



AWARDS CELEBRATION  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024  
CONNECTICUT'S OLD STATE HOUSE



The inaugural Connecticut Democracy Center Awards honors individuals and organizations that mirror our mission to inspire people of all ages to engage in civic life and strengthen their communities.

The awards spotlights our vision of a society where everyone is empowered to participate in our democracy.

# THE CTDC AWARD SELECTION PROCESS

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The 2024 Award recipients were selected out of a pool of nominations made by the general public. The Selection Committee researched and, using a rubric, scored nominees according to how closely their work and ideals mirrored those of the CTDC. While we had many outstanding candidates, this year's recipients were selected unanimously.

Our Selection Committee works “blind” to CTDC's fundraising efforts to ensure that winners and donors/sponsors are selected without regard to each other.



# 2024 COMMUNITY LEADER AWARD RECIPIENT

The Honorable Alvin W. Thompson



This award goes to an extraordinary individual who brings people together to address problems or positively impact their community.

Appointed U.S. District Judge for the District of Connecticut in 1994, Honorable Judge Alvin W. Thompson is known for his substantial contributions to the administration of justice in the state.

As the Chair of the District of Connecticut's Public Outreach Committee, he has been equally dedicated to educating young people and the public about the vital role federal courts, judges, and lawyers play in preserving the rule of law.

# 2024 BUSINESS LEADER AWARD RECIPIENT

## Citizen Travelers



This award goes to a business or organization that implements initiatives to improve the quality of life for residents of Connecticut.

Headed by Janice G. Brunner, Citizen Travelers is the non-partisan civic engagement initiative of The Traveler Companies.

Travelers understands that a healthy private sector depends on durable and reliable public institutions and they are invested in strengthening both. Through in-house programming and nonprofit partnerships, they provide 30,000 employees with the resources and support to engage in our democracy as informed citizens and help shape the civic life of their communities.

# 2024 PHILANTHROPIC LEADER AWARD RECIPIENT



## Mary Gawlicki



This award goes to an individual who funds projects and nonprofit organizations that encourage civic engagement and positively impact our state.

We are honored to recognize Mary's memory as a past CTDC board member and an outstanding philanthropist

After the remarkable success of their company Corporate Translations, Mary and her husband, Ted founded the Gawlicki Family Foundation. The Foundation supports Connecticut and Northeast U.S.-based non-profits committed to transformative change in education, pulmonary health, and municipal and economic development. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded over \$7 million to over 50 organizations, upholding the belief that private dollars power public progress.



AWARDS CELEBRATION  
**Thursday, February 1, 2024**  
Connecticut's Old State House

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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5:30 PM - PRE-EVENT MEET AND GREET

6:00 PM - COCKTAIL RECEPTION

7:00 PM - AWARDS PRESENTATION

8:00 PM - CHAMPAGNE TOAST

# PRE-EVENT MEET AND GREET

5:30 PM

Mortenson Gallery

A brief opportunity for award recipients to meet sponsors, Bill Bevacqua, and CTDC Board Members before the party begins.

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# COCKTAIL RECEPTION

6:00 PM

Mortenson Gallery

Award recipients, sponsors, Bill Bevacqua, and CTDC board members will be joined by other professionals who care about the future of democracy in our state and nation for small plates, complimentary beer and wine, and an hour of networking.



# AWARDS PRESENTATION

7:00 PM

Court Room



We will get to know the Award recipients better during a short, inspirational program spotlighting how the honorees found their passion for community and civic engagement. This includes a twenty-minute question and answer session with recipients.

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# CHAMPAGNE TOAST

8:00 PM

Great Hall

We will finish the evening with a social hour including, dessert, live music, bubbly, and a special toast to recipients to show our admiration. You'll also have a chance to explore the Old State House after hours.



## HOSTS

### WILLIAM A. BEVACQUA

CTDC's President & CEO, part of the dynamic management team behind the Connecticut Democracy Center since 2001, and its leader since 2008.



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### MICHAEL IMBER

CTDC Board of Directors Chairman and a Managing Director at Epiq, a global leader in legal services and technology solutions.



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### ANITA FORD SAUNDERS, APR

CTDC Board Member and a veteran in the communication and public relations profession with over 30 years experience.





## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

# PRESENTING SPONSOR

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## *Investment: \$8,000*

- Logo and live link to appear on a dedicated Awards page on the Connecticut Democracy Center website for one year
- Special recognition in social media, emails, invitations, and press releases
- Eight event tickets with priority seating
- Pre-event Meet and Greet with award winners, CTDC President and Board Members
- Full-page color sponsor message or ad in event program
- Logo on signage prominently displayed during a cocktail reception, awards ceremony, and champagne toast
- Special recognition at event to be recorded and available on the Connecticut Democracy Awards page of the CTDC website
- Dedicated Presenting Sponsor slide on event background slideshow
- Premier logo placement and recognition as Presenting Sponsor on Sponsor Sign displayed in the Great Hall

# AWARD CEREMONY SPONSOR

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*Investment: \$5,000*

- Logo and live link to appear on a dedicated Awards page on the Connecticut Democracy Center website for one year
- Recognition in social media, emails, invitations, and press releases
- Six event tickets
- Pre-event Meet and Greet with award winners, CTDC President and Board Members
- Half-page color sponsor message or ad in event program
- Logo on signage prominently displayed during awards ceremony
- Verbal recognition at event to be recorded and available on the Connecticut Democracy Awards page of the CTDC website
- Logo on Awards Sponsors slide on the event background slideshow
- Logo on large Sponsor Sign displayed in the Great Hall

# COCKTAIL RECEPTION SPONSOR

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*Investment: \$2,500*

- Logo and live link to appear on a dedicated Awards page on the Connecticut Democracy Center website for one year
- Recognition in social media, emails, invitations, and press releases
- Pre-event Meet and Greet with award winners, CTDC President and Board Members
- Four event tickets
- Quarter-page color sponsor message or ad in event program
- Logo on signage prominently displayed during cocktail reception
- Verbal recognition at cocktail reception
- Logo on Cocktail Reception Sponsors slide on event background slideshow
- Logo on large Sponsor Sign displayed in the Great Hall

# CHAMPAGNE TOAST SPONSOR

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*Investment: \$1,000*

- Logo and live link to appear on a dedicated Awards page on the Connecticut Democracy Center website for one year
- Two event tickets
- Pre-event Meet and Greet with award winners, CTDC President and Board Members
- Listed in event program
- Champagne bottle tags on logo
- Logo on Champagne Toast Sponsors slide on event background slideshow
- Listed on large Sponsor Sign displayed in the Great Hall

# EVENT TICKET LEVELS

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## Democracy Champion Ticket: \$500

- Name to appear on a dedicated Awards page on the Connecticut Democracy Center website for one year
- Pre-event Meet and Greet with award winners, CTDC President and Board Members
- Name in program
- Name listed on Democracy Champion slide on event background slideshow
- One event ticket

## Democracy Supporter Ticket: \$250

- Name to appear on a dedicated Awards page on the Connecticut Democracy Center website for one year
- Name in program
- One event ticket

## Standard Ticket: \$100





# TO SECURE YOUR SPONSORSHIP OR AWARDS NIGHT TICKETS CONTACT

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