

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 6, 2023**

**APPROVAL OF HONORARY DEGREE FOR CURTIS ARMSTRONG
A Recommendation**

1. **Division and Department:** Academic Affairs, Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

2. **Introduction:** In accordance with Article IX of the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, honorary degrees may be awarded by the Board of Trustees in recognition of distinguished accomplishment and service within the scope of the arts and letters, sciences, professions, and public service as recognized and supported by the University. The awarding of honorary degrees reaffirms Oakland University's scholarly, creative, and humanitarian values and ties the University to the community at large.

Curtis Armstrong demonstrates the high level of achievement this award is meant to recognize, as evidenced by his distinguished career as a professional actor, his mentorship of young people, and his success as an author of a successful memoir. His many accomplishments are leaving a lasting impact on communities throughout our state and, also, here at Oakland University.

Mr. Armstrong auditioned for, attended, and graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art at Oakland University, where he graduated in 1975. He participated in Oakland University's Prominent Alumni project. During this time, he visited Oakland University and spent time in the Kresge Library Archives doing research for his upcoming memoir.

This visit inspired the donation of his personal collection to OU's Kresge Library Archives and Special Collections for use by students and researchers. Mr. Armstrong is a regular champion of the arts at Oakland University. He has donated to Kresge Library, the College of Arts and Sciences, and Meadow Brook Theatre.

Mr. Armstrong is a prominent actor and producer, known for appearing in *Better Off Dead* (1985), *Risky Business* (1983), and *Revenge of the Nerds* (1984). His successful career has led him to act and voice act in the theater as well as in more than 150 movies and television series. He has also directed and produced a handful of movies and television shows.

He is the recipient of an Honor Genre Award for Best Actor for Conversation, and has been nominated for numerous awards, including Outstanding Performer in an Animated Program, Best Male Vocal Performance in a Television Series, and Best Vocal Creation of a New Character.

Approval of Honorary Degree for Curtis Armstrong
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
February 6, 2023
Page 2

Mr. Armstrong is a model and an inspiration for Oakland University students, as well as Detroit Youth. In 2009, he was a recipient of the Oakland University Music, Theatre and Dance Alumni Achievement (MATILDA) Award.

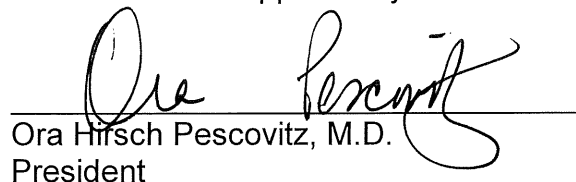
3. **Previous Board Action:** The Board of Trustees periodically awards honorary degrees at its Formal Sessions.
4. **Budget Implications:** None.
5. **Educational Implications:** The awarding of honorary degrees is an established tradition in academe, by which the University reaffirms its scholarly, creative, and humanitarian values and its ties to the wider community.
6. **Personnel Implications:** None.
7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** The Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost has recommended approval of the recipient to receive an Honorary Degree.
8. **Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees awards the honorary degree of Doctor of Arts *Honoris Causa* to Curtis Armstrong.
9. **Attachments:** None.

Submitted to the President
on 2/3, 2023 by



Britt Rios-Ellis, M.S., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 2/3, 2023
to the Board for approval by



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Reviewed by



Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.
Chief of Staff and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees