



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX
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Honorable Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Bronx Borough President

Daniel Padernacht, Chairperson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE
2015 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

Bronx, New York, May 4, 2015 – Bronx Community Board No. 8 is pleased to announce the winners of the Bronx Community Board No. 8 **2015 Community Service Awards**. Presentation of the awards will take place at the community board meeting on May 12, 2015, at Manhattan College School of Engineering, 3825 Corlear Avenue, Fischbach Room, 4th Floor, 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:

KAREN ARGENTI, for many years of community service as a founding member of the Friends of Jerome Park Reservoir and as member of the Jerome Park Conservancy; for her volunteer work as Co-chair of the Water Committee of the Bronx Council for Environmental Quality; for serving on the steering committee of the Brownfield Opportunity Area Project along the Harlem River; for serving on the Advisory Committee of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan that serves to protect the Kensico Reservoir; and her volunteer work with the Croton Water Treatment Plant Citizens Advisory Committee.

ANNE MARIE GARTI, for many years of community service as president of the Jerome Park Conservancy; for initiating the idea to turn Jerome Park Reservoir into a public park; also for her work on the preservation report, which served as a basis for Jerome Park Reservoir, and surrounding parkland, being listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

CONSUELO HERNANDEZ, for working to create a community food garden in Kingsbridge, which paved the way for the opening of the first community managed farmers' market, operating as the Kingsbridge-Riverdale Farmers Market; for helping Las Verdolagas Collective community volunteer group achieve the "Love Your Block" grant, which funded the building of 11 tree guards and a compost bin at Kingsbridge Avenue and West 231st Street; for her extra efforts as PA President at P.S. 207 in yielding a school garden, organizing health workshops, volunteering to help parents of students learn English; and volunteering with Literacy Inc. at Marble Hill Community Center.

DIANA MINOS, for eleven years of community service as a volunteer with the Riverdale-Yonkers Society for Ethical Culture Overnight Shelter for Homeless Men; for helping to ensure that the facility

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

has clean supplies, and helping to set-up the facility each night to shelter the homeless men and for staying overnight to oversee their needs.

NORRIS OGARD, for eleven years of community service as a volunteer with the Riverdale-Yonkers Society for Ethical Culture Overnight Shelter for Homeless Men; for helping to ensure that the facility has clean supplies, and helping to set-up the facility each night to shelter the homeless men and for staying overnight to oversee their needs.

GERALD SCHNEIDER, for years of dedicated community service to the residents and staff of Hebrew Home at Riverdale by River Spring Health. Mr. Schneider is achieving nonagenarian status, and still volunteer weekly to offer support and companionship to residents with severe visual impairments. He leads weekly discussion groups and brings music or books on tape to residents unable to leave their room. Mr. Schneider serves as an inspiration to all.

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

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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