



News Briefs, Spring 2021

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NYS Disability Rights Hall of Fame

The 3rd New York State Disability Rights Hall of Fame awards ceremony was held virtually on May 6th, 2021. Although we missed seeing everyone in person, it was a wonderful event!

Congratulations to our new class of inductees:

Robert Gumson
Edith Prentiss
Susan Scheer
Melvyn Tanzman
James Weisman

The inductees, and those accepting on their behalf, gave a wide range of comments in response to the honor and recognition. They were passionate, reflective, appreciative, and, at times, almost speechless with emotion.

Special thanks to all the sponsors, advertisers, attendees and contributors. And a big thank you to the Association Development Group (ADG) for their help and support with the event.

Please visit our Hall of Fame web page to watch the event - we will be posting a fully accessible version there soon. <https://nysilc.org/hof>. Nominations for the 2022 class of inductees will open in the fall.

Council Members

Executive Committee

Chair: Douglas Usiak
Vice Chair: Kathryn Carroll, Esq.
Secretary: Chad Eldred
Treasurer: Aileen Martin
Member at Large: Robert Meek, Esq.

CIL Chosen by CIL Directors
Open

CIL Representatives

Aileen Martin
Douglas Usiak

Advocates

Richard Beadon
Cliff Perez
Jan Lynch
Maria Samuels
Crystal Rivera
Kathryn Carroll, Esq.
John Zick

Organizations Serving

Aaron Baier
Denise DiNoto
Brodie Enoch
Meghan Parker
Marcus Johnson
Chad Eldred

Parent/Guardian

Ann L. Scherff
Lynn Drucker

Youth Representative

Vacant

Other Appropriate

Individuals
Luticha André Doucette
Cynthia Alcozer

NYSILC 2020 SPIL Evaluation Report

The 2017 SPIL Evaluation Report is located at https://nysilc.org/images/Reports/NYSILC_2020_SPIL_Evaluation_Report_FINAL.docx.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

NYSILC is currently engaged in Diversity, Equity, and

Stephanie Woodward
Edith Prentiss
Robert Meek, Esq.
Yesenia Torres

Native American
Representative
Lafayette Williams

Business
Roger Benn

Ex Officio DSE Member
Joe Tedesco, ACCES-VR

Staff
Executive Director:
Brad Williams
bradw@nysilc.org
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**Community Building and Media
Specialist:**
Emily Bianchine
emilyb@nysilc.org

Inclusion (DEI) training. Council members and staff have learned a lot about themselves and what they need to change to be more inclusive. NYSILC has more training that will conclude in July, which will shift to planning sessions during August and September that will lead to a DEI committee, who will monitor and facilitate changes.

Contributions:

NYSILC acknowledges the following contributors for their generous donations during this past quarter (January 1 - March 31, 2021). THANK YOU!

Current Council Members

Denise DiNoto, John Zick

Former Council Members

Robert Gumson, Barbara Linn

Other Individuals

Amy Krebs, Anthony Mignone

Businesses and Organizations

Association Development Group (ADG), United Spinal Association

Upcoming events/activities:

- **NYSILC Full Council Meeting** -Friday, July 30th 2021 from 10 am to 1 pm via Zoom. Please visit <https://nysilc.org/council/meetings-calendar> for details.

Interested in a Pat Figueroa Scholarship for youth/young adults with disabilities in New York?

Visit the following web page for details
<https://www.nysilc.org/programs/pat-figueroa-program>.

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