It is often said that 90 percent of life is showing up. Anne Stanback ’81 says the same is true for leadership—90 percent is showing up.

Anne led the fight for marriage equality in the state of Connecticut as co-founder and leader of the organization Love Makes Family. In a 2010 media interview, Anne said, “People don’t believe this, but I was never in doubt that we were going to win. There was just no way that we couldn’t win, in the same way that I am absolutely convinced that we will win this battle on the national level.”

Now married to her wife Charlotte Kinlock, Anne has worked tirelessly on LGBT rights, women’s issues and reproductive rights, and now spends a great deal of time working to pass laws in states across the country that will make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in areas such as employment and housing. Anne currently serves as the director of strategic partnerships at the Equality Federation. Though she has led and witnessed great successes, she says we still have a lot to do in terms of guaranteeing the promise of equality to all.

A member of Davidson’s women’s tennis and basketball teams, Anne majored in English and was a hall counselor. As a student, she was a recipient of the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, which recognizes individuals who demonstrate a commitment to serving others. A part of a blended family that counts many Davidson diplomas among them, Anne says she had many fiery discussions inside and outside Davidson classrooms, teaching her how to argue in a passionate but civil way—a critical skill, as she has worked on many controversial issues where she has found herself in debates with opponents.

Anne’s unwavering dedication has not gone unnoticed. She has received numerous awards for her work on behalf of women and the LGBT community including the Harriet Tubman Award for Achievement in the Pursuit of Social Justice from the National Organization for Women, the Community Activism Award from Region 9A of the UAW and the William Sloane Coffin Award for Peace and Justice in October 2015. She has also been inducted into the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame for her work to advance the rights of women and the lesbian and gay community.

Anne Elizabeth Stanback, for your commitment to humankind; for your belief in justice and equality; and for your deep understanding of the value of hard work, the Alumni Association is pleased to present you the John W. Kuykendall Award for Community Service on the occasion of your 35th Reunion, June 4, 2016.