

2015 Citizens Union Awards Dinner Honorees



Mylan L. Denerstein, *Public Service Award*

Mylan L. Denerstein is a partner in the New York office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. She is a member of Gibson Dunn's White Collar Defense and Investigations, Securities Litigation, Appellate and Crisis Management Practice Groups. Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Ms. Denerstein served as Counsel to New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo since 2011. In this role she acted as the Governor's chief counsel and principal legal advisor. From 2007 to 2010 during the administration of then-Attorney General Cuomo, she served as the Executive Deputy Attorney General for Social Justice and managed approximately 100 attorneys statewide working in the areas of charities, civil rights, environmental protection, health care, labor and tobacco compliance. From 2003 to 2007, she served as Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs for the New York City Fire Department. From 1996 to 2003, Ms. Denerstein served as a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, first as Assistant U.S. Attorney, prosecuting complex securities, insurance fraud, money laundering and organized crime cases, and then as Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division, where she assisted in managing over 100 Assistant U.S. Attorneys. Ms. Denerstein serves as a board member of the Vera Institute of Justice. Ms. Denerstein graduated in 1993 from Columbia Law School, where she was named a Charles Evans Hughes Fellow for outstanding commitment to public service and was a recipient of the Jane Marks Murphy Prize for exceptional proficiency and advocacy in clinics.



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Adam Flatto, *Business Leadership Award*

Adam Flatto is the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Georgetown Company, a privately-held real estate investment and development company based in New York City. In his more than 20 years with Georgetown, Mr. Flatto has been involved with the development, acquisition and ownership of over 20 million square feet of commercial and residential real estate projects throughout the United States. A native New Yorker, Mr. Flatto is a trustee and board member of several civic and cultural institutions. Mr. Flatto is Co-Chairman of the Board of the Park Avenue Armory and Co-Chairman of the Housing Advisory Board of the Robin Hood Foundation, a recently established group founded to tackle issues of affordable housing and homelessness in New York City. Mr. Flatto is a trustee of Works & Process at the Guggenheim Museum and of The Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, Ohio. He is also a trustee of Enterprise Community Partners, the nation's leading advocate and sponsor of affordable housing. Recently Mr. Flatto and his firm also completed on a pro-bono basis the \$225 million development of three charter high schools in Brooklyn and the Bronx for over 2,500 students being operated by Uncommon Schools, Achievement First and KIPP. Mr. Flatto is a director of The Howard Hughes Corporation and a member of several real estate industry groups including the ULI and ICSC. He graduated magna cum laude from Brown University in 1985 with honors in Economics and received his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1989.



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Haeda B. Mihaltses, *Public Service Award*

Haeda B. Mihaltses is the Executive Director of External Affairs for the New York Mets. She is the organization's main liaison with City, State and Federal officials and oversees relations with community stakeholders. She previously spent 12 years in former New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's administration as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs. As a member of the Mayor's Senior Staff, she coordinated the City's interaction with the City, State and Federal Legislative Offices, as well as the Offices of the City Comptroller, Public Advocate and Borough Presidents. Her office kept the Mayor and Deputy Mayors informed about intergovernmental issues including all legislative and budget matters. During Ms. Mihaltses's tenure with the Mayor she oversaw passage of the city's Smoke Free Air Act, managed legislative actions for over 120 neighborhood rezonings, including Hunts Point, Hudson Yards and Willets Point, coordinated the passage of bills which revamped the city's building and electrical codes, and helped negotiate twelve on-time budgets. Appointed by Mayor Bloomberg to oversee the City's Hurricane Sandy relief effort on Staten Island, the New York native and Queens resident spent three months on Staten Island coordinating overall community recovery. Prior to the Mayor's office, Ms. Mihaltses served as the Director of the City Council Finance Division under Former Speaker Peter F. Vallone, as the first female appointed to that position. Ms. Mihaltses currently serves as a trustee of the Citizen Budget Commission and on the Queens Borough Library Board of Trustees. She also serves as an advisory Board Member for the Center of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies at Queens College and has been a lecturer at the school's Urban Studies Department. Archbishop Demetrios, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of America has appointed Ms. Mihaltses to the National Board of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Ladies Philoptochos Society (the philanthropic arm of the Greek Orthodox Church), and to the Board of the St. Michael's Home for the Elderly, to which she currently serves as Board President. Ms. Mihaltses holds a Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) with a concentration in Public Administration, as well as a Bachelors of Arts (BA) in Economics from Fordham University. Ms. Mihaltses and her husband George reside in Bayside, Queens.

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Stephen P. Younger, *Civic Leadership Award*

Stephen P. Younger, Past President of the New York State Bar Association, is a leading commercial litigator at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP, and is also well-known for his alternative dispute resolution work. Having been with the firm since 1985, Mr. Younger has more than 30 years of experience as a commercial litigator. As a seasoned trial lawyer, he has tried many cases in federal and state court and before arbitration panels. He also frequently argues appeals, particularly in the appellate courts of New York. Based on his significant alternative dispute resolution (ADR) experience, he is often called on to serve as an arbitrator or mediator in high-stake matters. Mr. Younger's clients include financial institutions, mutual funds, hedge funds, pension funds and venture capital firms involved in commercial, securities and real estate disputes. He has also developed an extensive practice representing Latin American companies in U.S.-related matters. In addition to his previous role as State Bar President, Mr. Younger has sat on numerous New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) committees. He is Past Chair of the NYSBA Commercial and Federal Litigation Section, having previously served as Chair of its Securities Litigation Committee and of its ADR Committee. Mr. Younger also served as Chair of the NYSBA Task Force on Nonlawyer Ownership of Law Firms. He is a member of the American Bar Association (ABA)'s House of Delegates, and Past Chair of the ABA's International Mediation Committee. He serves as the ABA's representative to the United Nations Economic and Social Council as a member of its Standing Committee on the American Judicial System and was Chair of the ABA Task Force on International Trade in Legal Services. Mr. Younger was appointed to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Transition Committee and was also the Transition Director for Mr. Cuomo when he was the New York State Attorney General. He was also appointed to the Transition Committee for Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. Mr. Younger was a member of the Transition Committee for New York County District Attorney, Cyrus Vance. Mr. Younger is a member of the First Department Judicial Screening Committee. He received his J.D. from Albany Law School, magna cum laude, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the Albany Law Review and his B.A. from Harvard University, cum laude. Prior to joining Patterson Belknap, Mr. Younger served as Law Clerk to the Hon. Hugh R. Jones, Associate Judge for the New York Court of Appeals.