



NAAA Names Mike Browning a Warren Young Fellow



Mike Browning

FREDERICK, Md.— The National Auto Auction Association has named Mike Browning, general manager of Manheim San Antonio and past NAAA president, a Warren Young Fellow in recognition of his many contributions to the industry and association.

NAAA, which represents about 350 wholesale auto auctions and more than 140 associate members, bestowed the award with a \$2,500 donation in his name to NAAA's nonprofit Warren Young Scholastic Foundation. A Fellow is a donor at that level, or in whose honor or memory a contribution is made in that amount, to support the scholarship organization.

Browning joins an exclusive group of 121 others who have attained the lifetime distinction of being named a Fellow. He received a gold medallion, a framed commemorative certificate, and will have his name engraved on a plaque of esteemed Fellows at NAAA headquarters.

Since its establishment in 2004, the Scholastic Foundation, named in honor of Warren Young, Sr., a pioneer of the auto auction industry who retired after 35 years of service to his

profession and NAAA, has helped 180 students pursue dreams of higher education and raised more than \$2.5 million. It awards \$52,000 in merit scholarships annually for study at accredited institutions.

“Mike has played a vital part in many industry programs and has been a quiet force behind the scenes in his leadership with NAAA’s Executive Committee,” said NAAA President Laura Taylor. “He was instrumental in establishing NAAA’s Disaster Relief Fund to help auction employees and their families recover from natural disasters, and in creating the Auto Auction of the Year Awards for Excellence in Community Service to show appreciation for the charitable acts auctions and staff volunteers perform, as well as encourage even greater public service.”

Those initiatives came from personal experience when as general manager of Manheim New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, Browning witnessed firsthand in the storm’s aftermath the dramatic difference individuals can make by getting involved and giving back. To date, NAAA has donated more than \$150,000 to auction employees who have been victims of natural disasters since the relief program began in 2016.

Browning has been active in the association since 2007. Before his term as president in 2016-2017, he was secretary, vice president, president, and board chairman of NAAA’s Southern Chapter. He has also sat on the NAAA Board of Directors, served as its chairman, and is currently the NAAA Executive Vice President and serves on various committees.

A native of Baton Rouge, La., Browning entered the automotive world in 1989 as a car salesman, then worked his way up the career ladder over the next eight years to become the general manager for Hopkins Toyota of Vicksburg, Miss. In 2003 he moved into the auto remarketing industry, joining Manheim as the GM of the corporation’s New Orleans auction, where he spearheaded the charge to rebuild a strong customer base, resulting in a 200-percent increase in revenue. Four years later, he took the position of general manager of Manheim, Mississippi, in Hattiesburg. He was named as Manheim San Antonio GM in 2014.

In addition to NAAA, Browning’s professional memberships include the Mississippi Independent Auto Dealers Association (MIADA), Louisiana Independent Auto Dealers Association (LIADA) and the National Independent Automobile Dealers Association (NIADA). The latter organization honored Browning with the NIADA Eagle Award two years in a row.

Participation is an essential part of his personal as well as professional life. While raising a family of three with his wife has kept him busy, Browning has always taken time to be involved in his community, coaching Little League, volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, Catholic Charities, the Thames Elementary Annual Christmas Drive, and as a Special Deputy with the Forrest County Sheriff’s Office.

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