



CITY OF STAMFORD CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2018



City of Stamford

Jewish War Veterans of
The United States
Fred Robbins Post 142

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nominations Being Accepted for the 2018 City of Stamford Citizen of the Year

STAMFORD, CT – September 17, 2018. Mayor David R. Martin announced today that nominations are now being accepted for the 2018 City of Stamford Citizen of the Year.

“Stamford’s Citizen of the Year or COTY – is one of our City’s most important community service & volunteer recognition efforts. It is a wonderful tradition that as a community we acknowledge a citizen who has been an extraordinary member of the Stamford community,” the Mayor said.

Martin also announced today the members of the 2018 Selection Committee. The seven members, four of whom are past COTY recipients, include: Jay Sandak and Mary Sommer -2015 also this year’s Selection Committee Co-Chairs; Richard W. Redniss - 2016; Dudley N. Williams Jr. -2017; Steve Fischer, Commander, JWV Post 142; and at-large members Jevera Kaye Hennessey, partner at the law firm of Kaye and Hennessey LLC, and Kate Schwartz, Director at Cushman & Wakefield.

“The annual Citizen of the Year Award highlights what is special about the City of Stamford. It is a recognition of unselfish contributions to the community by people who reach out to make Stamford a community that cares about all of its citizens.” said Sommer and Sandak. “The annual event which celebrates the honoree(s) is attended by all sectors of the community and reflects the diversity of the community in all aspects. It makes all of us proud to live and work in Stamford.”

The criteria the committee will use to select the 2018 Citizen of the Year have been in place since 1945 when it was established by Mayor Webster Givens and Fred Robbins.

Those criteria are based on four key qualities that all previous recipients have met. The nominee should:

- Demonstrate a belief in interfaith harmony
- Possess the highest standards of responsibility in civic life
- Help in the promotion of projects for the public welfare
- Has personally worked with distinction to benefit Stamford on a community-wide basis

“I encourage all of us to take some time to stop and identify our fellow citizens who exemplify these qualities and have made a difference in our lives, in our community,” Martin said. “When you know an ordinary citizen, who has been doing amazing things in Stamford, take the time to nominate them. These special men and women are the individuals who consistently contribute to making Stamford the unique community that it has become.”

Nominations must be received by Monday, December 3, 2018, and include a bullet point summary of the nominee’s background supporting the criteria listed above. Nominations should be emailed to StamfordCitizen@aol.com or sent to: Nominations Committee, City of Stamford Citizen of the Year - 2018, 22 First Street, Stamford, CT 06905.

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Nominations Being Accepted for the 2018 City of Stamford Citizen of the Year (cont'd)

About the Citizen of the Year Award: In the early 1940s, Fred Robbins, a veteran who had served in both World War I and II, settled in Stamford in, became involved in our community affairs and worked with then Mayor Webster Givens to establish a Citizen of the Year (COTY) award. COTY has been awarded since 1945 when Mayor Givens appointed Post 142 of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States be the sponsoring organization. Post 142 has sponsored the award on behalf of the City for 74 years and over this time has honored more than 70 men and women who have served our community.

Prior City of Stamford Citizens of the Year:

1945	Father John Kelley	1982	Christel Truglia
1946	C. Russell Waterbury	1983	Julius M. Wilensky
1947	Rabbi David W. Pearlman	1984	Joseph F. Fahey
1948	Rev. Lloyd F. Worley	1985	Sylvia Rosenfield
1949	Walter H. Wheeler, Jr.	1986	Frank D. Rich, Jr.
1950	Benjamin Bogin	1987	S. Beatrice Foreman
1951	Sarah F. Smith	1988	Norman T. Woodbury
1952	Norris E. Pierson	1989	Jane F. Norgren
1953	Gibbs Lyons	1990	John T. D. Rich
1954	Jean Ware Hoyt	1990	Elizabeth P. Rich
1955	Harold E. Rider	1991	Lynne R. Laitman
1956	Pat Marshall	1992	Charles A. Guinta
1957	Harry Rosenbaum	1993	Charles C. Judd
1958	Joseph E. Morrow	1993	Jane M. Judd
1959	Rev. Donald F. Campbell	1994	John A. Ball
1960	J. Walter Kennedy	1995	Michael J. Cacace
1961	Walter Thayer	1996	George B. Harvey
1962	Thomas C. Mayers	1998	Adele Gordon
1963	T. Carter Dodd	1999	Polly O'Brien
1964	Rev. Russell McGown	2000	Len Miller
1965	Doris Kirshbaum	2001	Sam Cingari
1966	John F. Cameron	2002	Rev. Winton M. Hill III
1967	Herbert B. Kohn	2003	Marc Lyons, Jr.
1968	Dr. Peter Goldmark	2004	Rick Robustelli
1969	Thomas J. Feeney	2005	Sandy Goldstein
1970	Rev. Cyrill S. Peters	2006	Al Sanseverino
1971	Dr. Angelo Mastrangelo	2007	June Rosenthal
1972	John O. Nicklis	2008	Richard E. Taber
1973	Charles A. Ukkerd	2009	Juanita T. James
1974	Alphonsus J. Donahue, Jr.	2010	Bobby Valentine
1975	Louis Lotstein	2011	Arthur Selkowitz
1976	Lillian Moran	2012	Jami Sherwood
1977	Tony P. Pia	2013	Timothy J. Curtin, Jr
1978	Pobie Johnston	2014	Gene Rubino
1979	Edith Sherman	2015	Jay Sandak
1980	Fred T. Allen	2015	Mary Sommer
1981	Wayne L. Tyson	2016	Richard W. Redniss
		2017	Dudley N. Williams, Jr