

MARCEL RIVERS TO BE HONORED FOR BIGGEST KO OF THE YEAR

PHILADELPHIA – Boxing fans certainly love a knockout, and 2017 was full of them in Philly. Of the many big KOs last year, the best of them all was by Marcel Rivers, at the 2300 Arena last September. Rivers, in his third professional fight, scored a picture-perfect-one punch-knockout of Osnel Charles in the fourth round. For this perfect punch, Rivers will receive a Briscoe Award for the “2017 Knockout of the Year”, on March 25, 2018, at the 11th Annual Briscoe Awards.

“It is exactly why boxing fans come out to the fights,” said John DiSanto, founder of the Briscoe Awards. “Big knockouts always steal the show, and Marcel’s was the biggest.”

The Briscoe Awards commemorate the best accomplishments of the Philly-area boxing scene. A total of eleven prizes will be given out in a variety of categories, including “Philly Fighter of the Year”, “Philly Fight of the Year”, “Amateur of the Year”, “Rookie of the Year”, “Prospect of the Year”, and others.

Advance tickets for the March 25, 2018 Briscoe Awards cost \$20 and are currently available for sale at BriscoeAwards.com, or by calling 609-377-6413. Tickets will not be sold at the door. The \$20 admission includes food, draft beer, wine, soft drinks, and a souvenir program and ticket. The Briscoe Awards will be held at the VBA Clubhouse, 2733 Clearfield Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19134.

The Briscoe Awards are presented by Philly Boxing History Inc., a 501c3 Non-Profit organization dedicated to preserving and honoring the great legacy of boxing in and around the city of Philadelphia. For more information, call John DiSanto at 609-377-6413.

SPARROW BREAKS THROUGH WITH TWO BRISCOE AWARDS

PHILADELPHIA – Rising Philadelphia boxing star, Avery Sparrow, really made a career breakthrough in 2017. The junior lightweight won four bouts during the year, including two main events, and two national TV appearances. He started 2017 as a promising young local, but by the end of the year, Sparrow had broken into the world rankings.

On March 25, 2018, Sparrow will be honored with two Briscoe Awards for his accomplishments. First, he led the fan voting in the “Prospect of the Year” category, and also won the “Breakout Fighter of 2017” unopposed. Sparrow will receive his two awards at the 11th Annual Briscoe Awards ceremony, a party for the boxing community, at the VBA Clubhouse in Philadelphia.

“Sparrow really made a name for himself in 2017,” said John DiSanto, founder of the Briscoe Awards. “Big expectations have surrounded Sparrow since the beginning of his career, but last year he really showed everyone what big potential he has.”

A number of other fighters like Jaron Ennis, Tyrone Brunson, Dylan Price, Marcel Rivers, Kermit Cintron, and Jerome Conquest, will also be honored in various categories for their 2017 accomplishments.

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PHILLY BOXING STARS EXPECTED AT 10TH ANNUAL BRISCOE AWARDS

PHILADELPHIA – The 10th Annual Briscoe Awards will be presented tomorrow, Sunday, October 15, 2017, at Xfinity Live! Philadelphia, beginning at 1:00 PM. The event is typically attended by local boxers – past and present, other boxing people, and sports fans. Expected to attend this year are the award winners, Jason Sosa, Jesse Hart, Tevin Farmer, Bernard Hopkins, Damon Allen Jr., Jaron Ennis, Christian Carto, Tyrone Brunson, Dylan Price, and Taneal Goyco.

Additionally, former and current boxing stars like Jeff Chandler, Charles Brewer, Stanley “Kitten” Hayward, Dick Turner, Nate Miller, Charlie “Choo Choo” Brown, Curtis Parker, Mike Everett, Buster Drayton, Jacqui Frazier-Lyde, Ivan Robinson, Mike Rossman, Sidney “Sweat Pea” Adams, Hall of Fame promoter J Russell Peltz, and others typically attend.

Former two-time cruiserweight champion, Steve “USS” Cunningham will serve as the celebrity co-host of the event.

Tickets are available at the door and cost \$5. Xfinity Live! is located at 1100 Pattison Avenue, South Philadelphia.

ABOUT THE BRISCOE AWARDS ON OCTOBER 15 FROM 1-4 PM

The Briscoe Awards are named in honor of legendary Philly middleweight Bennie Briscoe and the trophies given away – the Briscoe Statue and the Briscoe Medal – all bear the deceased icon's likeness. The event brings together the local boxing community, including the award winners, their families, past and present boxers, fight fans, other boxing people, and general sports fans.

This is the tenth year for the Briscoe Awards, which are presented by Philly Boxing History Inc., a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization, dedicated to preserving and celebrating Philadelphia's great boxing legacy. Past winners at the Briscoe Awards include Bernard Hopkins, Danny Garcia, Steve Cunningham, and many others.

The event returns to Xfinity Live! Philadelphia, the central hub of Philly's sports stadiums, located at 1100 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia. Admission is \$5, and tickets can be purchased at the door as well as BriscoeAwards.com or by calling 609-377-6413. Everyone is welcome.

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JASON SOSA NAMED "2016 PHILLY

FIGHTER OF THE YEAR”

PHILADELPHIA – Camden, NJ junior lightweight Jason Sosa, takes home the Briscoe Award as the “2016 Philly Fighter of the Year”, on Sunday at the annual awards event presented by Philly Boxing History Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring and celebrating the Philadelphia fight scene – past and present.

Sosa upended the boxing world in 2016 by raising his game to the championship level and pulling off two upsets that few experts gave him the slightest chance of winning.

First, Sosa traveled to China to face WBA champion and heavy betting favorite Javier Fortuna for the WBA belt. Fortuna was skilled and carried a points lead into round eleven. However, Sosa’s “no quit” attitude keeps him in the fight until the very last bell. In the 11th, Sosa shocked Fortuna, and everyone watching, with a TKO victory that made the Camden fighter a world champ.

Five months later, Sosa defended his crown in Monte Carlo against another betting favorite, Stephen Smith of Liverpool. Sosa dropped Smith in the second and kept his title with a unanimous decision.

On the strength and significance of these two victories, Sosa led the pack among all other Philly-based boxers, and earned the biggest award at the 10th Annual Briscoe Awards, which will be presented on Sunday, October 15, 2017, at Xfinity Live! Philadelphia, 1:00 PM.

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“PHILLY PHOTO OF THE YEAR” TO BE CHOSEN AT THE 10TH ANNUAL BRISCOE AWARDS

PHILADELPHIA – The art of boxing photography will be celebrated by Philly Boxing History, at the 10th Annual Briscoe Awards, on Sunday for the first time. Ten photographers submitted one shot each from their 2016 body of work to compete for the best boxing “Photo of the Year”. The

winning photograph will be chosen by popular vote by all those attending the annual awards ceremony at Xfinity Live! Philadelphia, Sunday, October 15, 2017, at 1:00 PM.

The photos represent a sampling of the 2016 Philadelphia fight scene and include action shots, portraits, training photos, and casual pics. The ten competing photographers include Ray Bailey, Daryl Bughman, Darryl Cobb Jr., Jano Cohen, Daniel Cork, Kent Green, Matthew Heasley, Kenny Ludwig, Tim McCloskey, and Chris Toney.

The subjects of their photos include Danny Garcia, Bernard Hopkins, Tevin Farmer, Jesse Hart, Cyclone Hart, Victor Vasquez, Osnel Charles, Jeremy Cuevas, Christopher Brooker, Antowyan Aikens, Atif Oberlton, Samuel Vargas, Jason Sosa, and Omar Douglas.

Attendees of Sunday's Briscoe Awards will receive a ballot and be asked to vote for their favorite photograph. The votes will be counted, and the winner will be announced live at the event. The winning photographer will receive a Briscoe Medal.

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TANEAL GOYCO TO WIN “UPSET OF THE YEAR” AT BRISCOE AWARDS

PHILADELPHIA – Philly super middleweight Taneal Goyco, returns to the Briscoe Awards for his second-ever trophy for the “Upset of the Year”. Goyco won the same award two years ago and repeats for 2016, with his shocker over rising Maryland prospect Jerry Odom.

The pair met on November 11, 2016, at the 2300 Arena in South Philadelphia, and after a rocky start, Goyco punched his way back into the fight was declared the upset winner by TKO after five rounds.

Often taken lightly for his modest ring record, Goyco, 9-10-1, 4 KOs, has made pulling upsets his specialty. He's recorded the “Upset of the Year” in two of the last three years.

“We've only given this award three times over the past ten years,” said John DiSanto of Philly Boxing History Inc. “And

Taneal Goyco has won it twice. If you sleep on this guy, he makes you pay for it.”

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TYRONE BRUNSON'S KO OF THE YEAR TO BE RECOGNIZED AT BRISCOE AWARDS

PHILADELPHIA – Local junior middleweight Tyrone Brunson scored the “KO of the Year” for 2016, and will receive the Briscoe Medal in honor of that feat at the 10th Annual Briscoe Awards, on Sunday, October 15, 2017, at Xfinity Live! Philadelphia, 1:00 PM.

Brunson rose from two early knockdowns against Puerto Rican Carlos Garcia Hernandez, before rallying for a 4th round knockout victory. The fight was a rollercoaster ride for boxing fans attending the scrap at South Philly's 2300 Arena.

“It feels great to get recognized for KO of the year,” Brunson said about his award. “I’m just happy to be a part of Philly boxing history.”

It was a glorious win for Brunson who proved his heart, toughness, and determination.

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BERNARD HOPKINS TO BE HONORED WITH BRISCOE AWARD SUNDAY

PHILADELPHIA – Legendary Philadelphia boxing champion Bernard Hopkins will be awarded with an Honorary Briscoe Medal in recognition of his 2016 retirement. The event will be held on Sunday, October 15, 2017, at Xfinity Live! in South Philadelphia.

Hopkins, who ended his storied ring career in December, won world titles in both the middleweight and light heavyweight divisions. His run as middleweight champ included a record 20 title defenses, and important wins over Felix Trinidad, Oscar de la Hoya, Glen Johnson, John David Jackson, Keith Holmes, William Joppy, and many others.

Hopkins was named the "Philly Fighter of the Year" for 2008 at

the Briscoe Awards, and returns Sunday for this special honorary award.

“Hopkins has been the top dog of Philly boxing for many years,” said John DiSanto of Philly Boxing History Inc. “We could not let his retirement pass without special recognition of everything he’s accomplished, the memories he gave those of us who love boxing, and the history that he made. Bernard Hopkins is boxing history in the flesh.”

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JARON “BOOTS” ENNIS IS PHILLY’S TOP ROOKIE

PHILADELPHIA – Undefeated welterweight, Jaron “Boots” Ennis will take home “2016 Rookie of the Year” honors at Sunday’s 10th Annual Briscoe Awards. In perhaps the best season for rookies in Philly’s long ring history, Ennis led a talented pack of newbies that included Christain Carto, Darmani Rock, Branden Pizarro, and several others.

Ennis turned pro in April of 2016 and reeled off eight impressive victories, seven by knockout, before the year had ended. Throughout his rookie season, Ennis displayed enough skill, killer instinct, and star power to excite even the most skeptical of boxing fans. Currently zipping through his sophomore year, Ennis, now 15-0, 13 KOs, looks poised for a big future and has the Philly boxing fans excited.

Ennis was the “2015 Amateur of the Year” at last year’s Briscoe Awards, and will be in attendance to receive his second Briscoe Medal.

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DYLAN PRICE NAMED PHILLY'S 2016 AMATEUR OF THE YEAR

PHILADELPHIA – Dylan Price, of Sicklerville, NJ, will be named the “2016 Amateur of the Year” at the Briscoe Awards on Sunday, October 15, 2017, at Xfinity Live! in Philadelphia. Price won the US National Championships in Reno, Nevada and took home a Bronze Medal at the Youth World Championships, in St. Petersburg, Russia, both in 2016. His stellar year earned him bragging rights as the area's top amateur.

Price recently turned professional, and will take home the final salutation for his fine amateur career on Sunday. Past winners of the award include Darmani Rock, Jaron Ennis, and Stephen Fulton, all currently unbeaten pros.

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