HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL
2008 GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION AWARDS
_and PRESERVATION PARTY

Thursday, May 15, 6pm
St. Mark’s Church in-the-Bowery
Garden & Parish Hall
East 10th Street & Second Avenue
St. Mark’s Historic District
Manhattan
IN MEMORIUM

ROGER P. LANG

A COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND
TO ALL AT THE
HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL
PROGRAM

2008 Grassroots Preservation Awards
18th Annual Preservation Party

Thursday, May 15, 2008

- welcome -

- presentation of awards -

Friend in High Places
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin

Friend from the Media
Brownstoner.com

Grassroots Preservation Awards
DUMBO Neighborhood Association

Develop Don’t Destroy Brooklyn

Juniper Park Civic Association

227 Duffield Street Coalition

- closing -

- pianist -

Arthur Abrams
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GRASSROOTS PRESERVATION AWARDS

Successful historic preservation efforts in New York City require a collaboration among many parties, including the public, government agencies and the private sector. Without popular 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 seeks to recognize, honor and encourage public participation in the preservation process. These are the individuals and organizations that, with their time, effort and support, move the preservation collaboration forward. By working with, encouraging 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 such outstanding efforts.

In addition, the awards include two special categories. The Friend in High Places and Friend from the Media Awards honor and acknowledge the dedication and support of elected officials and the press for encouraging the cause of historic preservation throughout the city. Without support from elected representatives or the media, few community-based preservation efforts would ever bear fruit.
ROBERT A.M. STERN ARCHITECTS

salutes the Historic District Council’s Grassroots Preservation Awards Honorees
Council Member Lappin will receive the Friends in High Places Award for her efforts on behalf of preservation. Since her appointment as chair of the New York City Council Subcommittee on Landmarks, Siting and Maritime Uses in January 2006, CM Lappin has helped protect the historic fabric of New York while working to improve the landmarks process and provide much needed funding for the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Under her leadership, the Council held an unprecedented oversight hearing at Queens Borough Hall highlighting the need for increased landmark designations outside of Manhattan. CM Lappin has also been a principal sponsor of much needed funding for the Landmarks Commission, which has allowed the agency to revive its survey department. In her own district (which encompasses the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island), CM Lappin has been a strong advocate for preservation, helping local preservation groups and aiding a decades-long campaign to achieve victory against fierce opposition in gaining landmark designation for the City and Suburban Homes First Avenue Estates.

Brownstoner.com is a Brooklyn-based blog, launched in 2004, that features Brooklyn real estate and renovation and all the tangential topics that impact life inside and outside the home in Brooklyn. Constantly updated and linked to, the site has helped provide increased visibility and a positive voice for preservation efforts in Brooklyn and across the city. With more than 100,000 visitors a month, Brownstoner is one of the leading blogs that has changed how we help talk about, appreciate and protect New York City’s neighborhoods.
Develop Don’t Destroy Brooklyn (DDDB) is a grassroots community organization formed in February 2004, which leads a coalition of 21 community organizations and block associations opposed to Forest City Ratner’s “Atlantic Yards” mega-project. The $4 billion project would use at least $1.6 billion in public funds and would abuse the state’s power of eminent domain by taking private property from one owner to give to a private entity for private use. While DDDB opposes the specific Atlantic Yards proposal, they do advocate for appropriate community-based planning and development efforts. Now that the Atlantic Yards project is in jeopardy of failing entirely, DDDB continues to aggressively push for a democratic process and a community-based plan for the Vanderbilt rail yards in Prospect Heights.

Photos: Jonathan Barkey
The 227 Duffield Street Coalition consists of Joy Chatel, Jennifer Levy of South Brooklyn Legal Services, and Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE). This small group led a popular movement to successfully save the late 1840’s rowhouse at 227 Duffield Street in Downtown Brooklyn from demolition. The building, an important link to Brooklyn’s under-recognized Abolitionist history, had been slated to be torn down and replaced with a parking garage as part of the city’s plan for the redevelopment of Downtown Brooklyn. In June 2007 South Brooklyn Legal Services filed a lawsuit on behalf of Chatel and FUREE to stop the destruction on the basis that the city did not adequately examine the property’s link to abolitionist history and the Underground Railroad; the lawsuit also stipulated that a new study of the area’s significance be conducted. The city settled the lawsuit in November 2007 and agreed to spare the house. Plans are now being made to turn the building into a museum and cultural center celebrating its noteworthy history.
The DUMBO Neighborhood Association (DNA) was founded in 1997 to build and maintain a better community for the people who live and work there. Since its founding, DNA has worked to preserve the historic character of their waterfront Brooklyn neighborhood, which possesses a rare collection of massive 19th-century warehouses, Belgian block streets and breath-taking harbor views—all bracketed by the monumental presence of the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges. DNA succeeded in having the district listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places in 2000 and cited in 2007 as one of America’s “Eleven Most Endangered Historic Sites” by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. DUMBO was finally designated a New York City Historic District in 2007. In the face of blistering real estate pressure, DNA continues to work for appropriate development within and around DUMBO. Working with sister organizations, it also sponsors a multitude of community-building events.
The Juniper Park Civic Association was formed in 1938 to fight for the community. Beginning in 2006, the group has been advocating for the preservation of St. Saviour’s Church, a rare Carpenter Gothic style church in Maspeth, Queens, designed in 1847 by renowned architect Richard Upjohn. JPCA fought against all odds to save the church despite unresponsiveness and even opposition from the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the former local council member. At the last moment, as demolition was occurring, the association achieved the tremendous by convincing the developer to halt demolition and allow the historic church to be moved to another site. The process is still ongoing, but the future of St. Saviour’s seems far more secure thanks to the efforts of the Juniper Park Civic Association.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRASSROOTS AWARDS WINNERS - LEO & KEN

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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 individual landmarks and for neighborhoods and buildings 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 500 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 nonprofit 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 guided 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 instrumental in preserving historic buildings and communities across the five boroughs.
The Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society salutes the recipients of the Historic Districts Council’s Grassroots Preservation Awards for 2008

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In loving memory of
Roger Lang —
Premier Preservationist,
Eloquent Advocate
and Fabulous Friend.

photo courtesy of The New York Landmarks Conservancy

Develop Don’t Destroy Brooklyn thanks the Historic Districts Council for acknowledging and honoring our ongoing work to stop the Atlantic Yards project in Prospect Heights and Park Slope, Brooklyn. It is a great honor to receive the Grassroots Preservation Award from HDC.

We express our deepest thanks to our hundreds of volunteers, our individual and organizational supporters, our 4,000 donors, our Advisory Board and Board of Directors, our elected official stalwarts, and the broad community for making our work possible. It is only with that support and involvement that we are able to continue our work.

www.developdontdestroy.org
Past Recipients

- 2007 -
Broadway-Flushing Homeowners Association
Crown Heights North Association
East Village Community Coalition
Sunnyside Gardens Preservation Alliance

- 2006 -
Coalition to Preserve the Austin, Nichols & Co. Warehouse
Linda Eskenas
Victoria Hofmo
Tottenville Historical Society

- 2005 -
Judy Berdy
Peter Levenson
Kate Ottavino
Landmark West!
Richmond Hill Historical Society
Rosemary Cappozalo

- 2004 -
Brooklyn Heights Association
Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society
Thomson Meter Building Coalition:
Nicholas Evans-Cato, Susan Tunick, Andrew S. 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
Manhattan Community Board 1

- 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
Bill “Reverend Billy” Talen
James Ferreri
Marjorie Decker Johnson

- 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
Assembly Member Deborah Glick - 66th District, Manhattan; 2007
Council Member Letitia James - 35th District, Brooklyn; 2006
Council Member Tony Avella - 19th District, Queens; 2005
Senator Liz Krueger - 26th District, Manhattan; 2004
Council Member Michael McMahon - 49th District, Staten Island; 2003
Council Member Dennis Gallagher - 30th District, Queens; 2002
Senator Thomas K. Duane - 29th District, Manhattan; 2001
Council Member Jerome X. O’Donovan - 49th District, Staten Island; 2000

FRIEND FROM THE MEDIA AWARD
Curbed.com; 2007
Cityland; 2006
Riverdale Press; 2005
The Staten Island Advance; 2004
The Villager and Albert Amateau; 2003
The City section, The New York Times; 2002
James Niccoloro; 2001

MICKEY MURPHY AWARD
Chan Graham; 2007
Doris Diether; 2005
Stanley Cogan; 2004
Barnett Shepherd; 2003
Evelyn Strouse; 2002
HDC’s 18th Annual Preservation Party is Co-Sponsored By:

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**Local Groups:**
- 4Borough Neighborhood Preservation Alliance
- 93rd Street Beautification Association
- Alice Austen House Museum
- Bay Ridge Conservancy
- Bayside-Auburndale Improvement Association
- The Beaux Arts Alliance
- Boerum Hill Association
- Broadway-Flushing Homeowners Association
- Bronx Shepherds Restoration Corporation
- Brooklyn Heights Association
- Carnegie Hill Neighbors
- Crown Heights North Association
- Defenders of the Upper East Side
- Develop Don’t Destroy Brooklyn
- Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society
- The Drive to Protect the Ladies’ Mile District
- DUMBO Neighborhood Association
- East 12th Street Block Association
- Fort Greene Association
- Friends of Terra Cotta
- Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts
- Fulton Ferry Landing Association
- Gramercy Park Block Association
- Hamilton Heights-West Harlem Community Preservation Org.
- Jackson Heights Garden City Society
- Landmark West!
- Mount Morris Park Community Improvement Association
- North Shore Waterfront Greenbelt
- Park Slope Civic Council
- Parkway Village Historical Society
- Preservation League of Staten Island
- Preserve and Protect
- Queens Civic Congress
- Queens Historical Society
- Richmond Hill Historical Society
- Soho Alliance
- Stuyvesant Park Neighborhood Association
- Tottenville Historical Society
- Union Square Community Coalition
- West Brighton Restoration

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**Design and Illustration by Kristen Merith**