



2021 NON SIBI SED ALIIS AWARD

Presented annually at the Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association during Reunion weekend, the *Non Sibi Sed Aliis* Award is bestowed upon an alumnus/a who has brought pride to the Academy by embodying the spirit of the school motto, "Not for self, but for others."

Whether protecting foster children in court or assisting them in procuring braces at the orthodontist, Leslie Lacy is passionate about helping kids. By day, this energetic attorney advocates for youth through Mental Health Advocacy Service in Baton Rouge. And in her off hours, she seeks to brighten children's smiles through [Fostering Hope Louisiana](#), the nonprofit she founded with her husband, Dr. Fred Lacy.

After graduating from Governor's, Leslie earned her bachelor's in international affairs from Lafayette College and moved to Washington, DC for a job with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, the country's collective scientific national academy. When she decided to pursue a J.D. at Louisiana State University, she set her eye on civil law. She planned to get a law degree and change the world. She began helping families with her work in special education law and then moved on to become a contract attorney for the state's juvenile court, representing parents accused of child abuse. A 2008 change in Louisiana law ended her contract, and she decided to switch sides and represent children in foster care.

Through this work, she discovered her next calling; supporting those children in foster care in urgent need of orthodontics. In a recent Governor's interview, she shared the story of a young client who inspired her non-profit work today. This young woman, Brittney Butler, was incredibly bright and had great potential.

Despite being dealt a rough hand, she never succumbed to frustration or despair. However, there was one thing that would hold her back from achieving the success Leslie knew this young woman could achieve — her teeth. Recognizing that Brittney was adversely affected by a situation she couldn't control, Leslie took matters into her own hands and enlisted the help of Baton Rouge orthodontist Dr. James Frugé to provide much-needed orthodontia. After transforming Brittany's smile, the two knew they were onto something, and with that, Fostering Hope Louisiana was born. Through the generosity of donors, Leslie has been able to correct the smiles of children in foster care in Baton Rouge and directly impact their lives for the better. With the success of her non-profit, she will soon switch to managing this organization full time and, in the process, make a life-changing difference for those who have no means to do so for themselves.

It is my honor and privilege to present the 2021 *Non Sibi Sed Aliis* Award to **Leslie L. Lacy, Class of 1991.**

