



# ABCD Press

From the Office of Public Information

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## **Northeastern University President Dr. Joseph E. Aoun Keynote Speaker at ABCD Community Awards Dinner**

### **20 Outstanding Community Volunteers will be Honored; FOX25's Anquetette Jamison to Emcee**

#### **Special Awards to Celebrated Sports Reporter Bob Lobel, State Representative Jeffrey Sanchez, and Community Volunteer/Educator Thelma Burns**

Northeastern University President **Dr. Joseph E. Aoun** will be the keynote speaker at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) Community Awards Dinner on October 31 at the Marriot Boston Copley Place. The annual event brings more than 1,500 guests and neighborhood activists together to honor 20 exceptional volunteers for their important contributions to the neighborhoods where they live.

**Don Law**, President, Live Nation New England, and **Robert Gittens**, Esq., Vice President of Public Affairs, Northeastern University, will serve as co-chairs of the Awards Dinner Friends Committee, reaching out to corporate and philanthropic friends to support this important night and ABCD neighborhood programs.

FOX25 morning news anchor **Anquetette Jamison** will emcee the dinner and World Champion Boston Celtics Head Coach "**Doc**" **Rivers** will deliver a video tribute.

Special awards will be presented to State Representative **Jeffrey Sanchez**, longtime Boston sports media figure **Bob Lobel**, and **Thelma Burns**: educator, volunteer, and former ABCD Board Chair.

Dr. Aoun became Northeastern's seventh president just two years ago, joining one of the nation's largest urban universities after more than two decades at the University of Southern California. Known across the globe as one of the foremost scholars in linguistics, Dr. Aoun's impact on the Northeastern campus and the surrounding community is exemplified in the Stony Brook Initiative, a comprehensive University-neighborhood partnership for youth and community development.

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ABCD President/CEO Bob Coard said “We are very fortunate to have Dr. Aoun as our keynote speaker. As President of the largest work-study urban university in the nation, Dr. Aoun has his finger on the pulse of the issues that matter to Boston and is proving a steadfast supporter of our inner-city youth and neighborhoods.”

The October 31 date has inspired a “Venetian Masquerade” theme that will add an element of excitement and mystery to the evening!

For more information regarding the 2008 ABCD Annual Community Awards Dinner, please call Jessica Vasquez at (617) 348-6236.

**About ABCD:**

ABCD serves more than 100,000 low-income Boston-area residents through its central offices and a decentralized network of Neighborhood Service Centers (NSCs). Programs and affiliations include Fuel Assistance; Head Start; Child Care Services; Child Care Choices of Boston; Education; Career Development; Housing and Homelessness Services; Health Services; Family Planning; Urban College of Boston; University High – an Alternative High School; Ostiguy High School for high school students in recovery; Weatherization; Foster Grandparents; Elder Services; Intergenerational Programs; management of the Combined Federal Campaign, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and City of Boston employee giving campaigns; advocacy and consumer services.

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