

## Spirit of the Mountains

Lewis N. McManus YLA Service Award  
Youth Leadership Association  
P.O. Box 239, Point Pleasant, WV 25550  
304-675-5899



**Honoring Major General James A. Hoyer, the Adjutant General of the West Virginia Joint Forces Headquarters.**

**Governor Earl Ray and First Lady Joanne Jaeger Tomblin** host Spirit of the Mountains at the **Governor's Mansion, April 23' 2015 5:30 p.m.**

### **Purpose**

Spirit of the Mountains Lewis N. McManus YLA Service Award recognizes a person whose life reflects the values of YLA and Lew's life. The recipient demonstrates a life-long commitment to helping others, hard work, education, responsible citizenship, and building better futures for all – especially youth.

### **Support**

Spirit of the Mountains raises financial support for YLA's West Virginia youth programs including local YLA (HI-Y) youth leadership groups, Youth in Government Student Legislature and Supreme Court, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth & Government Seminars, YLA Model United Nations, Camp Horseshoe's teen Entrepreneurship and Leadership Summits and the Governor's Youth Opportunity Camps for low income 7 – 12 year old boys and girls.

### **Recipients of the Lewis N. McManus YLA Service Award**

2004 Jessica Lynch	2008 John D. Rockefeller IV	2012 David King
2005 Cecil Underwood	2009 Bill Raney	2013 Gaston Caperton
2006 Ed Maier	2010 Gayle Manchin	2014 Sylvia Mathews Burwell
2007 David & Susan Hardesty	2011 James H. "Buck" Harless	

### **Biography – Major General James A. Hoyer**

Major General James A. Hoyer assumed the duties as The Adjutant General, West Virginia Joint Forces Headquarters – West Virginia on February 1, 2011. As the Adjutant General, State of West Virginia, he provides command guidance and vision to the West Virginia Army and Air National Guard of more than 6,500 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen. He provides the overall supervision of the day to day operations and management of the readiness, fiscal, personnel, equipment, and the real property resources of the agency.

General Hoyer received his undergraduate degree from the University of Charleston and was commissioned in 1983 through a joint Reserve Officer Training Corps program with West Virginia State University. General Hoyer began his military career in the West Virginia National Guard as a Calvary Officer. He attended the Special Forces Officer Qualification course and spent over 14 years with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 19<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group. General Hoyer led the development of the West Virginia National Guard Counterdrug Task Force and the Joint Interagency Training and Education Center and its Center for National Response; a national level operational and training capability for critical infrastructure protection and consequence response. General Hoyer served as Director, Joint Staff, West Virginia Joint Force Headquarters.

### **Open to the Public**

Spirit of the Mountains is open to the public. To attend, contact YLA at 304-675-5899.