

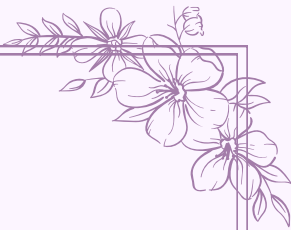


WESPAC
FOUNDATION
ANNUAL AWARDS
JOURNAL

FIFTY-TWO
YEARS OF
WESPAC

JUNE 7, 2026
FAIRWAYS AT
DUNWOODIE





PROGRAM

WELCOME

Steve Rabinowitz, WESPAC Board Chair

WESPAC HONORS

NYCD16-15 Indivisible
Lower Hudson Valley DSA

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Avalanche at Dawn

WESPAC GUEST SPEAKER

Zephyr Teachout

CLOSING REMARKS

Nada Khader, WESPAC Executive Director



WESPAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FOUNDERS, 1974

Connie Hogarth

Charlie Scheiner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nada Khader

The WESPAC Community deeply appreciates each and everyone one of our donors who continue to sustain WESPAC's work at this critical time.

WESPAC Foundation has been a leading force for progressive social change in Westchester County, New York, since 1974. We have been educating, agitating and organizing for a more just and peaceful world, an end to militarism and racism and a more fair economy that works for all. Our members are currently involved with criminal justice reform and police accountability, food justice work, fair housing, climate justice and safe renewable energy, immigrant protection, solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, an end to militarism and drone warfare and the struggle for justice, equal rights and human dignity for all the inhabitants of Israel/Palestine



B I O G R A P H I E S

NYCD16-15 INDIVISIBLE – HONOREE

NYCD16 Indivisible was created in the middle of a snowstorm in January of 2017, when a bunch of stressed out friends got together to discuss how to resist the Trump agenda. Using the Indivisible guide as inspiration, the group was born. Since that cold day we have held monthly meetings, our membership has grown to over 1,200. In 2017, the group successfully lobbied MoC Eliot Engel to NOT shake Trump's hand at the SOTU, and organized a town hall at College of Mt St Vincent to address social injustice that was attended by 800 people.

Subsequently, we were very active in the effort to remove the IDC from power in Albany, ensuring a true Democratic majority in the State legislature, which brought about many significant NYS legislative reforms.

We have become a vehicle for electoral and legislative activism and reform in Westchester County and the North Bronx. Our many committees work in coalition with other regional activist groups to affect change by electing officials we can work with to pass progressive legislation.

LOWER HUDSON VALLEY DSA – HONOREE

The Lower Hudson Valley Democratic Socialists of America is a regional chapter of Democratic Socialists of America, the largest socialist organization in the United States. The chapter brings together members from Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, and surrounding counties who are committed to building a more just, democratic, and equitable society rooted in solidarity, economic democracy, and collective action.

The Lower Hudson Valley DSA organizes grassroots campaigns and political education around issues including affordable housing, labor rights, universal healthcare, climate justice, immigrant rights, and racial justice. Through tenant organizing, mutual aid, electoral engagement, and coalition-building with community organizations and labor unions, the chapter works to empower ordinary people to challenge inequality and create systems that place human needs above private profit. By fostering democratic participation and community-led solutions, the Lower Hudson Valley DSA has become a vibrant and growing force for progressive change throughout the Hudson Valley.



Avalanche at Dawn

Catchy, upbeat original songs and tight, luminous harmonies define Avalanche at Dawn , who have performed widely for Westchester audiences. Their songs have been featured on WFUV (90.7 FM) and other radio stations. Where the River Flows , their newly released third album, is found on all streaming services. Look for their videos Where the River Flows and It is All Right, Good Night on YouTube.

A huge thank you to Paul and Diane for coming and supporting our annual awards today! Please consider purchasing their music as a modest token of our appreciation!



The Steering
Committee of
NYCD16/15-Indivisible
congratulates
WESPAC
on 52 years of working
for social justice.
1974–2026



WESPAC Guest Speaker

Zephyr Teachout Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law, is the author of over two dozen scholarly works on antitrust, corruption, and the law of democracy. She has written two landmark books: *Corruption in America: From Benjamin Franklin's Snuff Box to Citizens United* and *Break 'Em Up: Recovering Our Freedom from Big Ag, Big Tech, and Big Money*, edited *MousePads, Shoeleather and Hope*, and has a new book coming out next year, *"Ant-Monopoly: A Citizens Guide."* Her scholarship has been cited by Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens in the dissent in *Citizens United*, and widely seen as influential on both antitrust and corruption law.

Actively advises on antitrust and anti-corruption legislation across the country, translating scholarship into on-the-ground policy change. She recently coined the terms *surveillance wages and prices*, advancing a new legal and economic framework for understanding corporate price-setting in the digital age, and is working with lawmakers around the country to ban the practices.

Director of Internet Organizing for Howard Dean's 2004 presidential campaign, a foundational moment in the history of online political organizing. Ran for Governor of New York in 2014, winning 34% of the vote against incumbent Andrew Cuomo. The New York Times called her "the godmother of the current moment — the first of a spate of female candidates... to emerge from anonymity and reveal the depths of dissatisfaction"

She is a columnist for *The Nation*, and writes for *The New York Review of Books*, and other leading publications on democracy, monopoly power, and resistance.

PAST HONOREES

1980 The late Rev. Lee H. Ball One of WESPAC's founders. Head of Methodist Federation for Social Action and Westchester Clergy and Laity Concerned for a number of years. A major presence of conscience through the Vietnam and civil rights struggles.

1981 The late Dr. Corliss Lamont Educator, scholar, humanist, activist, author and poet. Lifelong fighter for human liberties, peace and humane causes. Chair, National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (NECLC) and honorary president American Humanist Association. The WESPAC picnic and music festival was hosted each year by the Lamont's on their grounds in Ossining.

1982 The late Helen Auerbach Counselor to hundreds of youth with unbounded generosity of spirit for 30 years. Former WESPAC recording secretary. Gentle fighter against bigotry, injustice, nuclear war. Dedicated to racial justice and work with Yonkers NAACP, Rainbow Coalition, Riverdale Ethical Humanist Society.

1983 Charles Scheiner A man for all seasons. Co-founder, co-chair of WESPAC. Commitment to nonviolence and pacifism has directed his life's activities. Has represented Mobilization for Survival, War Resisters League, WESPAC in North Atlantic Network and Nuclear-Free Pacific movement. Co-founder East Timor Action Network.

1984 The late Elsie Harry Lifetime of activism for racial and economic justice. A WESPAC founding member. Organized Westchester's Welfare Rights Organization and its Welfare Coalition. Led WESPAC's Criminal Justice and Human Development Committees. Powerful advocate for the poor, she personally fought for hundreds of oppressed and dispossessed.

1985 the late Rabbi Michael Robinson From Blue Ridge Mountains, leader among clergy for justice and peace. Pacifist, C.O. during WWII; early civil rights worker. As Rabbi in Northern Westchester, co-chaired SANE, helped found CALC. Former national chair, Jewish Peace Fellowship. He and Ruth worked with WESPAC as war tax resisters.

1986 The late Clara and Arnold Ghinger Arnold was a jeweler, writer, tireless champion of minority rights and peace. Never missed a demonstration or a good fight for a just cause. Clara, a mainstay at WESPAC, past treasurer and always a source of wisdom and caring. Active in Women Strike for Peace, Women's Pentagon Action, Yonkers Women's Task Force. Lifelong devotion to peace and women's rights.

PAST HONOREES

1987 Joanne Robinson-Boettcher From a family tradition of political involvement (her mother, May, was a guiding light for human rights and equality), Joanne co-chaired the local Rainbow Coalition, helped found Black Democrats and Black Women's Political Caucus, and represented WESPAC and Rainbow at 1985 UN Decade of Women Conference in Nairobi.

1988 The late Margaret Eberle Chair of Central America Solidarity Association (CASA) at WESPAC. Spent countless hours doing programs about Nicaragua, El Salvador, U.S. foreign policy. Traveled to Cuba with Friend shipments to challenge U.S. embargo. Former VISTA volunteer in Utah with Native Americans and their struggles. Made all WESPAC banners for demos and rallies.

1989 Herman Keith First African American Westchester County Legislator. President of Yonkers NAACP when landmark desegregation lawsuit was launched (won in 1986). Headed Jackson presidential campaigns in Westchester, and Jackson delegate to Democratic National Convention. Working with WESPAC, spearheaded passage of legislation by County Board forcing withdrawal of county funds from banks doing business in South Africa.

1990 The late Toshi and Pete Seeger, who lived their lives so that the Rainbow Race of Children can see a new day of peace, green grass, sunshine, blue sky, clear water and a song. Who could ask for more?

1991 The late Al Warren Founding member during the Vietnam War of Westchester Peace Council, the forerunner of WESPAC. A union organizer with an unshakable commitment to fight each act of injustice that came his way, from the struggle against fascism as a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade to combating local racism and police brutality.

1992 Andrew Courtney Career teacher of Fine Arts whose life work is a convergence of social responsibility, education and art. Organized first Construction Brigade to Nicaragua and Eye Doctor's Team to the West Bank and Gaza. An exhibiting photographer, he projects in his photos the searing humanity of oppressed people in Central America, the Middle East and South Africa.

1993 The late Ruth Inabu Fox Community activist for more than 50 years. Outstanding organizer and leading promoter of universal health care based on the Canadian model; advocate for permanent housing for the homeless, working poor and minorities. National Board member of Gray Panthers. Recipient of White Plains Distinguished Human Rights Award and Governor's Award for extraordinary contributions to improving the quality of life for Westchester residents.

PAST HONOREES

1994 WESPAC on its 20th Anniversary

1995 Helen Bellotti, the late Eleanora Cutignola, the late Ed Lyman, Vince Rubeo, the late Len Ruderman, and the late Florence Tabor WESPAC would not be able to function without the many volunteers who have dedicated their lives to the progressive causes WESPAC champions. This year we chose to honor the people behind the scenes who make WESPAC work: the dedicated, longtime volunteers.

1996 The late Connie Hogarth For 22 years Connie Hogarth was WESPAC's charismatic leader, providing dynamic leadership, compassionate guidance, and genuine friendship to its members and those it serves. Connie led WESPAC in the struggle to protect people and the environment from the ravages of corporate greed, establish peace at home and abroad, create a just society and extend the definition of family to include the whole of life on the planet. Connie continued her activism with the Connie Hogarth Center for Social Action at Manhattanville College.

1997 Dennis Hanratty As director of Mt. Vernon United Tenants and Co-chair of the Board of Hunger Action Network of New York State, Dennis is a leader in the struggle for affordable housing, and the struggle to end hunger and poverty. His global perspective consistently informs his work for justice at the community level.

1998 The late Winston A. Ross Winston Ross was a lifelong advocate for the poor and disadvantaged in our community. He was committed to the fight for equal opportunity and justice in both his professional and volunteer activities. Since 1984 he was Executive Director of WestCOP (Westchester Community Opportunity Program), which was formed in 1965 from President Johnson's declaration of a "War on Poverty."

1999 Amy Goodman Amy Goodman hosts Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now!, a daily national grassroots newsmagazine on both international and national issues. She has reported from Chiapas, Haiti, Nigeria and East Timor. Her program is the only remaining national medium to cover U.S. policy from a critical and investigative perspective.

1999 The late Judge Bruce M. Wright Judge Wright was dubbed "Turn 'Em Loose Bruce" when he released without bail a Black man accused of slashing the throat of a police decoy. The man later was found innocent and whose only "crime" was carrying a Boy Scout knife. This was just one of his many lifelong acts of courage, controversy and conviction.

PAST HONOREES

2000 Harold Lasso Active organizer and leader dedicated to empowering and serving Westchester's Hispanic community, as well as achieving justice for Indigenous people in the Americas and peace for Colombia, and building bridges between peoples and among groups.

2001 Julie Davis Carran One of WESPAC's most active volunteers, Julie helped with administrative work, supports other activists, and reaches across race, class and age lines to find common ground and make connections among individuals and community groups. Her dedication, perseverance, perspective and empathy have helped sustain WESPAC and build the larger movement for social justice.

2004 Judith Karpova Opposing the Vietnam War through direct action and mobilizing anti-globalization demonstrations, she has organized U.S. humanitarian travelers to Iraq and been a courageous human shield, protecting Iraqi civilians.

2004 The late Rev. Lucius Walker, Jr. A drum major for justice, Lucius was Executive Director of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO) and pastor of Salvation Baptist Church. His compassion empowered victims of human rights violations from apartheid South Africa to the U.S.A. For Cuba, he defied the U.S. blockade with Pastors for Peace caravans bringing humanitarian supplies.

2004 Zena Mikdadi Zena is a vital bridge to the Muslim Community in Westchester for non-Muslims. A founder of American Muslim Women's Association, she reaches out to diverse communities with humor and patience, raising awareness about Islam and about challenges Muslims face here.

2004 Alex Matthiessen As Executive Director of Riverkeeper, Alex educates, advocates, litigates. Along with a legal team, he investigates potential threats to the watershed and enforces environmental law to safeguard the Hudson River Valley and the NYC water supply. He is the Hudson River's most visible and aggressive advocate.

2005 Mike Levinson For his 30 years of activism with WESPAC Foundation and the War Resisters League, for his commitment to nonviolence, peace, justice and direct action.

2005 The late Sundiata Sadiq Three-term president of the Ossining branch of the NAACP, for his 30 years of activism on issues of racial justice and political prisoners, including his work to free Mumia Abu-Jamal.

2005 Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition for its effective mobilizing of people and communities to call for the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plant.

PAST HONOREES

2006 Joan Indusi For her work to close Indian Point, resist war taxes, oppose U.S. wars in Central America and Iraq, abolish nuclear weapons, reduce funding for the military and support a clean environment and national health care.

2006 Rev. Emma Loftin-Woods For her work to integrate schools in North Carolina and Yonkers, promote tenant rights, help victims of Hurricane Katrina and to repeal the Rockefeller Drug Laws.

2006 The late George Houser For his non-violent struggle against racism and his work for civil rights, to end colonial domination of Africa and for founding the American Committee on Africa.

2007 Cleta Ciulla For her work with the Rockland Sister Cities Project in Friendship with the People of Nicaragua and her contribution to the Rockland Coalition for Peace and Justice.

2007 Rev. Rafael Garcia For his work in educating the public on “U.S.-Plan Colombia”, the colonial status of Puerto Rico, the abuse of teachers in Oaxaca and the exploitation of unionized janitors in Westchester County.

2008 Al Surya Peterson Surya is a founding trustee of the African American Cultural Foundation created in 1969. He served as the Health and Fine Arts Director for several years. He was the co-founder of the Sunday Gallery that was created in 1970, a collective that exposes the creative expression of local African American artisans.

2008 Phyllis Rodriguez and the late Orlando Rodriguez When their 31 year-old son died in the 9/11 terror attacks in New York, they called on President Bush in an open letter not to start a campaign of revenge in Afghanistan. The letter, “Not In My Son’s Name”, circulated widely on the internet and is their political credo. They joined other victims’ relatives in forming September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows in February 2002.

2008 Westchester-Rockland Chapter 60 of Veterans for Peace This chapter chartered by the national organization in 1991 at the initiative of the late Alvin Warren of Montrose, a Veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and the Second World War. He was joined by members of the metro-area Clarence Fitch Chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against the War. The combined group adopted the name “Tappan Zee Brigade” reflecting its area of operations on both sides of the Hudson River.

2009 Victor Corona Has been a fair trade vendor at the Margaret Eberle annual holiday fair for several years. Has been coordinating the Fatherhood Involvement Initiative of Head Start under the auspices of Family Services of Westchester and helps connect local Latino immigrants to employment and language resources.

PAST HONOREES

2009 The late Dr. Olivia Hooker Was born in Muskogee, Oklahoma in 1915. She moved with her family to Tulsa, Oklahoma a few years later. Dr. Hooker was six when the Tulsa Race Riot occurred. Aged over 100 years old, she was among a few hundred remaining survivors who are still seeking restitution for the losses of life and property that they and their families suffered as a result of the riot.

2009 Nick Mottern Has been active in anti-war and local organizing in Westchester County for the last 20 years. He is a journalist and directs the knowdrones.com website. He has worked for Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, organizing speaking tours on the impact of US policies on Africa, as well as Bread for the World. He is the founder of KnowDrones.com.

2010 Ted DeSoyza Has been very active in the peace movement in Westchester County and is an inspiration to countless numbers of activists. She has worked with “gangs” on the Lower East Side and has taught at the Correction Facility in Bedford and at the Adult Learning Center in New Rochelle.

2010 Mirene Ghossein Is active with Alwan for the Arts, WESPAC and Ada-lahNY. In 2008 she organized The Art of Palestinian Children, a traveling exhibition of 26 paintings by Palestinian children in Lebanon that were donated by Al-Jana in Beirut. She sees art as a powerful vehicle that social justice activists can use to bridge gaps in understanding and mythologies.

2010 Felice Gelman Has been a core member of WESPAC's Middle East Committee for several years. She has become very involved in the campaign to end Israel's siege of Gaza and has made three trips to the region with Code Pink and the Gaza Freedom March. She also serves on the board of the Friends of the Jenin Freedom Theater.

2010 Jackie Mann Is the Co-founder and President of the Elias Foundation dedicated to promoting community leadership networks for progressive social change in Westchester County. Elias supports organizations that amplify the voices of community members and initiatives led by the communities they serve.

2010 Mary Williams Is a community activist who is one of the founders of the Westchester Community Opportunity Program (WestCOP), a co-founder of the Union Child Day Care Center and the Theodore Young Community Center.

2011 African American Men of Westchester Is composed of men who have distinguished themselves in the fields of finance, politics, government operation, telecommunication, education, social services, legal services, business organizations and engineering. They work to strengthen the family institution and focus attention on social issues which have a disproportionately negative impact on the African American Community.

PAST HONOREES

2011 No War Westchester Community members have held a vigil in White Plains every Saturday since the U.S. invasion of Iraq. They have participated in the effort to end illegal wars and occupations and to bring the troops and mercenaries home. They welcome your support and participation.

2011 Women in Black New Rochelle Solidarity Vigilers Under the leadership of Ceil Lavan stand vigil each month in New Rochelle to raise the consciousness of drivers and pedestrians about the U.S. backed siege of Gaza. With the support of her Blauvelt Dominican Sisters, Ceil went with a Code Pink delegation to Gaza in May of 2009, four months after the Israeli military's attack on the Gaza Strip.

2012 Rachel Estroff Is a founding member of Westchester for Change, an organization of community activists working for progressive social and political change, focusing on issues impacting economic inequality and environmental degradation.

2012 Maggie Goff Was a student at Manhattanville College where she served as the President of the Connie Hogarth Center for Social Action and was active in various student and community organizations dealing with education budget cuts, immigration, the environment, LGBTQ rights and justice in the Middle East.

2012 Cora Miles Former teacher and assistant principal, is active in several cultural and social justice organizations dedicated to ending racial disparities, including the Anti-Racist Alliance, the Westchester Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Institute for Nonviolence, OneACCORD and WESPAC.

2012 The late Gary Shaw Leader in the struggle against nuclear power, is a member of the steering committee of the Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition (IPSEC). He was the lead writer of the anti-nuclear documentary "Nowhere to Run" which won a Silver Medal at the 2003 Houston International Film Festival.

2013 Marlen Fernandez and Maria Jaime Marlen was a student at Lehman College and Vice President of the Lehman Dream Team. Maria was a Duchesne Scholar at Manhattanville College. They were co-coordinators of the Westchester Dream Team, a chapter of the NYS Youth Leadership Council that works to empower undocumented youth and challenge the broken immigration system.

2013 LaMont Oyewale Badru and Rog Drew LaMont, a member of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, is a professional community organizer in community development and housing policy. He founded the Community Governance and Development Council working to establish a neighborhood base of youth education and recreation in Yonkers. Rog worked at the Duchesne Center for Religious and Social Justice at Manhattanville College, where they ran numerous programs on human rights, social justice, diversity and women's rights. They were a member of the Board of Directors at WESPAC.

PAST HONOREES

2013 Priscilla Read Has been active in the Rhode Island Qalqilya Alliance and the Episcopal Diocese to raise awareness about Palestine and Israel and to counter Islamophobia. She was the founder and coordinator of the Westchester Chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace, working toward a just peace in the Middle East.

2013 George Guerci Former member of the NYC Fire Department who was active in the successful struggle to end discrimination against African-Americans and other people of color in the NYFD by changing its testing and hiring practices. He has been active in the effort to free Mumia Abu-Jamal, to shut down Indian Point and, with Nick Mottern, on the anti-drone “Know Drones” campaign.

2014 The late Connie Hogarth lifelong peace, justice, and environmental activist. She was the co-founder and Executive Director of WESPAC for 23 years. She served as both an honoree and the keynote speaker for the 40th Anniversary Awards Dinner for WESPAC. She was honored with the establishment of the Connie Hogarth Center for Social Action at Manhattanville College, training students to move from academics to activism. Her contributions to the movement for social justice are priceless.

2014 Doug DeCandia Served as the Food Growing Program Coordinator for the Food Bank of Westchester. He works with youth and adults from around the county in the garden growing fruits and vegetables to serve those experiencing hunger.

2014 Jalal Sabur Helped to start the Food Justice Committee at WESPAC, as well as the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement. He has worked with the Wassaic Community Farm. He is currently running the Victory Bus Project, where he transports family members to visit loved ones who are in upstate prisons while providing them with fresh produce.

2015 Ibrahim Siddiq Activist, artist, philosopher and poet, Ibrahim a.k.a. POET (Putting Out Eternal Thoughts) is the Artistic Director of a grassroots arts program known as The FREE ART Project through which he facilitates workshops, open mics, and showcases in NYC and Westchester. He is the founder of the organic plant-based skin and hair care product line Earth's Pantry where the proceeds fund The FREE ART PROJECT.

2015 Howard Horowitz A WESPAC community activist since its founding in the 1970s, and has served as Chairperson of the WESPAC Board. He is an active organizer in the Westchester Chapter of Jewish Voice for Peace and works to bring alternative Palestinian and progressive Jewish voices to Temple Israel of New Rochelle and the wider community through the Westchester Jewish Council.

PAST HONOREES

2016 The late Art Bennett As a musician who was very active in the beginning of the Loft Jazz movement in New York City, leading to appearances at Lincoln Cen-ter. Art has performed with many notable artists, including Rasheed Ali and Lonnie Liston Smith, and believes that the world can be transformed through the arts as a medium that transcends boundaries and divisions.

2016 Frank Brodhead Has worked as an editor and writer, a tenant rights organizer and has also worked for the American Friends Service Committee. He is one of the founders of Concerned Families of Westchester, a community-based organization that focuses on stopping wars and climate change.

2016 Jun-san Yasuda As a member of the Nipponzan Myohoji Order whose only mission is to walk and pray for peace as she walks to challenge the root causes of nuclear weapons, the African slave trade, and the many injustices to Native people. She has spent days in rough weather outside the prisons of Leonard Peltier and Mumia Abu Jamal.

2016 Kenneth Chamberlain Jr. For effecting positive change in Westchester and beyond. After his father's death at the hands of White Plains police officers, he has worked tirelessly toward creating more just, safe and sustainable communities and is a founding member of the Westchester Coalition for Police Reform.

2017 Latifa Williams as a licensed mental health counselor, for her efforts to eliminate the disproportionate representation of children of color within child welfare, and other related systems, and for her commitment to working for a world in which law enforcement institutions are transformed to create a more just and equitable policing system for everyone.

2017 Scott Havelka as Director of Programs and Services at The LOFT: LGBT Community Center with its early beginnings at the WESPAC loft space, and for his work reducing the statewide number of new HIV infections, as well as his work serving on the planning team of the annual Margaret Eberle Fair Trade Festival.

2017 Sharonne Salaam an advocate for justice for over 40 years. Mother of Yusef Salaam, one of the Central Park 5, she is a founding member of "Justice 4 The Wrongfully Incarcerated" and organized a nine day walk from Harlem to Albany, NY, to introduce legislation on behalf of the wrongfully incarcerated and their families.

2018 Laura Case an advocate for the homeless for many years, Laura has been volunteering as the leader of Homeless Are People Too (H.A.P.T.) committee of Community Voices Heard, a group of homeless and formerly homeless Westchester residents pushing for better treatment and more housing the homeless can afford.

PAST HONOREES

2018 Zeltzyn Sanchez a leader with the Sustainable Port Chester Alliance, an organization that works to empower residents to be involved in local issues affecting their community including development, affordable housing, local employment opportunities, immigrant rights and voting rights.

2018 Tomiko Morimoto West for using the trauma of surviving the U.S. nuclear bombing of her hometown Hiroshima in 1945 to dedicate her life to working for a more just and peaceful world with nonviolent resolutions of global conflicts.

2019 Cornell “Lord Judah” Carelock, hip-hop teaching artist in Westchester County, New York, with many years of experience as an artist and social justice leader, specializing in many evolving forms of creative expression through his company, Judah Bless Entertainment.

2019 JustLeadershipUSA, dedicated to cutting the US correctional population in #halfby2030. JLUSA empowers people most affected by incarceration to drive policy reform, while recognizing that mass incarceration is one of the most significant domestic threats to the fabric of our democracy.

2020 Sister Jean Fallon For her lifelong service with Maryknoll Sisters in pursuing peace with justice here and all around the world, including her work in Japan to end racism and labor exploitation and for her work in Israel/Palestine to end the military occupation.

2020 David Peters, LMSW For his work as a Social Worker, Child Welfare Advocate and Core Trainer for Undoing Racism with the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond. David is also the founder of New RoAR, New Rochelle Against Racism.

2020 Noah Wagner For their work as an organizer with If Not Now, a movement of young Jews working to end the Jewish Community’s support of the Israeli Occupation of the Palestinian Territories.

2020 Leah Alper For her leadership role within If Not Now and for her continued work for the freedom and dignity for all people.

2021 Ruby Olisemeka as an independent educator/consultant focusing on socially transformative education; food justice and incorporating African and indigenous practices into farming and food & farming education.

2021 Anne Jaffe Holmes as an environmental educator who seeks to build community around protecting our environment, especially by bringing forward the voices of those

PAST HONOREES

2021 Delia Marx for representing WESPAC with various local groups and coalitions, including the NYS Community Equity Agenda and the Divest NY Coalitions; she is active in the struggle to reform the police, the bail and parole systems and leads regular social justice tours of Buenos Aires, focusing on the worker owned cooperative movement.

2022 Dr. Edward O. Williamson, B.A., M.A., D. Min. for his service to the church and community. His motto for life, ministry, the church, and the community is “We’re all in this together.”

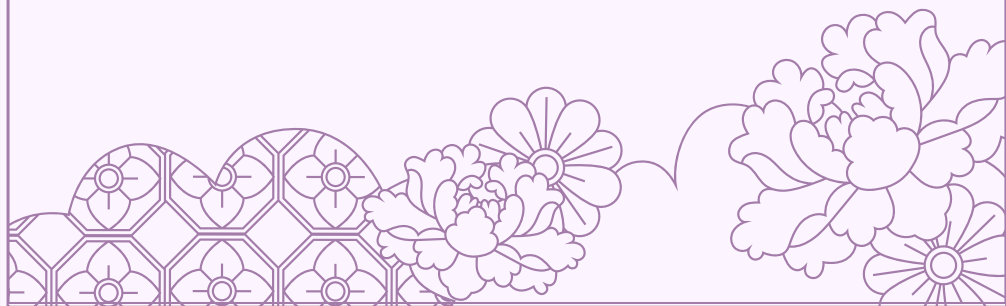
2022 Cynthia Kling for co-founding Transforming Lives, a mentorship initiative for those incarcerated to transform the lives of those inside and outside the walls.

2022 Patrick Schelle for his work alongside young people to transform the youth justice system and address structural and institutional racism.

2023 Amy Benefore, founder of Our New Way Garden, for her work in equitable food production and distribution, environmental stewardship and education.

2023 American Friends of Combatants for Peace for their work to end the occupation and bring sustainable peace, equality, and freedom to Israel/Palestine through joint nonviolence, civil resistance, education, and human rights campaign.

2024 Diana Sánchez is originally from Puebla, Mexico. She came to the United States at age four and attended school in Port Chester and Yonkers. She started advocating for the community as a young teen, becoming the first student to speak in a Yonkers town hall against Yonkers’ public school budget cuts. In 1999, her parents organized buses to Washington D.C. and New York City where she participated in rallies, marches and also addressed large crowds in support of immigration reform.



PAST HONOREES

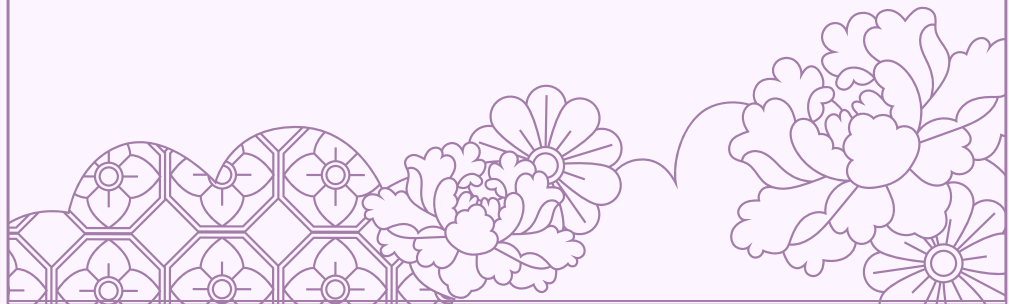
2024 Juanita O. Lewis brings almost two decades of community and electoral organizing experience. She joined the staff of Community Voices Heard as the Yonkers Organizer in 2009, then Lead Westchester Organizer. In 2016, she was elevated to Hudson Valley Organizer Director and became Executive Director in 2021. She was born and raised in Saint Paul, MN. She graduated from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities with a B.A. in History and Political Science, and with her Masters of Advocacy and Political Leadership from the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

2024 Harry Soloway A lifelong public school special education teacher in New York, Harry recently retired after 33 years of work with students, families, and educational labor organizing in East Harlem, Tarrytown and Elmsford. An advocate for anti-racist and community-based education, he remains committed to neighborhood and local activism. Since retiring, Harry has turned to more global social justice pursuits, primarily focusing on the movement for Palestinian liberation.

2024 Veterans for Peace have been exposing the true costs of war and militarism since 1985. They join us now in the middle of a long two month march for peace from Maine to Washington, DC. You can follow along this historic march for Peace and Planet and Justice and Democracy here: <https://peacewalk2024.org/>

2025 THE NEW YORK CARING MAJORITY – for their vision of a world where care is at the center and where all have the healthcare and home care that is needed where and when it is needed and where we show we value care work by praising it and by providing care workers with family sustaining wages and benefits.

2025 PROYECTO FARO, an immigrant-led grassroots organization allied with immigrant and non-immigrant religious and secular communities and organizations that builds support for and action among those in Rockland County who feel insecure due to their immigration status.





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**The Fellowship of Reconciliation
congratulates NYCD16-15 Indivisible
and the Lower Hudson Valley DSA,
as well as WESPAC for 52 years of
making good trouble!**

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF
**** CONNIE HOGARTH ****
More Important than ever
To Keep Her Legacy Alive!

Barbara Bonham & Jerry Kleiner



*The Elias Foundation congratulates
WESPAC and all the honorees!*

*We thank Nada Khader,
the Elias Fellows and
Advisory Committee
for their outstanding work
and commitment
to social justice in Westchester!*

www.eliasfoundation.org



**CONGRATULATIONS TO WESPAC ON 52 YEARS
OF MAKING "GOOD TROUBLE".**

(John Lewis)

Great Appreciation to Nada for carrying on the
work and to **Connie And Charlie and Others** Early
on who Started it

CONGRATS to This Years Honorees for All You Do:
NYCD16-15 Indivisible and Lower Hudson Valley DSA

Noah and Ervine Kimerling
You All Inspire Us

WANT TO MAKE A REAL CHANGE?

BECOME A MENTOR!

**WRITING MENTORSHIP
WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE
CURRENTLY INCARCERATED**

**JOIN OUR
TEAM**

- MINIMUM ONE YEAR COMMITMENT
- INTEREST IN DISMANTLING THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX
- KNOWLEDGE OF THE SYSTEM PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED
- NY RESIDENCE PREFERRED

Email us for more information at:

transforminglivesnycontact@gmail.com



Congratulating Wespac on 72 Years of Courageous Activism

**Your Hudson Valley
Comrades for Peace and Justice**



*Congratulations to the 2026 WESPAC Awardees
and to WESPAC for 52 years of educating,
agitating, and organizing for peace and justice in
Westchester County and beyond!*



Jonathan Mernit

**Real Estate Salesperson
Coldwell Banker Realty
Dobbs Ferry, NY**

**M. 914.715.8718
O. 914.693.5476**

**Jonathan.Mernit@ColdwellBanker
Moves.com
jonathan-mernit.com**



Welcome Guest Zephyr Teachout

Congratulations Honorees
Lower Hudson Valley DSA
&
NYCD 16|15 Indivisible

Thank you
WESPAC
for 52 years of leading communities
in Multiracial Peace & Justice

Concerned Families of
Westchester - CFOW
Serving our brothers and sisters since 2001



In honor of Lisa Genn: With deep gratitude for your leadership for peace in Israel/Palestine, for "New York for All" and for LGBTQ+ rights through Indivisible and beyond.

In honor of Nada Khader: You are a soul sister, and a fighter for all of humanity. Thank you for your inspirational leadership and dedication. From Rabbi Shoshana Leis

Define What Matters to You
Align your portfolio with your values

“
**YOUR MONEY
HOLDS POWER.**

**INVEST IT WITH
PURPOSE.**



Alternative Energy. Economic Justice. Fair Housing. Diversity. Women's Rights

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Westchester Coalition for Police Reform

WCPR - Advancing safer communities through enhanced police-community relations, advocating for accountability, transparency, and mutual trust in all interactions.

We congratulate the 2026 honorees for their leadership in essential Westchester organizations: Lower Hudson Valley DSA and NYCD16-15 Indivisible for their outstanding work for a more just and peaceful world.

And special thanks to Zephyr Teachout for graciously joining us for this celebration.

WCPR also congratulates the WESPAC Foundation, a cornerstone of justice and progressive change in Westchester, on 52 years of advocacy! We look forward to continuing to work together towards a more peaceful and equitable future.



<https://policeformnyny.wordpress.com>
facebook@Westchester Coalition for Police Reform
WCPRNY@gmail.com
To donate: www.mlkwestchester.org/support-us
or mail to 250 Bryant Ave, White Plains, NY 10605—
(and for either, be sure to
specify "WCPR" in memo with your contribution)



“If people refuse to pay for war, and refuse military service, the present government cannot stand. Let people go to prison. The government cannot put the entire population in prison, and even if it could, it would still be without money and people to support an army.”

**Leo Tolstoy AND
Mike Levinson**

**Congratulations to WESPAC
on 52 Years of Organizing
for Progressive Social
Change!**

Mike Levinson



Our Common Beliefs

**Congratulations
on Wespac's 52nd
Anniversary
Congratulations to
all the honorees.**

WWW.OURCOMMONBELIEFS.COM
ourcommonbeliefs@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO WESPAC ON YOUR

52ND

ANNIVERSARY

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO TODAY'S AWARDEES!

**THANK YOU FOR LEADING WITH PURPOSE—FOR JUSTICE,
PEACE, AND A SUSTAINABLE WORLD.**

The mission of the MLK Institute for Nonviolence
is to advance racial equity for all our communities
by educating youth and adults in nonviolent activism for justice.



MLK Institute

Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Nonviolence

250 Bryant Avenue White Plains, NY 10605

914-949-6555

www.mlkwestchester.org



**Howard Horowitz and Alisse Waterston
Congratulate the 2026 WESPAC Awardees**

**Imagine there's no genocide
It's easy if you try
No hell on earth
Above us, only sky
Imagine there's no nationalism
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
Just socialism for me and you
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
The struggle, it continues
Then the world will be as one
Adapted from John Lennon's Imagine**

**Illustration © Charlotte Corden
Imagining the Possibilities for an Alternative World**

**Light in Dark Times: The Human Search for Meaning Alisse Waterston
and Charlotte Corden 2020**

**JVPW Banner Action Congratulates all who
Stand in Solidarity for Justice and Peace Everywhere**



**JVPW Banner Action at Division Street Bridge
over Interstate 95, New Rochelle, NY**

The Walkabout Clearwater Chorus and Coffeehouse Congratulates WESPAC on leading the struggle in Westchester since 1974!

Walkabout Clearwater:

The Walkabout Clearwater Chorus & Coffeehouse Concerts
Monthly, Sunday afternoons October - March
Saturday nights - April and May

We will kick off our 39th season of the Walkabout Clearwater Chorus and Coffeehouse on Oct. 18, 2026.

Visit our website for updates and the full 2026-2027 schedule.

<https://walkaboutchorus.org>

Ongoing throughout the year: Chorus performances at festivals, schools and concert halls. Look for us at rallies and demonstrations.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Congratulations to NYCD16|15 Indivisible and Lower Hudson Valley DSA





We Congratulate

**WESPAC's 2026 honorees
and the organizations they lead
*and WESPAC for 52 years of
education, collaboration, and
organizing for a just, peaceful
and sustainable world.***

Thank you!

Ron and Julie Carran



**Congratulations to
WESPAC awardees**

**NYCD16-15 and Lower Hudson Valley DSA,
and also to **Nada Khader** for
your enduring, passionate and
inspiring work for social justice
in Westchester.**

Drs. Arthur Grant and Roxan Saidi



Congratulations
to
WESPAC

for a remarkable **52** years of
organizing for progressive
social change and to all of
this year's honorees.

*We salute your courage,
solidarity and persistence.*

Richard D. Willstatter

Attorney at Law



914.319.6131



willstatter@msn.com

WESPAC
FOUNDATION

WESPAC Foundation's

LIBERATION

Book Club

Please email wespacfoundation@gmail.com if you
would be interested in joining this monthly book club,
where we will read books that advance us toward
collective liberation and radical community building

Are you exploring or actively working on forming a co-op? This will be a great chance to connect with others on a similar path – swap ideas, share experiences, and pick up new insights along the way.



Join Us for a Co-op Mixer on June 9!



Westchester Cooperative Network Co-op Mixer

Come with your team, bring your projects, your questions, and your stories. It'll be a relaxed, informal evening where you can talk about what's working, what's been challenging, and learn from others doing the same.

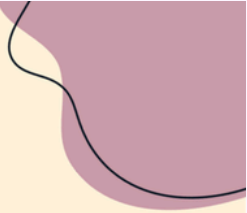
Tuesday, June 9th

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

WESPAC Foundation (77 Tarrytown Rd, White Plains)



RSVP by email to delia@westchestercooperative.net



DAY OF DEFIANT HOPE

Join us in the fight for a better world.

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 13**

**12 – 2:30
P.M.**

**MUSIC!
FREE BBQ!
SOLIDARITY!**

Christ Church San Marcos Tarrytown
43 S Broadway, Tarrytown, NY 10591

At the event:

- 
- Volunteer opportunities
 - Meet organizations impacting positive change in our communities
 - Learn how to get involved

Joining us: Hearts and Homes for Refugees,
Democracy Now!, Khalifa, National Alliance of
Mental Health (NAMI), WESPAC, Working Families
Party



HARPER HOUSE MUSIC FOUNDATION,
RIVERFEST FPS (FOR PETE'S SAKE) &
DAYGLO PRESENTS

HUDSON RIVER MUSIC FESTIVAL

SUN, JUN 21
2026



CROTON POINT
PARK
CROTON, NEW YORK

HUDSON STAGE

JESSE WELLES

WARREN

GRAHAME

DANIEL

HAYNES, LESH & DONATO

MARGO PRICE • CIMA FUNK • CHAPARELLE

SNACKTIME • TOSHI REAGON

RAINBOW STAGE

EBONY HILLBILLIES • LEAH SONG
(OF RISING APPALACHIA)

DAMARIS BOJOR • GUTHRIE FAMILY SINGERS

DAVID AMRAM

TOM CHAPIN & THE CHAPIN SISTERS

LIZZIE NO

NORTH STAR STAGE

THE ROCK AND ROLL PLAYHOUSE • BASH THE TRASH • FEEL TRIP YOGA

FAMILY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

PUPPET & MAGIC SHOWS • ARTS & CRAFTS • CIRCLE OF SONG

RIVERKEEPER FISH MIGRATION CELEBRATION • PLAYGROUNDS • & MORE!



MUSIC & ENVIRONMENTAL CELEBRATION

HudsonRiverMusicFestival.com

