

THE NEW YORK
COMMUNITY TRUST



NEW YORK

2013 Nonprofit Excellence Awards

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Nathan Tabak, 718-793-2211 x 105, nathan@anatgerstein.com

Jeff Simmons, 718-793-2211, jeff@anatgerstein.com

Six Outstanding New York Nonprofits Selected as Finalists for 2013 Nonprofit Excellence Awards

Finalists Represent Bronx, Manhattan, Westchester, Nassau County; Diverse Missions Ranging From Legal Services to Online Youth Activism to Housing

NEW YORK (Oct. 9, 2013) – Six New York City-area nonprofits with innovative management were named finalists today for the 2013 New York Community Trust-New York Magazine Nonprofit Excellence Awards. The judges praised the organizations' ability to improve services with thoughtful and well-executed strategies.

Selected from 62 applicants and 10 semifinalists, the 6 nonprofits - based in Manhattan, the Bronx, Westchester, and Nassau County, represent fields including legal services, online youth activism, housing, and more. The Awards will be presented November 21 and spotlight superb management practices that can serve as examples for nonprofits everywhere.

“These finalists set the gold standard for managing nonprofits,” said Michael Clark, President of the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York, which manages the Awards program along with The Trust and Philanthropy New York. “Each embodies the principle that smart, responsive, and effective management is as crucial to nonprofits as it is to profit-making companies.”

This year's finalists, selected by a 33-member judging committee:

- [BronxWorks](#) (Bronx) helps individuals and families in the Bronx improve their economic and social well-being through job skills training, services for people with HIV/AIDS, preschools and summer camps, eviction prevention programs, and more.
- [CSH](#) (Manhattan) helps build housing that lets those most in need, the homeless and disabled, connect to homes, health care, jobs, and the community.

- [DoSomething.org](#) (Manhattan) is the largest not-for-profit for young people and social change in the US. DoSomething.org encourages millions of young people to rock causes they care about - bullying, homelessness, animal welfare, and more.
- [Make-A-Wish Metro New York and Western New York](#) (Lake Success, Long Island) grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions.
- [The Bronx Defenders](#) (Bronx) provides innovative, holistic, and client-centered criminal defense, family defense, civil legal services, social work support, and advocacy to indigent people of the Bronx.
- [The Children's Village](#) (Dobbs Ferry, Westchester) works in partnership with families to help society's most vulnerable children, so that they become educationally proficient, economically productive, and socially responsible members of their communities.

Three of the above organizations will be selected as Gold, Silver, and Bronze winners of Nonprofit Excellence Awards and will be announced at a Best Practices Workshop and Awards Presentation on November 21. The Best Practices Workshop will highlight and discuss the management strengths of winning organizations and detail the strategies and practices that led to their selection. Winners will receive cash awards of \$30,000, \$20,000 and \$10,000, respectively, special mention in *New York Magazine* and by WNYC, and tuition scholarships for the [Programs in Social Enterprise in Executive Education at Columbia Business School](#). This year's cash awards and benefits are the largest in the program's seven-year history.

"We're thrilled to shine a spotlight on groups that show other nonprofits how to manage effectively so they can make a greater difference in difficult times," said Lorie Slutsky, President of The New York Community Trust.

"We've learned a lot from the talented organizations that have made it to our final round. And I'm excited about the upcoming site visits with our finalists, which will give us an opportunity to see their exceptional management strategies in action," said Ronna Brown, President of Philanthropy New York.

"BronxWorks is honored to be a finalist for the 2013 Nonprofit Excellence Awards. We are especially proud to be one of the two finalists based in the Bronx. We are also glad to represent New York's settlement house community, which deserves recognition for the wide range of services it provides to neighborhoods across the city," said Eileen Torres, Interim Executive Director of **BronxWorks**.

Said Deborah De Santis, President & CEO of **CSH**: "We are honored to be named a finalist alongside such prestigious company. The Nonprofit Excellence Awards has been a great opportunity to examine our management practices and think critically about what is working and how we continue to have great impact in our field."

Said Nancy Lublin, CEO and Chief Old Person at **DoSomething.org**, in response to being selected as a finalist for the Nonprofit Excellence Awards: “Hell yeah!”

“We are so proud to be selected as a finalist for this year’s Nonprofit Excellence Awards,” said Pat Clemency, President and CEO of **Make-A-Wish Metro New York and Western New York**. “From the beginning, the application process has been a tremendous learning opportunity, and we are looking forward to incorporating the understandings we’ve gained through the course of the Awards to enhance the relationship we have with our stakeholders. We believe that excellence is a continued process of improvement, and while we are honored to have been spotlighted for our management strengths, we are excited to keep working towards our ultimate goal – becoming an organization able to reach and serve every eligible child in need of hope, strength, and joy.”

"We are honored to be a finalist for the 2013 New York Community Trust-New York Magazine Nonprofit Excellence Awards," said Robin Steinberg, Executive Director of **The Bronx Defenders**. “Over the past 16 years, we have created, built and perfected our management practices to address the needs of our clients, staff and the Bronx community. Our commitment to innovative and interdisciplinary management practices has brought our model of representation - Holistic Defense - to not only our own clients, but also to the clients of public defenders throughout the country. Being selected as a 2013 Finalist demonstrates that our passion for our work and commitment to our clients is the best approach not only for management practices, but also for achieving lasting and significant change in the community."

“We are thrilled to be a finalist and to be in the company of five great non-profits!,” said Dr. Jeremy Kohomban, President and Chief Executive Officer of **The Children’s Village**.

Winners for the Awards are selected based on their excellence in eight areas of nonprofit management: focus on results; governance structure; financial management; human resources; diversity and responsiveness; IT practices; communications; fundraising; and resource development.

In the program’s first six years, 497 nonprofit organizations have applied for the Awards, and 20 have been recognized for their management excellence. A list of past winners is available at <http://npexcellence.fcny.org/npea/winners/>.

[NPCC](#) created the Nonprofit Excellence Awards in 2007 and serves as the tax-exempt manager of the program, in collaboration with [The New York Community Trust](#) and [Philanthropy New York](#). [New York Magazine](#) and [WNYC](#) co-sponsor the program, which is also supported by The Clark Foundation, Taconic Foundation, [McGladrey LLP](#), the [Fund for the City of New York](#), [Programs in Social Enterprise in Executive Education at Columbia Business School](#), and [Ford Foundation](#).

The **Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York** (NPCC) serves as the voice and

information source for New York nonprofits. An umbrella organization representing and serving some 1,500 member nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations throughout New York City, Long Island, and Westchester, NPCC is the largest such organization in the New York City area. It represents all types of nonprofits on sector-wide issues. Established in 1984, NPCC informs and connects nonprofit leaders, saves nonprofits money, helps them manage and govern themselves better, and protects and strengthens the entire nonprofit community's relations with all levels of government. (www.npccny.org)

Since 1924, **The New York Community Trust** has been the home of charitable New Yorkers who share a passion for the City and the suburbs—and who are committed to improving them. With its donors, The Trust supports an array of effective nonprofits that help make the City and suburbs vital and secure places to live and work, while building permanent resources for the future. The New York Community Trust ended 2012 with assets of \$2.1 billion in more than 2,000 charitable funds, and made grants totaling \$136 million. (www.nycommunitytrust.org)

Philanthropy New York is the primary membership organization for private, family, corporate, and public foundations based in the tri-state New York area. Its 285 member organizations—including some of the leading grantmaking foundations in the world—recognize that a vibrant and well-managed nonprofit sector is fundamental to healthy communities. Collaborating in the Awards provides Philanthropy New York an important opportunity to celebrate management excellence among their members' nonprofit partners, learn from their experience, and help build greater capacity in the sector. Philanthropy New York is the principal professional community of philanthropic foundations based in the New York City region with a mission of enhancing the ability of philanthropists to serve the public good. Philanthropy New York members recognize that without extraordinary grantees, there would be no effective grantmaking programs. (www.philanthropynewyork.org)

New York Media is the parent company of the ground-breaking weekly *New York magazine*, founded in 1968; the up-to-the-minute news and service website nymag.com; the Grub Street network of food blogs; the entertainment and culture news site *Vulture*; and the twice-yearly *New York Weddings* magazine. (www.nymag.com)

WNYC is the most listened-to public radio station in the country, reaching over 1.1 million listeners each week. Consisting of FM 93.9, AM 820, and wnyc.org, WNYC aims to inform the public locally and globally on current events, politics, and civic affairs; export New York's arts and cultural riches to the rest of the world; and, give voice to diverse audiences. WNYC produces signature programs including *The Brian Lehrer Show*, *The Leonard Lopate Show*, and *Radiolab*, among others, and also broadcasts the best offerings from NPR, American Public Media, the British Broadcasting Company (BBC), and Public Radio International. With more than 100,000 members, the station operates as an independent nonprofit and has one of the largest membership bases of any institution in the city. (www.wnyc.org)