

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL:(201) 547-5200
FAX:(201) 547-4288

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 2, 2013

Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Jersey City Celebrates Women's History Month with the 15th Annual "Women of Action" Awards

Mayor Healy and Municipal Council to Recognize Twenty-Seven Outstanding Women

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the Municipal Council, and the Department of Health and Human Services/Division of Cultural Affairs will honor 27 outstanding women during the 15th Annual “Women of Action” Awards Ceremony, in celebration of Women’s History Month. The event will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 in the Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 280 Grove Street.

“Generations of women have taken the lead throughout history making significant contributions that have shaped our lives,” said Mayor Healy. “In paying tribute to them, we are also expressing our utmost gratitude for all they have done for us and recognize their commitment to improving the lives of the people in their community.”

Women’s History Month is a great occasion that honors the women who have shaped history and touched so many lives. Sharing their stories of steadfast determination also teaches future generations that anything is within reach as long as they believe in themselves and that there is no obstacle too great for them.

The following twenty-seven **Women of Action** were chosen for their artistic, economic, innovative, political, or social contributions by each of the nine members of Jersey City’s Municipal Council:

Council President Peter Brennan

Councilwoman-At-Large Viola Richardson

Councilman-At-Large Rolando R. Lavarro, Jr.

Belinda Stokes

A. Janet Chevres

Maureen “Moochie” Corrado

Ethel Pesin

Henrietta Bradley

Uta Brauser

Alfa Demmellash

Aniway Olaya

Tiby Kantrowitz

(more)

(2)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Councilman Mike Sottolano, Ward A | Frances McCarthy Kristin Zadroga Hart Willamae Tucker |
| Councilwoman David Donnelly, Ward B | Claire Davis Juliet Foster Maria Ruth Tobias |
| Councilman Nidia Lopez, Ward C | Nickigh Jackson Sanaa Girgis Wendy Oliveras |
| Councilman William A. Gaughan, Ward D | Blanca Baez Susan Chin Wendy Paul |
| Councilman Steven Fulop, Ward E | Dominga Rivera Lorraine Gagliardotto Garry Nanette Hernández |
| Councilwoman Diane Coleman, Ward F | Angela McKnight Erma D. Green June Jones Hawkins |

Sister Alice McCoy, O.P., M.Div the *Woman of Action* keynote speaker serves as the Pastoral Associate of *Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church*.

Sister Alice McCoy, a life-long resident of Jersey City, has spent her entire life in the service of others and is deeply committed to equality and inclusion. She holds a Master's degree in Divinity from Immaculate Conception Seminary, as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree from Caldwell College.

Sister Alice McCoy's professional experience includes her work with the Hudson Hospice Volunteers, Inc. as the Project Director, and with the Bayonne Visiting Nurse Association as the Bereavement Coordinator. In 2006, she began a non-profit, faith based, non-denominational organization, the Benincasa Project, Inc., which has provided over \$142,000 in rent and energy assistance to more than 175 families.

About the Women of Action Awards Ceremony

The Women of Action Awards Ceremony began in Jersey City in 1995 and ran through 2001. In 2005, Mayor Healy & the Jersey City Division of Cultural Affairs reinstated this program. From its inception, the Women of Action event was intended to mark and celebrate Women's History Month by honoring women of achievement city-wide. It is appropriate that we host this program at City Hall annually in the month of March in observance of Women's History Month which dates back to the first International Women's Day in 1911. In 1987, Congress made the observance official by declaring the month of March 'National Women's History Month' in order to recognize the contributions of women to society and to promote the teaching of women's history.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///