

Mosholu Montefiore Community Center Virtual Gala 2021

Gratefully Honoring

Melissa Bindra | Affordable Housing Executive
Stephen Ritz | Founder, Green Bronx Machine
MMCC Staff | COVID Superheroes



January 26, 2021

Six o'clock in the evening

*Featuring former NFL Denver Bronco Reggie Rivers
as our Host & Auctioneer*



Building
communities
one life
at a time



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COVID Superheroes

Welcome to our Annual Gala, which has gone virtual this year due to COVID-19. Despite the pandemic, we are gratefully celebrating the wonderful and essential work of this year's honorees.

MMCC continues to grow, and thanks to our excellent professional leadership, we are always identifying new avenues to support the residents of the Bronx, Manhattan, and beyond.

We encourage you to learn more about our Community Center at www.mmcc.org and hope that you will be further inspired to support what we do.

Thanks to our staff, management team, and Board of Directors, and thanks to you for your continued support.

Arthur Rubinstein

Rita Santelia, LMSW

Robert M. Weiss
MMCC Board Development Chair



MMCC MISSION and VISION:

Our MISSION at MMCC is to improve the lives of Bronx and Manhattan residents through humanitarian efforts. We reach out to a rich tapestry of cultures, opening gateways to success in our quality programs and services and helping the individuals we serve build self-confidence and self-sufficiency.

Our VISION at MMCC is to ignite new pathways of growth and expansion through our commitment to humanity, equity and diversity. The proven methods in our services and programs help our individual clients flourish and grow.

MMCC's CORE VALUES:

INTEGRITY

We deliver the services we have promised, doing business with transparency and consistency. Our relationships with one another and with our clients are based on honesty, trust and accountability.

COMMUNITY/FAMILY

At MMCC, family and community come first. We are sensitive to all cultures and religions, to LGBTQ+ needs, and to the feedback of our communities and the families of our clients.

KINDNESS/ COMPASSION

At MMCC, we provide services with respect and compassion, recognizing that every individual is unique.

GROWTH

We at MMCC believe and promote personal and professional growth for not only our clients but also our employees. We provide innovative opportunities and high-quality education to all.



Melissa Bindra

Melissa is the Director of Development for Camber Property Group overseeing NYC real estate projects focusing on mixed income multifamily housing, affordable housing, and workforce housing development. She is currently working with MMCC on the development of affordable housing sites in Soundview and Valentine Avenue, as well as a new Child Development Center site on 180th Street.



Stephen Ritz

A South Bronx educator for over 35 years (and an alumni of MMCC!), Stephen is the founder of the *Green Bronx Machine* and author of the best selling book, *The Power of a Plant*. He has developed an indoor farming educational curriculum, which is now implemented, not only in his schools in the Bronx, but in over 500 schools across the United States, as well as in schools in the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. With his students, Stephen has grown more than 100,000 pounds of vegetables, and in the process, increased school attendance from 40% to 94 % and created thousands of jobs for NYC youth. Visit **Stephenritz.com** & **greenbronxmachine.org**

HONOREE



MMCC Staff

MMCC Staff- our COVID Superheroes! We honor our entire staff, who throughout this pandemic, have devoted themselves to serving our children, seniors and all of those who pass through the doors of all MMCC sites and have made their lives healthier and happier!

HONOREE

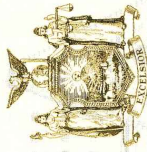


Reggie Rivers | Gala Host

Reggie Rivers is a talented, quick-witted Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer who has helped nonprofits raise tens of millions of dollars.

Reggie is a former Denver Broncos running back (1991-1996 and a 2-time Broncos NFL Man of the Year in recognition of his civic engagement.

He earned a BA in Journalism from Texas State University (1991), and a Master's Degree in Global Studies from the University of Denver (2007). Reggie worked in newspaper, radio and television for 25 years and has published six books.



New York State Assembly Citation

PRESENTED BY ASSEMBLYMAN JEFFREY DINOWITZ TO

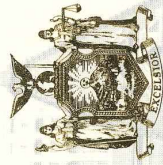
Melissa Bindra

Director of Development at Camber Property Group

In recognition of your meaningful work with
Camber Property Group to facilitate and preserve low-income
and special needs housing throughout our city.

January 26, 2021


Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz



New York State Assembly

Citation

PRESENTED BY ASSEMBLYMAN JEFFREY DINOWITZ TO

Stephen Ritz

Founder of the Green Bronx Machine

In recognition of your outstanding work founding the Green Bronx Machine which has taught invaluable lessons to so many of our youth.

January 26, 2021


Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz

MMCC thanks our Sponsors for their generous and continuing support

Diamond

Camber Property Group
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MMCC thanks our In-Kind Sponsors for their generous donations

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Mindy Fleder
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Alan Lovi
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Old Oaks Country Club
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Computer Consulting

Stephen Ritz
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Arthur Rubinstein
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The Esnard Family
salutes the
honorees
Melissa Bindra
Stephen Ritz
& our own
wonderful, caring
Staff

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Congratulations to
**MMCC, Melissa, Stephen,
Rita & Staff!**

The world is a better
place because of
all of you!

The Lovi family

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McLaughlin & Stern, LLP
salutes

Melissa Bindra

Stephen Ritz

& MMCC Staff

on their contributions
and dedication
to the Bronx

The logo for McLaughlin & Stern is displayed within a dark gray rectangular box. The text "McLaughlin" is on the top line and "& Stern" is on the bottom line, both in a white, serif typeface.

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**Congratulations to all
honorees, as well as all
officers, staff and directors
of this wonderful institution.**

Kathy & Andrew Berkman

SILVER SPONSOR

CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL HONOREES!

Richard Fleder

SILVER SPONSOR

Congratulations to
all the honorees!



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**CONGRATULATIONS TO
MELISSA, STEPHEN &
THE MMCC STAFF
FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!**

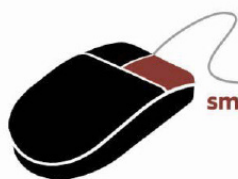
Bettyann Griffith

BRONZE SPONSOR

Right Click Solutions, LLC is very proud to support MMCC for 20 years for their technology needs.

We wish a heartfelt congratulations to all of this year's honorees, **Melissa Bindra, Stephen Ritz** and the **MMCC Staff COVID Superheroes.**

We are honored to "Simplify Technology" so you can continue *Building communities one life at a time.*



**Right Click
Solutions LLC**

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BRONZE SPONSOR

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
OF THIS YEAR'S HONOREES!**

Arthur Rubinstein
President
MMCC Board of Directors

BRONZE SPONSOR

Thank you and
congratulations to all
our honorees!

Robert J. Moore



BRONZE SPONSOR

CONGRATULATIONS TO
ALL THE HONOREES!

Michael Rubenstein

BRONZE SPONSOR

Very proud to support
MMCC and the
important work they do.
Congratulations to all
the honorees!

Peter Haas

BRONZE SPONSOR

The **Seigerman-Levit Family**

Salutes our Honorees

Melissa Bindra,

Stephen Ritz

& the MMCC Staff

for their endless work and dedication to making our communities a better place to not only to survive during this turbulent year, but grow and flourish. Both Melissa and Stephen have supported MMCC in so many generous ways for which we are very grateful.

We are extremely proud of the MMCC staff, who deserve this recognition, for the heroic work and service provided during this pandemic. Under the steadfast leadership of our CEO, **Rita Santelia, LMSW**, the Agency did not miss a beat in providing essential service including day camp, an expanding Pantry that was serving thousands in need and securing many essential programs through virtual connections.

BRONZE SPONSOR

Thank you to
Melissa Bindra,
Stephen Ritz, and
our **MMCC COVID**
Superheroes
for building the
community one life
at a time!

David Ehrlich



**GREEN BRONX MACHINE IS PROUD TO PARTNER
WITH AND SUPPORT MMCC!**



**Check out our Classroom Curriculum and order
our #1 Best Selling book, The Power Of A Plant!**

greenbronxmachine.org

stephenritz.com

Thank you to all our
honorees for the
important work you do
for our community and
MMCC!

Beverly Hansell Silberstang

**Robert and Michele Weiss
salute tonight's honorees:**

**Melissa Bindra
Stephen Ritz
and
MMCC Staff**

This page is dedicated to all of the
MMCC Staff, Honorees and Board
members who everyday amaze me
with their hard and skillful work.

To my Upper and Middle
Management team -
Words cannot express how much
I value all of you.

With sincere thanks,
Rita Santelia, LMSW
CEO, MMCC



Building
communities
one life
at a time

Congratulations to all
the honorees!



Andy Silverstein

CONGRATULATIONS TO
TONIGHT'S HONOREES!



E Wellness Therapy
would like to congratulate MMCC staff
for a job well done!

Thank you for all your hard work,
for leading our community tirelessly through COVID,
never missing a beat,
and setting an example for unity, perseverance
and resiliency!

With deep respect and love,

Evelyn Figueroa LCSW
Evelyn Solomon, LMSW

**David Stack
salutes the MMCC
staff for all of their
great work!**

Thank you
Ilan Weitzman
for your stewardship

The BFFL

**Congratulations &
Thank You to all the honorees!**

Ilan Weitzman

To the Management & Staff of MMCC

THANK YOU for all you do!

Your caring of the community is so appreciated and admirable, especially in these challenging times. Your recognition is well deserved! It is an honor to be part of this organization!

Sue Memberg

We salute the honorees and our co-workers!

The MMCC Development Team

Jackina Farshtey | Chief of Staff

Jeff Coopersmith | Director, External Relations

Wayne Brown | Marketing

Congratulations to
all the honorees!

Miriam Brous



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MMCC Virtual Gala

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Congratulations!

MMCC continues to provide services and
desperately needed programs carried out
by an unbelievable and dedicated staff.

You all are the best!



Building
communities
one life
at a time

Don Bluestone



Congratulations to MMCC!
We value our partnership in the arts.

Kiran Rajagopalan
Program Director of NY Programs
(201) 567-1766 x 113
kiran@artshorizons.org

For 42 years, our mission is to enhance the lives of people of all ages and abilities by creating equitable opportunities to engage in the arts.



Eric Stein
Founder

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"We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time" - TS Eliot

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Mosholu Montefiore Community Center
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718-882-4000 | mmcc.org