 1993. Other action films followed, including The Expert and Deadly Outbreak. Currently, he is the founder and director of American Kenpo Karate Systems (AKKS), an international kenpo karate organization with more than 50 schools across the region. And, every year, Mr. Speakman holds training camps (*Jeff Speakman International Kenpo Camp*) for American kenpo. In 1993, Jeff was inducted into the Black Belt Hall of Fame for "Instructor of the Year". He was also recognized for excellence in martial arts and was inducted into the Masters Hall of Fame in 2009 where he received the "Silver Life Achievement Award".

Nate Quarry.....Ambassador to the MMA

Nathan 'Rock' Quarry, is a recently retired American mixed martial arts fighter who was most notable for his appearance in first season reality show The Ultimate Fighter. He accumulated an outstanding 18-4 UFC fight career, AND....a former Middle Weight Contender in the Ultimate Fighting Championship! ROCK became exposed to mixed martial arts at the age of 24. Rock being quoted saying, "I just liked to fight"!!! He combined, kicking, striking, ground and pound, into his personal version of MMA. He eventually made his way on to Team Quest, out of Gresham, Oregon. His professional mixed martial arts debut was in 2001, in a match against Drew Mc Fedries, which he won with a TKO in the second round. After compiling a 5–1 record, Nate was invited by the UFC to participate in The Ultimate Fighter, a reality television show and mixed martial arts competition featuring up-and-coming MMA talent living and training in seclusion with the UFC. Nate became **the first Ultimate Fighter contestant** to ever receive a UFC title shot against Middleweight Champion, Rich Franklin. "Thank you, to the UFC and to my hosts for giving me this opportunity, in addition, thank you to the fans and **to my little girl for making it so easy for me to follow my dream.**" Now officially retired from the cage, Quarry turns his full professional attention towards co-hosting MMA Uncensored, managing his Zombie Cage Fighter clothing line and Zombie Cage Fighter comic book.

Earnest Emerson.....Richard Bustillo's 'Iron Dragon Award'

The martial arts have afforded this martial artist a very successful business man. In late 1970, Sir Emerson moved to Southern California because of Bruce Lee and to study Jeet Kune Do under Mr. Inosanto and Richard Bustillo. Due to his introduction with the balisong knife, with only a file, a vise and a hand drill, Sir Emerson hand made his first version of the balisong knife. This became the kickoff to having a million dollar company - Emerson Knives. Along with his martial arts experiences, Sir Emerson teaches martial arts and edge weaponry domestically and internationally to law enforcement agencies, FBI and CIA. He also works with the special armed forces which includes Seal Team. Sir Emerson's services to his community, is teaching free self defense programs.



Alaska

Michael A. Abels.....Distinguished Instructor/Excellence in Teaching

Mr. Ables is the Head Instructor of Sei Shi Kai Aikido Alaska and Lecturer in Martial Arts at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He has been training in Aikido for more than 33 years and has taught Aikido at the UAF for more than 64 semesters. After the 2010 spring semester he has instructed over 3000 students. He holds the rank of 6th degree in Sei Shin Kai Aikido and Yondan in Iai-Tate-Do. Mr. Ables also holds rank in Hakauryu Jujitsu, GoSoku Ryu Karate and Gung Fu. He holds the title of Professor at the International Karate Association-College of Martial Arts Fairbanks School where he teaches weekly Iaido and Aikido classes. He is listed in Who's Who in the World. He was inducted into the Martial Arts World Magazine Hall Of Fame and recognized for Leadership in Education. He was inducted into the United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame in 2011.

Annette Hannan.....Black Belt of the Year

Ms. Hannah is a 3rd degree black belt in Shaolin Kempo . She has also studied Taekwondo and is a member of ISSKA. Ms. Hannah has received two appreciation awards from the U.S. Army, and numerous sparring trophies. She is also proud to provide service to help the U.S. soldiers and their families that sacrifice to keep this country safe and risk their lives for all of us.

Arizona

Rick Fleishman.....Golden Life Award

Mr. Fleishman began his training in the Moo Duk Kwon martial arts in 1971. His instructor was Dennis Minton a former Viet Nam Veteran. That same year he met OJ Guerra and started training in Tae Kwon Do along with Sensei Rod Elliot who introduced him to Shotokan Karate. Rick's training has included Shorinji Kempo, under instructor Steve Futon. Rick continued to study other arts like Hapkido, GoJu Ryu, Okinawan Shorin Ryu and in 1993 he trained under Sensei Hioki of Hioki Dojo under the Kyukushin Karate organization. Rick went into Combat Handgun training and started competing in I.D.P.A matches while training in the arts with OJ Guerra, Rod Elliot, Jerry Cook, Ted Molina, Wayne Smith, and Aaron Favor. Rick is proud and privileged to be part of OJ Guerra's STORM and Rod Elliot's Kuro Tora organizations. Mr. Fleishman expresses his gratitude and honor to all the United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame.

Arkansas

Ron Sparks.....Law Enforcement Instructor

Ron Sparks is Chief of Police for the Arkansas Missouri Railroad. He has been in Law Enforcement for – years. He is a Certified Defensive Tactics Instructor and has trained in PPCT and One on One Control Tactics for Law Enforcement as well as a Certified DT Instructor in Krav Maga. Ron has taught Defensive Tactics to Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement agencies. Along with Professor Marty Cale he is co-writer of Krav Maga Tactical Training Options Law Enforcement manual that has been approved and State Certified in numerous states. Ron is a Certified Krav Maga Instructor under Professor Cale and teaches Krav Maga at Arkansas Martial Arts in Fayetteville Arkansas.

Levi Ryals.....Black Belt of the Year

Levi has been practicing the martial arts for more than 25 years. He holds the rank of 4th degree Black Belt in the art of Taekwondo and is certified under Master Dennis Brewer. Levi has also studied Mi Tora BuJutsu, Kombat Jujitsu and Krav Maga. He is a member of the Modern Warrior Arts Union and the International Association of Krav Maga under Professor Marty Cale and he teaches at *Karate for Christ*.

John Webb.....Founder of the Year

Master Webb is the owner of Beebe Martial Arts in Beebe, Arkansas. He has been practicing martial arts for 28 years. He is a 6th degree Black Belt in Kombat Jujitsu and holds rank in numerous other styles of martial arts. He is a certified instructor for the Arkansas State Police in Self Defense Tactics and Weapon Retention. He is also a member and affiliated school for Karate for Christ. He is a member of numerous Jujitsu associations and a judge for cage fights.



James Goodwin.....Master of the Year

Mr. Goodwin started the martial arts in 1978 with the ATA under Grandmaster H.U Lee in Little Rock Arkansas. He earned his 1st degree Black Belt under Mike Brown in 1979 and purchased the Newport Tae Kwon Do Academy. In 1983 he tested for his 2nd degree Black Belt in the USTF. In 1987 he received his 3rd degree and in 1997 he received his 4th degree black belt. In 2006, Mr. Goodwin was diagnosed with heart issues but has continued to teach Traditional Taekwondo at Impact 360 Martial Arts School. Mr. Goodwin was promoted to 6th degree Black Belt by the International Martial Arts Council of America's Grand Masters Council.

Chad Hogue.....Black Belt of the Year

Chad started the martial arts in 1982 and received rank from the American Taekwondo Association in 2003. He is a current Taekwondo Black belt under Bobby Teague and is a member with the Advanced Martial Arts and Karate for Christ International. He has also studied Krav Maga under Professor Marty Cale and teaches at the Karate for Christ of Arkansas.

Diem Nguyen.....Instructor of the Year

Ms. Nguyen has been training in the martial arts since the age of 12. She was active in the Martial Arts competition circuit and competed on local and state levels. She currently holds a 3rd Degree Black Belt in White Tiger Kenpo Karate under Professor Marty Cale. She is a certified Krav Maga Instructor, Combative Jujitsu Instructor and an Associate Jeet Kune Do Instructor. She has been actively teaching martial arts to kids and adults in Fayetteville since 2003. She graduated from the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville in 2006 and since then has worked in Law Enforcement in the state of Arkansas. She's a Police Firearms Instructor, Defensive Tactics Instructor at the Police Academy in Northwest Arkansas since 2009 and more recently, Defensive Tactics Instructor for Krav Maga Tactical Training Options.

Kyle Bennett.....Instructor of the Year

Kyle Bennett is current student of Professor Marty Cale. Mr. Bennett also holds rank in Okinawa Karate, Krav Maga, and Combative Jujitsu. In addition, he has studied under Danny Dring and Caleb Plank. Mr. Bennett is one of the owners and head instructors of River Valley Martial Arts, a faith based school focusing on character development schools in Russellville and Clarksville, AR. His instruction specializes in practical self defense applications through traditional techniques. Kyle also is active in his community leading workshops to increase safety awareness and building interest in the martial arts.

Callie Bennett.....Outstanding Female Instructor

Callie Bennett is a professional Occupational Therapist and a student of Professor Marty Cale. She also holds rank in Okinawan Karate, Shorin Kenjitsu Kenpo, Krav Maga Level 2 Instructorship, and Combative Jujitsu. Miss Bennett is one of the head instructors at River Valley Martial Arts and assists with the safe community outreaches. Her goal is to incorporate her formal therapy education into specialized classes for children with disabilities.

Russell Keeler.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Keeler is a veteran of the martial arts since 1982. He received his black belt in Taekwondo while in the Army in Korea. Mr. Russell went on to study Kenpo Karate and Kosho Shorei Kenpo, from Mr. Dale Sussdorf from 1987 to 1996. He moved to Arkansas in 1997 and began his studies in the White Tiger Kenpo Karate and also a Level 2 Associate Instructor in Krav Maga under Professor Cale. He is head instructor for the *Ironcore Kids Kenpo* program and MMA/Jujitsu coach where he trains amateur fighters for kickboxing and cage fighting. Russ has competed for both tournament sparring, forms competition as well as kickboxing.

Cassidy Gunneman.....Trainer/Instructor of the Year

Cassidy Gunneman is owner of Ironcore Athletics. He is an advanced certified personal trainer with over 10 years experience. Mr. Gunneman specializes in core and cardio fitness and weight control training both professional and amateur fighters. He is Level 2 Associate Instructor in Krav Maga under Professor Cale and also holds a certificate as a Advanced Defensive Tactics Instructor. Currently he is the assistant instructor with Russell Keeler at Ironcore Kenpo and he is also studying the White Tiger Kenpo Karate system.



California

Wade Williams.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Williams is a highly respected instructor of the Filipino martial arts with more than 30 years of experience. He holds an 8th degree in Escrima. He has studied Serrada, Bahala Na, Corto Kadena, Kaboraon, and Goju Karate. He is a member of the Kilohana US Organization, Stockton Coalition of Stockton, Genesis Martial Arts International and the Visayan Escrima Guild of Oakland. Wade is a man of God, and through his ministry and his evangelical effort, he has used his martial arts as a tool to reach the youth in his local community.

Tony Damigo.....Defensive Tactics Instructor

Mr. Damigo is a member of Professor George Kirby's inner core of instructors and serves as Western Regional Director for the American Ju-Jitsu Association; a non-profit amateur athletic organization. Tony has pursued the study of the martial arts and self-defense related training for more than 35 years. Mr. Damigo holds the 4th degree Black Belt in Budoshin Jujitsu as well as Instructors certification in Defensive Tactics, Impact Weapons, and the Slide Handle Baton. Mr. Damigo is also the California State Director for the United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame and the International Martial Arts Council of America.

Zachary Short.....Master Instructor of the Year

Zachary began the martial arts at an early age and currently hold the rank of 4th degree Black Belt in Tang Soo Do under the Combat Martial Arts Practitioners Association and a 3rd degree Black Belt in Yi Dan Cha Gi style of Karate under Grandmaster Jim Wood. Mr. Short holds degrees in Criminal Justice and a bachelor degree in Economics Crime Investigation, which has allowed him to work with the Homeland Security out of San Diego California.

Christopher Pintor.....Apprentice Instructor

Christopher Pintor has been training in Gracie Jiu-Jitsu since 2006. In 2007, he entered the traditional Shaolin Temple Tai Mantis Kung Fu Academy where he has trained in Gung Fu. He now trains in Jeet Kun Do under Master Roy Farris and has earned the rank of Apprentice Instructor. He has also trained with Masters Leo Fong and Adam James.

Colorado

Austin Box.....Lifetime Achievement/Living Legend Award

Mr. Austin Bent Box, (Chu pat ich dech), is from the Southern Ute people of Colorado. He began his martial arts training in 1957 in Judo while in the USAF. Later he moved to Shotokan Karate under the tutelage of Sensei Vincent Cruz from the Nishiyama Hidetaka lineage. Mr. Box has trained in Chung Do Kwan while serving tours in Viet Nam in the early 1960's. Part of his training has involved Hapkido and Tai Chi Chuan. He has coached at the USA Indigenous Games, refereed local competition levels, participated in martial arts promotions and his sincere love of teaching of Native American heritage. Mr. Box is the founder of the Hana Dai Ichi Karate Association (Translated: One within One) which began in Colorado Springs in 1965. Since then he has over 300 Black Belts promoted over the 47 years. He is a current member of the International San Ten Karate Association. This will be Mr. (Hanshi) Austin Box, 4th time USMAHOF membership and special recognition.

Connecticut

Wayne Tanguay.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Tanguay holds a third degree Black Belt in the art of Kenpo Karate under Sifu Lee Lowery and a 4th degree Black Belt in Modern Arnis. He is a member of the New England Martial Arts Teachers Association and the International Modern Arnis Federation. He has been studying the martial arts for almost 25 years and is an active Instructor at Connecticut Kenpo Karate.



Cesar Perez.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Perez was born in Puerto Rico and during his martial arts career he has earned his 5th degree Master Certification in Calasanz's Physical Arts, a 2nd degree in Ninjitsu under Shihan Richard VanDonk and Grandmaster Maasaki Hatsumi. He has also received his Shidoshi-ho licensing and certification from Japan. He is currently an Assistant Instructor testing for 2nd degree in Taekwondo, under Master Young Kik Cho. Sabunim Cho has been his instructor in Tae Kwon Do for 8 years. Within the organization, Mr. Perez is Head Instructor of Kickboxing at the World Champion Taekwondo Competition School in West Haven, Connecticut. He has competed on the local and national level in Taekwondo and Open Style competitions.

Robert Olmedo.....Golden Life Award

Born in Chile, Master Olmedo has 40 years in the martial arts. He has earned numerous Black Belts in various arts including Karate, Aikido, Hapkido, Judo, Jujitsu and Kali. He holds a 4th degree Black Belt in Soo Bahk Do, Moo Duk Kwan which he earned in 2008 under Grandmaster H.C. Hwang. He competes in both national and international tournaments. Mr. Olmedo, is a professional bodyguard and has security work for numerous of famous musicians and is fluent in 6 different languages.

Florida

Helen Russo.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mrs. Russo has been studying the art of To-Shin-Do and holds the rank of 5th degree Black Belt under her husband Mark Russo. She has been studying the arts for more than 20 years. She is a member of Warrior Knights of the Blade. She also holds a bachelors degree in transpersonal counseling. She is an active instructor at Quest Martial Arts.

Mark Russo.....Senior Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Russo has been studying the martial arts for 47 years. He holds an 8th degree Black Belt in To-Shin-Do under Grand Master Stephen K Hayes. He has also studied Okinawan Shorin Ryu, Kobujutsu, Kenpo Jutsu, Judo, Taekwondo, and Bujinkan Ninjitsu. He is owner of Quest Martial Arts in Tampa, Florida.

Edward Brizzolara.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Brizzolara has been studying the Martial Arts for 30 Years. He holds a 4th degree Black Belt in Karate and Jujitsu under Grandmaster *Pappasan* Jack Stern. Edward also holds a 2nd Black Belt in Taekwondo. He is a member of the realistic Defense Tactics Knife Fighting System under Master Gary Hernandez.

Georgia

John Owsiak.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Owsiak began his training in Taekwondo in 1978 under Grand Master Joseph Auman in Bay City, Michigan. He became one of the youngest Instructors at the American Taekwondo Academy. In 1994, Owsiak moved to Columbus Georgia and continued studying Taekwondo until January 2000. Mr. Owsiak began his training in Ninjitsu under Shihan Jeff Davis. He received his Shodan in Japan 2004 and eventually passed the Godan test in July 2008. Currently, as a 9th degree, he is the lead Instructor of the Columbus Georgia Bujinkan Dojo and Bujinkan Life Dojo. Mr. Owsiak has made numerous trips to Japan to study under Masaaki Hatsumi and continues to grow and share his teachings.

John Baker.....Master Instructor of the Year

John Baker has been training in the Martial Arts since 1981 and teaching professionally since 1990. He is the owner and chief instructor at the Atlanta Martial Arts Center and the AMAC Tactical Training Group in Atlanta, Georgia. He is also the Defensive Tactics Instructor for the Executive Protection Institute. He holds the rank of 7th degree Black Belt in Huo Chuan Fa. He has also studied Gracie Jujitsu, Jeet Kune Do, Kali, Judo, Wing Chun, and Thai Boxing.



Illinois

Stephen Young.....Distinguished Grandmaster Award

Mr. Young is a 9th degree Black Belt in Isshin Ryu Karate. He is a member of the American Okinawan Karate Association and a member of the Isshin Ryu Karate Hall of Fame. He has been training in the arts for 45 years to also include Shotokan and Judo.

Larry Schurig.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Schurig has been practicing the martial arts for more than 20 years. He holds the rank of 4th degree Black Belt in the art of Taekwondo. He has also studied Hapkido, Kenpo and Okinawan Karate. He is also a certified Defensive Tactics Instructor for Law Enforcement and is a member of numerous Law Enforcement Associations.

Andrew Pendexter.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Pendexter holds Black Belt rank in Taekwondo under Master Craig Hutson. He has also trained in Kyukido, Hapkido and Judo. He is a member of the World Taekwondo Federation, the International Original Taekwondo Federation, and the AKF. He has received a Letter of Commendation and is a Licensed Master Instructor from Kukkiwon (World Taekwondo HQ in Korea) and numerous Awards of Appreciation.

Joe Roque Jr.Instructor of the Year

Mr. Roque Jr., holds the rank of 3rd degree Black Belt in Shorei Goju under Master Todd Gilbert. He has also studied Jujitsu and some mixed martial arts training. He is a member of the American Karate Association and the Professional Karate Commission. He has won numerous local and state karate tournaments. He is the owner of Dragon Fire Karate and teaches the art of Shorei Goju.

Lyle Huffstutler.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Huffstutler began his journey of the martial arts more than 30 years ago. He received his first Black Belt at age 16. He has trained with some of the worlds greatest martial artist, including; Soke Kubota, Royce Gracie, Taika Oyata, Sifu Benny Meng. In 2007, he was crowned a champion at the elite level of competition in the USNKF. He was 2010 National Instructor of the Year and a 3- time consecutive state champion coach. He currently holds a 5th degree black belt and teaching certifications in Okinawan Kempo, Kyusho-Jitsu, Escrima and Brazilian Jujitsu.

Raymond Bosques.....Silver Life Award

Mr. Bosques, began his martial arts training in Puerto Rico in 1983, under the instruction of Orlanda Rodriguez Sensei and Nestor Adames Sensei. He moved to Chicago in 1988, he won his first national championship in 1991 at the Elite Athletic Open Championship. Also, winning state championships in; Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Kentucky. Mr. Bosques also represented the USA twice in the US Open Taekwondo Championships in 1992 and 1993 He received Instructor of the Year from the AKA. He has trained in other arts such as Hapkido, Okinawa Kenpo Karate, and Kobudo. In 2009, he reunited with Sensei Rodriguez and helped create Fenikusu Kenpo Karate Do Kai.

Larry Martin.....Lifetime Achievement

Master Martin is a 5th dan in the style of Taekwondo (and 4th Dan in W.T.F.). He has studied Hapkido, World Konyo Gurn Do, Hai Dong Gundo, and Serrada Escrima. He has received awards 13 times in the U.S.N.T.F. International Champion, 3 times U.S.N.T.F. US Open Grand Champion, and 4 times in the Martial Arts Hall of Fame. Master Martin feels the greatest award is the friendships and meeting other masters, instructors and Student's over the years. Master Martin is a member of the U.S.N.F., WTF Association Membership, Life Time Membership to I.M.A Council of America, and the Combat Karate Organization. At the age of 70, we are proud to honor Mr. Martin with a Lifetime Achievement.

Craig Hutson.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Hutson holds the rank of 6th degree black belt in Kyuki-Do. He is also ranked in Hapkido and Taekwondo. He is a member of the American Kyuki-Do Federation, The United States Judo Association, and the Hanminjok Hapkido Association. Mr. Hutson has been in the arts for nearly 40 years and owns/operates the AKF Martial Arts Dragon Kyuki-Do where he teaches Judo, Tae Kwon Do, Kyuki-Do, and Hapkido.



Harry Wheeler.....Grandmaster of the Year

Mr. Wheeler, 8th Dan in Kenpo karate, has been involved in the martial arts since 1964. His study began with boxing, wrestling, Shorei-GoJu Karate, Shotokan, Kyokushinkai, Brazilian jiu-jitsu, and Cooper Ryu Jujitsu. Mr. Wheeler has also been the lead instructor in Defensive Tactics and Physical Training for the Cook County Sheriff's Training Academy.

David Dickenscheidt.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Dickenscheidt, has been studying the martial arts for more than 30 years. He holds the rank of 5th degree black belt in Shorei-Goju under Robert King and George Dillman. He has also studied small circle Jujitsu, modern Arnis and Taekwondo. He is a member of the Professional Karate Commission and is an active instructor at the Calvary Christian Martial Arts teaching Shorei-Goju and Kyusho-Jitsu.

Rodney Childs Sr.Silver Life Award

Mr. Childs has training in Shaolin Kempo, Kosha Ryu Kempo, Tsing I, Jujitsu, Aikido, Iaido, Hapkido, Short and Long Weapons Internal Gung Fu, and over 300 forms that making the *Mon So Chi Kempo System*. He is a Life Member of the Martial Arts Collective Society and is an Inductee Of the US Martial Arts Hall Of Fame. Mr. Childs is a 5th degree black belt in Shaolin Kempo.

Billy Dalton..... (Senior) Male Competitor of the Year

Mr. Dalton is owner and Chief Master Instructor of Tracy's Kenpo Karate of Southern Illinois. He holds the rank of 6th degree black belt under Instructor Jefferson Davis. He has been competing in martial arts events since 1993. He is the top Midwest Martial Arts Fighting Champion. He is also top rated in forms and fighting with the NBL. In 2011, he was rated 2nd in fighting and 4th in forms with NASKA. This year he is number 1 rated NASKA Fighter for over 50.

INDIANA

Charles Dismang, Ph.D.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Dismang has been training in the martial arts for more than 35 years. He hold a 3rd degree black belt in the art of Shotokan Karate under Master Mike Ingram. He has also studied Kenpo, Chung Do Kwan, Aikido, Pancrase and Wing Chun. He is affiliated with the Southern Indiana Karate Do. He has his Ph.D, in *Martial Science* and has been awarded *Black Belt of the Year* numerous times. He is owner and chief instructor of Full Moon Martial Arts.

IOWA

Brendt Bernard.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Bernard began Tang Soo Do training in 1984 and received his first black belt in 1988. He has been a member of the Iowa Tang Soo Do Association, World Tang Soo Do Association, and presently with the IKSA. Mr. Bernard has conducted class since 1988 teaching many self defense seminars and demos for various civic groups. He has competed in over 40 local and regional tournaments. He has been named Top Male Black Belt. He currently operates a school in Tripoli, Iowa. Mr. Bernard, 4th degree black belt in 2010, feels the most satisfying part of his martial arts journey is overseeing the development and growth of his *special needs* students.

KANSAS

Thomas Williams.....Grandmaster of the Year

Mr. Williams is the chief instructor and senior master of American Karate and Martial Science. He holds black belt ranks in several disciplines including an 8th degree in American Free Style Karate. He is a 28 year veteran of the Kansas Department of Corrections. In 1991, he co-created the Defensive Tactics Instructor Course at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility that was eventually accepted as the Defensive Tactics program for Kansas Department of Correction and their 9 facilities. He is a member of numerous associations and has spent more than 40 years in the martial arts.



Sandra Price-Byrd.....Distinguished Master of the Year

Ms. Price-Byrd began her training as a child under the instruction of her father Grandmaster Sam Price. She has been training for more than 35 years. She owns and operates the McPherson School of Karate and Body Construction Fitness Studio with her husband Ricky. She holds an 8th degree black belt in Goju Ryo and American Freestyle. She has also studied Bushido-kan, Taekwondo and MMA. She is a member of the Independent Martial Arts Federation, Kiwanis of America, Bold and Strong Women, and has a *Doctrine in Martial Arts*.

Kentucky

Michael Peterson.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Peterson has trained more than 3 decades in Okinawan Kempo. He has also had the opportunity to train in the Filipino and Indonesian martial arts. His training began in 1988 while serving overseas in the United States Marine Corps. For 18 months he trained in Kali in the Philippines. When he returned to the United States, he continued his study of Kali and began studying Silat Mubai (now referred to as Pencak Silat Sharaf). He decided to integrate his knowledge of stick fighting with his newly found interest in Karambit manipulation. Mr. Peterson has been studying the tactical Indonesian Karambit for nearly 20 years. He holds multiple seminars yearly at his school in the Cincinnati area and taught the first Karambit seminar at the United States Martial Arts Training Camp in 2008.

Louisiana

Robert Meteye III.....Master of the Year

Mr. Meteye, 8th degree black belt, began practicing Kodokan Judo at the age of 5 under his father's tutelage. While continuing Judo he also started training in Wado Kai Karate. By the age of 15, he had received a black belt in both styles. Moving to New Orleans in 1974, he met Grandmaster Norman Pedelamore and he started studying Lung Chua Pai System. He branched out to teach the style of Nei She Pai Kung Fu for the next 25 years. He has won several National Titles and numerous local and regional championships.

Ohana Martial Arts.....Martial Arts School of the Year

Jeff Shadoin, along with his wife Jan, are owners and instructors of Ohana Martial Arts. Both hold black belt's in KaJuKenbo. Mr. and Mrs. Shadoin have been married for 30 years and have 2 children, Shanna and Chris. This special black belt family, are instructors in the Ohana Martial Arts located in Shreveport.

Philip Huber.....Instructor of the Year

Philip studies the art of Kajukenbo under Master Jeff Shadoin for the past 4 years at Ohana Martial Arts. He is a very talented instructor and student alike. He is a leader within the school and has competed in numerous tournaments, winning the 2011 SKIL Creative Forms World Champion.

Chad Early.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Early holds a black belt in the art of Kajukenbo and Penjak Silate and has been accepted to receive his 3rd degree at the end of this year. He is also certified in the art of Iaido. He started his training in 2003 under Grandmaster Jay Vera. He has trained in other styles which include Muai Thai, Aikido, Escrima and Kali. He has also studied Taekwondo under Master Ivory Irvin. This is his second membership in the US Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

Eddie ThibodeauxHumanitarian Award

Mr. Thibodeaux holds a 7th degree black belt in American Freestyle Karate. He has been a Deputy Sheriff for 27 years plus the Director of Training and Professional Development. He owns and operates the Eunice Black Belt Academy. Being in Law Enforcement for years, Eddie has seen many troubled kids and therefore, he has incorporated numerous programs in his karate school to help kids follow the right path of life. Eddie is a true martial artist and has been in the arts for more than 28 years and has studied various styles and systems.

Jon Bracknell.....Martial Artist of the Year

Mr. Bracknell studied the art of boxing for many years, then moved on to arts like Brazilian jujitsu and Muay Thai, in which he has studied for over a period of three years each. Currently studying under Grandmaster Jay Vera for about two years now, has in turn taught him a lot in the understanding of Kajukenbo.



Maine

Bradley Krehel.....Distinguished Founder Award

Mr. Krehel has been training in the martial arts since 1970. He has studied Judo, JuJitsu, Taekwondo, Boxing, Tai Chi Qigong and Tang Soo Do. He is an accomplished competitor and has received National and International awards from the Professional / Amateur Karate League, PRO/AM National Circuit and with KRANE Rating International. In 1994, he was a member of the USA Karate Team that traveled to China, Hong Kong and Korea. When America was attacked on September 11, 2001, Mr Krehel decided to commit his life to teaching the art of Tang Soo Do and founded Kid Soo Do, a Youth organization dedicated to providing a comprehensive Self Defense Karate Program.

Maryland

Harvey Levy.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Levy has studied the arts of Combat Hapkido, Ryu Kyu Kempo Ju-Jitsu and has been studying martial arts for 48 years since the age of 14. He is a 3rd degree in Tang Soo Do. Mr. Levy is a member of Dillman Karate International, Kyusho Jitsu Kenkyukai. He was inducted into the United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame in 2010.

James Smith.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Smith holds the rank of 3rd degree Black Belt in the arts of Taekwondo and Jujitsu. He is also a Level 1 Krav Maga Instructor under Professor Marty Cale. He is a member of Kukkiwon, National School of Martial Arts, World Black Belt Bureau and the International Association of Krav Maga. He teaches at *The Karate Club* in Maryland

Thomas Morris Sr.Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Morris is a 4th degree Black Belt in Taekwondo. He has also studied Jujitsu, Tang Soo Do and is a Level 1 Krav Maga Instructor. He has been doing the martial arts for 22 years and is a member of the World Black Belt Bureau, National School of Martial Arts and the International Association of Krav Maga.

Massachusetts

Al Seam.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Seam entered into Martial Arts in 1996 and has been teaching Kenpo Karate since 1999. He received his Black belt in 2000 and attained his 3rd degree in 2005. Mr. Seam's Kenpo Karate experiences includes: working as an instructor, specializing as a juvenile sparring and demonstration team coach. He has received an award in Youth Coach Volunteer of the year from YMCA. He is a member of WKKA, BDFS. Currently he is teaching life skills in Special Education through martial arts at the Turners Falls High School. This is his second induction into the US Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

Michigan

Nicholas Imsande.....Male Competitor of the Year

Mr. Imsand is an exceptional competitor and ambassador for the art of Taekwondo. His skills, competitive drive and level of success have earned him much recognition and competitive success in his region of the United States. Master Imsande is a 2 time National Champion, State Championship medalist, and twice nominated as Competitor of the year by his peers. He is an author of numerous martial arts articles and topics.

Missouri

Billy BaugherMartial Artist of the Year

Mr. Baugher is a member of the U.S. Martial Arts Hall of Fame and the International Martial Arts Council of America. He has received awards in U.S. Martial Arts Hall of Fame 4 times and the Merl Taylor Award. Mr. Baugher has been in the arts for 41 years, holding the rank of 5th Dan in Taekwondo. He has also studied the arts of Moo Do Kwon, Judo, Jujitsu, Aikido, Hapkido, Kendo, Shorin-Ryu, Shotokan, GoJu and Muay Thai.



Allen L. Fischer.....Pioneer Award

Mr. Fischer has been involved in the martial arts since 1966. He is a member of IMAC, and World Martial Arts Ranking Association. He is a 7th Dan in American Karate presented by the Masters and Grandmasters of IMAC at the National Training Camp. He has also studied American Kenpo, Tushka-Huma, Combat Jujitsu, cane, whip and sword. Mr. Fischer has received numerous awards and is a Life Member IMAC and a Certified Charter School. He teaches 3 of his grandchildren in hopes of passing along the martial arts heritage.

Craig Boardman.....Distinguished Grandmaster Award

Mr. Boardman is a founder, 10th degree black belt, in Goshin Jitsu Ryu. He also holds multiple ranks in Ryukyu Kempo, Chinese Kenpo Karate, Mu Chang Moo Sul, and Small Circle Jujitsu. He has extensive training in Kyusho jitsu, Torite Waza, Shime Waza, Nage Waza, Atemi Waza, Goshin Waza, Katame Waza, Sound Projection, and Transitional Flow. Mr. Boardman is member of Dillman Karate International. He has received awards in the 2005 and 2010 in the United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame, DLMA Hall of Fame, and United States Jujitsu Alliance Hall of Fame.

Lamont TylerMaster Instructor of the Year

Mr. Tyler holds rank in the art of Judo under Tim Redden. He has been training for the past 12 years studying: Brazilian Jujitsu, Japanese Jujitsu, Hapkido and Muay Thai. He has multiple records in MMA, Jujitsu, Pro Division in Jujitsu, Taekwondo and an incredible 116 wins and 67 losses in Judo. Mr Tyler is considered to be a master competitor and well as a true master instructor.

Gary Jameson, DC.Grandmaster of the Year

Dr. Jameson was born in Stuttgart, Germany. He moved to the United States in 1972 at age 15 and started his training in Shotokan Karate. Then, under the instruction of Mr. Jim Botin, he was introduced to the art of Taekwondo. In 1990, he opened St. Louis Taekwondo Academy. His private practice specializing in Chiropractic Medicine and Acupuncture, is located in the St. Louis area. He is a member of the International Taekwondo, National Tae Kwon Do Federation of America (NTFA) and Martial Arts Alliance. His resume includes: Certified AAU Coach/Referee, NTFA Regional Director for Missouri, International Martial Arts Council of America (IMAC) Missouri State Director, United International Federation of Martial Arts (UIFMA) Lifetime Member, and Apprentice Instructor for Progressive Fighting Systems.

James RiggsPromoter of the Year

Mr. Riggs is the Founder and Promoter of the *South West Association of Tournaments* (SWAT) since 1990. He is a 7th degree black belt in Moo Duk Kwan style Taekwondo, under Grandmaster Edwin J. Budd Jr. He has also studied GoJu Ryu and Aikido. He was formerly rated in the PKL in his competition days. He has been involved in the martial arts for more than 30 years.

Michael RotherSilver Life Award

Mr. Rother is Kukkiwon certified holding a 6th degree black belt in the World Taekwondo Federation, United States National Taekwondo Federation and the World Tae Kwon Do Council. He also holds rank in the Korean Sword Art of Haidong Gumdo and the United States Judo Association Jujitsu division. He has been a certified referee and the Missouri State Director for the US Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

Larry Adams.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Adams is a 7th Duan (Quan Shi) and 2nd Degree Black Belt in Kenpo. He has studied and taught the Chinese Martial Arts for more than 40 years. As a former student of Master Melvin Armstrong who is a direct lineage to Grandmaster Ark Yuey Wong. Mr Adams continues to teach quality Chinese Martial Arts and is founder/owner of the Wu Hsing Chuan Five Animal Academy where he teaches Southern Five Animal Kung Fu, Five Family, Chin na, Qi-Gong, Yang style Tai Chi, San Shou and at least 20 traditional Chinese weapons. He is on the board of directors for the American Chinese Martial Arts Federation. He is a member of the United States Wushu Kung Fu Federation and President of the USA Wu Hsing Chuan Kung Fu Association.



Milan TunheimMartial Artist of the Year

Mr. Tunheim, born and raised in California, started the martial arts at the age of 12. He studied the Okinawan style of Isshin-Ryu. Moving to Missouri, he continued training under Professor Wayne Carmen at the TCB Martial Arts Training Center. He currently holds the rank in the arts of Okinawan Uchi-Ryu Karate, Kajukenbo, and Kung Fu.

Gena Hedgpeth.....Outstanding Student of the Year

Gena's martial arts training began as her two sons studied under Professor Wayne Carmen at the TCB Karate and Martial Arts System in Branson, Missouri. In 2001 Gena and her husband moved away to join the ministry. At the time when most people are beginning to phase out activities in their lives, Gena, a grandmother, feels empowerment in the martial arts. She is driven to master her skills and plans to integrate her love for the Martial Arts with her passion for ministry.

Mark Ruda.....Outstanding Martial Artist of the Year

Mark Ruda started wrestling at the age of 6 and began his interest in pursuing the martial arts. He has studied Taekwondo under Master Troy Bureson and his training under Professor Wayne Carmen in TBC Karate. Mark loves working with weapons and has also reached the rank the Cane Master System.

Jermaine Andre'Master Instructor of the Year

A 2-time world champion, Master Andre is celebrating 10 years since winning the World Fighting Alliance title as a middleweight, the first sanctioning title in Las Vegas. He is the author of 4 books, and the Founder of "Teen Bully Response Squad". The organization is dedicated to battling the growing problem of bullying across America. He is the owner/chief instructor of *Andre's MMA Fit*. Mr. Andre' was a special invite to participate in the USMAHOF training program in 2012.

Jefferson Davis.....Senior Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Davis has been the martial arts for 46 years beginning his formal study of Shorin-Ryu Karate under Master Bob Yarnell in 1966. He also studied Judo and Tracy's Kenpo Karate under Tim Golby and Sid Gee in 1974. He currently holds the rank of 8th degree black belt in Kenpo Karate. He retired from active competition in 2000 earning hundreds of honors in both forms and fighting. Mr. Davis was formerly ranked in the top ten for Karate Illustrated and NASKA. Mr. Davis organized, promoted, and directed the St. Louis National Budweiser Karate Classic.

Kurt ValezMaster Instructor of the Year

Mr. Valdez holds a 6th degree black belt and the VP of the International Taekwondo Martial Arts Alliance. He was inducted into the 2001 United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame as Martial Artist of the Year. He is one of the head Instructors at the St. Louis Taekwondo Academy.

Jonathan BlackBlack Belt of the Year

Jonathan holds a black belt under Professor Wayne Carman in TCB Karate. He has also studied Kenpo Karate and been in the martial Arts for more than 10 years. He is an outstanding martial artist and leader within the TCB Karate Classes. He was awarded the 2010 Outstanding Martial Artist with the United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame.

Ron White.....Living Legend Award

Mr. White has been training in the martial arts for 50 years. He started training in Shudo Kan under Master Sam Brock and earned his black belt in 1973. In 1975, he broke the Guinness World Record for laying the longest time on a Bed of Nails. He also began bare knuckle fighting and won his first Full Contact Karate Championship in 1975. In 1986 he developed an interest in Ninjitsu and went to study with Master Harunaka Hoshino. Mr. White trained with other very notable personalities; Elvis Presley, Chuck Norris and Bruce Lee. Mr. White is known for his outstanding Kickboxing career and his Heavy Weight Championships. In 2005, Master White turned 60 years old. He had won the Heavy Weight Title 3 times with an unbelievable fighting record of 40 wins and NO losses. His professional kickboxing career stem beyond four separate decades, 1976, 1985, 1998 and 2005.



Steve 'Red Nose Pitbull' BergerPioneer Award

Steve Berger is a professional mixed martial arts fighter and UFC veteran. He competed in the welterweight class, 3-times he has been crowned a UFC champion. In a 45 fight career, Mr. Berger has 21 wins, 21 losses and 3 draws. He owns and teaches at Red Nose MMA and continues to share his knowledge with other MMA fighters across the country.

Joe Warden, DC.....MMA Coach of the Year

MMAFS Team USA head coach for the past 2 years, taking teams to Italy, Australia, Canada, and South America for international competition. Mr. Warden has enjoyed a very successful career over the past 20 years, and boasts an international team competition record of 28-8. He also holds a Doctorate degree in Chiropractic.

Wayne Carmen.....Life-Time Achievement

Mr Carmen began studying Passryu martial arts in the late 60's in Memphis, Tennessee, under grandmaster Kang Rhee. He trained at the original studio with the likes of Bill Superfoot Wallace and the ever famous Elvis Presley. Mr Carmen competed in the Ed Parker international tournaments. Mr Carmen is an author of the book Elvis's karate legacy and is also a co-owner with Graceland of the video footage of Elvis's Project "The Gladiator" a martial arts documentary featuring Elvis Presley.

Nebraska

James Rosenbach, PhD.....Grandmaster of the Year

Mr. Rosenbach is a 10th degree black belt in Ninjitsu and Mixed Martial Arts. He also holds Black Belts in Taekwondo and Hapkido. He has been in the arts for 39 years and has accomplished 'Soke' title under the Black Belt Alliance. He has been on the cover of Black Belt Magazine, Fighting Stars Magazine, and Inside Kung Fu Magazine. He has a Doctoral of Science from the University of Martial Arts Studies. He has written a Book entitled "34 Years of Martial Arts," plus awarded Ninjitsu Grandmaster of the Year and Living Legend.

Nevada

Mikeal Smith.....Silver Life Award

Mikeal Smith is a member of the Independent Warriors Association, American Tang Soo Do Alliance, International Martial Arts Council of America and the Martial Arts Collective Society. Mr. Smith is the 2011 United States Martial Arts Hall of Fame, Founders Award. He has studied the martial arts for 36 years and is currently a 7th degree black belt in the style of Close Quarters Combat and PGR Self Protection System.

Pasqual Urrabazo Jr.Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Urrabazo has been studying Kajukenbo for 32 years and is currently a 7th degree black belt under the guidance of Grandmaster Daniel Frazier. He is the founder of the International Kajukenbo Academy in Las Vegas, Nevada. He has traveled extensively and has been a featured speaker throughout the U.S.A. and internationally. He considers it a privilege to be able to teach, not only martial arts, but also life skills and leadership development.

Rommel Barba.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Barba has been training in the martial arts for 27 years. He holds a 3rd degree black belt in Kajukenbo under Grandmaster Dan Frazier. He has also studied Maui Thai, Taekwondo, Jujitsu and Kung Fu. He is a member of Kajukenbo Self Defense Systems, International Kajukenbo Association and Frazier Martial Arts Academy. Mr. Barba is also a Defensive Tactics Instructor for the LVMPD.

Daniel Woods.....Black Belt of the Year

Daniel Woods holds rank in the art of Ko Den Kan, Dan Zan Ryu Jujitsu under Master Michael Zerr. He is a member of Jujitsu America. He has received the *Ohana Award* for Spirit of Family. He has been studying the Martial Arts for 24 years.



New Jersey

Robert Nichols.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Nichols began his Martial Arts career at the age 12 and currently holds the rank of 5th Dan Black Belt in Ninjitsu. He also holds black belts in Taekwondo and Karate. He was the 2011 US Commerce Association " Best Business" in Union, New Jersey. He was the 2003 and 2004 ATA National Champ and 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2008 New Jersey UTA State Champion.

NEW MEXICO

John Cherry.....Master Instructor of the Year

John was born in 1959 in Pennsylvania. In 1977, Mr. Cherry attended his first martial arts class at the Los Lunas Taekwondo kwan, New Mexico. Now 35 years later, he is the head instructor of Los Lunas Taekwondo and an associate of the Hana Dai Ichi Karate Organization. He holds the *Master Level* of 7th dan black belt promoted by Grandmaster Austin Box. Mr. Cherry continues to live each day according to the teachings of the martial arts maintaining modesty, perseverance, indomitable spirit, and self control.
(Special recognition to Master Lumbarski)

New York

Edward Sealy.....Pioneer Award

Mr. Sealy had made the martial arts a life-long study and has embodied what it is to become a "master" of the art. He is a black belt in the art of *Hyastan* and has also studied the styles of Kun Tao, Judo, and Jujitsu. At the age of 72, this year marks 50 years training in the martial arts. He was a previous Inductee into the 2010 United States Martial Art Hall of Fame.

Sheldon HowardInstructor of the Year

Mr. Howard, is a retired NYPD Captain and a 911 First Responder. He has been highly decorated in the line of duty 60 times and a member of the NYPD's Prestigious Honor Legion. He is also a 36 year veteran of the martial arts earning numerous black belts ranking in both Shito Ryu Karate and Shotokan Karate. His studies have included Jujitsu and Aikido. Mr. Howard is one of only 7 certified Shito Ryu Shukokai Instructors in New York State. During 2011, he won 13 trophies and medals in open competitions in Kata, Kumite, and Weapons.

Melvin RamseyMaster Instructor of the Year

Mel Ramsey is a 6th degree black belt with over 35 years experience in the martial arts. He began his training in styles such as Isshin Ryu and Aikido. In 1978, he joined the World Seido Karate Organization, where he continues to train today under Grandmaster Tadashi Nakamura. He was the head tournament team leader in Japan in 2002 and 2007 where he brought students to compete in an international tournament that included martial artist from all over the US, Europe, Australia, and Japan. His team consistently placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the men's and women's forms and fighting divisions. He also served as the Grand Champion Center Referee in Nagoya, Japan.

Ralph Wemberly.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Ralph Wemberly has spent 38 years in the martial arts holds the rank of 5th degree black belt in the art of Aikido, Aikikia style under Grandmaster Yamada. He has also studied Tang Soo Do, Tai Chi Chuan. He is a current member of the US Aikido Federation.

North Carolina

John W. Carpenter JrFounder of Lin Su and Excellence in Teaching

Mr. Carpenter began studying Kung Fu also cross trained in Jujitsu, Wing Chun, Taekwondo and Filipino Stick Fighting. He currently holds a 6th Black Sash in Chuan Fa. In 2003, John founded the system of Lin Su, which he continues to enhance and teach. Through his martial arts training, he has been able to impact his community by helping with after school activities, troubled kids, and choreographing fight scenes for demonstrations. He is a member of the US Kuo Shu Federation and the Carolina Association of Chinese Martial Arts. Only through dedication and his guidance from God, family and friends, has he been able to achieve who he is today.



Gary Whitmire.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Whitmire started training in the martial arts with Karate International. Later, he began studying the art of Jeet Kune Do. In the US Army began to study Judo, Karate, and then eventually Taekwondo. He joined a U.F.A.F school in Monroe North Carolina and received his black belts in Chun Kuk Do. He is now instructing at the Waco Martial Arts school where he continues to teach Chun Kuk Do.

Brian Whitmire.....Black Belt of the Year

Brian Whitmire started in the art of Taekwondo and became a member of the National Universal Karate Association. Later, under his father Gary Whitmire (and Ms. Bobbie Hilton) began training in the art of Chun Kuk Do, U.F.A.F at Monroe Martial Arts Academy. Brian tested for his black belt at his father's new school in Waco, North Carolina.

Barbara Hilton.....Black Belt of the Year

Bobbi Hilton has over 16 years of experience in the martial arts. She holds a 2nd degree Black Belt at Monroe Martial Arts Academy and a 1st degree in Chun Kuk Do and is a member of the United Fighting Arts Federation. She is licensed with The National Academy of Defense Education and authorized to teach the nationally known R.A.D System. She works with local police and has assisted in training women from local Battered Shelter for women. Ms. Hilton, is head instructor and owner of the Monroe Martial Arts Academy plus teaching the Lil' Dragons program for children.

Ohio

Charles RiedmillerMaster Instructor of the Year

Mr. Riedmiller, holds the title of Renshi, 5th dan black belt and is the head instructor/director at Summit Martial Arts. He received his Master Level Certificate and teaching credentials in Shorin Ryu Karate/Kobudo from the International Shorin Ryu Karate & Kobudo Federation. He also holds rank in Jujitsu, Judo, Aikido, Taekwondo and White Crane Fist style. He has won numerous National and State Championships. He has practiced the martial arts for 37 years. As a decorated veteran, he served in the U.S. Army infantry. Renshi Riedmiller,(SFC, retired) has put his knowledge to use as hand to hand instructor and teaches elite military, law enforcement agencies, martial arts schools throughout the country.

John Helton.....Distinguished Master Instructor of the Year

John Helton began his study of kenpo karate under Sifu Buck Lewis at Tracy's Karate studio in Cincinnati, Ohio. John received his black belt in 1982. In 1981, John began training with Mr. Steve Golden. Steve was a black belt instructor under the honorable Mr. Ed Parker, the father of American kenpo, as well as an original student of Bruce Lee. In 2002, John received his Jeet Kune Do instructor's certificate from Mr. Golden. Also in 1982, John began training in kali seminars with Guro Dan Inosanto. Dan is also an original student of Bruce Lee, and a world-renowned instructor of the Filipino martial arts, and Jeet Kune Do (Jun Fan methodology). In 1990, John received apprentice instructorship certificates in both Filipino martial arts and Jun Fan methodology under Mr. Inosanto. John spent a decade with Pendekar Paul de Thouars, Grand Master of the Pencak Silat Bukti Negara system, and received permission from the Pendekar to share this information with others in 1988. John was a true kali master in every sense of the word. His passion for teaching the Filipino sticks was clearly seen in all of his words and actions, and his positive energy was immediately evident to all who had the honor of meeting him. John passed unexpectedly at the age of 59 at his home in Cincinnati on July 30th, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and his sons, Ben and Ian. His award is being accepted by his Wife Sue.

Oklahoma

James Dean Bridges.....Silver Life Award

Mr. Bridges has been studying the martial arts for more than three decades. He began his training under the Late GrandMaster Wayne Davis in 1976 until his death in 1992. The main focus of his study, the art of Tai Koshi Do, other styles to include: Taekwondo, American Karate, Bushido Kempo, and Aikijitsu. The art of Tai Koshi Do has been generously passed down to Mr. Bridges by the Wayne Davis family. Mrs. Wayne Davis, have bestowed Mr. Dean Bridges, *Head of Tai Koshi Do*. Mr. Bridges is also a member of the International Martial Arts Council and a Certified Krav Maga, through Professor Marty Cale.



Tony Mondejar.....Golden Life Award

Mr. Mondejar is an 8th dan black belt in Judo and 6th dan in Jujitsu. He has also studied Filipino Arts, Arnis and weapons. In 2001, he received the awards of 2003 Distinguished Master of the year, Master of the year 2005, Instructor of the Year, and in 2007, he received Grand Master of the Year. Mr. Mondejar has been celebrating 45 years in the martial arts and is a member of the USJA, IJF, PAJA, and PMA.

Samuel Whitfield.....Black Belt of the Year

Samuel (Sam) Whitfield is a 4th degree Black Belt in the style of Taekwondo. He has also studied Karate, Hapkido, and is currently working on receiving his black belt in Jukado under Sensei Kevin Funston. In 1997, he took his first class at the University of Central Oklahoma. Mr. Whitfield started with Elite Martial arts Academy in 1999 where he obtained his 1st degree black belt in 2002 under the direction of Grandmaster Michael Butler in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and was awarded Elite Martial Arts Academy Associate Instructor of the Year 2000-2001. He went on to earn his 3rd Dan under Grandmaster Butler. Mr. Whitfield was awarded his 4th Dan from Grand Master Charles Willis in 2012 through U.S. Oh Do wan Taekwondo, Oklahoma City. Mr. Whitfield is currently an instructor at Frazier Martial arts\U.S. Oh Do Kwan Taekwondo, Oklahoma City, instructing in Taekwondo and also a member of the Oklahoma Karate Association.

Debbie Hayes.....Instructor of the Year

Debbie Hayes started training in martial arts late in life. While raising her two boys she decided to join taekwondo since she was there for every class and found herself working with her oldest son as he trained. Debbie has reached the rank of 4th Degree black belt in US Ohdokwan Taekwando. Debbie has held the title of Oklahoma Karate Association (OKA) Women's fighting twice. She has trained students that have competed in the OKA and last year she had one student that was a triple state champion - 1st in forms, 1st in fighting and 1st in weapons. She served as a board member for the Oklahoma Karate Association for 6 years and has judged for the OKA for many years. She would like to train in Kajukenbo in the future. Debbie has also been a public servant for the City of Oklahoma City for over 25 years and believes that she uses what she learns as a martial artist in every aspect of her life.

Robert Attebury.....Silver Life Award

Mr. Attebury started wrestling in high school and began the martial arts with Grandmaster Albert Lawrence. He holds the rank of Soke and Founder of Tuai Fou Combat Kenpo, which was awarded and recognized by Dr. Darrell Smith and the U.S. International Grandmasters and Sokeship Council. He was also awarded his rank of Grandmaster under Grandmaster Albert Lawrence. He is ranked a 7th degree black belt under David Gremar's TAI Fighting System by Master Bernard Strickland, 5th in Lima Lama by Grandmaster Lawrence, 3rd in Kenpo Jujitsu and 3rd in Kenpo Jujitsu Goshen Jitsu by the United States Martial Arts Federation.

Kelvin Hall.....Law Enforcement of the Year

Mr. Hall started his police career in 1989 and has been a full time police officer for 23 years. During that time he was a patrol officer, K-9 Handler, Investigator, Supervisor and Department Training Officer. He became a DT Instructor in 1994. He now works as a Full time Defensive Tactic Instructor, Driving Instructor, Parol Instructor and Physical Fitness Instructor. He holds black belt ranks in Hapkido, Krav Maga Instructor, Monadnocks MDTs, Valencia Lameco and GRACIE Law Enforcement Instructor.

Brett Campbell.....Martial Artist of the Year

Mr. Brett Campbell has been training in the martial arts for 19 years and trains under Grandmaster Dean Bridges in Tai Koshi Do. He is also a Krav Maga Level 1 Instructor.

Albert Lee Lawrence.....Pioneer Award

Mr. Lawrence holds the rank of 10th degree black belt in Chinese Kenpo, Lima Lama under Papa Tino. He has also studied Aikido and Judo while he was in Japan. He is the Oklahoma State Director for the International Martial Arts Council of America and the United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame.



Rafael Lovato, Jr.Black Belt of the Year

Rafael holds black belt rank in Brazilian Jujitsu under Saulo and Xande Ribeiro. He was the 2007 IBJJF Black Belt World Champion, 2010 & 2011 IBJJF Black Belt No Gi World Champion, 3- time IBJJF Black Belt Pan American Champion, 2007 BJJ Fighter of the Year and America's Most Decorated BJJ Fighter. He has been training in the martial arts for 25 years.

Donny Roberts.....Martial Artist of the Year

Mr. Roberts holds the rank in the art of Judo under Grandmaster Tony Mondejar. Donny has also studied Taekwondo and Shotokan. He is a Life Member of the United States Martial Arts Association. He has been recognized as Martial Artist of the Year and Outstanding Judo Player of the Year. He has been involved in the martial arts for 28 years and continues to train at the Ada Judo Club.

Tyree Roberts.....Grandmaster of the Year

Master Roberts started his martial arts career in 1983 under the instruction of GM Lee Lawrence. He style includes the arts of Kempo and Lima Lama. He has received black belts in Kempo, AikiJutsu, Taekwondo and American Karate. Mr. Roberts operates a dojo in Nowata. In 1998, Master Roberts traveled to the World Super National's where he placed 2nd in breaking. He is a true martial artist that continues to make a difference in his community, serving with compassion, and great dedication.

Oregon

Bob Suttles.....Distinguished Grandmaster Award

As a youth, Professor Suttles studied boxing, Judo and Okinawan Karate from his step father, who was a marine hand to hand combat instructor. Later, Mr. Suttles began training with his childhood friend Master Miguel Garcia where they both learned BAK Foo Pai from Grandmaster DooWei in San Diego California. Throughout his martial arts life, he has attained rank and recognition from; DOCS Karate from the late Grandmaster Victor Hughes, Grandmaster Ron Pierce of Kajukenbo, Master Steve Golden, and Grandmaster Dick Burrows of Jeet Kune Do/KALI. Bob received his professor title in Kajukenbo under Sijo Emperado and also awarded full instructor title in JKD from Master Steven Golden. Bob has spent his life training and sharing his Martial Arts.

Pennsylvania

Robson Preeira.....Instructor of the Year

No Bio provided.

Val ShishkinMaster of the Year

Mr. Shishkin born in Kiev, Ukraine now lives in Philadelphia, is a member of the United States of America Wushu-Kungfu Federation. Sifu Shishkin is the founder of Taiji- Chuan and is a Grand Specialists in Qigong, Bai Hui style and Tai Chi-Chuan, Yang style, in version of his family Wang Pai, Hubei Province, China. He owns and operates his school of Yun-Shou.

Rhode Island

Alfred Gagne.....Black Belt of the Year

Mr. Gagne began his karate training in 1969 while serving in the U.S Air Force. He holds a 6th degree black belt in the traditional art of Matsumura Shorin Ryu under Master James Coffman. He has been in the arts for 43 years. He is a member of SMOKA, Shorin Ryu Matsumura Orthodox Karate Association.



South Carolina

Jamie Vaughn.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Vaughn holds the current rank 5th degree black belt in Kempo Karate under Master Bern Fraley. He has also studied Ninjitsu, Aikijutsu and Kali. He is a member of the Universal Martial Arts Association. His resume includes over 30 years in the martial arts and is an active member and owner of Union Karate Center.

Amanda Vaughn (postpartum).....Martial Arts Inspiration

Ms. Vaughn was not a martial artist. However, she was a loving wife and supporter of her husband, Jamie the owner of Union Karate Center. Amanda always supported all aspects of her husband's martial arts involvement and passion. In September of 2011, after battling heart disease, Amanda suddenly passed away at the age of 32. She is survived by her husband, Jamie Vaughn and daughter Jordan Vaughn. **Award to be accepted by her husband, Mr. Jamie Vaughn.**

Steven Dirton.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Dirton studies the art of Kajukenbo under Grandmaster Daniel Frazier and holds the rank of 6th degree black belt. He has also studied Hapkido, Goju, Taekwondo, and Tang Soo Do. He is a member of the Kajukenbo Self Defense Association. He is a former 6- time Heavy Weight Champion of South Carolina. He owns and operates Dirton's Kajukenbo Martial Arts in Greenville and has been in the martial arts for 41 years.

Tennessee

William HoneycuttDistinguished Master Award

Mr. Honeycutt began his karate training in 1967 and earned his first black belt under the legendary Grandmaster Harold Long in Isshin Ryu Karate. Mr. Honeycutt now holds an 8th degree under Master Danny Shaffer. He is a member of the International Isshin Ryu Karate Association and the Isshin Ryu Cross Trainers Alliance. He is a member of the Isshin Ryu Hall Of Fame. He owns and operates Honeycutt School of Isshin Ryu Karate.

Texas

Jason Yerrington.....Instructor of the Year

Mr. Yerrington is the owner of Ohana Jujitsu Academy. He also studies the art of Brazilian Jujitsu under Sergio Correa. He has also studied Muay Thai, Karate and Wrestling. In 2007, he won gold in the World Jujitsu Championships. He is a proud husband and father, choosing the name "Ohana" for his school translated in Hawaiian meaning *Family and Loyalty*.

Douglas Mase.....Martial Artist of the Year

Born in Germany, Mr. Mase started his martial arts training in 1987 in the art of Taekwondo. He has also trained in Aikido, Haedong Kumdo and is a member of the Tang Soo Do Karate Association. He holds rank under Grandmaster Daniel Valdez. He is a Level 1 Instructor in Krav Maga, teaching Krav Maga and Tang Soo Do at his school "The Five Rings Dojang" in San Angelo Texas.

Israel Gonzales.....Master Instructor of the Year

Mr. Gonzales studies the martial art of Kajukenbo under Grandmaster Richard Peralto and holds the rank of 7th degree black belt. He is a member of the Kajukenbo Self Defense Systems, Kajukenbo Ohana Association. He has been in the martial arts for 30 years and was a 2011 United States Martial Arts Hall Of Fame inductee. Israel is the author of the book "Kajukenbo- The Peralta Method".



Vermont

Anne Sylvia Huff.....Excellence in Teaching

Ms. Huff a 4th degree black belt began she was 12 years old. She holds membership in the International Taekwondo Federation. She has also trained in the arts of World Taekwondo and Shotokan Karate. Ms. Huff is a member of the American Karate Association. Her goal is to continue to increase her knowledge for this art and her objective is to become the best instructor that she can be.

Virginia

Harry Davis Sr.Instructor of the Year

Mr. Davis holds the rank of 2nd degree black belt in the martial art of Isshin Ryu Karate under Sensei Lee Paul. He has also studied American Bon-Do Defensive Tactics Combat System. He is a member of the International Isshin Ryu Karate Association and American Bon-Do. He also holds a 6th degree Black belt in Bon-do. Mr. Davis has won numerous awards for kata, and kumite. He has been in the arts for 38 years.

Eddie Hinton Jr.Instructor of the Year

Eddie started his martial arts training karate in 1962. He is a proud veteran for the U.S Marine Corp. His studies and training include; Taekwondo, Tai Chi, Goju Karate, Praying Mantis Kung Fu, and eventually Isshin Ryu Karate with Master Joe Blake and Master Lee Paul. Plus, he trained in Chinese Kempo under Grandmaster Sonny Strong. He is a member of the American Karate Federation.

Tim ReddenMaster Instructor of the Year

Mr. Redden is a 6th degree black Belt Kodokan Judoka, under James Takemori. He includes ranks in Taekwondo and Hapkido. He is a member of the United States Judo Federation and USA Judo. He was a volunteer at the 1996 Olympics in the Judo Venue and holds a Pan American Coaching Certificate. He has been training in Judo for 42 years.

Scott RutterMaster Instructor of the Year

Mr. Rutter has been in the martial arts for 25 years. He has won 6 World Championships and holds a 6th degree black belt in Shotokan Karate-Do. He is a member of the Japan Karate Association and the KTA. Scott owns Rutter's Martial Arts.

Steve KnopferMaster Instructor of the Year

Steve Knopfer began his martial arts training in 1980 in Shorin Ryu Karate. He a 6th degree black belt and holds the title of *Renshi* under Kyoshi Frank Williams. He also holds rank in KoBuJutsu, Jujitsu, Shotokan and Wing Chun Kung Fu. He is a member of the Lo Man Kam Wing Chun Federation, Universal Martial Arts Federation, and the Universal Martial Arts Association. He has competed winning championships including State, Regional and Nationals. But his biggest accomplishments are his students, with 26 State Championships and 12 Nationals Championships in 2011.

Joe Blake.....Distinguished Founder Award

Mr. Blake is an 8th Dan in the style of American Chinese Kempo. He has trained in Isshin Ryu, Moo Duk Kwon, Soong Moo Kwon, and American Kruen Sow Shu Goan. Mr. Blake has received; Instructor of the Year awards, Outstanding Citizenship Award, and Karate Instructor of the Year. He is a member of the Okinawan Karate-Do Union, Virginia self-defense federation, and American Chinese Kempo Federation. Mr. Blake is also experienced with Okinawa Weapons, Korean Kumdo, and Hapkido.

Steve Knopfer.....Master Instructor of the Year

No Bio available



Washington

Hud Huddleston, Sr.Distinguished Founder Award

Master Hud is a 6th degree black belt in the style of Korean Hwa Rang Mul Sul. He's a member of the Korean Hwa Rang Martial Arts Federation as well as President/Founder and Director. He has received the American Hwa Rang Mul Sul Diamond Spirit Award, Action Martial Arts Magazine Hall of Honors, and 13th International Black Belt Martial Arts Elite Award. Master Hud plans to continue teaching and never retire.

Wes LetioaMale Competitor of the Year

Wes Letioa holds a 7th degree black belt in Kajukenbo under Grandmaster Tony Bowles. He has also trained in various forms of Kung Fu and Tai Chi. He is a world recognized competitor in Kung Fu and Tai Chi winning Grand Champion titles. He has been in the martial arts for more than 30 years and owns his school called China Tai Chi Kung Fu.

Wyoming

Willy JohnsonGolden Life Award

Mr. Johnson has been active in the martial arts for 50 years and currently holds 7th degree black belt under Master Bob Harrison. He has trained throughout the United States as well as Okinawa, Japan and Korea. He has trained in 10 different martial arts including, Taekwondo, Mushan, Okinawan and Chinese Kenpo, Judo, Boxing, Jujitsu, Karate and Kickboxing. Mr. Johnson credits his martial arts success to his memorable Instructors. Mr. Johnson is holder of numerous championships, including local, state, national and world titles.



...Juniors

Kyle ThompsonJunior Student of the Year

Kyle has been doing the martial arts for almost 4 years. He holds the rank Taekwondo under his Master Bobby Teague. Kyle also studies Kombat Jujitsu and was the 2011 Arkansas State Jujitsu Champion. He studies and trains at the Karate for Christ of Arkansas.

Zachary NickelJr. Martial Artist of the year

Zach is 15 years old and in an A-B Honor Roll student. His hobbies are music and martial arts. Zach began his martial arts training at Christian Karate in Poetry, Texas. He has been training with Ohana Martial Arts for 3 years under the instruction of Master Jeff Shadoin. Zach is a Junior Instructor and loves to teach karate. He travels the NBL / SKI circuit throughout Louisiana and Texas competing for points for State Championships as well as the NBL Super Grand's. Last year, Zach competed in Sacramento, CA at the NBL Super Grand's and placed 4th in Creative Forms and Sparring. This year, more prepared and motivated, Zach will attend the Super Grand's in Buffalo, NY in hopes of bringing home a World Title.

Samantha KnopferJunior Competitor of the Year

Samantha began training in Shorin Ryu Karate in 2005 under her father Renshi Steve Knopfer. Samantha holds the rank of Nidan in Shorin Ryu, a Nidan in Kobujutsu, Shotokan and Jujitsu. She is a 5 Time State Champion for AAU, USKF and Virginia Games, a 2 time National Champion for USKF and American Games. She has been described by the Daily Press of their local newspaper as a Martial Arts Prodigy.