



FOUNDED 1865

# THE SALVATION ARMY

INCORPORATED

MAJORS B. BRYAN & BEVERLY R. SMITH  
Commanding Officers

P.O. BOX 868  
LANCASTER, PA 17608-0868  
TELEPHONE (717) 397-7565  
FAX (717) 397-6255

January 15, 2008

Alumni Awards Committee Wiesenberger  
Alumni Center  
P.O. Box 730  
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530

Re: Nomination for The Rothermel Alumni Award  
Thomas F. Hermansader – Class of 1973 (BA) & Class of 1978 (MA)

Dear Ms/Sir:

I am honored to present the nomination of Thomas F. Hermansader for consideration to be a recipient of The Rothermel Alumni Award for distinguished achievement.

It has been my privilege to be associated with Mr. Hermansader in my role as Community Relations and Development Director of The Salvation Army – Lancaster County since September 2002.

Prior to my relocation to Lancaster County, I was the Chief Executive Officer of The Salvation Army in New York City. It was my responsibility as Incident Commander to direct The Salvation Army's response operations following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack that destroyed the World Trade Towers.

I served meals at around the clock "The Pit", counseled response personnel, stood in the honor guard as bodies of heroes were removed from the debris and transported to ambulances on flag-draped stretchers. I served in the honor guard at the "The Pit" on the day of closure.

Mr. Hermansader has captured the tragedy and triumph of that event in his lithograph, "New York City – Emblem of Strength", depicting the American flag against a backdrop of the World Trade towers. Mr. Hermansader has contributed a percentage of sales of the lithograph to The Salvation Army for its disaster services program in Lancaster County.



Mr. Hermansader's donations, in excess of \$15,000.00 to date, assisted in funding the purchase and operation of a mobile field kitchen capable of preparing and serving two thousand meals daily. It's most notable service was during the Nickel Mine, Pennsylvania Amish School tragedy on October 3, 2006.

Mr. Hermansader annually donates a copy of "Emblem of Freedom" for the WGAL/The Salvation Army Coats for Kids Telethon. The lithograph is presented as an incentive for giving to the donor who contributes a minimum of Five Hundred Dollars. In 2007, the Telethon recorded \$203,000.00 to be utilized for the charity's social services and youth programs. Mr. Hermansader's lithograph is a prized incentive of the Telethon.

Mr. Hermansader's community-mindedness and compassion is not limited to The Salvation Army. He has generously assisted more than twenty organizations in fund raising for the benefit of the poor, homeless, chronically ill, disenfranchised and needy in addition to community fire departments, schools, hospitals and service organizations.

Mr. Hermansader has been recognized by the Honorable Edward G. Rendell, Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, the House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania, former Governors and former Mayors of the City of Lancaster as well as the current Mayor.

Mr. Hermansader's art hangs in homes, offices and seats of government throughout this nation as well as colleges and universities. His lithographs number approximately one hundred fifty subjects.

In my opinion, Mr. Hermansader is a distinguished alumnus of Kutztown University and merits recognition not only for his humanitarian contributions but for his achievement as an artist and businessman. Mr. Hermansader is without question Lancaster's most famous artist.

I trust that your evaluation committee will concur with my recommendation and endorsement.

Sincerely,



Major Carl L. Schoch

Enc: Nomination Form  
Resume – Thomas F. Hermansader  
Citation – House of Representatives – State of Pennsylvania  
Acknowledgement – Governor Edward G. Rendell  
New Era Article – 5/18/07  
Profile of Art – TFH