ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP
AWARDS BENEFIT

for Brooklyn A’s Partnership for Community & Economic Development

Honoring

Brendan J. Dugan
CHAIRMAN & CEO, SOVEREIGN BANK, METRO NY/NJ DIVISION

Paul J. Curran
SPECIAL COUNSEL, KAYE SCHOLER LLP

Maria Contreras-Collier
DIRECTOR, CYPRESS HILLS CHILD CARE CORPORATION

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.

New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge

Buffet Dinner and Open Bar
Special Emcee: Sopranos’ Dominic Chianese
Dance with the Bobby Sanabria Sextet
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BROOKLYN A’S MISSION

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s purpose and goal is to provide high-quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and community groups in North and East Brooklyn. We view legal assistance in terms of community development, education, and mobilization, as well as traditional representation. To that end we partner with and provide legal services to effective local grassroots organizations that have a demonstrated commitment to our common goal of social and economic justice.
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November 14, 2007

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
256-260 Broadway
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings as the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A celebrates its Annual Partnership Awards Benefit. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and today’s honorees, Brendan J. Dugan, Paul J. Curran, and Maria Contreras-Collier.

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has provided high-quality neighborhood-based civil legal services to low-income individuals and groups in the Northern and Eastern Brooklyn communities. In their efforts to create a just society, the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has worked tirelessly to serve and inform the public about the inherent civil rights they possess. I applaud the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s already long and successful history of support to the Brooklyn community. I thank you all for being committed to our legal system and assisting many who otherwise may not have the resources to have representation.

Further, I would like to take this opportunity to thank today’s honorees: Brendan J. Dugan, Chairman & CEO of Sovereign Bank’s metro NY/NJ Division, Paul J. Curran, Special Counsel at Kaye Scholer LLP and Maria Contreras-Collier, Director of the Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation. Your support and dedication merits all the recognition you are gaining today. I would also like to recognize the countless supporters gathered tonight. It is through your continual support that Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A has been able to do such great work for New Yorkers.

Again, thank you for your hard work and dedication. I know that the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A will continue these efforts for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator

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Charles E. Schumer
NEW YORK
November 14, 2007

Dear Friends:

    It is my pleasure to send greetings to each of you attending the Annual Partnership Awards Benefit of the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A).

    I join my voice with yours in recognizing tonight’s honorees: Brendan J. Dugan, Paul J. Curran and Maria Contreras-Collier. The contributions of tonight’s honorees demonstrate the success of community partnerships such as Brooklyn A’s Partnership for Community and Economic Development, which benefits from this gala’s support. Since 1994, the Partnership has been a valuable resource for low-income individuals and families in Brooklyn, promoting public-private collaboration that provides support to more than 100 grassroots organizations in Brooklyn. I commend Brooklyn A for being a vital resource for low-income individuals and groups who are in need of legal services.

    I send my congratulations to each of the honorees and my best wishes to everyone for a wonderful and successful event.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senator
Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I write to extend a warm welcome to all the attendees of the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A's 39th Annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

Since its inception in 1968, Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A (Brooklyn A) has been a crucial source of support for individuals, families, and local groups in North and East Brooklyn who would otherwise be unable to afford legal representation. On a yearly basis, you offer assistance to approximately 4,000 low-income members of our community and deserve the highest commendation for these efforts to foster greater fairness, equality and justice.

In addition to the quality representatives provided to people in need, Brooklyn A offers easily accessible services to increase neighborhood access to health and childcare, educational opportunities and recreational activities. These efforts have enhanced the lives of thousands of Brooklyn residents and empowered those who would otherwise be without a voice. I offer my deepest thanks for your advocacy on behalf of our neighborhood's most vulnerable members.

I would also like to recognize this year's honorees – Brendan J. Dugan, Paul Curran, and Maria Contreras-Collier – whose work to promote equality and social justice should be emulated by all who strive for a better world.

Best wishes for an enjoyable night and many more years of success!

Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress
November 14, 2007

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to have this opportunity to send greetings to all gathered for the 39th Anniversary & Annual Partnership Awards Gala of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A.

Across this state, people who are economically disadvantaged benefit from valuable resources and services provided by the legal community. Each year, many receive assistance in the form of legal counseling and defense services made available to them through organizations such as Brooklyn A, which for nearly four decades has benefited residents of North and East Brooklyn. Over the years, individuals and entire families have remained grateful for the generous efforts of professionals who are willing to share their time and expertise on behalf of various community-based programs.

On this occasion, you join in support of a valuable initiative to improve the quality of life in your neighborhoods — the Partnership for Community and Economic Development. This collaborative effort further adds to a tradition of service performed with civic-minded spirit and a commitment to building stronger neighborhoods.

This evening you also honor individuals who have earned special recognition for their distinguished service as members of the legal profession and as leaders within the community. Moreover, each holds a shared vision of a better world and as they work to realize that vision for the people of Brooklyn, I am pleased to join in congratulating them on receiving these accolades from respected colleagues and friends.

Best wishes for continued success in your worthy endeavors. Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

ELIOT SPitzer
Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome all those attending the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A’s Annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

Brooklyn A has long provided invaluable legal assistance to our City’s most vulnerable residents and the community groups that represent them. Tonight’s benefit raises vital funds for the Partnership for Community and Economic Development, which provides legal support to more than 100 grassroots organizations in North and East Brooklyn. The Partnership also promotes Brooklyn A’s outstanding efforts in working with neighborhood groups that organize tenants, build affordable housing, expand access to health care, and establish community-run senior centers, schools, and daycare facilities.

On behalf of our City, I am pleased to recognize those associated with Brooklyn A for hosting this event and for doing so much to assist the communities of Brooklyn with their legal needs. In addition, I join with Brooklyn A in congratulating tonight’s honorees: Brendan J. Dugan, Paul J. Curran, and Maria Contreras-Collier. Your spirit of generosity and community service represents the best of our City, and sets a wonderful example for us all.

My best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor
November 14, 2007

Dear Friends,

It is once again my great pleasure to extend congratulations and warm wishes to the supporters of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and to join you as you celebrate this year’s Annual Partnership Awards Benefit.

Brooklyn A has served as a tireless advocate on behalf of our City’s most vulnerable population. The organization and its members’ longstanding efforts to provide critical legal support to those in need as well as Brooklyn A’s successes in expanding affordable housing, childcare and healthcare services have enhanced the quality of life for those in the Brooklyn community and for all New Yorkers. I know that I speak on behalf of all City residents as I express my deep appreciation for your service to our City.

It is also my pleasure to join you this evening as you recognize this year’s honorees for their extraordinary commitment to civic service and to our City.

Once again, please accept my best wishes and I look forward to working with you.

Very truly yours,

William C. Thompson, Jr.
September 28, 2007

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation “A”
256-260 Broadway
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to Project Director and Chief Counsel Marty Neeedelman, and the dedicated Board of Directors, staff, supporters, and friends of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation “A” as you gather for the joyous occasion of your Annual Partnership Awards Benefit ceremony.

Brooklyn “A” has distinguished itself by providing high-quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and organizations throughout the borough of Brooklyn. Whether in tenants’ rights advocacy, or in domestic violence cases, Brooklyn “A” has consistently worked to promote justice for the poorest members of our communities, for which they deserve our heartfelt thanks and recognition.

We honor and congratulate Brendan J. Duigan, chairman & CEO of sovereign Bank’s Metro NY/NJ Division; Paul J. Curran, Special counsel at Kaye Scholer LLP; and Maria Contreras-Collier, Director of the Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation.

Sincerely,

Diana Reyna
Council Member, 34th District
November 14, 2007

Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
256-260 Broadway
Brooklyn, New York 11211

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I extend greetings to everyone gathered for the Annual Partnership Gala. Congratulations to the administration and staff of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A on this occasion. It's an opportunity to commend them on their high quality work, dedication and commitment. I’m continually made aware of the much needed help that they provide to the residents of North Brooklyn from the positive feedback of constituents.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the honorees: Brendan J. Dugan, Chair and CEO of Sovereign Bank’s Metro NY/NJ Division; Paul J. Curran, Special Counsel at Kaye Scholer LLP; and Maria Contreras-Collier, Director of the Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation. Their contributions demonstrate the success of the Partnership for Community and Economic Development. Each one of them has earned this honor by their ongoing work and support for the community.

Best wishes and congratulations to all for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Council Member David Yassky
October 2, 2007

Martin S. Needelman
Project Director & Chief Counsel
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
256-260 Broadway
Brooklyn, NY 11211

Dear Marty:

On behalf of the New York City Bar, I congratulate you on the occasion of the 39th Anniversary of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A. Brooklyn A continues to deliver outstanding innovative services to its community.

You, the Board and the staff of Brooklyn A are to be commended for your exceptional efforts.

I also congratulate Brendan Dugan, Paul Curran and Maria Contreras-Collier, the outstanding honorees at this 39th Annual event.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Barry Kamins
November 14, 2007

Martin S. Needleman
Project Director and Chief Counsel
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
250-260 Broadway
Brooklyn, New York 11211

Dear Marty:

I would like to take this opportunity to say Congratulations and best wishes for the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A on the occasion of the 39th Anniversary and Annual Partnership Awards Gala being held on November 14, 2007.

The Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project has always felt privileged to partner with your organization. All of us at the Brooklyn Bar Association share Legal Service’s commitment to the continued delivery of pro bono legal services to the people of Brooklyn.

We would also like to congratulate tonight’s honorees, Brendan J. Dugan, Paul J. Curran and Maria Contreras-Collier who are being recognized for their service and commitment.

All of the Officers, Trustees and Members of the Brooklyn Bar Association join me tonight in wishing the Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A many more years of growth and service to the people of Brooklyn, I remain,

Very truly yours,

RoseAnn C. Branda
President
Brooklyn Bar Association
September 21, 2007

Dear Marty,

Oh no! We've done it again!! Respectfully, with the Court in Session in Albany — and neither your organization nor me, possessing private jets — I will again have to miss your Gala celebration.

I see that, in your wonderful tradition, you have selected superb honorees, including my friend Paul Garrao. Please extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of your honorees — indeed to all of the supporters of your extraordinary organization. And of course you have my thanks and good wishes for the new year.

I cannot help adding a special note of congratulations, and joy, on the engagement of your remarkable daughter, Laura. Please also send her my very best. And here's to a great celebration!

Best,

Judith Kaye
BRENDAN J. DUGAN
CHAIRMAN & CEO, SOVEREIGN BANK, METRO NY/NJ DIVISION

BY EDWARD TRAVAGLIANTI

Brendan J. Dugan has been a driving force in the New York Commercial Banking industry for nearly 40 years. He started as a trainee in Franklin National Bank's Executive Training Program and quickly evidenced innate abilities and leadership skills, which put him at the top of every institution fortunate enough to hire him. With his keen intellect and unique capacity to lead and inspire others as a foundation, Brendan has served as President of NatWest USA and President and Chief Operating Officer at European American Bank (EAB). He also served as Chief Operating Officer of Citibank Commercial Markets, as well as the President of Business Banking at Independence Community Bank and now Chairman and CEO, Sovereign Bank, Metro New York and New Jersey. To be sure, his career path has been incredibly successful and Brendan's banking titles similarly impressive and well deserved. But what is most striking about this titan of New York Commercial Banking is the way he has handled his success as a banker, community leader, family man and superb human being.

The Banker: Central to Brendan's impact on the world of finance, commerce and industry has been his core belief in the efficacy and importance of a commercial bank charter. He has vigorously embraced the concept that the banking community has a responsibility to be a catalyst and source of sound economic growth and development. Brendan's keen analytic and technical abilities as a lender and banker have always been coupled with his willingness to direct and leverage his well-placed faith in the integrity, drive and capacity of others.

Brendan has consistently understood and illustrated by his example that "balance sheets and income statements don't repay bank loans – people do." Through this enlightened approach, he has served his shareholders and the entire banking and overall community extremely well.

Professionally, Brendan has also understood that the power and responsibility of the banking charter extends beyond the influence and importance of the institution's financial capital. Brendan understands the positive power of sharing and directing the Bank's intellectual capital and that of its people to enhance the vibrancy and growth of the entire region. Brendan actively and eagerly shares his broad-based experiences, vast general knowledge and astute business insights in his work for numerous nonprofit organizations and community-based endeavors. He sets the tone throughout the Bank – and indeed the industry – by sharing his time, talent and relationships for the greater good of the community.

The Community Leader & Superb Human Being: The essence of an effective leader is the ability to create value, inspire others and lead by genuine example. Brendan embodies all that's best about these central attributes and I believe has accomplished so much for the greater good of others because he's never forgotten his roots. His influence and positive leadership extends across the spectrum of the academic, cultural, healthcare and economic development activities of our great city. Whether it's leading the Board of Trustees at his alma mater, St. Francis College, or shepherding the growth and expansion of the world-class Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brendan's uncommon wisdom and generous spirit has helped improve the lives of tens of thousands of New Yorkers.

With all his activities, Brendan has generously shared his enthusiasm for life and his belief in the role an individual can play to improve the commonweal. He believes in people, helps them believe in themselves and best illustrates the irrepressible power of the human spirit. Nobody's done it better and no community leader has done it with greater dignity, humility and effectiveness than Brendan Dugan.

For all those reasons, it is so very appropriate that Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A honors Mr. Brendan J. Dugan for his superb accomplishments and extraordinary life's work. And it is for all those same reasons that I am privileged and so very fortunate to be able to call Mr. Brendan J. Dugan my colleague and friend.

Middle: The "Romans" in Red Hook (Brendan is 3rd from right, standing).

Second row: Brendan and Barbara, October 23, 1971; Brendan at site of new Bedford-Stuyvesant Family Health Center with Director Ulysses Kilgore (left) and Brooklyn As Paul Aciapuara (center); in the Berkshires, with grandson Brendan C. Dugan.

Bottom row: Celebrating son Pat's wedding; with Barbara in 1968; Brendan with Ed Travaglanti.
Honoree

PAUL J. CURRAN
SPECIAL COUNSEL, KAYE SCHOLER LLP

BY JOHN S. CLARK

Several months ago a senior member of the judiciary mentioned to me that he had known Paul Curran for many years and that Paul was very smart, wise, a wonderful person, and otherwise generously extolled him. Having counted Paul a close friend of 55 years, the judge’s opinion is inarguable. Paul’s high intellect, prodigious memory, power of intense concentration, exceptional capacity to absorb and analyze are palpable, as is his strong character, innate decency, integrity, genuine modesty, prudence, humility, and kindness.

Georgetown University, Fordham Law School and service as an Assistant Staff Judge Advocate Air Force officer preceded his 1958 appointment as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, where he prosecuted numerous drug and other cases, tried 29 to verdict, and briefed and argued appeals before the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

He was recruited in 1961 by Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler, now Kaye Scholer, LLP, his professional home ever since, with time out for public service. His legal acumen and extraordinary trial and advocacy skills have been applied in the prosecution and defense of a stream of major civil and white-collar criminal cases. He has also headed Kaye Scholer’s more than 100-lawyer Litigation Department. Paul has been Special Counsel to the firm since 1996.

His father, Thomas J. Curran, was a man of great dignity and presence, and a highly respected New York lawyer and well-regarded political leader; he was revered by Paul. The elder Curran served for 12 years as New York Secretary of State and was the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1944. With that legacy in mind, Paul ran for the Assembly in Manhattan’s Lower East Side, defeating a Democratic incumbent and twice winning reelection.

He next served as Chairman of the State Commission of Investigation, exposing official corruption affecting the lives of New Yorkers. From 1973 to 1975 he was U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York. In 1979, Paul was appointed Special Counsel to investigate allegations of financial misdealing in President Jimmy Carter’s family peanut warehouse. After a seven-month examination, he reported there was no evidence of criminal acts by Carter. His conduct in that investigation was marked by propriety and fairness, and there were no leaks.

In 1982, Paul sought the Republican nomination for governor of New York in a primary against a personally well-funded newcomer to politics. He campaigned with energy and zeal, exhibiting deep understanding of government and the problems affecting New Yorkers, but came short of victory. Mario Cuomo observed that: “Curran is a classy candidate,” “He’s a good man . . .” and “What a shame that money makes such a difference.”

During law school Paul married Barbara Frank, his love as a Hoya undergraduate.

Paul believes our humanity rests on respecting the dignity of the least among us.

Fifty-three years later they count seven children and 22 grandchildren. Three children and two sons-in-law are lawyers accumulating their own pro-bono and public service stripes. Paul may be found on the Jersey Shore with his family or, perhaps, at Monmouth Park employing astute selection skills developed while working summers as a course tractor operator during college.

Much of his current pro-bono work is for Prisoners Legal Services of New York. A long-serving Board member says, Paul is “hands on,” has reenergized its operations, and spends many hours each month furthering the mission. Of all the causes to which he could serve, why would he devote so much time and effort on behalf of prisoners, helping castaways who many would like to forget? It is because of his commitment to justice and his firm belief that our humanity rests on respecting the dignity of the least among us. That is a measure of the man.
Top row: Young Paul Curran; 1954 wedding to Barbara; backyard hoops in 1979.
MARIA CONTRERAS-COLLIER  
DIRECTOR, CYPRESS HILLS CHILD CARE CORPORATION

BY MICHELLE NEUEGBAUER

Maria Elena Contreras-Collier was born in Glen Cove, Long Island, and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She came to New York City to attend New York University School of Social Work where she earned her Bachelor’s degree in Social Work. Upon graduation, Maria tried out the private sector, using her considerable sales talents as a Territory Manager for six years at the American Express Company.

In 1987 Maria moved to Cypress Hills with her young family and immediately became involved in community improvement activities, including serving as President of the Nichols Avenue Block Association for seven years. Maria first became acquainted with the Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation (CHLDC) when she applied for the agency’s first Home Improvement Program loan. Maria launched a tireless pursuit of those who were packaging and processing her loan, and I remember thinking that her tenacity and energy would be wonderful assets for our growing nonprofit organization.

Maria is the true Santa behind the Toy Drive for Needy Children, raising cash and new toys to deliver on Christmas Eve to our neighborhood’s poorest families.

In February 1988, Maria began work at the CHLDC as our Assistant Director. She had a variety of duties and projects: she marketed and leased several of the agency’s affordable housing projects; ran its First Time Home Buyers Club with a local bank; wrote hundreds of proposals for funding; supervised the agency’s housing, community organizing and economic development departments, and managed the rehabilitation of the Cypress Hills Child Care Center and the Caretaker’s House in the Cypress Hills National Cemetery.

While at the LDC, Maria began her annual Christmas Toy Drive for Needy Children, which will be entering its 16th year this December. As the true Santa behind the toy drive, Maria raises donations of cash and new toys from family, friends, and local businesses to deliver on Christmas Eve to our neighborhood’s poorest families. In recent years, the drive has expanded to include contributions of food, clothing, eyeglasses, dental care and whatever goods or services these low-income families need to make the holidays brighter.

Her innovative ‘Salsa, Salud and Sabor’ program has senior citizens dancing their way to health.

In 2001, Maria assumed the Directorship at the Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation, bringing stability, harmony and vision to the organization. As Director of the Child Care Corporation, Maria has achieved high standards and quality care for over 400 children and their families in each of the agency’s three major divisions: the Cypress Hills Family Day Care Network, Head Start Program and Child Care Center. The Network helps low-income women to become micro-entrepreneurs, running licensed home daycare centers that provide high-quality, affordable services, which are very scarce in Cypress Hills.

Maria successfully secured funding for Universal Pre-K at the Center, a Head Start mentoring program, and a new healthy eating, nutrition and exercise program called “Salsa, Salud and Sabor” which attracts entire families and even, now, a group of dedicated senior citizens who are dancing their way to health.

Maria’s husband, Louis Collier and her two children, Andrea (age 22 and a recent graduate of SUNY Buffalo State College) and Julian (age 16 and a junior at the Professional Arts High School) have all been recruited for various Cypress Hills causes, including numerous health fairs, fundraisers and workshops. Cypress Hills – our children and their families owe a debt of gratitude to Maria – thank you!
Top row: Maria, one year-old; four years-old; with Julian, three, and Andrea, nine, in Puerto Rico.
Third row: Celebrating after the toy drive, 1993: Michelle Neugthbauer, Julian Reynolds, Julian Collier, Maria Collier, Carmen Ayala Otero; Maria, Louis, and Andrea, 5 months, 1985; at a Day Care provider's home.
Bottom row: Great friends—Jean Reynolds, Michelle Neugthbauer, Maria, 2005; Maria, Wellington Dela Cruz, Yadira Salce, a Head Start parent and Gloria Chooz, 2007; Maria on the annual Brooklyn Board tour, 2007.
HEY, WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU CELEBRATING?

BY MARTIN S. NEEDELMAN

As we gather once again to celebrate Brooklyn A’s 39th Anniversary, I am reminded that indeed it is my own 36th Anniversary with the program. In Hebrew, 36 is two times “Chai” – life – and indeed I have lived more than one life, seeing the changes in myself, in Brooklyn A, and in the communities and clients that we serve.

In many ways there are frustrating reminders that although much has changed, too many bad things remain the same: extreme and extensive poverty persists, domestic violence seems to be rampant, and the public schools still don’t work and remain hostile to the new tide of recent immigrants. Indeed, landlords more than ever are trying to oust our clients from their homes. Nowadays, they can rent those apartments to wealthy newcomers willing and able to pay many times what our clients are struggling to come up with, as opposed to the old days, when landlords tried to vacate buildings after years of neglect in order to burn them down and collect the fire insurance.

Despite the many hardships, we all have a right to be optimistic.

Despite the challenges and suffering that remain, the strides forward have indeed been great, and we all have a right to be optimistic. This is not just in light of recent or upcoming political changes, but even more so because of the extraordinary partnership of Brooklyn A’s dedicated, brilliant, and energetic staff; the inspiring leaders of the local, community-run organizations that build, invigorate and sustain our neighborhoods; and our many law firm, corporate, banking, government and private supporters. What I’m talking about is you!

What more can we celebrate than this fabulous, energizing, make-it-happen coalition that we’ve been able to build over the years, which has accomplished so much and created a foundation for so many more achievements in the future.

Happy Anniversary to Brooklyn A and to all of you — our Partnership for Community and Economic Development! As Tony Bennett might say, “The best is yet to come!”

I know a lot has really changed when I visit one of over a hundred low-income co-ops owned by the very same tenants that came together years ago to struggle to save their homes.

Yet, I am so clearly reminded of progress when we go on a tour of the amazing work being done by neighborhood organizations that are our clients and partners. I see the incredible nonprofit community-run health, daycare, and senior centers they have created, run and expanded with a nurturing spirit and passion; and how much subsidized, truly affordable, decent housing they have built and managed. I can visit one of the over a hundred low-income cooperative apartment buildings owned by very same tenants that came together years ago to struggle to save their homes, or attend a graduation of survivors of domestic violence who have benefited from community love and support and are now prepared to help others. That’s when I know that a lot has really changed.
Your support for Brooklyn A’s Annual Awards Benefit will provide funding for our Partnership for Community and Economic Development, a dynamic public-private collaboration that empowers more than 100 grassroots organizations in North and East Brooklyn. Our Advisory Committee initiated the Partnership in 1994 to build Brooklyn A’s work with local groups that organize tenants, build affordable housing, expand access to health care, and establish community-run senior centers, schools, and daycare facilities.

Brooklyn A has provided our unique model of community-based legal services to low-income Brooklyn communities since 1968. Our clients include the communities’ most vulnerable people: the elderly, people with disabilities, and people affected by HIV/AIDS. In our rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods, we defend longtime tenants against displacement, challenge predatory lending schemes that target poor people, and protect survivors of domestic violence.

Your generosity will allow Brooklyn A and our grassroots partners to help many more struggling Brooklyn residents build a brighter future. Thanks to your support, Brooklyn families and organizations taking a stand for social and economic justice will have committed Brooklyn A attorneys at their side.

Brooklyn A’s 2007 Community and Economic Development Docket provides detailed information on the difference our dynamic partnerships with grassroots organizations is making in the communities we serve. The Docket tells the stories of the vital infrastructure and services this collaboration is building and creating in Brooklyn’s struggling neighborhoods.

You’ll find a copy of our Docket, along with lots of news about Brooklyn A’s projects, events, and accomplishments at our brand-new website, www.bka.org. We hope you’ll visit and sign up for our e-mail news updates!
# BROOKLYN A GALA HONOREES 1993-2006

We are extremely proud to have honored the following distinguished group of attorneys, corporate leaders, and community activists at our Annual Partnership Awards Benefits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honorees</th>
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| 2006 | Robert C. Sheehan, Skadden, Arps, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Terri Thomson, Citigroup Inc.  
Barbara Schilff, Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation |
| 2005 | John Callagy, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP  
Thomas Early, Health Plus  
Dr. Claude Offord, Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center |
| 2004 | Evan Davis, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton  
Maureen Bateman, Bank of America  
Michael Rochford, St. Nicholas Preservation Development Corp. |
| 2003 | James F. Gill, Bryan Cave  
Frederick W. Hill, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.  
Jeffrey E. Dunston, Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development Corp. |
| 2002 | Zachary W. Carter, Dorsey & Whitney LLP  
MacDara Lynch, Pfizer Global Manufacturing  
Sister Peggy Walsh, Southside Community Mission |
| 2001 | Barbara Paul Robinson, Debevoise & Plimpton  
Marilyn G. Gelber, Independence Community Foundation  
Maurice A. Reid, Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center |
| 2000 | Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr., Cravath, Swaine & Moore  
David D. Pagan, Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation |
| 1999 | Patricia M. Hynes, Milberg Weiss Bershad Hynes & Lerach, LLP  
Frances A. Resheske, Con Edison  
Adbur Rahman Farrakhan, Oceanhill-Brownsville Tenants Association |
| 1998 | Barry H. Garfinkel, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Magda N. Yrizarry, Bell Atlantic  
John P. Mulhern, Nuestros Ninos Child Development School |
| 1997 | Conrad Harper, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett  
Michelle Neugebauer, Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation |
| 1996 | Henry L. King, Davis Polk & Wardwell  
Angela M. Battaglia, Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council, Inc. |
| 1995 | Judge Harold R. Tyler, Jr., Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler  
Joseph K. Francois, Brownsville Multi-Service Center |
| 1993 | Sargent Shriver, Special Olympics International  
Sally Hernandez-Piñero, New York City Housing Authority  
Vito Lopez, New York State Assemblyman  
Philip A. Wheeler, United Auto Workers, Region 9A |

An awards event was not held in 1994.
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President & CEO
Thank you, Maria Contreras Collier, for devoting yourself so unselfishly to the Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation, Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation and the children and families of Cypress Hills.

& thank you for your friendship!

We love you,

Michelle Nengebauer and Bill Kloke
And our precious daughter, Nicole – another fan of yours

Richard Izquierdo, M.D.
Founder

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Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez
President & CEO
In recognition of your efforts to make Brooklyn a better place to live, work and grow for all people, we would like to congratulate the staff and Board of Brooklyn A & the 2007 Annual Partnership Awards Benefit Honorees:

María Contreras-Collier
Brendan J. Dugan
Paul J. Curran

Student at the Cypress Hills Day Care Center

The Rose-Belkin-García-Rosen family
(Jessie’s family)

“We are realists – we dream the impossible”
— Ernesto Che Guevara

Congratulations
Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A
and this year’s honorees
from
Iris R. Jimenez-Hernandez
Senior Vice President

Woodhull North Brooklyn Health Network
The Board of Directors and Staff of
The Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
and
The Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation
Join Our Esteemed Colleagues at
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in
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MARIÁ CONTRERAS-COLLIER

for

Her Distinguished Service to

Neighborhood Families, Our Organizations and Our Community.

Thank you, Maria, for your hard work, numerous accomplishments and profound caring and compassion.
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in providing high-quality legal assistance to low-income individuals and community groups in North and East Brooklyn

Paul J. Curran
Special Counsel, Kaye Scholer LLP

and tonight’s other honorees for their commitment to community service

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Make the Road New York shares our deepest gratitude with Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A, for you invaluable assistance and advice in helping our organization grow over the years. You are an essential partner in our work.

Thank you!!

CONGRATULATIONS

To the board, management and staff of Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A on nearly 40 years of bringing passion and professionalism to the delivery of legal representation and advocacy to all those in need in North and East Brooklyn.

We’re pleased to join you in honoring tonight’s stellar list of Honorees, Brendan Dugan, Paul Curran and, especially, Maria Contreras-Collier.

Their unparalleled dedication to their work and their communities has made a critical difference in the lives of thousands of New Yorkers.

Cathy M. Herman & Brian T. Sullivan
The Carlos Lezama Archives & Caribbean Cultural Center congratulates all of tonight’s honorees

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Paul J. Curran
& Maria Contreras-Collier
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Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A's

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We are proud to recognize

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Brooklyn A has a new website!

Visit www.bka.org for the latest news about our grassroots efforts to protect vulnerable tenants, prevent domestic violence, combat predatory housing lenders, protect the rights of people with disabilities, and create community-run daycare, health, and senior centers.

Sign up for our email newsletter at www.bka.org!
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November 14, 2007
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Paul J. Curran
Special Counsel, Kaye Scholer LLP

Maria Contreras-Collier
Director, Cypress Hills Child Care Corporation

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for
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Dean William Michael Treanor and Fordham Law School congratulate honorees

Paul J. Curran ’56, Maria Contreras-Collier, and Brendan J. Dugan

Tonight’s honorees have distinguished themselves by dedicating their lives and careers to public service; they each have made a tremendous impact in improving the lives of New York’s most vulnerable residents. Fordham Law commends them on this well-deserved honor and supports Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A in its efforts to provide high-quality legal service to those most in need.

Congratulations to Paul Curran, Brendan Dugan and Maria Contreras-Collier.

Best wishes to Marty Needelman and Paul Acinapura for continued success in their mission.

Joe and Kay Geoghan
Congratulations to Paul J. Curran for receiving this prestigious award from Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and, even more importantly, for devoting much of his life to public service and helping others.

Dominic F. Amorosa

WITH ALL BEST WISHES

TO

PAUL J. CURRAN

FROM

MARINA AND STEPHEN E. KAUFMAN
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Contact: Joseph Lipofsky at 212-223-3900 or jlipofsky@zs.com
Dan Drachler at 206-223-2053 or ddrachler@zs.com

Congratulations
Brendan!

Leonard Ridini, Esq.

and

Westermann Hamilton Sheehy
Aydellott & Keenan, LLP
Congratulations

Brendan J. Dugan

and all of tonight’s honorees

Thank you Brooklyn
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&
Its Honorees
On their Annual Partnership Awards Benefit

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on nearly 40 years of bringing passion and professionalism to the delivery of legal
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We're pleased to join you in honoring tonight's stellar list of Honorees,
Brendan Dugan, Paul Curran and, especially, Maria Contreras-Collier.

Their unparalleled dedication to their work and their communities has made a critical
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Best Wishes to the 2007 Honorees

November 14, 2007
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Congratulations to Paul Curran, Brendan Dugan and Maria Contreras-Collier.

Best wishes to Marty Needelman and Paul Acinapura for continued success in their mission.

Joe and Kay Geoghan
Congratulations to Paul J. Curran for receiving this prestigious award from Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A and, even more importantly, for devoting much of his life to public service and helping others.

Dominic F. Amorosa

WITH ALL BEST WISHES

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