

# COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADERSHIP AWARD

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## Simone Scott

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An endowment from Robert McNeil's family foundation in 1996 established the annual Hobe Sound Community Service Award. This year's 26th recipient, selected from a list of individuals who have made a significant social service contribution to our community, is awarded a commemorative gift and a \$10,000 contribution to a charitable organization of the award winner's choice. The Chest will honor the recipient at a luncheon held for local social service agency directors in the spring.

The 2022 honoree is Simone Scott, Director of the BLAST program (Banner Lake After School Time) for children and teens. Dedicated to child and adolescent development, Simone brings boundless energy to the program. She is also a community success story. Born and raised in Banner Lake, she now gives back to her community by helping shape the lives and character of its youth.

BLAST provides free, after-school and summer programming to children aged five through eighteen years old. Throughout the year, it offers homework assistance, access to technology, arts and crafts, music, physical fitness and health and wellness activities and services. The BLAST Teen Program fosters leadership opportunities for tweens and teens. For example, members organize fund-raising events for end-of-school-year trips, college tours, and other activities that expand a teen's world view beyond Banner Lake and Hobe Sound. Housed in the newly renovated Banner Lake Teen Center, the program also promotes activities that involve members in their local community.