

6-2011

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### Recommended Citation

Suarez, Keri, "Andrews students receive Michigan Campus Compact 'Heart and Soul Award'" (2011). *Lake Union Herald*. 327.  
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs/327>

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## Andrews students receive Michigan Campus Compact 'Heart and Soul Award'

Seven Andrews University students received awards from Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) for commitment to service in their community. They received the awards at the Outstanding Student Service Awards Celebration on Apr. 9 at the Kellogg Hotel in East Lansing, Mich. MCC recognized more than 350 students from 38 member campuses, giving three types of awards: Outstanding Community Impact Award, Commitment to Service Award, and the Heart and Soul Award. All seven Andrews students received the Heart and Soul Award.

The seven students were Louise Albert, Daniel Birai, Amy Hahn, Katelyn Nieman, Dragos Prahoveanu, Anneli Cathrine Sigvartsen and Paul Torchia. They were nominated with the combined efforts of Larry Ulery, assistant professor of community services programming; Walter Rogers, senior pastor of Harbor of Hope Church; and Keren Toms, chaplain for outreach.

Prahoveanu attended the brunch with the intent of "getting inspired by what others did, to collect ideas and grow." He was nominated for his creation of the project called "Stay Warm." He and a team of friends collected blankets to distribute to the needy in southwest Michigan. Prahoveanu's original goal was 250 blankets, but his incredible enthusiasm for the project helped Stay Warm collect more than 450 blankets. He says, "Receiving this award helped me realize that I want to dedicate more time to the business of helping people."

The Heart and Soul Award came as a surprise to Nieman, who volunteers at KidsZone at Harbor of Hope Church in Benton Harbor, Mich. She



Louise Albert was a recipient of a Heart and Soul Award at the recent Outstanding Student Service Awards Celebration in East Lansing, Mich. Also receiving awards were Daniel Birai, Amy Hahn, Katelyn Nieman, Dragos Prahoveanu, Anneli Cathrine Sigvartsen and Paul Torchia.

got involved because she "loves working with children, and once I visited the program, something inside of me said, 'This is where you belong.'" At first, Nieman was there simply to help keep order with the kids and engage them in the program, but she quickly realized that wasn't enough. She started a small group part of the program so that volunteers and kids would have more of a relationship. "I like that I helped start something that helped start a change in kids' lives," says Nieman.

Albert was also surprised by the award, and believes she was nominated for her work with the Martin Luther King Jr. service day. This year, she and her fellow volunteers went to a women's shelter and provided beauty services. "We also raised between \$6,000 and \$7,000. This money was used to purchase towels and sheet sets for the shelter," Albert says. She got involved in service because "I feel

strongly about helping those in need. I have a strong sense of responsibility for my community," says Albert.

MCC is a coalition of college and university presidents committed to fulfilling the public purposes of higher education. Campus Compact member presidents are joined together in their commitment to the development of personal and social responsibility as integral to the educational mission of their campuses. Currently, MCC has 42 member campuses and Michigan members are part of the national Campus Compact, a coalition of nearly 1,100 college and university presidents, representing some 6 million students. Learn more at [www.micampuscompact.org](http://www.micampuscompact.org).

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