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American Home Furnishings Hall of Fame

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THE FUTURE LEADERS AWARD IS NAMED IN RECOGNITON OF PAUL BROYHILL BY THE AMERICAN HOME FURNISHINGS HALL OF FAME

HIGH POINT, May 18, 2021 – The Future Leaders Award given by the American Home Furnishings Hall of Fame Foundation will now be named the Paul Broyhill Future Leaders Award, underwritten by a generous gift from the Broyhill Family Foundation.

"The Paul Broyhill Award will be named after one of the industry's leading families and a company that under his leadership focused on executive training and perhaps produced more leaders for our industry than any other single company," says Karen McNeill Pond, CEO of the Hall of Fame. "The standards set by the Broyhill family through three generations – James Edgar Broyhill, Paul Hunt Broyhill and now his son, M. Hunt Broyhill will forever be preserved as giants that greatly influenced our industry."

J.E. Broyhill and his son, Paul Broyhill, were inducted separately into the Hall of Fame for the significant contributions that each made to the furniture industry. James Edgar Broyhill was born into a farming family in 1892. After serving in the US Army, he worked with his brother in the logging industry, then bought a struggling furniture operation in 1926. Despite the Great Depression, J.E. grew the company to over 1,000 employees.

His son, Paul, was just two years old when his father started the business. From an early age, he worked in the plants and in the office. After a stint in the U.S. Army and graduating from UNC—Chapel Hill, he worked alongside his father, ultimately becoming CEO. Paul and his brother-in-law, Bill Stevens, company vice-president, developed "Broyhill U," an internal sales training and management program.

A marketing genius and an innovator, Paul made Broyhill Furniture a household name. Under his direction the company grew to six-million sq. ft. of manufacturing space and employed over 7,000 workers. He was one of the first to offer an employee pension plan. "Rather than just building plants, I like to think I built people," Paul Broyhill says.

"Because of his tremendous innovations and leadership initiatives, the creation of the Paul Broyhill Future Leaders Award will be a reminder of the impressive impact that the Broyhill family has had on the development of leaders in our industry," says McNeill Pond.

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As the cornerstone of the Hall of Fame Leadership Initiative, the Paul Broyhill Future Leaders Award will be given annually to five emerging leaders that are selected on a points-based evaluation of the candidate's leadership, potential for personal growth, communications skills, and their commitment to the industry. In addition to the coveted award, recipients will receive a beautifully framed Certificate of Achievement signed by Hunt Broyhill, the published "Oral History of Paul Hunt Broyhill," and an invitation to dinner with five other Future Leaders and five inducted members of the Hall of Fame. They also will be made members of the Leaders Circle of the Hall of Fame, and invited to its activities.

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The American Home Furnishings Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc., is an industry-wide organization founded to preserve its history, to celebrate exceptional individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the U.S. home furnishings industry, and to inspire a new class of innovation and leadership. Membership includes eligibility to nominate candidates for consideration by the Selection Committee, and the opportunity to help preserve the history and heritage of the industry. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, 92 percent of all funds support our history and leadership programming. The organization currently is based in High Point, North Carolina, at 202 Neal Place, Suite 101, and can be reached at 336.882.5900. Watch for ongoing developments and details about the grand opening of a new permanent home, which is targeted for 2023.

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