



Belmont Abbey
COLLEGE
*That in all things God
may be glorified*

For Immediate Release

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Belmont Abbey College Awarded Gaston Business Association's 2024 Spirit of the Economy

Belmont, N.C. (April 18, 2024) – The Gaston Business Association awarded Belmont Abbey College the 2024 Spirit of the Economy award. The Spirit of the Economy award is bestowed upon organizations that have made substantial contributions to the economic development and prosperity of the Gaston County area.

As a regional partner serving local business, the college's numerous degree programs bring needed knowledge and skills to the county's workforce. The college's holistic approach to education ensures that students not only receive a top-notch academic experience but also develop into well-rounded individuals ready to make a positive impact in their communities. "The entire Belmont Abbey College community is extremely humbled and most grateful for this award. It represents the spirit of sacrifice and service found not only at Belmont Abbey College but throughout Gaston County. It is why Gaston County is such a wonderful place to work and live" said Dr. Bill Thierfelder, President of Belmont Abbey College.

Partnerships with local businesses include CaroMont Health's new hospital, scheduled to open this Fall on Belmont Abbey land. CaroMont Health was instrumental in the creation of new healthcare degree programs and will serve as the proving ground for a generation of new nurses. This collaboration will provide invaluable hands-on experience for students and contribute to the overall improvement of healthcare in the region and county. Finally, in May of this year the first graduating class from the college's three nursing programs will join the healthcare workforce proof of the ongoing impact the college will have on our future.

On the horizon are new graduate degree programs that will form a new cadre of leaders, a new performing arts center that will serve the broader community, and the further fulfillment of the college's commitment to return faithful voices to the public square.

Belmont Abbey College is thrilled to receive the 2024 Spirit of the Economy award, which serves as a testament to its unwavering commitment to excellence in education and its dedication to preparing students for successful careers. The college looks forward to continuing its mission of shaping future leaders and making a positive impact on the local community.

For more information about Belmont Abbey College and its programs, please visit www.belmontabbeycollege.edu.

About Belmont Abbey College: Founded in 1876, Belmont Abbey College is a private, Catholic baccalaureate and liberal arts institution. Our mission is to educate students in the liberal arts and sciences so that in all things God may be glorified. Guided by the Catholic intellectual tradition and the Benedictine spirit of prayer and learning, we welcome a diverse body of students and provide them with an education that will enable them to lead lives

of integrity, to succeed professionally, to become responsible citizens, and to be a blessing to themselves and to others. Our beautiful and historic campus is conveniently located just 10 miles west of Charlotte, N.C., and is currently home to more than 1500 students. For more information, visit <https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/>.