



NEWS RELEASE

American Rose Society

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2019

AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY TO HONOR LOCAL JOURNALIST AT “AN EVENING OF WINE & ROSES” FUNDRAISER

Shreveport, LA – The American Rose Society will honor local *Times* journalist Margaret “Maggie” Martin as the 2019 recipient of the *Mary Johnston Award* during its event, “An Evening of Wine & Roses.”

The fundraiser will be held on Thursday, April 25th, at the American Rose Center, 8877 Jefferson Paige Road, beginning with a 6:00 p.m. social hour and dinner catered by Maison Louisiane at 7:00 p.m.

Margaret Martin is the latest in a long list of distinguished recipients to be honored for their exemplary support of the American Rose Center. Throughout her career as a journalist at the Shreveport *Times*, Martin has enthusiastically promoted the Rose Center and its many programs to the attention of readers throughout North Louisiana.

The award is named after the wife of former Senator J. Bennett Johnston in recognition of her efforts for having the Rose declared our National Floral Emblem in 1986. Past recipients of the *Mary Johnston Award* include W.C. Rasberry, Jr., Dr. Charles T. Beaird, Virginia Kilpatrick Shehee, Quintin T. Hardtner, III, O. Delton Harrison, Jr., Dayna Sawyer, Dr. Harold & Mrs. Ida Hayden, John D. Caruthers, Jr., and the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau.

Tickets to “An Evening of Wine & Roses” are \$125 each or a Patron Table of eight for \$1,200. The event includes a silent auction, live music by saxophonist Eddie Spencer, and complimentary wine throughout the evening. All funds raised will go towards the American Rose Center’s “Great Garden Restoration Project,” a four-year restoration of the rose gardens to be completed in 2022. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the American Rose Center at (318) 938-5402 or www.rose.org.

About American Rose Center: The American Rose Center was established in 1974 and serves as the national headquarters site for the American Rose Society. The Center is the largest public garden in the United States dedicated to roses. The gardens showcase 20,000 roses in season, with more than 65 of the total 118 acres developed for public enjoyment.

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