



Grand Lodge of New York
Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America

Commission for Social Justice

39th Annual Dinner Dance

1980



2019

Honoring

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Grandniece of OSIA Founder, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro

Carol Delaney, PhD

Cultural Anthropologist Noted for Positive Work
on Christopher Columbus

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Radio Show Host and Champion for Social Justice



Sunday, February 24, 2019

Russo's on the Bay
Howard Beach, New York

1980



2019

God Bless Our Honorees
Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.
Carol Delaney, PhD
and
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

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*Grand Lodge of New York
Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America
Commission for Social Justice*

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2019

*Russo's on the Bay
Howard Beach, New York
February 24, 2019*

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"



COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

HISTORY

The Commission for Social Justice (CSJ) is the anti-defamation branch of the Grand Lodge of New York Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. The Commission was formed specifically to undertake the work of combating defamation against Italian Americans and other ethnic groups. The two primary goals of the CSJ are to promote a positive image of Americans of Italian descent and to fight bias, bigotry and defamation aimed at Italian Americans, as well as other groups.

In the early 1960's the National Order Sons of Italy in America initiated The Committee Against Bias, Bigotry and Prejudice. The Grand Venerable of New York, P. Vincent Landi chaired the Committee. He introduced the Committee to the Grand Lodge of New York and served as its president. Judge Angelo Roncallo and Joseph Giordano were succeeding presidents. In 1977 Grand Venerable of New York, Peter R. Zuzolo made a motion to establish permanency of the Committee and change the word Committee to Commission, a word that he believed to be positive and memorable. The motion was approved.

On a National level, The Committee Against Bias, Bigotry and Prejudice was renamed The Institute for Liberty and Justice. On the State level, then Grand Lodge of New York Recording Secretary Joseph Sciamè proposed the change to the Commission for Social Justice. The change was adopted at a New York Executive Session in 1980. An official announcement of the new name was made on October 12, 1980. It was at a National CSJ meeting that New York convinced National OSIA to also adopt the name Commission for Social Justice.

Mathew G. Nizza became the first Chairman of the New York State Commission for Social Justice in 1980 and his successors were Joseph Parillo (1985), Vincent Romano (1989), John Dabbene (1993), Sylvia Summa (1999), Santina Haemmerle (2001), Stella Grillo (2005), Enrico J. Annichiarico (2011), Louis J. Gallo (2013). John A. Fratta was appointed Chairman in 2017.

Through the efforts of the New York State Commission for Social Justice and upstate filial Lodges, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles changed an application form that negatively depicted Italian Americans. In addition to an apology, the Department agreed to void and eliminate certain offensive license plates. Further efforts resulted in the New York State Lottery Commission's removal of an offensive television advertisement (*Bada Bling* lottery tickets) that depicted Italian Americans with a mobster persona. The Lottery Commission discontinued the advertisement and sent a letter of apology. CSJ has had many additional successes in stopping defamatory programs, activities, advertisements, and statements originating from various forms of media, including New York City and State agencies, schools, and private organizations.

The Positive Image Programs developed by the New York State Commission for Social Justice continues to be its hallmark. Some of the positive images produced by the CSJ include bookmarks, book covers, posters, and booklets that illustrate pictures and biographies of prominent Italians and Italian Americans who have made significant contributions to society. Recently created posters depict Italian American 911 First Responders, Crime Fighters, Entertainers, Sports figures, Women, and Writers. The bookmarks and posters are an excellent educational tool for elementary students. A Positive Image film library and the Holocaust Memorial Program have also been developed.

The New York State Commission for Social Justice has produced special programs and distributed and published a number of them such as *Una Storia Segreta*, *The Mario Lanza Program*, *The Joe DiMaggio Show*, *The Rocky Marciano Show*, *Columbus Day Programs* and the very successful *Italian American Recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor Program*. This program resulted in a documentary video that has been widely distributed throughout the country. In May 2004 the *Medal of Honor* video won the prestigious Telly Award. CSJ, together with the NYS Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc., recently supported the production of a documentary entitled *Men of Vision: the Story of Giuseppe Garibaldi and Antonio Meucci*. Thanks to New York State CSJ Executive Board member Vincent Marmorale, the documentary *My Italian Secret - The Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust* was completed and he has

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

HISTORY

prepared a companion lesson plan that is available to OSDIA Lodges as well as local schools.

Relative to schools, presentations to students on Italian language and culture have been made to Westhampton Beach Middle School, Parkway Elementary School in East Meadow, Lawrence School District on Long Island, and St. Claire's Elementary School on Staten Island. In fact, monies from CSJ have been extended to St. Claire in an effort to sustain their Italian Language Studies Program. CSJ continues to monitor the success of these programs and has been very successful in stifling attempts to cut Italian Language Studies Programs in the North Shore School District on Long Island, and in the Greece Central School District in Rochester. Past CSJ Chairman Louis Gallo's famed *History in a Box Program* has been presented to numerous middle and high schools throughout New York.

The New York State Commission for Social Justice is also at the forefront of halting burgeoning attempts to distort the legacy of Christopher Columbus. These distortions are being met head on by CSJ through press conferences, rallies, social media, letter and telephone call campaigns to local elected officials across the State of New York. A well-balanced and fair presentation in the form of a document entitled *Columbus: Fact Vs Fiction* was produced at the National level in order to educate detractors of Christopher Columbus.

The New York State Commission for Social Justice joined forces with over fifty other Italian American organizations in New York to fight any attempt to remove Columbus statues. The CSJ along with the Columbus Citizens Foundation, the Italian American Museum, and the Italian Legal Defense and Higher Education Fund are the four major groups leading the fight. The effort resulted in the October 8, 2018 announcement by New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo that the New York State Board for Historic Preservation has listed New York City's monument to Christopher Columbus on the State Register of Historic Places.

The statue was listed on the State Register of Historic Places after a unanimous vote of the State Board for Historic Preservation on September 20, 2018. A listing on the State Register of Historic Places is a significant designation because it indicates the importance of the statue in New York State's history. Immediately after adding the statue to the State Register, State Parks forwarded a nomination of the statue to the National Park Service for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This would be an honored recognition of historic significance and offers protection for the statue under state and federal historic preservation laws. National Register listing would also make the statue eligible for state and federal grant programs.

New channels are being forged with other Italian organizations and ethnic groups to build a solid front in protecting against bias and stereotyping and in promoting our respective cultures. These organizations are the American Association of Teachers of Italian - Long Island (AATI-LI), Arba Sicula (Sicilian Dawn), which promotes the Sicilian language, literature & history, and B'nai B'rith along with its CSJ counterpart the ADL (Anti-Defamation League).

The New York State Commission for Social Justice is also committed to creating a very strong statewide organization at the grassroots level so as to extend the mission of CSJ directly to local communities. In that regard, visits are made and SKYPE technology is used at the level where District Chairpersons and Lodge Liaisons are encouraged to fulfill our mission and to engage in public relations with local print media.

The work of the New York State Commission for Social Justice continues and we thank our supporters for their steadfast encouragement and confidence in our mission.

Please visit our website at www.nycsj.org.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS CHANGED HISTORY 527 YEARS AGO

Cristoforo Colombo (better known as Christopher Columbus) was born the son of a wool merchant on October 31, 1451 in the Northern Italian town of Genoa. He was an explorer, navigator, colonizer, and citizen of the Republic of Genoa. He is popular because he was the explorer who tried to prove that the world was round by sailing across the seas and trying to reach other, unexplored regions on the globe, eventually making a mistake that would mark the beginning of a civilization and soon after, a new country.

Before setting sail 527 years ago, Columbus faced many obstacles but persevered. His request for funds was rejected by the King of Portugal and King of England before Ferdinand and Isabella, the King and Queen of Spain, granted him necessary funding to find a Western route to the Orient on August 3, 1492. Between 1492 and 1504, Columbus made four different transatlantic voyages. His voyages were not without struggles but he overcame storms, disease, and hostile natives to become one of the greatest navigators and explorers of all time.



Christopher Columbus on the Santa Maria.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Though he is credited with discovering the Americas, Christopher Columbus was not the first European to make a transatlantic voyage. Evidence exists that Viking Leif Eriksson may have made the journey from Europe to North America five centuries before Columbus' discovery of the continent however, it was the "discovery" of the New World by Christopher Columbus that changed the history of the world.

Columbus was the first European to reach the New World in circumstances that allowed for major European colonization to begin. This eventually ended up allowing the United States to be created. The creation of the United States helped, among other things, to move much of the world towards democracy. It also led to the development of what is now a world superpower. He not only ultimately caused the founding of the United States, but also shaped Mexico, Canada, and many Caribbean and South American nations. His voyages led to others exploring and reshaped the world.

In addition, history was changed by the exchange of plants and animals between Europe and the Americas, commonly known as the Columbian Exchange. Tomatoes, potatoes, and corn previously unknown in Europe became an important part of the diet of people living there. Similarly, cattle, sheep, and hogs were introduced into the Americas. So it was not the "discovery" that mattered as much as the colonization. Simply said, Columbus' "discovery" of America changed history.

LATER YEARS

Columbus settled in *Valladolid*, a small town in central Spain, and it was said that he became a very religious man in his later years. He published books containing the fruits of his expeditions. The first was the *Book of Privileges*, an account of the benefits and rewards he was entitled to from his deal with the Spanish Crown. The second, the *Book of the Prophecies*, was more religious in nature, where he used several scriptures from the Bible to claim that his achievements were part of God's plan in the history of salvation.

On May 20, 1506, Columbus died of a heart attack due to arthritis (as claimed by researchers in 2003), in Valladolid, Spain. He was then buried in the La Cartuja monastery in Seville. At that time, he was known as one of the richest voyagers in Spain due to the massive amounts of gold that he was able to acquire.



SAVING COLUMBUS

In 2016, the National Education Association issued a press release encouraging school districts nationwide to celebrate the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” on the same day of the traditional federal holiday, Columbus Day. It also stated it would provide access to funds in order to accomplish this mission. Many Americans, especially Italian Americans, have protested this action. If it is run simultaneously or as a substitute for Columbus Day, it is obvious that the legacy of Columbus will be pushed aside with the eventual intent to merely ignore Columbus.

Columbus Day has been celebrated in this Country since Tammany Hall introduced it in New York City in 1792 and officially recognized it as a Federal Holiday when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed it into law in 1937. Columbus is as Americana as any other component of our culture we deem America.

The NYS Commission for Social Justice (CSJ) has been at the forefront of phone call and letter writing campaigns throughout the Country that have delayed or stopped this attempt. While we have been successful in San Diego and Colorado, the campaign to get rid of Columbus Day continues and New York State is the next target. Already, the CSJ has delayed a change in some of the school districts in upstate New York and will continue its fight to preserve the memory of Christopher Columbus and his play in the history of the Americas. We believe in diversity and tolerance by ADDITION, not by SUBTRACTION or SUBSTITUTION.

How can you help?

We are strength in numbers and we would love your involvement. To find out more information, contact the NYS CSJ Chairman John Fratta at (646) 261-8614. Tell him you want to be part of the Campaign to Save Columbus.

Columbus Day represents not only the accomplishments and contributions of Italian Americans, but also the indelible spirit of risk, sacrifice and self-reliance of a great Italian icon that defines the United States of America. Once again, we should perform tolerance by ADDITION, not by SUBTRACTION or SUBSTITUTION!



An Inspiring Testimony: From the Diary of Christopher Columbus

It was the Lord who put it into my mind, (I could feel His hand upon me), the fact that it would be possible to sail from here to the Indies. All who heard of my project rejected it with laughter, ridiculing me. There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit, because He comforted me with rays of marvelous inspiration from the Holy Scriptures.....

I am a most noteworthy sinner, but I have cried out to the Lord for grace and mercy, and they have covered me completely. I have found the sweetest consolations since I made it my whole purpose to enjoy His marvelous Presence.

For the execution of the voyage to the Indies, I did not make use of intelligence, mathematics or maps.



It is simply the fulfillment of what Isaiah had prophesied.....*

No one should fear to undertake any task in the name of our Savior, if it is just and if the intention is purely for His holy service. The working out of all things has been assigned to each person by our Lord, but it all happens according to His sovereign will, even though He gives advice. Oh, what a gracious Lord, who desires that people should perform for Him those things for which He holds Himself responsible! Day and night, moment by moment, everyone should express their most devoted gratitude to Him."

1980



2019

Congratulations to the Honorees
of the
39th Anniversary CSJ Dinner Dance

from

**The NYS Commission for Social Justice
Executive Committee**

Robert M. Ferrito, State President and CSJ President

John Fratta, Chairman

Eleanor Jobbagy, Co-Chairperson

Lou Gallo, Immediate Past Chairman

Keith Wilson, Recording Secretary

Joanne Grove, Financial Secretary

Joseph Vallone, Treasurer

Commission Members

Louis J. Gallo, Past Chair

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Janis Parazzelli, Esq.

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Jean Gagliardo - District II

Anthony Corsello - District III

Carl Ciaccio - District III Co-chair

Mario Cermele - District IV

Cathy Lembo Lloyd - District IV Co-chair

Susan Alicea - District V

Cesare Maniccia - District VI

Carmine Federico - District VII

Marjorie Focarazzo - District VIII

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"



Grand Lodge of New York *Order Sons of Italy in America*

2101 Bellmore Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710
Tel. 516.785.4623 • Fax 516.221.6742 • WWW.NYSOSIA.ORG



Robert M. Ferrito
State President

February 24, 2019

Dear National Officers, State Officers, Brothers and Sisters, Guests one and all:

What a sincere pleasure it is to bring greetings on behalf of the New York Grand Lodge, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. To NYS CSJ Chairman John Fratta, the Executive Committee and all the district and lodge volunteers who work tirelessly for the Commission for Social Justice — many thanks for your dedication to one of New York OSIA's most prominent state committees.

It is fitting that we take a few moments to reflect on the many accomplishments of the New York Commission for Social Justice. Besides promoting our beloved heritage with posters, bookmarks, videos, and various Italian themed programs, they continue to be deeply involved in the "Save Columbus Day" effort. Christopher Columbus was the first in a proud tradition of Italians to cross the Atlantic to our shores. Today, we recognize their indelible influence on our country and celebrate the remarkable ways Italian Americans have shaped the American experience.

I am so pleased to pay tribute to our exceptional honorees: Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., Carol Delaney, and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik. Each of our honorees has worked diligently in their respective fields of endeavor and has proven themselves to be extraordinary role models for all to admire and respect. Your enthusiasm, dedication, and contributions to the Italian American community and the community at large are to be applauded.

The accomplishments of the CSJ have all been achieved on behalf of every member of our organization. We can confidently say that the New York CSJ is the very best CSJ in the nation. Always remember that it is up to each one of us to keep our organization strong and to carry on as respected and accomplished Italian Americans. Our beautiful Italian heritage is the one thing that links us all together and for that we should be most proud.

Best wishes for an enjoyable event and continued success.

Faternally,

Robert M. Ferrito

Robert M. Ferrito
State President
Grand Lodge of New York

Order Sons of Italy in America is the oldest and largest organization of Italian American men and women in the United States



ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA®

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Vera Ferrara Girolami
National President

February 24, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I extend my warmest greetings and congratulations to everyone gathered here this evening for the New York Grand Lodge Commission for Social Justice Thirty-Ninth Annual CSJ Dinner Dance. This year you are honoring several distinguished individuals for their amazing contributions to the Italian American community.

You have chosen well by honoring the grandniece of our Founder, Dr. Vincent Sellaro, Carol Sorace Whalen. She certainly has had a distinguished career! She has been an outstanding leader!

You are also honoring Rabbi Joseph Potasnik. He has spent many years striving for social justice and against discrimination for all. I extend my congratulations to both of these exceptional role models for working tirelessly in their respective fields. They are certainly to be admired!

I truly wish I could be present to extend my congratulations to each honoree in person. Our Founder, Dr. Vincent Sellaro's fervent wish was that Italians would enrich our nation. You are testament to his vision and I thank you for maintaining it.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable evening!

Fraternally & Sincerely,

Vera Ferrara Girolami
National President
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America®



New York State Commission for Social Justice

Order Sons of Italy in America

2101 Bellmore Avenue • Bellmore, New York 11710
(516) 785-4623 • (800) 322-OSIA • FAX (516) 221-OSIA
www.nyscsj.org



John A. Fratta
CSJ Chairman

Robert M. Ferrito
State President

February 24, 2019

Dear National and State Officers, Lodge Presidents, Members and Guests,

I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to our 39th Annual Dinner Dance Celebration. The New York Grand Lodge, Commission for Social Justice is an extremely important part of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. The role of the Commission for Social Justice is to fight bigotry, defamation and any other attacks on Italian Americans and other ethnic groups.

This year, we continue to be tested in a way never seen before, specifically with the attacks on Christopher Columbus statues and Holiday. The Columbus Heritage Coalition is doing some great things. This year, we have been successful in having Columbus Circle declared a Historic Place, which will add a layer of protection to our statue. This is only the beginning in this fight and we have a long way to go. I am also pleased to announce that we are very close to receiving a long overdue apology from the City of New Orleans in connection with the 1891 lynching of eleven Italian immigrants.

Today, we honor three individuals whose contributions and work have made a difference in our everyday life. Please take the time to read their impressive biographies that appear in this commemorative journal.

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., the grandniece of our founder Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro, is a long time member of America Lodge #2245. She holds a masters degree from Boston University and a doctorate from Hofstra University. Carol taught at Adelphi University, training teachers of the deaf and served as educator and administrator at the Lexington School for the Deaf.

Carol Delaney, PhD received her doctoral degree in cultural anthropology from the University of Chicago in 1984. She became an Assistant Director of the Center for the Study of World Religions and taught several courses at the Divinity School. Carol has written many books, her latest is *Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem*.

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik is the Executive Director of the New York Board of Rabbis, the largest interdenominational rabbinic body in the world. Since 1972, he has been the spiritual leader of Congregation Mount Sinai in Brooklyn. Rabbi Potasnik is the co-host along with Reverend A.R. Bernard of "The Rev and the Rabbi" which airs every Sunday morning on WABC Talk Radio, 770 AM.

Today's event would not be possible without the following people. Thank you to our Dinner Chairperson Josephine Morici Cohen, who has chaired this event for thirty-nine years; Journal Chairs Marianne Bortone Prince and Keith Wilson; Raffles Chairperson Eleanor Jobbagy. I also want to thank the Executive Board of the Commission for Social Justice, as well as our Lodge liaisons. They are a group of hard-working and dedicated members who unselfishly give of their time to promote our great heritage. I am so proud to serve as Chairman along side these fantastic individuals.

I hope you enjoy today's festivities and I thank each and every one of you for being here today and for your continued support.

Sincerely,

John A. Fratta

John A. Fratta
Chairman

An organization dedicated to eradicating bias, bigotry and defamation and advancing a positive image of Italian-Americans


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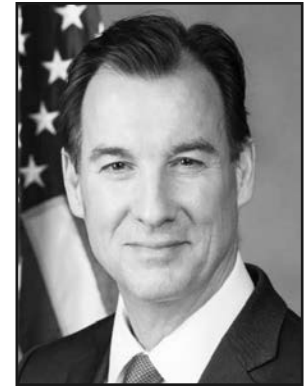
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<http://suozzi.house.gov>

February 24, 2019

NYS Commission for Social Justice
Order Sons of Italy in America
2101 Bellmore Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710



Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone gathered for the 39th Annual CSJ Dinner Dance and I commend the efforts of the New York State Commission for Social Justice to combat bias and bigotry within the community and promote a positive image for Italian Americans.

I would like to congratulate Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., for her unwavering efforts to assist those with hearing impairments. I would also like to commend Carol Delaney for her work as a cultural anthropologist, especially her work regarding Christopher Columbus. Finally, I would like to congratulate Rabbi Joseph Potasnik for his time and efforts to combat discrimination and promote social justice for all.

It is my great honor and pleasure to sincerely congratulate all of you on your tremendous accomplishments. On behalf of the residents of the Third Congressional District of New York, please accept my wishes for a joyful celebration.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress
Third District, New York

TRS:nhf



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR



February 24, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the Thirty-Ninth Annual Dinner Dance of the New York State Commission for Social Justice (CSJ), Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA).

New Yorkers of all backgrounds benefit from organizations that work to build bridges of respect, appreciation, and understanding among people of all backgrounds. Across this country, the OSIA serves the Italian American community through its valuable network of programs. As a proud Italian American, I applaud the Order's efforts on behalf of many important issues, including eliminating wrongful and offensive bias within our society.

The Commission for Social Justice is an important arm of the Order, committed to ensuring an accurate representation of Italian Americans in film, television, and the media. By highlighting the many contributions of Italians, the CSJ maintains a positive and respectful image and corrects false stereotypes rooted in prejudice. The CSJ also serves the needs of many through its educational, health, and social services for newly-arrived immigrants.

Tonight, you honor Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., Carol Delaney, and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, for their dedication to Italian culture and history, as well as their personal and professional contributions that reflect the values of the Commission. I offer my congratulations to them and to all who are committed to fighting for equality and justice in the world.

Warmest regards and best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Andrew M. Cuomo in dark ink. The signature is stylized, with the first name "Andrew" written in a cursive script and the last name "Cuomo" in a more bold, cursive style.

ANDREW M. CUOMO



STATE OF
NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER
110 STATE STREET
ALBANY, NY 12236

February 24, 2019

John A. Fratta, Chair
Commission for Social Justice
Grand Lodge of New York, OSDIA
2101 Bellmore Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710



Dear Friends:

Greetings to all those gathered this evening for the 39th Annual Dinner Dance hosted by the Commission for Social Justice of the New York Grand Lodge, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. Since 1905, OSDIA has worked to unify people of Italian descent in the United States, to celebrate and share the rich Italian heritage, and to strengthen the community through civic and charitable activities.

Congratulations are due to this year's honorees: **Dr. Carol Sorace Whalen**, educator and advocate for the hearing impaired; **Dr. Carol Delaney**, cultural anthropologist and Christopher Columbus scholar; and **Rabbi Joseph Potasnik**, Executive Vice President, New York Board of Rabbis, and radio host. Their outstanding leadership, service and accomplishments are truly worthy of your recognition.

The Commission for Social Justice was created in 1979 as the anti-defamation arm of OSDIA. The CSJ fights bigotry and discrimination, with a special emphasis on opposing the stereotyping of Italian Americans in the entertainment, advertising and media industries. At the same time, the Commission educates the public about the valuable contributions of Italians and Italian Americans through its Positive Image Program, conducting research and providing accurate information. In collaboration with a variety of partners, CSJ strives to build a culture in which diverse people from all backgrounds are treated with dignity and respect. The dedicated officers, board, members and supporters of the Commission for Social Justice are honoring Italian American achievements and promoting harmony and understanding for all.

Best wishes for a joyful celebration and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tom DiNapoli".

Thomas P. DiNapoli
State Comptroller



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007



February 24, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to join the Order Sons of Italy in America in welcoming everyone to its 39th Annual Commission for Social Justice Dinner Dance.

New York has always welcomed immigrants from around the world with open arms, and our city's remarkable diversity is the source of its singularity and strength. Established in 1980, OSIA's Commission for Social Justice exemplifies this inclusive spirit by promoting the vibrant heritage of Italian Americans, while also combatting bigotry and stereotyping against this vital community and people of all backgrounds and beliefs. My administration is committed to ensuring that no New Yorker ever faces discrimination of any kind, and I am grateful to this wonderful organization for its complementary efforts. As you gather in fellowship to celebrate its accomplishments and recognize the contributions of individuals who are advancing its goals, I applaud everyone associated with CSJ for their efforts to empower Italian New Yorkers, enrich our cultural landscape, and uphold our core values of equality and justice. Together, we are expanding opportunity in the five boroughs and forging a fairer future for all.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to tonight's honorees. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio
Mayor



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MIKE SPANO

February 24, 2019

Dear Friends:

It is a great honor to take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful, successful and enjoyable evening at tonight's 39th Annual Dinner Dance of the New York State Commission of Social Justice.

I am pleased to recognize the three individuals you are honoring this evening: **Carol Sorace Whelan, Ed.D.**, the grandniece of the OSIA founder, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro; **Carol Delaney**, a cultural anthropologist who has extensively researched the voyages and explorations of Christopher Columbus; and **Rabbi Joseph Potasnik**, who has spent many years striving for social justice.

Each of these three outstanding individuals embody the spirit of and mission of the New York State Commission for Social Justice, in accomplishing its twin goals of combating bias, bigotry and defamation, while promoting a positive image of Americans of Italian descent.

In addition, I would like to congratulate the work of the New York State Commission of Social Justice, the anti-defamation arm of the New York Grand Lodge, Order of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America and recognize both *John A. Fratta*, Chairman of the Commission for Social Justice and *Robert M. Ferrito*, OSIA State President for their tireless efforts in fighting bias, bigotry and defamation of Italians and Italian Americans.

I offer my best wishes to all the members and volunteers responsible for the success of this event.

Sincerely,

MIKE SPANO
Mayor



Office of the County Executive
1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York 11501

February 24, 2019

Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to celebrate the New York State Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America's 39th Annual Commission for Social Justice Dinner Dance. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of this organization and the 2019 Award Recipients.

The New York State Commission for Social Justice has established a distinguished record of excellence, working diligently on behalf of causes and ideals, which uphold the principles of human decency and brotherhood.

This wonderful organization is deserving and worthy of the esteem of Nassau County for its selfless service to the community, which has made a permanent and positive impact on us all and is to be commended for its outstanding contributions which enhanced numerous aspects of heritage, history, culture and achievements.

I would like to extend congratulations to this afternoon's honored guests, Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., Carol Delaney and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, for their outstanding leadership and dedicated community service, and my best wishes and to all who have worked toward forwarding the goals of this fine organization throughout the year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Curran".

Laura Curran
County Executive



From The Office Of
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE
STEVE BELLONE

H. Lee Dennison Building • 100 Veterans Memorial Highway
P.O. Box 6100 • Hauppauge, NY 11788 • (631) 853-4000

[Facebook](#) /SteveBellone



February 24, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you here tonight for the Thirty-Ninth Annual Dinner Dance of the New York State Grand Lodge, Commission for Social Justice.

The New York Commission for Social Justice (CSJ) was founded in 1979 to fight bias, bigotry, and defamation while promoting a positive image of Italian Americans. This Organization engages in community and government relations as well as grassroots campaigns and fund-raising efforts to further these goals. I am honored to support such a worthy cause and look forward to building an even stronger relationship this year.

I would like to acknowledge the honorees for this evening, Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D, Carol Delaney, and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik. These accomplished individuals are leaders in their respective fields and have worked tirelessly to advance the values of this wonderful organization.

On behalf of our residents in Suffolk County, I express my deepest appreciation and gratitude for the work that you do.

Thank you and enjoy tonight's festivities.

Sincerely,

Steven Bellone
County Executive

Italian Immigration to the United States



"Today I have a dream and hope that someday, even if it takes one hundred years before we are fully accepted, our children and their children's children, even if they carry a single drop of Italian blood, will be able and proud to continue to carry on our traditions, our culture and our language. It is up to us, and what we do today."

Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro

June 5, 1905

Italian Americans are the fourth largest census reported European ethnic group in the United States. About 5.5 million Italians immigrated to the United States from 1820 to 2004. Approximately 84% of the Italian immigrants came from the former Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

After the 1861 unification, the Italian government initially encouraged emigration to relieve economic pressures in the south. After the American Civil War, which resulted in over ½ million killed or wounded, immigrant workers were recruited from Italy and elsewhere to fill the labor shortage caused by the war.

In the United States, most Italians began their new lives as manual laborers in eastern city mining camps and in agriculture. The descendants of the Italian immigrants gradually rose from a lower economic class (1890's-1920's) to a national average by 1970 and by 1990, more than 65% of the descendants were managerial, professional or white-collar workers.

Little Italies were, to a considerable extent, the result of "Italophobia". The ethnocentrism and anti-Catholicism exhibited by the earlier Anglo-Saxon and northern European settlers helped to create an ideological foundation for fixing foreignness on urban spaces occupied by immigrants. Communities of Italians were established in most major industrial cities of the early 20th century. Those cities included, Baltimore, Maryland; New York City, New York; Newark, New Jersey; Boston, Massachusetts; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Hartford, Connecticut; Providence, Rhode Island; St. Louis, Missouri; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; Buffalo, New York; Kansas City, Missouri.

New Orleans, Louisiana was the first site of immigration of Italians and Sicilians into America in the 19th Century, before Italy was a unified nation-state. This was before New York Harbor and Baltimore became the preferred destinations of Italian immigrants. The state of California has had Italian American residents since the 1850's.

Today, New York and New Jersey have the largest number of Italian Americans in the United States, while smaller northeastern cities such as Pittsburgh, Providence, and Hartford have the highest percentage of Italian Americans in their metropolitan areas.

HONOREE

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Grandniece of OSIA Founder, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro



Carol Sorace Whalen was born in Brooklyn, raised her family in Queens, and now lives in Garden City. She attended Catholic schools and graduated from Newton College of the Sacred Heart in Massachusetts. She received her masters degree from Boston University and her doctorate from Hofstra University. Carol enjoyed a long and meaningful career working with deaf children and adults. She taught at Adelphi University training teachers of the deaf, and at the Lexington School for the Deaf as an educator and administrator. Finally, she worked as an educational consultant in the Cochlear Implant Programs at several hospitals in Manhattan and Long Island. Carol retired from her professional career in 2011.

Volunteer work has become a major part of Carol's life. She counsels and assists homeless persons at the INN in Hempstead. She serves on the advisory board of the New Ground organization, which strives to assist homeless veterans and their families through counseling and financial education. Carol also volunteers and raises funds for the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research. She is a member of the Parish Social Ministry Advisory Board at the Church of St. Anne in Garden City. Carol has been a member of the America Lodge #2245 since 2005, in which she has held the positions of Recording Secretary, Chairperson of the Italian Language and Scholarship Award Program, Trustee, and Fashion Show Mistress of Ceremonies.

Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro, a passionate visionary for his time and for the present, was Carol's granduncle. His younger brother, Salvatore, was her maternal grandfather. Dr. Sellaro's daughter, Cecilia, and Carol's mother, Serafina, were close first cousins. In 1980, Carol's mother addressed the 75th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Order of the Sons of Italy in America at the Halloran House in Manhattan, since Cecilia was too shy to speak in public. Serafina spoke of her uncle's achievements in helping Italian immigrants adjust to life in a new city and country. In 2005 Carol and her sister, Rosemarie Nicolais, were honored to be OSIA guests at the 100th anniversary celebration of the Order's founding. Carol and Rosemarie are especially proud of providing two photographs of Maria Lignante, Dr. Sellaro's wife and First Lady of the Order.

Carol's enthusiasm for family history and her pride in her Italian heritage drew her to Polizzi Generosa, Sicily, where she found two houses in which Dr. Sellaro and his siblings lived; the church where they were baptized; their birth records; and a small square named Largo Sellaro only steps away from the family homes. Family lore held that there was an influential 19th century bishop in the Sellaro family, which may help to explain Largo Sellaro. It was this bishop who, it was said, provided the means for Dr. Sellaro to complete his medical school education in Naples.

Family is the most important part of Carol's life. She and her husband, Thomas, were married for 46 years before his death. They had two beloved children, their son, Marc, and Jennifer, their daughter, who predeceased her father. Carol has two wonderful granddaughters, Maya and Olivia, who are Jennifer's children.

Carol is grateful to the New York State Grand Lodge Committee for Social Justice for the honor bestowed on her today. She remains committed to promoting a positive image of Italian-Americans in America and beyond.



HONOREE

Carol Delaney, PhD

Cultural Anthropologist noted for Positive Work
on Christopher Columbus

Carol Lowery Delaney earned an A.B. in philosophy at Boston University, 1962. After a ten year hiatus, she entered Harvard Divinity School and received an M.T.S. 1976, and went on to the University of Chicago for a PhD in cultural anthropology, 1984.

Her anthropological fieldwork was conducted in Turkey, 1979-82, two years of which were spent in a relatively remote mountain village. She won the Galler prize for the most distinguished dissertation in the Division of the Social Sciences at the University

of Chicago. That dissertation was transformed into a book, *The Seed and Soil; Gender and Cosmology in Turkish Village Society*.

After spending a year in Belgium on a Fulbright Fellowship conducting research among immigrant Turks, she returned to Harvard where she became Assistant Director of the Center for the Study of World Religions, 1985-87, and taught several courses at the Divinity School.

She taught at Stanford University in the Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology from 1987-2006, now emerita. One popular course, *Investigating Culture*, became the basis for an innovative textbook, *Investigating Culture: An Experiential Introduction to Anthropology*, third edition.

While at Stanford she wrote *Abraham on Trial. The Social Legacy of Biblical Myth*, which was finalist for the National Jewish Book Award (category scholarship) and special mention for the Victor Turner Prize of the Society for Humanistic Anthropology. It was also the inspiration for an opera of the same title, composed by Andrew Lovett, and has its world premier in England, 2005.

Her latest book is *Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem*. She writes that she had not thought much about Columbus until the fall of 1999 when she was teaching a course called "Millennial Fever" intended to observe the frenzy gripping the United States over the turn of the millennium and to study the history of apocalyptic, millennial thinking. In one of the readings, she came across a reference to Columbus's apocalyptic, millennial beliefs. Neither she nor any of her colleagues had ever heard of them. This drew her to the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University where she spent the summer of 2003 and then returned with the NEH fellowship in 2004-05. Her research was so compelling that she decided to retire from Stanford in order to work on her book about Columbus. For two years, she also taught half time in Religious Studies Department at Brown.

In addition to numerous articles and invited lectures she has also had, as of this date, 48 letters published in the New York Times, and others in the San Francisco Chronicle, Wall Street Journal, Providence Journal, Harvard Magazine, and Harper's.

In the spring of 2014 she walked more than 500 miles on the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain and walked 280 miles in the spring of 2015. She walked the Coast to Coast path across England with her brother in May 2016. Carol volunteered at a hostel on the Camino de Santiago and then walked with her brother from Leon to Santiago in Sept. - Oct. 2017.

HONOREE

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Radio Show Host and Champion for Social Justice



Rabbi Potasnik is the Executive Vice President of The New York Board of Rabbis, the largest interdenominational rabbinic body in the world. Since 1972, he has been the spiritual and educational leader of Congregation Mount Sinai in Brooklyn Heights, New York. He is presently Rabbi Emeritus. He has served as Chaplain of the New York City Fire Department since 1999. Rabbi Potasnik maintained a high profile, helping many families cope with the disaster of September 11th, 2001.

Rabbi Potasnik is the co-host along with Reverend A.R. Bernard of “The Rev and The Rabbi” which airs every Sunday morning on WABC Talk Radio, 770 AM, at 8 am. Rabbi is the religious commentator for 1010 WINS Radio, succeeding the late Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum. He is the host of the TV program *Faith to Faith* on Jewish Broadcasting Service (“JBS”), which is seen around the country and invites people of all faiths to participate in meaningful conversation. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Center for Thought & Culture.

He was appointed by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and reappointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to the New York City Campaign Finance Board. He also served as a member of the New York Human Rights Commission, and Chaplain of the New York Press Club. Rabbi Potasnik was awarded the Jan Karski Humanitarian Award 2014 by the Polish Consulate, named in honor of a Polish patriot, a Catholic, and hero of the Polish Resistance. He also received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in 2014.

Rabbi Potasnik has published numerous articles in local Brooklyn newspapers, assorted Jewish newspapers and the New York Post. He also authored the Forward for “The Illustrated Jewish Bible for Children”. He is completing a new book, *“Just Give Me a Minute”* which will contain many of his featured commentaries on 1010WINS. In 2013, he was selected by the Forward Newspaper as one of the 50 most inspiring Rabbis.

Rabbi Potasnik received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Yeshiva College, and his Master of Science from the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Yeshiva University. In 1972, he was ordained from Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University. In addition, in 1986 he received his Juris Doctor degree from Brooklyn Law School. He is the proud father of 31-year-old Harrison Potasnik.

1980



2019

— *Program* —

Mistress of Ceremonies

JOSEPHINE MORICI COHEN

Pledge of Allegiance

Italian National Anthem

American National Anthem

Invocation

ANTHONY NACCARATO

Greetings

JOSEPHINE MORICI COHEN

JOHN FRATTA

NANCY DIFIORE QUINN

ROBERT FERRITO

Presentation & Acceptance of Awards



1980



2019

In Memoriam



Carmela Abbondandolo

Larry Abbondandolo

Carmel Cascio

Jack Cascio

Murray Cohen

Walter Corey

John Dabbene

Joseph DiMartino

Tino LoMeo

Domenic Maffettone

Salvatore Marasa

Theresa Messineo

Matt Nizza

Frank Nocello

Joseph Parillo, Jr.

Vincent Rainone

Jennifer Rubé

Anthony Summa

Sylvia Summa

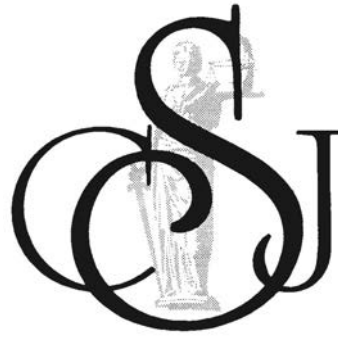
Terry Tanzer

Joseph Truglio

Walter Wolff

1980  2019

Commission for Social Justice



SAVE COLUMBUS!

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations and Sincere Best Wishes

to our

Distinguished Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

We applaud your tireless efforts on behalf of the
Italian American community.

Continued success in the years ahead!



State President Robert M. Ferrito

e

First Lady Lina

Grand Lodge of New York

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

1980



2019

Congratulations

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Anthony Naccarato

State First Vice President

Mary Naccarato

State Gift of Sight Chairperson

Proud Members of the

Giuseppe Verdi Lodge #2163

Syosset, NY

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes
to
Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.
Carol Delaney, PhD
and
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Thank you for all you have done
and continue to do for OSDIA!



Michele and Eric Ment
NYS OSDIA 2nd Vice President

1980



2019

Best Wishes and Congratulations

to our

Most Deserving Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Sincerest thanks for your outstanding commitment

and

dedication to the Italian American community.



John e? Elena Fratta

State Recording Secretary

CSJ Chairman

Grand Lodge of New York

1980



2019

Congratulations to Our Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

for their devotion and dedication to their chosen
professions and their continuing portrayal
of a positive image for all to emulate



Eleanor Jobbagy

Co-Chairperson

New York State Commission for Social Justice

New York State Arbitration Commission Chairperson

1980



2019

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
NEW YORK OSIA COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND TO
HONOREES

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

We Appreciate All You Have Done to Promote Social Justice in
the Italian American Community and the Community at Large!



Nancy DiFiore Quinn e' John Quinn

OSIA National 1st Vice President

President of Per Sempre Lodge #2344

1980



2019

We extend our sincerest thanks and good wishes
to the
New York Commission for Social Justice

Your dedication and hard work
on behalf of the
Order Sons of Italy in America
is well recognized
and greatly appreciated

Much continued success and congratulations
to the
2019 Honorees



Fraternally,

National/State Past President Joseph DiTrapani

e

National/State Past First Lady Carol

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes

to our

Distinguished Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

and to

The Board of The Commission for Social Justice



Compliments of...

Joseph Sciame

National / State Past President

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the 2019 CSJ Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

The grandniece of OSIA Founder, Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro

Carol Delaney, PhD

Cultural Anthropologist

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Striving for social justice and against discrimination for all

A TRIBUTE WELL DESERVED!



Carlo Matteucci

State Past President, Grand Lodge of New York

National Foundation Trustee, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

Madeline Matteucci

Former First Lady, Grand Lodge of New York

Garibaldi-Meucci Museum Chairperson

1980



2019



**Grand Lodge of New York
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America**

2101 Bellmore Avenue ~ Bellmore, New York 11710-5605 ~ 1-800-322-6742 ~ Fax (516) 221-6742

www.nysosia.org

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1980



2019

*Congratulations
&
Sincere Best Wishes*

**New York State Grand Lodge Foundation, Inc.
Order Sons of Italy in America**



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www.nysosia.org*

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2019

Congratulations to the 2019 CSJ Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

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1980



2019



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 39th ANNUAL DINNER DANCE
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Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America
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1980



2019

CONGRATULATIONS

Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America**NYS Commission for Social Justice****39th ANNUAL DINNER DANCE**

HONORING

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.***Carol Delaney, PhD******Rabbi Joseph Potasnik*****District IV Presidents****Antonio Meucci Lodge #213****Father Donald Licata Lodge #2435****Alessandro Manzoni Lodge #258****Le Amiche Lodge #2550****Christopher Columbus Lodge #692****Giuseppe Garibaldi Lodge #2583****Joe DiMaggio Lodge #2248****John D. Calandra Lodge #2600****Anthony Maggiacomo Lodge #2320****St. Francis of Assisi Lodge #2629****Officer Joseph B. Colello Lodge # 2998****Cathy Lembo Lloyd**

Chairperson

1980



2019

Congratulations to this
afternoon's Honorees at the
Grand Lodge of New York's
Thirty-Ninth Annual
CSJ Dinner Dance

We thank you for all your efforts
helping to protect our Italian Culture



Constantino Brumidi Lodge No. 2211, Deer Park, NY

Carmine E. Soldano – President



Perry Como Lodge No. 2846, Northport, NY

Anne Cajigas – President

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2019

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CONGRATULATIONS
Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.
Carol Delaney, PhD
and
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Your passion is an inspiration to all



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2019

Congratulations
to my
Fellow Honorees

Carol Delaney, PhD
and
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

for their accomplishments in striving for
social justice in our society.

Special thanks to the Commission for Social
Justice for its dedication to promoting a
positive image of Italian Americans.

All Americans benefit from your work.



Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

1980



2019

Warmest Congratulations
to America Lodge #2245 member
Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

and her fellow honorees

Carol Delaney, PhD
and
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Continued success to the
Commission for Social Justice



Carolyn Reres

National Historian, OSIA

State Immediate Past President, NY OSIA

Past President, America Lodge #2245, OSIA

1980



2019

Congratulations
to
The Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice
on its
39th Annual Dinner Dance
and to Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

SEMPRE AVANTI E TANTI AUGURI



Biagio e' Natalia Isgro

NYS OSIA Orator

1980



2019

Congratulations to the 2019 CSJ Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

“Continued Success to the C.S.J.”



Arthur Spera

State Corresponding Secretary

and

Joanne Spera

Garibaldi-Meucci Museum Commissioner

District Deputy

NYS OSDIA Alzheimer's Chairperson

1980



2019

Best Wishes & Continued Success
to the
**The Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice**

Thirty-Ninth Annual Dinner Dance
Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Fraternally,

Marianne Bortone Prince

NY State Trustee District II

CSJ Executive Committee Member

1980



2019

Congratulations

2019 NYOSIA CSJ

39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Your commitment, hard work, creativity,
and enthusiasm shine through all that you do.

You are positive role models for all.

Wishing you continued success
in all your future endeavors.



Sempre Avanti!

Mildred Mancusi

NYS Trustee District III

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes
to the
New York State Commission for Social Justice
on its
39th Annual Dinner Dance
Honoring

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Fraternally,

Thom and Barbara Lupo

State Past President

National Treasurer

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes

to the

Commission for Social Justice

Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Fraternally,

Sal Lanzilotta

State Past President

National Foundation Trustee

Rae Lanzilotta

Past First Lady

State Autism Foundation Chairperson

District 3E Deputy

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations and Very Best Wishes
to the
NYS Commission for Social Justice
on its
39th Annual Dinner Dance

Honoring

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Grandniece of Founder Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro

Carol Delaney, PhD

Christopher Columbus Cultural Anthropologist

e³

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Striver For Social Justice



From

Peter R. e³ Edith L. Zuzolo

National/State/Lodge Past President

National/State/Lodge Past First Lady

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

CONGRATULATIONS!

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

We commend you for your tireless efforts in your
respective fields acknowledged by the NYS CSJ today!

May you continue such admirable work now and for the future!

Know so well that your accomplishments are much appreciated!

BUONA FORTUNA!

Louis J. Gallo, Jr.

Immediate Past Chairman NYS CSJ

Linda J. Gallo

Member Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436

Joseph Vallone

Treasurer, NYS CSJ

Molly Vallone

Vice President, Father John Papallo Lodge #2684

Josephine Morici Cohen

Event Chairperson

Dr. Arthur Siegel

Member Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436

1980



2019

DISTRICT II PRESIDENTS

CONGRATULATE

CAROL SORACE WHALEN, Ed.D.

CAROL DELANEY, PhD

&

RABBI JOSEPH POTASNIK

HONORED AT THE 39th ANNUAL

NYS COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE DINNER DANCE



FRATERNALLY,

Mark A. Ventimiglia – Chair and President, Cellini Lodge #2206

Marie Suriano – Co-Chair and President, Giuseppe Verdi Lodge #2163

Sandi Nunziata – Treasurer and President, John Michael Marino Lodge #1389

Michele Sewitch – Recording Secretary and President, Galileo Galilei Lodge #2253

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Perry Esposito – Donatello Lodge #2559

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2019



District 1 CSJ Committee



Congratulates

NYS Commission for Social Justice,

Chairperson John Fratta

and

All the 2019 Honorees

District 1 Chairman - Charles Lucie

and

Liaisons

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Daniel Calise – Constantino Brumidi Lodge #2211

George DeStafano – Guglielmo Marconi Lodge #2232

Mary Ann DeCostanzo – Giuseppe A. Nigro Lodge #2234

Diana Braco DeStefano – Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Lodge #2319

Geraldine Iannello Graham – Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Lodge #2319

Grace Ficarra – Sgt. John Basilone Lodge #2442

Jack Hassel – Fr. John Papallo Lodge #2684

Anne Cajigas – Perry Como Lodge #2846

Anthony Rotoli – Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436

Maryann Schick – Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436

Donatella DiNatale – AATI

1980



2019

NYS OSDIA District II CSJ

Congratulates

The Grand Lodge of New York

Commission for Social Justice

2019 Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

From

Jean Vallone Gagliardo

District II CSJ Chairperson

and

Our Dedicated Liaisons

Mary Abbey

Phyllis Cerullo

Joann Manfredi

Ann Acquaviva

Patricia Edick

Frank Nestico

Adele Balsamo

Francesco Fresca

Richard Ravalico

Lisa Vecchio Belinsky

Janet Galvin

Mary Ann Rispoli

Lee Cerullo

Marisa Gambino

Lisa Velotti

Julianna Kerti

1980



2019

Congratulations

to

The NYS Commission for Social Justice

On Their 39th Annual Dinner Dance

Congratulations and Best Wishes

to the Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Grandniece of OSIA Founder Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro

Carol Delaney, PhD

Cultural Anthropologist

Noted for Her Work on

Christopher Columbus

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Noted for Striving for Social Justice

and

Against Discrimination for All

Anthony Corsello, Chairperson District III CSJ

Carl Ciaccio, Co-Chairperson District III CSJ

Liaisons

Anthony Barbaro

Martha Bologna

Sal Cali

Philip Caponegro

Phyllis Carbo

Frank Cicero

Louise Corsello

Marcy Dabbene

Joseph DeInnocentis

Maria DeInnocentis

Stella Grillo

Anne Marie Mace

Ernest Magliato

Josephine Piazza

1980  2019

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
to the
2019 Commission for Social Justice Honorees

GARIBALDI MEUCCI MUSEUM

owned and operated by the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
420 Tompkins Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10305
www.garibaldimeuccimuseum.org

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Arthur Spera, New York	Catena Spiritosanto, Pennsylvania
Neil Velleca, Jr., Connecticut	Keith Wilson, New York

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Joseph J. DiTrapani, SIF President
Salvatore Lanzilotta, New York

Stephanie Lundegard, Museum Administrator,
staff and volunteers of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum

Support our Museum today for an even better Museum tomorrow!

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

**The Officers and Members
of the
Father Vincent R. Capodanno
Lodge #212**

Staten Island, New York

William J. Castello

President

Extend Our Most Sincere
Congratulations

to

Grand Lodge of New York CSJ

and their

distinguished Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

and

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

on the occasion

of the

Thirty-Ninth Annual

CSJ Dinner Dance

1980



2019

Warmest Wishes & Sincere Congratulations
to
NYS COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
and

The 39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Fraternally,

Antonio Meucci Lodge #213

White Plains, New York

Mario Cermele

President

1980



2019

Congratulations

to

The NYS Commission for Social Justice

on its

39th Annual Dinner Dance

and to

Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

SEMPRE AVANTI E TANTI AUGURI



Francesco M. Pecoraro, President

Officers and Members

Roma Intangible Lodge #215

Albany, New York

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980  2019

Congratulations
to the
2019 Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

As always,

Best Wishes to CSJ Chairman John Fratta

and

The Grand Lodge of New York Commission for Social Justice



Lt. Joseph Petrosino Lodge #285

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes
to the
Distinguished Honorees
of the
Thirty-Ninth Annual NYS CSJ Dinner Dance

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

From the Officers and Members
of the
John Michael Marino
Lodge No. 1389

Sandi Nunziata

President



"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980  2019

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE

2019 NYS CSJ DINNER DANCE HONOREES

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

THREE AMERICANS THAT LIVE THEIR HERITAGE PROUDLY AND
CONSISTENTLY EVERY DAY FOR THE GOOD OF ALL OF US!



COLUMBUS LODGE #2143

2143 BOUNDARY AVENUE • SOUTH FARMINGDALE, N. MASSAPEQUA, N.Y. 11758

Tel.: 516-293-8545

Fred Bellise, President

Rich Ravalico, District 2 Liaison

Keith Wilson, Past Lodge President
State Deputy

CSJ Executive Board Recording Secretary

Ed Bochynski, Past Lodge President
CSJ Executive Board Member

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations
to the
NYS Commission For Social Justice
39th Annual Dinner Dance
Distinguished Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



From the Officers and Members
of
Judge Frank A. Gulotta
Lodge No. 2180

Pasquale Scida
President

1980



2019

Congratulations

NYS Commission For Social Justice

2019 Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Fraternally,

**Officers & Members
of the
Marco Polo Lodge #2214**

John Simonetti

President

1980



2019



With Love and Pride

America Lodge #2245

Salutes

Our Very Own

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.



“Congratulations and Best Wishes

Carol,

We Are So Happy For You!”



Vincent Giordano

President

America Lodge #2245

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

1980



2019

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America
Thirty-Ninth Annual CSJ Dinner Dance

Congratulations & Best Wishes to Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, Ph.D

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Fraternally,

Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Lodge #2319

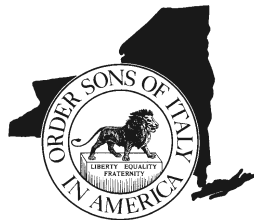
Officers and Members

Anthony Izzo, President

Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436

Officers and Members

Anthony Rotoli, President



"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

In Celebration
of the
NYS COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
39th Annual Dinner Dance

We Send Sincere Congratulations to this Year's

Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



Anthony Maggiacomo
Lodge No. 2320

Yonkers, New York

Frank Carozza

President

1980



2019

Congratulations
to the
Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice
and

2019 Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



From the
Brothers of
Per Sempre Lodge #2344

Lynbrook, New York

John Quinn

President

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

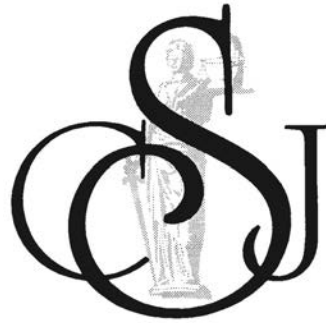
1980



2019

*"In the matter of Truth and Justice,
there is no difference between large and small problems,
for issues concerning the treatment of people are all the same."*

—Albert Einstein



We congratulate today's honorees that have worked tirelessly in
their respective fields of endeavor and have proven themselves to
be exceptional role models for all to admire.

We applaud the NYS Commission For Social Justice
for consistently standing up for Truth and Justice

The Officers and Members
of the
Donatello Lodge #2559

Perry Esposito

President

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

BEST WISHES
TO THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
2019 HONOREES

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



JOHN D. CALANDRA LODGE #2600

Yonkers, New York

Philip Santise

President

Home Lodge of State President

Robert M. Ferrito

&

State Principal Trustee

Remo Carriero

1980



2019



**The Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice**

Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America

Extends Congratulations

and

A Warm Welcome

To

**The Officers and Members
of the**

Officer Joseph B. Colello Lodge #2998

Yonkers, New York

Instituted on February 1, 2019

Carmine Zullo, President

Lou Mazzacone, District Deputy

1980



2019

BEST WISHES AND THANK YOU

TO OUR BROTHER

JOHN

FOR ALL YOUR DEDICATION AND EFFORT
IN LEADING THE FIGHT FOR OUR HERITAGE

AND

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S
HONOREES

FRATERNALLY,

Joey e' Beatrice Fratta

NYS Trustee District III

Congratulations To the Honorees

of the

NYS COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

District V State Trustee

Gregory DeCola e' Family

1980



2019

Many Warm Wishes
to the
NYS Commission for Social Justice
on the occasion of their 39th Annual Dinner
and to
All the Honorees
For their dedication
to the
Italian American community

Stella Grillo

Past CSJ Chairperson

Congratulations to
NYS Commission for Social Justice
on their 39th Annual Dinner Dance
Congratulations and Best Wishes to the Honorees

Fraternally,

Anthony Corsello

Chairperson District III CSJ

Louise Corsello

District III Deputy

1980  2019

*Since 1980, CSJ has been fighting
the stereotyping of Italian Americans,
while promoting its campaign of Positive Imagery through
Awareness & Educational Programs.*



Congratulations
and
Best Wishes
To ALL the
2019 NYS CSJ
39th Anniversary Honorees



DISTRICT I PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

◇ Arturo Toscanini Lodge #2107 ◇ Andrea Doria Lodge #2201 ◇ Constantino Brumidi Lodge #2211
◇ Guglielmo Marconi Lodge #2232 ◇ Giuseppe Nigro Lodge #2234 ◇ Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Lodge #2319
◇ Sgt. John Basilone Lodge #2442 ◇ Fr. John Papallo Lodge #2684 ◇ Perry Como Lodge #2846
◇ Vigiano Brothers Lodge #3436

Domenica Diana Grauer, Chairperson

We continue to support the
Saving of Columbus Day and All Statues dedicated to him



Established March 28, 1915
Lodge 321 • Schenectady, NY

Peter Sparano, President
Gabriele D'Annunzio Lodge #321
Fran Pugliese, District VI Deputy

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations

to the

2019 NYS CSJ Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

From

Loggia Glen Cove #1016

Glen Cove, New York

Kathryn Grande, President

Congratulations

to the

Grand Lodge of New York Commission for Social Justice

and

2019 Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Fraternally,

Progresso Lodge #1047

Syracuse, New York

Carmine Federico, President

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik



From the Officers and Members of

Giuseppe Verdi Lodge #2163

Marie Suriano
President

Frank Sammartano
Vice President

Anthony Naccarato
NYS 1st Vice President

Congratulations to the Grand Lodge of New York

Commission for Social Justice

&

39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

From the Officers and Members

of the

Galileo Galilei Lodge #2253

Michele Sewitch, President

"FIGHTING BIAS... BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

Congratulations and Continued Success

To the Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Fraternally,

The Officers and Members

Per Sempre Ladies Lodge #2344A

Rosemarie Baffo-Stathes

President

Continued Success

to the

New York State Commission for Social Justice

Congratulations & Best Wishes to the 2019 Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Giovanni Caboto Lodge #2372

Janet Galvin

President

1980



2019

Our Compliments to the
Grand Lodge of New York Commission for Social Justice

and

Best Wishes to the 2019 Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

From the

Leonardo Da Vinci Lodge #2385

David Hance

President

Felicitations to the NYS Commission for Social Justice

and

Congratulations to the 39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Fraternally,

Mario Lanza Lodge No. 2491

Sal Cali

President

1980



2019

Congratulations to the 2019 Honorees
of the
**Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice**



From the Officers and Members
of the
Father John Papallo Lodge #2684
Ronald Roth, President

Best Wishes
to the
**Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice**

39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees

*Your commitment to preserving our heritage and culture
is admirable and commendable*

Fraternally,
Ernest Magliato, NYS Arbitration Commissioner
and
Anna Magliato, President, Lt. Joseph Petrosino Lodge #285

1980



2019

Congratulations and Best Wishes

to

**Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., Carol Delaney, PhD
and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik**

For all you have done and will continue to do.

Ciro Capano

State Trustee – District 1

Laura Capano

GMM Commissioner

Dr. Joe Rubé - District 8 State Trustee

Congratulates the Honorees

on their

accomplishments:

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Congratulations and Best Wishes

to

**The Grand Lodge of New York
Commission for Social Justice**

from

Carmine Federico, Bene Emeritus

Josephine Federico, District VII Deputy



SAVE COLUMBUS DAY!

SAVE OUR HERITAGE!

DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI LODGE 443

Endicott, NY

1980



2019

Best Wishes for Continued Success
to the
Grand Lodge of New York Commission for Social Justice
&

Congratulations to the 2019 Honorees
Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., Carol Delaney, PhD & Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

From the Officers and Members of
Captain Kathy Mazza Lodge #2163A
Adele Balsamo, President

Sincere Felicitations To
CSJ 39th Annual Dinner Dance Honorees
Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D., Carol Delaney, PhD
and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
From the Grateful Officers and Members
of the
SGT. JOHN BASILONE LODGE #2442
Robert Donato, President

In Loving Memory of...

My Beloved Grandparents
Luigi and Anna Covati Francavilla

From a Grateful Grandson
Anthony Peter Bortone
A Proud Member of the John Michael Marino Lodge #1389

In Remembrance of...

My Beautiful and Loving Mom
Marie Antonia Francavilla Bortone
Always In My Thoughts, Forever In My Heart

"I love you more!"
Anthony

1980



2019

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
NYS COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
ON ITS
39th ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

AND TO THE HONOREES:

CAROL SORACE WHALEN, Ed.D.

GRANDNIECE OF OSIA FOUNDER, DR. VINCENZO SELLARO

CAROL DELANEY, PhD

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGIST NOTED FOR POSTIVE WORK
ON CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

RABBI JOSEPH POTASNIK

RADIO SHOW HOST AND CHAMPION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND AGAINST DISCRIMINATION FOR ALL



**THE OFFICERS & MEMBERS OF THE
CELLINI LODGE #2206**

FOUNDED IN 1968 - NEW HYDE PARK, NEW YORK

FRATERNALLY,

Mark A. Ventimiglia

President

Cristoforo Colombo, Discoverer of the New World - 1492

"FIGHTING BIAS. . BUILDING PRIDE"

1980



2019

On behalf of Peter and Jeri Dejana
and our Grant Administrator Jim Avena,
thank you for all that you do to
combat defamation against
Italian-Americans and other ethnic groups.

The NYS Commission for Social Justice's mission
has always been important,
but is more poignant today than ever.

We also wish to congratulate
the evening's well-deserving honorees:

Carol Delaney, PhD

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik

Carol Sorace Whalen, Ed.D.

