



The Guild for Exceptional Children's

# AUTUMN GALA



Friday, November 8, 2019



*Congratulations  
to the  
Honorees  
and the Guild  
for 61 great years  
of service  
to our community*

*Nick & Lucy Siragusa  
and the  
NDS Realty Corporation*



## *Our Distinguished Honorees*

When you hold my hand I know that I am not alone,  
that someone will always love me”

Tonight we have chosen a very special group of individuals to be our honorees. We are proud, excited and humbled to present this very special award to Siblings and Special Family members of our GEC participants.

The definition of a sibling is children of the same parents. Brothers and sisters who grow together to face whatever life sends, whether it be joy, laughter, tears or troubles. They know each other's heart. In many families, aunts, uncles and cousins have stepped into the role of a sibling.

Siblings of individuals with a disability share a very special bond. Their brother or sister faces many challenges throughout his or her life but they also teach them what is truly important in life. It's about being happy, it's about been loved, and it's about faith and trust in each other.

The Guild for Exceptional Children would like to express its heartfelt thanks to all our Siblings and Family members who have been touched by our very special angels on earth. The role they play in their lives is complex and immeasurable. Siblings are friends, confidants and caregivers. A sibling is the most unique and special person in the life of someone with a disability. The award which will be presented to the honorees tonight reflects the very important part they will always have in their sibling's life. Congratulations and Thank You!

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# GEC's Exceptional Leaders

## *Founder*

Julia Carosella\*

## *Founding Mothers*

Pauline Agro\*

Olga DeFelippo\*

Helen Dukes\*

Mae Dougherty\*

Edith Robertson\*

Mary Sabatelle\*

## *Charter Members*

Olga DeFelippo\* ..... Founding President  
Senator Emeritus William T.Conklin\* ..... Honorary President  
Honorable Luigi R.Marano\* ..... Honorary Vice President  
Mary Sabatelle\* ..... Treasurer  
Julia Carosella\* ..... Founder

## *Past Presidents*

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Pauline Agro\*

Anthony Raimondi

Peter Catalanotto\*

Jeannette Cassone\*

Mary Santangelo\*

Calvin Fischetti

Anthony Santoro

Anthony Cetta

Arlene Rutuelo

Incorporated on March 19, 1958

\*Deceased



## 2019/2020 Board of Directors

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## *Mission Statement*

*“To help children and adults living with developmental disabilities lead dignified and satisfying lives, reaching their fullest potential and assisting families in every step of their journey.”*

## *Vision Statement*

*“The GEC is dedicated to providing exceptional support and services that will enable children and adults to lead respected and fulfilling lives in their community.”*



**The GEC salutes and honors**

**Ken Rosato**

**an**

**“Exceptional” Master of Ceremonies**

**Thank you for your support and friendship  
throughout the years!**





# *Our Services and Programs*

## **Carrie Mastronardi Early Childhood Education Center Pre-School and UPK**

### *Residential Services*

Jessie & William Conklin Residence: 310 67th Street  
Joseph DeFelippo Residence: 216 Ovington Avenue  
Gabriel P. Martini Residence: 311 Senator Street  
Hon. Luigi R. Marano Residence: 541 72nd Street  
Lucy Quinones Residence: 350 85th Street  
Jeannette & Frank Cassone Residence: 7015 Colonial Road  
Charter House: 27 Marine Avenue  
Mary Santangelo Residence: 8910 Colonial Road  
Olga's House: 619 73rd Street  
Narrows Residence: 7001 Narrows Avenue  
Harry English Residence: 443 72nd Street  
Andrew Sichenze, Esq. Residence: 170 88th Street  
Josephine Sedita Residence: 918 79th Street  
Supportive Apartments

### *Programs*

Calvin & Era Fischetti Resource Center  
Mastronardi Day Habilitation Program  
Hope C. Morrison Day Habilitation Center  
Peter J. Mulligan Day Habilitation Program  
Day Habilitation Without Walls Program  
Family Support Services  
"Four Seasons" Senior Day Center  
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Care Coordination  
Social Recreation Programs  
Wellness Center  
Music Therapy Program





*The GEC Thanks our Major Supporters  
for their Generosity!*

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## *Special Acknowledgements*

*The Guild for Exceptional Children  
would like to thank  
those who attended the Autumn Gala,  
participated in the Journal,  
contributed to the Raffle  
or  
made a donation of any kind.  
Your generosity and support  
is deeply appreciated!*

### *Special Note:*

Please understand that every effort was made to proof  
the contents of this Journal. We extend our sincere  
apologies if anyone was overlooked or an error was made.  
Thank you.



# *Program*

**Cocktail Reception**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation & Grace**

**Welcoming & Congratulatory Remarks**

**Brothers & Sisters Special Presentation**

**Award Presentations**

**Dinner & Dancing**

**Raffle Drawing**





*The GEC will at all times provide high quality, individually tailored and reliable services and supports to children and adults with developmental disabilities.*



We **STRIVE** Each Day To Adhere To Following Values:

### ***Service –***

We demonstrate each day that we recognize the importance and worth of the individuals in our care and the The GEC exists solely to serve them, helping them live fuller and more productive lives.

### ***Teamwork –***

We recognize that the best results are achieved when all stakeholders work together to achieve a mutually valued and agreed upon goal. We strive to demonstrate the phrase:

**TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE**

### ***Respect –***

We respect the individuality and diversity of the individuals in our care, as well as their families and our fellow workers. We strive to provide an atmosphere where ALL can learn and grow together. We respect the resources, facilities and equipment with which we have been entrusted and strive to work efficiently and economically.

### ***Integrity –***

We hold ourselves accountable to the individuals in our care and the families who have entrusted their family members to us. We strive every day to treat people we serve and those who work with us in a manner that we ourselves would like to be treated.

### ***Vision –***

We strive to help the individuals in our care lead lives where they are valued by others in the community and appreciated for what they can achieve and contribute. We strive to keep the “big picture” in mind at all times and attend to the details of care that contribute to the fulfillment of our Mission and create a “quality” experience for those we serve.

### ***Excellence –***

We provide top notch, person-centered, individually tailored services in clean, aesthetically pleasing and helpful environments and are dependable in our service delivery 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



# *We Thank You For Your Generosity!*

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Ken Rosato  
Linda Rubino  
Ann & Richard Scott  
Celeste & Frank Sena  
Vicky Simegiatos Performing Arts Center  
Ralph Succar  
Mary Sullivan & Jerome Isaacs  
St. George Theatre – Staten Island  
Therapeutic Resources  
Ann C. Tomo  
Elizabeth Walsh



# *Heaven's Very Special Child*

A meeting was held quite far from Earth!

It's time again for another birth.

Said the Angels to the LORD above,  
This Special Child will need much love.

His progress may be very slow,  
Accomplishments he may not show.

And he'll require extra care  
From the folks he meets down there.

He may not run or laugh or play,  
His thoughts may seem quite far away,

In many ways he won't adapt,  
And he'll be known as handicapped.

So let's be careful where he's sent,  
We want his life to be content.

Please LORD, and the parents who  
Will do a special job for you.

They will not realize right away  
The leading role they're asked to play,  
But with this child sent from above  
Comes stronger faith and richer love.  
And soon they'll know the privilege given

In caring for their gift from Heaven.  
Their precious charge, so meek and mild,  
Is HEAVEN'S VERY SPECIAL CHILD.

by Edna Massionilla

December 1981



# *Dedicated in Loving Memory*



*The Guild for Exceptional Children*

*Honors, in Memoriam*

*The Children and Adults*

*Who Were in Our Care*

*and*

*Their Parents Who Worked to Support the Mission*

*of*

*“Building Brighter Futures”*

*For Their Children*

*and*

*Future Generations.*

---





# *Welcome Message*

from Joseph L. Riley,  
GEC Executive Director & CEO

Welcome to the GEC Annual Gala and thank you for your ongoing support of the work that we do here at the Guild for Exceptional Children. Here at GEC we believe in the value of the individual and the value of community. For over 60 years we have been teaching, supporting, and caring for children and adults with developmental disabilities in a nurturing, empowering environment. We believe that each person is unique, and we encourage the people we serve to live their best lives, on their own terms.



We are also very fortunate, to have such a fine community of friends who support our mission. We have all heard the expression “It takes a village”. In our case we are responsible for the well-being of hundreds of children and adults so it’s going to take an awfully big village. We are privileged that the Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights communities, as well as friends from other communities throughout Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island, have chosen to help support the GEC. You have all become part of our village. The fact is, we could not continue to provide the array of services and the quality of care that have become our hallmarks, without your help. We are eternally grateful to have friends like you!

Tonight, we are celebrating the families, and in particular the siblings of the people we serve. We know that parents make heroic efforts, suffer terrible anxieties, and make great sacrifices to ensure that their children have full and happy lives. Brothers and sisters share in those efforts and anxieties, and often make sacrifices of their own. Ultimately, they are the ones who take on the responsibility of caring for their loved one, and all for the best of reasons, love.

I am very proud to salute the fine siblings who are gathered here tonight, along with the many family members and friends who so generously support our mission at GEC. I hope you all have a wonderful time!

THANK YOU!

*Joseph L. Riley*  
*Executive Director/CEO*



# *A Welcome Message* from Frank Sena Ph.D. President GEC Board of Directors

Dear Guests,

The GEC is alive and well and starting our second 60 years. While there are always the tugs and pulls of funding our residences and programs, we are moving forward to refurbish our properties and enrich our programs. The Gala is a time for celebration and enjoyment. Soon, you will hear more about our fund-raising plans and importantly where your money goes.



Tonight, we honor the Siblings of our people to highlight and acknowledge their often-hidden roles as caregivers. Many Siblings take an active role in the medical care, recreation, family activities, and life planning for their relatives in the GEC, whether living at home or in one of the GEC residences. Let us recognize and publicly celebrate those efforts. Also, we strive to expand Sibling involvement to augment the GEC role making the lives of our people better. As parents age (including me) the next generation to support the GEC, will be the Siblings.

Over sixty years ago the founders and patrons of the GEC labored tirelessly to leave us a human legacy, an agency that derives no profit, but exists solely to lovingly care for those among us who cannot fully care for themselves.

Now it time for all of us and especially the Siblings to prepare for the next generations. Please join in that effort, add your names to the countless founders and supporters of the GEC who will be remembered, as those good people who kept the ideals of the GEC alive and well.

This Board of Directors is committed to continuing the work of the founding families who started with nothing and all who followed on, creating one of the finest not for profit agencies in New York State.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a heartfelt thanks to the Gala committee; Geraldine Cassone, Fran Fanto, Kali Gabriel, Arlene Keating, Linda Rubino, Eleanor Schiano, Ann Scott, Celeste Sena, Marguerite Colantoni, Caroline Mansuetto, and Joe Riley who worked tirelessly to plan and put into place the endless program details that make this night a success.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I welcome and thank you for all your generous support of this year's Gala, our Journal, and the efforts and ideals of the GEC.

*Please enjoy your evening!*



*Many thanks to the  
Dinner Dance Committee  
for their Help & Support!*

Geraldine Cassone

Marguerite Colantoni

Fran Fanto

Dr. Demetrios Gabriel

Kalitsa Pappas- Gabriel

Arlene Keating

Caroline Mansuetto

Joseph Riley

Linda Rubino

Eleanor Schiano

Ann Scott

Celeste Sena

Frank Sena



## Ken Rosato

# *Master of Ceremony*

Ken Rosato is anchor of Channel 7's top-rated Eyewitness News This Morning, and spent a decade anchoring Eyewitness News at Noon.

Ken joined the Eyewitness News Team as a freelance reporter in 2003, and was named morning and noon anchor in 2007. He came to WABC-TV from New York's WNYWTV, where he was a reporter and anchored the morning and midday news. Before that, he worked as a news anchor and reporter at WFOR-TV in Miami/Fort Lauderdale, where he was nominated for a Suncoast Emmy Award.



Earlier, Ken worked as an anchor for WETM-TV in Elmira/Binghamton, NY where he was honored with a New York State Associated Press Award. He also worked as News Director and anchor at WLNY-TV and regularly appeared as a commentator on WLIW-TV's "21 Edition." On radio, Ken anchored the news on the nation's premiere all-news radio station, 1010 WINS and was News Director and main anchor at Long Island's WBLI-FM.

Ken received his BFA in Television and Radio from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, and his MA in languages - he speaks five fluently, including Spanish and Italian, and has been honored five times with the New York Emmy Award.

The GEC extends our most sincere appreciation to Ken for his continued support as Master of Ceremonies for the past 6 years.

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November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

To the Guild for Exceptional Children:

I would like to formally congratulate the Guild for Exceptional Children (GEC) on their Guide for Exceptional Children's Autumn Gala. The contributions of the GEC are invaluable and I look forward to their continued success in servicing the needs of children and adults living with developmental disabilities.

For over sixty years, the Guild for Exceptional Children has been an exemplary organization providing critical assistance to a large amount of families and children in need, strengthening our communities as a whole, and confirming all that makes New York City so special.

It is groups like GEC that make my district an absolute privilege to represent in the halls of Congress. I commend not only the Guild for Exceptional Children, but all of the family members honored tonight for their dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Max Rose", written in a cursive style.

Max Rose

U.S. House of Representatives (NY-11)



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gounardes@nyenate.gov

November 8, 2019

Good evening,

I'm happy to extend my warmest greetings to the attendees of The Guild for Exceptional Children's Autumn Gala. The Guild plays an irreplaceable role in our community and carries out incredible work in our neighborhoods.

Through an expansive range of services - from evaluations and referrals for the very youngest to day hab for seniors and everything in between - the Guild has been here day in and day out for more than 50 years. Providing these vital services is a gift to any neighborhood, but to have it done with such compassion and love is a joy.

I am pleased to offer my personal congratulations to the Guild's very special 2019 honorees: the siblings and families whose love and support help both the Guild and their loved ones flourish and thrive.

Thanks also to Board President Frank Cena, Executive Director Joseph Riley and the entire staff and board of The Guild for Exceptional Children. The Guild improves the lives of so many community members of all ages and is a pillar of the community.

Thank you for all that you do—and enjoy your evening!

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Gounardes  
Member of Senate

*Proud to represent the neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Gravesend, Homecrest, Manhattan Beach, Marine Park, Gerritsen Beach, as well as portions of Sheepshead Bay, Borough Park, and Midwood.*



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November 8, 2019

Guild for Exceptional Children  
260 68<sup>th</sup> St  
Brooklyn, NY 11220

Dear Friends,

I want to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the board members, employees, and individuals of the Guild for Exceptional Children on the occasion of its Autumn Gala. It is my true pleasure to applaud the great work done by all involved with GEC. Your collective service is worthy of recognition.

I also want to join GEC in honoring the family members of GEC's individuals. I commend you all for your integral presence in your family members' lives, and for the love and support you share without reservation.

For GEC's service to our neighborhoods and beyond, I thank you. I am honored to join in celebration of all of your organizations fantastic achievements, as well as the ones yet to come. Please accept my sincere congratulations.

Sincerely,

*New York City Councilman, 43<sup>rd</sup> District  
Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bath Beach, Bensonhurst*





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The Guild For Exceptional Children INC.  
260-68 Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11220

November 8, 2019

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to send my personal greetings to those in attendance at the 2019 Autumn Gala, celebrating the efforts and exceptional services that The Guild For Exceptional Children provides for the developmentally disabled of New York City. Since 1958, the GEC has worked tirelessly to help children and adults living with developmental disabilities lead dignified and satisfying lives.

Allow me to express my deepest appreciation to tonight's honorees, the siblings and family members of these truly exceptional people. The dedication they have illustrated to not only their family members, but also our community, does not go unnoticed. Thank you for your continued efforts to this great organization.

I hope you enjoy your time at this year's Gala. It is wonderful to acknowledge those who work so hard for our community. Thank you, again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Malliotakis".

Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Assembly



FELIX W. ORTIZ  
ASSISTANT SPEAKER  
51<sup>st</sup> District  
Kings County

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

COMMITTEES  
Ways and Means  
Rules  
Labor  
Correction

November, 2019

The Guild for Exceptional Children  
260 68<sup>th</sup> Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11220

Dear Friends,

Greetings as you celebrate your 2019 Autumn Gala! The Guild for Exceptional Children has much to celebrate. The range of services you provide to special individuals of all ages is to be commended.

Congratulations to all the siblings and other family members being honored this year. The importance of the support and love a family can provide cannot be understated.

I wish all of you a wonderful evening and continued success to The Guild for Exceptional Children in the years ahead.

Enjoy your celebration!

Sincerely,

Félix W. Ortiz  
Assistant Speaker



PETER J. ABBATE, JR.  
Assemblyman 49<sup>th</sup> District  
Kings County

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November 2019

Dear Friends:

I extend my best wishes to all the outstanding members of the Guild for Exceptional Children on your Autumn Gala.

For over sixty years, the Guild for Exceptional Children (GEC) has provided residential services and valuable social opportunities to people with developmental disabilities. GEC is a community based organization that prides itself on offering compassionate personalized services to all, with the ultimate goals of maximizing the potential of everyone that you serve.

I also congratulate your dedicated honorees, the caring siblings and family members who play an essential role in the lives of their loved ones.

Again, continued success to all associated with the Guild for Exceptional Children now and in the future.

Sincerely,

**Peter J. Abbate, Jr.**  
*Member of Assembly*



## *The Tree of Life*

Sponsorship of a leaf or stone provides the donor with an opportunity to give an exceptional gift for all occasions. It's a permanent tribute to memorialize a loved one or commemorate a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary. This beautiful bronze tree is prominently displayed in the lobby of GEC's main building. The net proceeds from the "Tree of Life" program help support the Building Fund.

For information on how you can sponsor a leaf or stone, please contact the Development Office at 718-833-6633 ext.228

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**TO ALL OUR FRIENDS  
AT THE GUILD  
THANK YOU FOR 61 YEARS  
OF DEVOTION  
TO THE  
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN  
OF BROOKLYN.**



**NOEL DEFELIPPO, M.D.  
MICHELE T.VISCONTI, PH.D.  
VIVienne DEFELIPPO**

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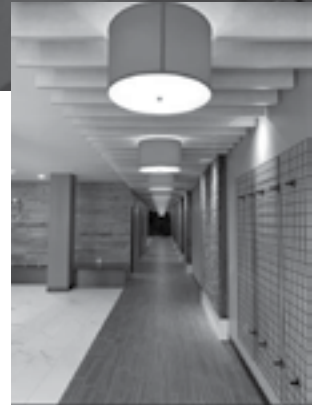


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*Congratulations to the Guild.  
Best wishes  
for continuous advancement*



*Peter & Marina Kokenakos  
& Family*



**Congratulations To  
The Guild for Exceptional Children  
On Your Autumn Gala &  
To All Of The 2019 Honorees**



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The Guild for Exceptional Children

HONORING

Siblings & other Family  
members who play an  
integral role in the  
lives of our individuals

*Congratulations*

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With Best Wishes &  
Congratulations  
to GEC!



**Ann Falutico Architect PC**  
1235 84th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11228  
718 745 1572



*In loving memory of our mother,  
Elizabeth Aiello,  
an early supporter, fundraiser and  
friend of the GEC.*

*Her compassion and concern for others inspired  
her commitment to the Guild community.*

*Congratulations  
to all who have enriched the lives of individuals  
with special needs.*





*Congratulations to the  
GEC  
and all the Honorees*



*Carl & Grace Campagna*







Congratulations to  
Guild for Exceptional Children  
Best Wishes to all this year's recipients

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**The Guild for Exceptional Children**

Congratulations All 2019 Honorees!



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Our Sincere Thanks  
to the  
**The Guild for  
Exceptional Children**

We honor the families of those  
individuals who benefit so greatly  
from their tireless and endless  
love.

May the GEC continue their  
unfailing service to our  
community and for the  
exceptional work it accomplishes.

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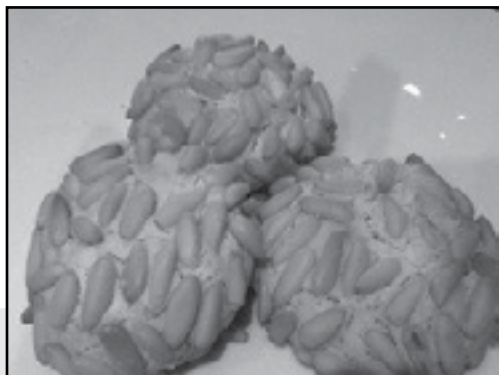
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and we wish you  
continuous success  
for many years to come*

*God Bless*

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*Continue sharing the unconditional  
love you have learned from your  
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# *In Thanks*

*For the Parents, who 61 Years Ago  
Created a Family of Love and Care.*

*And for The Siblings, who with them  
Carry the Torch that will Burn  
Forever.*

The Lopez Family





*Congratulations*  
*to all of our*  
**"EXCEPTIONAL"**  
*Siblings.*

*The Cassone Family*

---



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OF  
ANGELS PARISH



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of  
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for Exceptional Children*





CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE SIBLINGS AND  
FAMILY MEMBERS BEING HONORED TODAY!

IT IS A LONG OVERDUE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE  
SACRIFICES YOU HAVE MADE, THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE GIVEN,  
AND THE LOVE YOU HAVE SHARED!

~ JOE & KIM RILEY



*A very special thank you to my own siblings: Eileen, Matt, Jackie, Resa, John, & Roxanne. You showed me how to love without condition, to laugh without restraint, and to live without regret.*

*~ Love your brother, Joe*

---



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*In Loving Memory  
Of my best friend  
Uncle Nicky*



Nicholas M. Cetta

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Forever in our Hearts  
Love

Michael Cetta & Family

---



***Congratulations to all the Siblings  
Being Honored Tonight***



***Michael, Fran, Lauren, Chris, Christopher, and Alison***



***Thank you for all you do for me.  
I'm everything I am because you loved me!  
Love, Elizabeth***

---



## *ELIZABETH*



*“The greatest gift our parents  
ever gave to us was each other.”*



*LOVE, MICHAEL, LAUREN AND CHRISTOPHER*

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# Siblings, Family & Friends Are Our Future

Thank you all for your love, patience, understanding  
and time you give to your special family members.

A special Thank You to  
Ann Scott, Kim Biondi and Toni Ann Colarusso  
for launching this committee.

God Bless our family  
Vincent, Annemarie, Stephen and Joseph  
for always being there for Tony Boy.

Together we are strong.  
God Bless the GEC & All of Us  
**Anthony & Ann Santoro**





*In Loving Memory  
of my  
Beloved Parents  
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*With Love,  
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*Sincerely,  
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Congratulations  
To all my children  
Demetrios, Anna, Michael Gabriel

All my love,  
Dad

---





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and friend  
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*Hearts merge as one;  
Mutual sharing  
Mutual support.*



*Linda Allegratti & Nicholas Guzzone*



*Congratulations*  
*to all of*  
*The Guild siblings.*



*The Soumakis Family*



*To the sisters & brothers  
Your loyalty, devotion  
and love  
are so important  
in the lives of our  
participants.*

*We thank you.  
Barbara Germack*

---



Congratulations  
on all your tireless efforts  
in supporting the children  
of The Guild.

Please keep up the good work.



Harry Chalbís  
Alpine Realty

---





This isn't a story,  
It isn't a song.  
It isn't about what is right or is wrong.  
I want you to meet a small boy that I know.

He isn't a smart child,  
You would say he's slow.  
His world is a small one and yet you might say  
He spreads joy and laughter far and away.



It takes him lots longer to look at a flower,  
But who is to say and who has the power  
To judge what we put in our own private minute,  
And seek out the things that we want to put in it?



This poem has a message that I hold most dear.  
Yesterday's gone and tomorrow's not here.  
So look for that moment and fill it with joy,  
And I learned all of that from my slow little boy.

*Mary Mullally*





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honored siblings.

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For their steadfast and generous  
support  
of the GUILD  
and Nick's sister, Josette."

*Frank & Irene Strafacci*



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ON ITS*

## **AUTUMN GALA**

*WE APPLAUD THE EFFORTS AND DEDICATION OF THE*

### **SIBLINGS & FAMILY MEMBERS**

*WHO PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN THE LIVE OF OUR INDIVIDUALS*



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# Congratulations

to the

## GEC and This Year's Honorees!

Dedicated in memory of the Carlton Family

Peter Carlton

Florence Carlton

Nancy Carlton

Who served and were served by this  
exceptional organization





***I have been privileged  
to have met and spent time  
with  
So many dedicated Brothers  
and Sisters  
here at GEC  
Your unconditional Love and  
Commitment  
is Truly Exceptional***

*Patricia Romano*





# Best Wishes to the Guild for Exceptional Children and their members

Stephanie Moustakas  
Brooklyn Insurance Agency

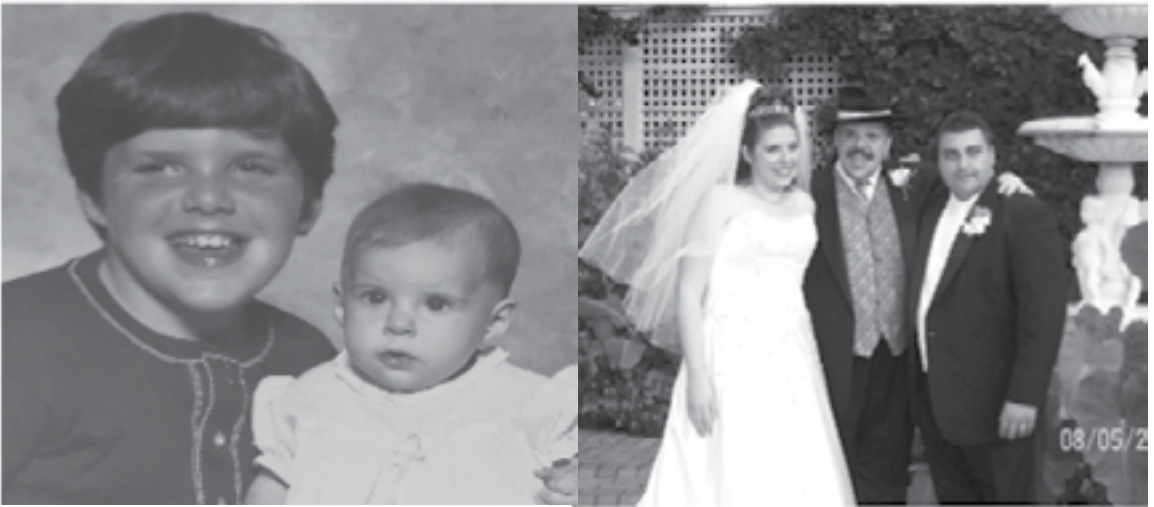






# **Congratulations & Best Wishes**

to all  
the Siblings &  
Family Members of the GEC



Families are the people in your life who want you in theirs;  
the ones who accept you for who you are, **Love You** no  
matter what and would do anything to see you smile.

Thank you Kathleen and Peter

**Love, Robert**

---



# **Congratulations To the Guild for Exceptional Children on the 2019 Fall Gala**

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# Congratulations & Kudos

*to our*

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*We truly Appreciate,*

*Applaud & Thank*

*the GEC Families & Siblings.*

*Your Support,*

*Love & Devotion are an Inspiration to us all.*

*Judge Gerard & Mrs. Harriet Rosenberg*





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Best Wishes to  
The Guild for Exceptional Children  
on their  
Autumn Gala  
&  
Congratulations to all the Families that Make A Difference



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*Congratulations  
to all the Honorees  
and Good Luck to the Guild*

*Shane H Siederman  
Jason D'Amelio*



*Gregory S. McGuinness,  
CPA, J.D.*



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**He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother (lyrics by B. Scott and B. Russell)**

The road is long  
With many a winding turn  
That leads us to who knows where  
But I'm strong  
Strong enough to carry him  
He ain't heavy, he's my brother

If I'm laden at all  
I'm laden with the sadness  
That everyone's heart  
Isn't filled with the gladness  
And love for one another

It's a long, long road  
From which there is no return  
While we're on the way to there  
Why not share  
And the load doesn't weigh me down at all

He ain't heavy, he's my brother  
So on we go  
His welfare is my concern  
No burden is he to bear  
We'll get there  
For I know  
He would not encumber me  
He ain't heavy, he's my brother

**With love and gratitude to the GEC  
The Sibling, Families and Friends Committee**





**“There’s nothing  
stronger  
than the  
heart  
of a  
volunteer.”**

*- James Doolittle*

**Congratulations to  
The Guild for Exceptional Children  
and its honorees.**



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# HOORAY FOR SIBLINGS!!

*We, the siblings blessed by the life of Roberta Lopez,  
salute her tonight along with  
her friends at Sichenze, the GEC  
and all of their siblings!*



*Thanks and Love*

*Roberta Lopez, Sichenze Residence*

*George Lopez and Debbie Harrison*

*Michael and Mary Huston*

*Rich and Annie Scott*

---

A cluster of white balloons with strings trailing down, serving as a background for the central text.

*We salute the GEC  
for decades of service &  
dedication  
to individuals with  
special needs*

Peter J. Volandes  
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*Honoring siblings and other Family  
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in the lives of our individuals.*

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A black and white photograph of a laptop on a wooden desk. The laptop screen shows the website for GEC (Growth Enterprise Center). The website features a header with the GEC logo and a main section with a photo of three children and the text: "In the last 60 years, GEC has helped more than 20,000 families." A person's hand is visible typing on the laptop keyboard. A cup of coffee is on the desk to the left of the laptop.

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# *Congratulations & Thank You*

to

*Siblings and other Family Members  
who play an integral role  
in the lives of the GEC individuals  
from the Officers & Members of Knights of Columbus*



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*Congratulation and  
Thank you to the  
Guild for the Exceptional Children*

*Congratulations to  
all the evenings on Honorees!*



*The Kassenbrock Family*



*Ann Marie Zerberini*



LOVE YOU,  
MARILYN,  
JIMMY,  
ELLEN,  
STEPHANIE  
&  
JAMES JR.



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Guild of Exceptional Children  
for your outstanding service  
to the community

May you continue to build  
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I would like to thank the staff of the  
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for their  
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# TO MY SUPER SIBLINGS

Maura, John & Sheila  
Thank you for always being there  
for me. You're the best!

Love,  
Thomas Ryan

---

*Congratulations to the  
Gala Honorees & their Families.*

*Best Wishes to the GEC for continues success in  
building brighter futures.*

*Eleanor Schiano*

---



*God Bless all involved with*  
*The Guild*  
*Frank & Irene Strafacci*

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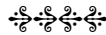
Best Wishes  
to all the  
siblings and caregivers



James, Gloria and Lauren  
Morello



# **Best Wishes to The Guild for Exceptional Children**



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# *Congratulations*

To all of the  
Guild residents and  
their Siblings!

Callie & Spiro Bantis



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Congratulations to all staff and  
old & new honorees of the GUILD.  
God Bless our nephew & cousin,  
Tony Boy Santoro



In memory of my wife & mother,  
Felicia.  
Charlie & Joseph, Nicky Giannetto

*In Loving Memory of  
James Caputo Jr.*



*Rose & Arthur Istrico*



Best Wishes  
to  
The Guild for Exceptional Children

*from*  
Nicholas Cenatiempo  
&  
Maria and Stuart Engel

---

Congratulations to all the Honorees!

Best Wishes for Continued Success to  
The Guild for Exceptional Children!

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*Sisters and brothers are the truest, purest forms of love, family and friendship, knowing when to hold you and when to challenge you, but always being a part of you.*

*- Carol Ann Albright Eastman*

*Warm congratulations to GEC's sibling honorees.  
Thank you for your tireless advocacy, support, and  
spirit of cooperation.*



*Barbara Torres and Jennifer Herusso*



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*Best Wishes  
and  
Continued Success  
to  
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*Year after year,  
I am amazed at the work*

*The Guild for  
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accomplishes*

Today,  
gives me the opportunity  
to thank you for your enthusiasm  
for all the work you do.

Our son, Brian Schiffman, has proven  
himself to be a very skilled individual who  
has the capacity to do great things  
with his life.

He continues to make us proud as he faces  
new challenges and adventures.

***We thank you for this.***

*Thank you,  
Linda Vittoria*



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