



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX
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Robert Fanuzzi, Chairperson

Nicole M. Stent, District Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE
2012 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

Bronx, New York, April 27, 2012 – Bronx Community Board No. 8 is pleased to announce the winners of the Bronx Community Board No. 8 **2012 Community Service Awards**. Presentation of the awards will take place at the Board meeting on May 8th, at the Riverdale Temple, 4545 Independence Avenue, at 7:30 PM. The Community Service Award was established to acknowledge the many volunteer efforts of groups and individuals within our community. It is the Board's belief that by recognizing our committed community volunteers, we can in some small way reward those most deserving and inspire others to follow their example

This year's honorees are:

Organizers and Host of the Riverdale Riverfest, Yael Levy, Paul Elston (organizers) and College of Mount Saint Vincent (host), will be honored for their commitment to creating, organizing, implementing and promoting this annual community event celebrating the Hudson River and the Greenway in Riverdale. The event brings thousands of community residents together for a celebration of the town and river. The organizers and host have volunteered for this event and have brought identity, community pride and fun to Riverdale each year for the enjoyment by all.

Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Marble Hill Food and Hunger Project (KRMH) will be honored for its 30 year program which works on a voluntary basis to provide food for needy families and elderly by collecting and distributing non-perishable food items for the KRMH Food Pantry located at the Church of the Mediator. The program also packs bags of groceries each month at the Riverdale YM-YWHA for the homebound elderly; provides holiday bags for children at Kingsbridge Heights Community Center and other places and conducts fundraising activities to continue stocking the food pantry.

Deirdre La Porte will be honored for her volunteer work at Wave Hill since 1999 totaling 1400 hours of donated time. Ms. LaPorte is a member of the Garden Guides, a group of highly trained garden enthusiasts who conduct Wave Hill's public and group tours. Deirdre's specialty is the history of Wave Hill and this has earned her in-house "historian" recognition. She has also volunteered with the School Partnership program, work with visiting artists, and more.

Friends of Van Cortlandt Park (FVCP) will be honored in celebration of its 20th Anniversary of the organization. The Friends of Van Cortlandt Park, working in partnership with the Parks Department, is committed to supporting the conservation and improvement of Van Cortlandt Park. FVCP provides essential services such as offering ongoing high-quality education and stewardship programs, working to identify community needs and empowering residents by giving them a means to improve park conditions.

*Serving the neighborhoods of Fieldston, Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights,
Marble Hill, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil, and Van Cortlandt Village*

You can also visit the Bronx Community Board No. 8 website that announces the Community Service Awards winners at <http://www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8>

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Bronx Community Board No.8 (BXCB8) plays an important role in improving the quality of life for the communities it serves. BXCB8 is a vital liaison and advocate for the community in dealing with New York City government, elected officials, municipal service delivery, land use and zoning issues, community and business development, the City budget and many other matters relating to the community's health, safety and welfare.

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