

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and Citation of Merit
2016 Recipient**



Andrew S. Taylor '72

Raised by committed and idealistic parents, you arrived at Taft enthusiastic but unfocused. Four years later your academic achievement, athletic prowess, and leadership promise led to your selection as an English Speaking Union Scholar at the Aldenham School in Hertfordshire, England. There your interest in the international world was born, subsequently to be nurtured at Wesleyan University, where you received your Bachelor of Arts with honors. Between 1977 and 2004, you were a very busy man. Teaching positions overseas brought you to a year at the Michaelhouse School in South Africa, and then to four years at Maru-a-Pula School in Botswana. After earning a master's degree in Journalism from Columbia University in 1986, you accepted a position as Associate Producer of CBS's 60 Minutes. In 1988, education called again, first to the Spence School in New York City, and, in 1992, back to South Africa for four years as Assistant Principal of Zonnebloem High School. In 1996, you returned to the U.S., this time to head the History Department at Horace Mann Middle School in New York for eight years. Yet the lure of Africa remained, and in 2004 Botswana's Maru-a-Pula School called you back to be its Headmaster, a post you have held with great distinction ever since. Over the last twelve years, you have shaped your School into one of Africa's finest institutions, sending graduates to the best universities in the world while significantly increasing the size of the School, fostering the international composition of its student body, and linking Maru-a-Pula to more than twenty independent schools worldwide while developing Fellowships for undergraduates from Harvard and graduates from the Princeton in Africa program. Your school community stands as a beacon of intellectual and personal excellence—a direct reflection of your life's work, and one to be emulated throughout the world. Your life of service to education in Africa, and through there to the world, exemplifies the enduring power of Horace Taft's ideal: *Non Ut Sibi Ministretur Sed Ut Ministret*. With admiration and deep gratitude, Taft conveys upon you our highest honor, the Horace Dutton Taft Alumni Medal.