

University of Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz Accepts Disney Spirit Award at College Football Awards

Football program lauded for its inspirational “Kinnick Wave” to patients at nearby children’s hospital

University of Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz, Hawkeye defensive back Josh Jackson and Kaden Kelso, a former patient at Stead Family Children’s hospital, accepted the Disney Spirit Award on Thursday night during the 2017 College Football Awards.

The Hawkeye football program received the prestigious award after launching a heart-warming tradition this season. At the end of the first quarter of every Iowa home game, more than 70,000 fans at Kinnick Stadium turn and wave to the young patients on the top floor of the hospital located adjacent to the stadium.

Iowa is a first-time recipient of the award given annually to college football’s most inspirational player, coach, team or figure.

Disney Sports Vice President Faron Kelley presented the award to the Iowa trio during *The Home Depot College Football Awards presented by GILDAN* at the College Football Hall of Fame located in downtown Atlanta.