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THE ADVOCATE FOR NEW YORK CITY'S HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

# 2005 GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION AWARDS

and

# PRESERVATION PARTY

















THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2005 6:00PM

ST. MARK'S CHURCH IN-THE-BOWERY
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ST. MARK'S HISTORIC DISTRICT
MANHATTAN

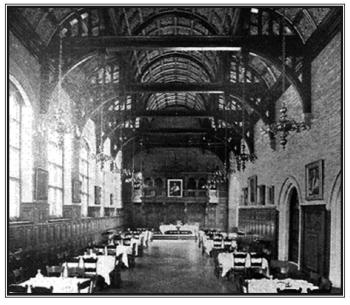
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11

# HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL

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### GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION AWARDS

Successful historic preservation in New York City requires a collaboration among many parties, including the public, government agencies and businesses. Without public support, even the most well-intentioned and farsighted public policy cannot be implemented, and without governmental guidance even the most organized and well-funded private efforts are doomed to fail.

With these awards, HDC attempts to recognize, honor and encourage the public participants of the preservation process. These are the individuals and organizations that give their time, effort and support to holding up their part of the preservation collaboration. By working with, supporting and cajoling public decision-makers, these grassroots preservationists form the foundation of all our work. In 2000, HDC gave the first annual Grassroots Preservation Awards to recognize their outstanding efforts.

In addition, the awards include two special categories, "Friend in High Places" and "Friend from the Media," to honor and acknowledge the dedication and support of officials and the press who encourage the cause of historic preservation throughout the city. These awards help recognize some of the public's important preservation partners. Without support from elected representatives or the fourth estate, few community-based preservation efforts would ever bear fruit.

The Mickey Murphy Award, instituted in 2002, is a lifetime-achievement recognition that honors the memory of Mary Ellen (Mickey) Murphy. Murphy, a Historic Districts Council board member and a long-time advocate for historic neighborhoods throughout New York City, passed away in January 2002 at age 84. She was devoted and sensitive, wise and inquisitive. We miss her every day.

# **WORKING TOGETHER**

AKRF is proud to support the Historic Districts Council. We also congratulate the efforts of today's honorees for their commitment to historic preservation in New York City.



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THE ADVOCATE FOR NEW YORK CITY'S HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

The HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL

congratulates the neighborhood organizations
and individuals whose outstanding work and
commitment to preserving New York's architectural,
aesthetic, cultural and historic heritage are honored this evening.

# ABOUT THE HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL

The Historic Districts Council is the independent, not-for-profit, nonpartisan, citywide advocate for New York's designated historic districts and for neighborhoods meriting preservation. The Council is dedicated to upholding the New York City Landmarks Law and to furthering the preservation ethic. This mission is accomplished through ongoing programs of hands-on assistance to more than I25 local community and neighborhood groups and through public-policy initiatives, publications, educational outreach and sponsorship of community events.

The core belief of the Historic Districts Council is that the preservation and enhancement of New York City's historic resources — its neighborhoods, buildings, parks and public spaces — are central to the continued success of the city. Originally founded in 1971 as a coalition of community groups from New York City's designated historic districts, HDC was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1985 and has grown to become the foremost citywide voice for historic preservation. Following its mandate of community-based preservation advocacy, HDC works continuously to broaden and educate the preservation constituency — from producing zoning and architectural surveys of unprotected historic neighborhoods, to meeting with legislators and city officials, to creating educational programs on the techniques and strategies of neighborhood preservation.

HDC's small professional staff is directed by its dedicated Boards of Directors and Advisers, whose members represent more than two dozen historic neighborhoods and are drawn from the fields of architecture, education, history, marketing, law, design, public relations, journalism and community activism. Their collective expertise aids community groups in their campaigns to preserve the sense of place that characterizes the city's diverse historic neighborhoods. Working with these neighborhood partners, HDC has been able to preserve buildings and communities across the five boroughs.

# PAST RECIPIENTS OF GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION AWARDS

2004 Brooklyn Heights Association, Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society, Nicholas Evans-Cato, Susan Tunick, Andrew Dolkart, Leo J.
 Blackman Architects, Mud Lane Society for the Renaissance of Stapleton
 2003 CitiNeighbors Coalition for Historic Carnegie Hill, Josephine E.
 Jones, Senator Street 300 Block Association, Seaport Community Coalition and Manhattan Community Board I

**2002** Evelyn and Everett Ortner, Jackson Heights Beautification Group, Murray Hill Neighborhood Association, Save Gansevoort Market Task Force, Linda C. Jones

**2001** Daniel Donovan, Paul Graziano, "Reverend" Billy Talen, Marjorie Decker Johnson and James Ferreri

**2000** Hamilton Heights/West Harlem Community Preservation Organization, Elizabeth Ashby, The Coalition to Save P.S. 109, Save the Coogan! Coalition, Michael Gotkin

# FRIEND IN HIGH PLACES AWARD

2004	New York State Senator Liz Krueger
2003	City Council Member Michael McMahor
2002	City Council Member Dennis Gallagher
2001	N V 1 C. C . TI V D

2001 New York State Senator Thomas K. Duane

2000 City Council Member Jerome X. O'Donovan

# FRIEND FROM THE MEDIA AWARD

2004 The Staten Island Advance

2003 The Villager and Albert Amateau

2002 The City section, The New York Times

2001 James Niccoloro

2000 Jim O'Grady, The New York Times

# MICKEY MURPHY AWARD

2004 Stanley Cogan

2003 Barnett Shepherd

2002 Evelyn Strouse

## **PROGRAM**

Welcome Simeon Bankoff Executive Director

**Introduction** Roger Byrom Vice President

#### Presentation of Grassroots Preservation Awards

**HDC** Directors

Roger Byrom Vice President

Paul Graziano

Robert J. Kornfeld Jr.

Penelope Bareau

# Closing Remarks

Simeon Bankoff Executive Director

Music provided by the Brooklyn School of the Arts Violin Quartet

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#### **AWARDS**

# Judy Berdy

Judy Berdy promotes public awareness of Roosevelt Island through her leadership in education and preservation. Currently, Berdy is the president of the Roosevelt Island Historical Society (RIHS). Under her leadership, RIHS has become a valuable resource to the public and government alike, promoting future uses for Roosevelt Island that are sensitive to its rich history. In addition, she lectures, leads tours and curates exhibits that develop public understanding of Roosevelt Island's past and present.

Presented by Roger Byrom

# Rosemary Cappozalo

Better known as "Mrs. Rosemary," Rosemary Cappozalo is the driving force behind the renovation of Staten Island's St. George Theatre, a structure she owns with her two daughters. The theatre is located in the St. George Historic District, and was opened in 1929 and served as a luxurious venue for vaudeville acts, concerts, events and movies until it closed to the public 25 years ago. Mrs. Rosemary's creative vision revitalized the structure, both physically and programmatically. The building is open again, restored as a home for a wide range of cultural events, including theatre, dance, educational programs and concerts. Thanks to Mrs. Rosemary's innovation and dedication, the St. George Theatre is again central to the physical and cultural vitality of Staten Island's north shore area.

Presented by Roger Byrom

#### Landmark West!

Landmark West! is a non-profit community group working to preserve the best of the Upper West Side's architectural heritage from 59th to 110th Streets between Central Park West and Riverside Drive. Since 1985, they have worked to achieve landmark status for individual buildings and historic districts. Today, Landmark West! is the advocate of the neighborhood's 2,606 designated landmarks (up from only 337 in 1985), promoting awareness of these architectural treasures of Manhattan and the urgent need to protect them against insensitive change or demolition.

Presented by Roger Byrom

#### Peter Levenson

Peter Levenson is a principal at Kibel Companies, which is part owner of 90 West Street, a designated landmark commercial structure designed by Cass Gilbert in 1907. The events of September 11<sup>th</sup> wrought severe damage on the historic structure, and jeopardized its future existence. Levenson is currently directing its extensive renovation including structural and surface repairs that will restore the building to its original state. His dogged perseverance to save and revitalize this building is a testament to the importance of Lower Manhattan to our city and its resilience in the face of an unprecedented calamity.

Presented by Roger Byrom

#### Kate Burns Ottavino

Kate Burns Ottavino designed the curriculum for the Brooklyn High School for the Arts, which is the first secondary school curriculum in the nation incorporating training in preservation arts and technology into all academic subjects from math to literature. Students are also taught hands-on restoration techniques and are required to complete a six-week preservation internship. Ottavino holds Masters degrees in both Architecture and Historic Preservation from Columbia University, and has worked in the field for more than 25 years, delivering lectures, contributing to panels and serving on numerous boards and committees. She is currently vice president and director of preservation at A. Ottavino Corporation and also director of the New Jersey Institute of Technology's Center for Architecture and Building Science Research.

Presented by Roger Byrom

# Richmond Hill Historical Society

The Richmond Hill Historical Society has tirelessly guided the effort to preserve and restore the historic resources of Richmond Hill, the first planned community in Queens. Recently the society successfully advocated for rezoning in Richmond Hill to better preserve their existing low-rise neighborhood. The society was responsible for getting the Republican Club landmarked just before it was to be demolished, and is currently advocating for historic district status for Richmond Hill. The group also published *Images of America: Richmond Hill*, co-authored by Nancy Cataldi, president of the Richmond Hill Society, and historian Carl Ballenas.

Presented by Roger Byrom

# City Council Member Tony Avella

19th Council District, Queens

### FRIEND IN HIGH PLACES AWARD

Tony Avella has served as the 19<sup>th</sup> Council District Council Member since 2001. His goals for his district, which encompasses the northeastern Queens communities of Bayside, Douglas Manor and College Point, include the preservation of historic neighborhoods by encouraging appropriate zoning to preserve the structures and atmosphere of the low-density neighborhood. He also was a prime sponsor of the recently designated Douglaston Hill Historic District, the sixth historic district in the borough, and the Failure To Maintain Bill, which provided the Landmarks Preservation Commission with the ability to enforce fines against property owners who allow their designated landmark buildings to decay.

Presented by Paul Graziano

#### Riverdale Press

#### FRIEND FROM THE MEDIA AWARD

Riverdale was a semi-rural Bronx community when David and Celia Stein founded the Riverdale Press in 1950. As the area's population exploded in the following years, the Press was integral in fighting for planned development and the preservation of its open space and green vistas. Since then, the Press has continued its dedication to preservation. It was a leading voice in favor of saving what may be the oldest house in The Bronx from destruction, and was instrumental in persuading the Landmarks Preservation Commission to designate the Riverdale Historic District. The Press encourages community involvement in future planning by consistently celebrating Riverdale's historic neighborhoods and buildings.

Presented by Robert J. Kornfeld Jr.

#### Doris Diether

#### MICKEY MURPHY AWARD

Since 1959, Doris Diether has been a steadfast advocate for appropriate zoning, tenants' rights and landmark designation in Greenwich Village and surrounding neighborhoods. An active voice for community issues, she has served on Community Board 2 in Manhattan since 1964, contributed to The Villager newspaper, taught courses on zoning, and is currently an appointed Community Historian. The Mickey Murphy Award recognizes Diether's continuing leadership in the effort preserve New York City's historic neighborhoods.

Presented by Penelope Bareau