

# 40 YEARS



**WTS** GREATER NY

Advancing Women Advancing Transportation

1980 - 2020



**WTS Greater New York  
Board of Directors**

**Congratulates**

**Clarelle DeGraffe**

**Director and General Manager of PATH  
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey**

**2020 Woman of the Year**



## SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

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# 2020 Annual Gala

October 22, 2020

## EVENING EVENTS

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### PROGRAM

Welcoming Remarks	Keri Cibelli, WTS-GNY President
Scholarships	Cheryl McKissack Daniel, President and CEO, McKissack & McKissack, Danielle Drake and Tracey Slochover, WTS-GNY Scholarship Committee co-chairs
Scholarship Recipients	Odette Dominguez, Sofia Duran, Helena Oiwa, Diana Ramirez-Rios, Srushti Rath
Guest Speaker	Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner, NYC Department of Transportation
Introduction	Sally Librera, Vice President, Strategic Planning and Client Support, HNTB
Woman of the Year	Clarelle DeGraffe, Director and General Manager of PATH, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
Closing Remarks	Keri Cibelli
Networking	Virtual Breakout Rooms

**WTS-GNY extends its deepest gratitude to all who donated to the Scholarship Fund.**

If you have not had a chance to donate and would still like to, please [click here](#).

As an organization committed to advancing women, WTS-GNY mourns the passing of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who broke barriers on so many levels. Ginsburg's life was dedicated to fairness for all under the law and women's rights in particular. A great legal mind and a true humanist was lost.



[www.wtsinternational.org/greaternewyork](http://www.wtsinternational.org/greaternewyork)

Gala and journal graphics: Kaylee Moon, Sam Schwartz Engineering

Journal layout: WSP USA

Journal editor: Daniella Bernett, STV Incorporated

# Message from WTS-GNY President Keri Cibelli



Welcome to the WTS Greater New York (GNY) Annual Gala! Thank you for joining us virtually, as we honor this year's Woman of the Year, Clarelle DeGraffe. This year, DeGraffe celebrates her 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey (PANY&NJ). This

career milestone is highlighted by her role as the director of the Port Authority Trans Hudson (PATH) system. She is the first woman in this position in PATH's 112-year history. DeGraffe has served as an impressive role model, who has expanded opportunities for women through professional development, mentoring and strategic positioning. This evening is an opportunity for us to recognize the achievements of women, like DeGraffe, who have been true leaders in the transportation industry and to encourage emerging professionals through our Scholarship program to become our future leaders.

2020 has certainly proven to be a challenging year, beginning with the difficult physical distance between us as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. It has been uplifting to see our members' smiles at virtual events, keeping our network connected. We also are seeing a demand to address the injustice that our systems create through racial inequality. The WTS mission at its core is about providing equity in transportation and for all who use it. I am hopeful and proud of our community for working to uphold these values, as we strive to carry out that mission.

It is a special anniversary year for the GNY Chapter. It was 40 years ago that a group of exceptional women came together to become the fifth chapter of WTS. Our

chapter has since grown to become THE largest of the 62 chapters nationwide. I'm honored to continue the vision of our founding members, who idealized a more diverse, inclusive and equitable transportation industry. Let's continue to use our connections to support one another and learn from each other.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our WTS-GNY members, our Board of Directors, our committees, and all of the people who keep this organization moving forward. We especially want to recognize the generosity of our corporate partners. We couldn't do this without you! Thank you for all of your contributions and support over the years.

Hope you enjoy our virtual Gala! ■

# 2020 Woman of the Year Clarelle DeGraffe



**Clarelle DeGraffe** is the director and general manager of the PATH rail transit system. She ensures that PATH carries out its critical mission of safely and effectively moving individuals across the Hudson River. With the help of over 1,100 employees, DeGraffe oversees the agency's daily operation, as well as its \$3.5 billion capital program to upgrade a legacy system, which encompasses important projects such as the rebuilding of tunnels severely damaged by Superstorm Sandy and the completion of the remaining phases of a signal modernization. In addition, DeGraffe has spearheaded PATH's Improvement Plan, which was rolled out in June 2019 and seeks to boost system capacity and reliability, and to enhance customer experience.

A 30-year veteran of the Port

Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANY&NJ), DeGraffe served as the deputy director of Rail Transit from 2015 until March 2019. In this role, she was responsible for day-to-day operations and supported the director. Previously, DeGraffe was responsible for the development, funding and delivery of the Sandy Recovery Capital Program. She also has held project management roles in the World Trade Center (WTC) Construction and the Priority Capital Programs departments. She was a driving force behind the delivery of major projects, including the Vehicle Security Center and several packages in the WTC Transportation Hub redevelopment.

DeGraffe has received numerous accolades including the 2008 Harlem Black Achievers in Industry Award; 2013 Honoree at Professional Women in Construction Dinner Dance Gala; the 2016 Port Authority Network of Black Employees Executive Leadership Award; and the 2018 the Congressional Certificate of Merit from Southeast Queens Chamber of Commerce. She also will be honored at the Newark Regional Business Partnership's (NRBP) Transportation Awards Breakfast (rescheduled to November 2020). ■

## WTS GREATER NEW YORK WOMEN OF THE YEAR

- 2019 Denise M. Berger
- 2018 Catherine Rinaldi
- 2017 Mary K. Murphy
- 2016 Karen Rae
- 2015 Polly Trottenberg
- 2014 Veronique "Ronnie" Hakim
- 2013 Helena E. Williams
- 2012 Susan M. Baer
- 2011 Joan McDonald
- 2010 Pippa Woods
- 2009 Susan Bass Levin
- 2008 Susan L. Hayes
- 2007 Susan Kupferman
- 2006 Jane Chmielinski
- 2005 Janette Sadik-Khan
- 2004 Flora Castillo
- 2003 Barbara Spencer
- 2002 Barbara Thayer
- 2001 Laurie Gutshaw
- 2000 Martha Walther
- 1999 Deborah Wathen Finn
- 1998 Barbara Richardson
- 1997 Beverly Dolinsky
- 1996 Lorraine Hoffman-Ho
- 1995 Janis Beitzer
- 1994 Barbara Mickens-Washington
- 1992 Carole Metzger
- 1991 Shirley DeLibero
- 1990 Christine Johnson
- 1988 Lillian Liburdi
- 1987 Hazel Gluck
- 1980 Anne Canby

## CHAPTER BOARD

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Paulina Urbanowicz

**VOLUNTEER CHAMPION**  
Alexandra Aiello

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Emily Gallo

## Introduction by Sally Librera



**Sally Librera** recently joined the HNTB team as vice president, strategic planning and client support. In this role, she will build on her experience and expertise in rail operations as she assists clients to improve system performance and maximize the value of operating and capital investments.

Librera is the former senior vice president for subways at MTA New York City Transit (NYCT), where she led North America's largest urban rail transit operation until July 2020. She oversaw a team of 30,000 employees to deliver safe and efficient train service citywide, moving 5.6 million pre-pandemic riders on 6,400 railcars across 660 miles of track and 472 stations each day. Librera was the first woman to hold the post. Under her management, the team dramatically improved on-time performance, cutting delays

in half, and safely reduced customer travel times on every line throughout the system.

Prior to heading the subway system, Librera served in the groundbreaking role of first female leader of MTA's Staten Island Railway, the borough's 24/7 heavy rail operation. Among other key leadership posts she has held at NYCT are vice president and chief officer for subways operations support; chief officer, subways operations training; and chief officer, workforce development.

Librera earned two master's degrees from the University of California, Berkeley: one in city and regional planning and the other in civil and environmental engineering. She has an undergraduate degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University.

## Guest Speaker Polly Trottenberg



Appointed in 2014 by Mayor Bill de Blasio, NYC Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) Commissioner **Polly Trottenberg** leads one of the nation's largest and most diverse municipal transportation agencies, with over 5,500 employees and an \$18.1 billion 10-year capital plan.

Responsible for the City's roads, bridges, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and the Staten Island Ferry, Trottenberg focuses the agency's mission on mobility, safety, equity, sustainability and economic growth. Under her leadership, NYCDOT has expanded street resurfacing and reconstruction; increased bridge rehabilitation and construction; improved bus performance; and expanded the bike network to over

1,300 miles. She has spearheaded the mayor's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate roadway fatalities. New York City has redesigned hundreds of streets and achieved legislative victories in lowering its speed limit to 25 mph. Under Vision Zero, the City has seen the fewest traffic fatalities in its history.

Trottenberg serves on the board of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC). With more than 25 years of career public service, Trottenberg most recently served as U.S. DOT undersecretary of Transportation for Policy in the Obama administration. She also worked under U.S. Sens. Charles Schumer, Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Barbara Boxer.

Trottenberg graduated from Barnard College and received her Master's in Public Policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. ■

## Guest Speaker Cheryl McKissack Daniel



**Cheryl McKissack Daniel**, a civil engineer, has over 25 years of design and construction industry experience, including major project work in the commercial, health-care, education and transportation sectors. McKissack Daniel is the fifth generation to run her family's century-old business, McKissack & McKissack, the oldest minority- and woman-owned design and construction firm in the nation.

McKissack & McKissack provides construction management, program management and consulting services for various projects throughout the East Coast and the United States. The firm's primary focus is in the infrastructure, transit, healthcare and education sectors. Its services extend beyond traditional A/E/C disciplines, broadly supporting client needs related to their facilities. Over the years, McKissack

Daniel has built upon the success of her predecessors by fostering long-lasting relationships and providing innovative solutions for complex projects. Her 150-employee company has been awarded more than \$50 billion in construction contracts over the past decade.

As president and CEO, McKissack Daniel serves as project executive on all high-profile projects. In this capacity, she ensures that diversity is an integral part of each phase of a project or program. Her areas of expertise include estimating; scheduling; design review; document control; construction inspection; and developing and implementing quality assurance/quality control programs.

McKissack & McKissack is involved on some of New York's largest projects including: JFK Terminal One; LGA Central Terminal Building Redevelopment; Coney Island Hospital Redevelopment; Harlem Hospital Center Modernization; the NYC Economic Development Corporation Hunts Point Cooperative Market and Fulton Fish Market; MART125 Cultural Center in Harlem; Pacific Park/Atlantic Yards Barclays Center; The Women's Building; Pier 42 Redevelopment; and The Studio Museum in Harlem. The firm also serves as the MTA Independent Engineer overseeing the capital construction program of

the nation's largest transportation system.

McKissack Daniel serves on numerous corporate, charitable and community boards. As a board member, she focuses on strategic planning as part of good governance. She believes strategic planning is a critical component of a board's mission. Just as important to her is formulating a good strategy to create long-term value, building an ethical culture and managing risk.

McKissack Daniel has been honored as a "Hero of Liberty" for her support of humanitarian initiatives and promoting the responsibilities of a free and diverse America. She earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree in Civil Engineering from Howard University. She also completed graduate course work in Civil Engineering at Columbia University. ■

# 40 Years: Then and Now

*What were your ambitions for the chapter at its founding and what are your impressions of what it has become?*

“At its founding, I envisioned a professional association that not only welcomed women participants



**Maxine Finkelstein**

and provided networking opportunities, but also served as a forum for ideas. Other organizations I had come in contact with were narrowly defined by technical discipline or mode of operations. My interests were broader. I wanted to talk about multimodal, multidiscipline policy issues and programs. In 1980, many changes were being introduced in all areas of transportation and I hoped WTS could be the place to not only keep up with the news, but help lead the way. I am very proud that the Greater New York Chapter has become a leader and an important resource for the transportation industry.”

**Maxine Finkelstein, founding president**

“Starry eyed as I was, I was hoping that we would achieve parity in wages long before the millennium...fat chance. I hoped we would be able to attend senior staff meetings without cigars...here we have been more successful. And I hoped to see



**Susan Gilbert**

more women in the highest echelons of our industry. Thanks to the dedication of our members, WTS has become an important player in transportation. It has assured the rise of women to the highest levels of management. It is a symbol for young women of what has been and what can be achieved.”

**Susan Gilbert, founding vice president**



**Deborah Wathen Finn**

“A number of women who would become the Greater New York Chapter founders attended the 1980 WTS Conference in Washington, D.C. It was at that event that we realized the potential power of creating such an organization for our region...[There] was broad support for building an organization that provided substantive value and...networks for advancing women in an industry that had very few women in executive roles. We only dreamed that that could change. We wanted to create a flagship chapter [that would] set a high

bar, [as well as] be a strong influence in shaping the larger organization for years. We [established] a chapter [that offers] access to a [robust] metropolitan region and diverse industry sectors, and [attracts] interest among both women and men. We designed it that way and stayed true to that vision. Today, we celebrate that vitality...with [tremendous respect garnered] from a cross-section of the transportation industry....[The Greater New York Chapter has] some of the most talented women leaders in the U.S.”

**Deborah Wathen Finn, founding member**

“The idea immediately resonated. This would be an opportunity to



**Catherine Sweeney**

find, support and grow with other women in transportation-kindred spirits. The chapter has grown to be a major, respected professional organization that has nurtured many careers, and contributed knowledge and talent to the industry. It is still guided by kindred spirits.”

**Catherine Sweeney, founding treasurer** ■

# 2020 Events Recap

WTS-GNY's programs aim to uphold its mission to attract, sustain, connect and advance women's careers to strengthen the transportation industry.

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## JANUARY

**JANUARY 22:** 2020 40th Annual Meeting and 23rd W/M/S/DBE Expo

## FEBRUARY

**FEBRUARY 6:** 2020 Mentoring Program Open House

**FEBRUARY 25:** Champions Program Kickoff Event

**FEBRUARY 25:** Emerging Women Leaders Series—Reimagine Your Leadership Brand, Joe Miller, Be Leaderly

**FEBRUARY 27:** 2020 LinkedIn Workshop

## MARCH

**MARCH 10:** Mentorship Program begins

## APRIL

**APRIL 28:** Emerging Women Leaders Webinar Amplify Your Accomplishments

**APRIL 30:** WTS-GNY Book Club Meeting #3, Carla Artis, Stantec

## MAY

**MAY 26:** WTS-GNY-PWC Joint Small Business Virtual Happy Hour

## JUNE

**JUNE 3:** Webinar: Destination: Confidence in Your Financial Future

**JUNE 12:** Book Club Meeting #4, Ocean Stokes, PANYNJ

**JUNE 25:** Virtual Happy Hour/ Game Night

**JUNE 30:** Emerging Women Leader Webinar Series – Mobilize Your Support Network

## JULY

**JULY 15:** The Neuroscience of Equity in Complex Decision-Making—Part 1, Kimberly Papillon, Esq.

**JULY 22:** Social Media Webinar, Rachel Adler, Arch Street Communication

**JULY 22:** The Neuroscience of Equity in Complex Decision-Making—Part 2

**JULY 29:** 40th Anniversary Event Panel

## AUGUST

**AUGUST 20:** Book Club Meeting #5, Anne Patrone, Arup

**AUGUST 25:** Emerging Women Leader Webinar Series—Cutting Edge Practices for Strengthening Your Corporate Women's Network

**AUGUST 26:** WTS-NJ Interactive Virtual Monthly Mixer—Women's Equality Day

**AUGUST 26:** Learn from a Leader Series, Porie Saikia-Eapen, Director, Environmental Sustainability and Compliance at the MTA

## SEPTEMBER

**SEPTEMBER 1:** Learn from a Leader Series, Gillian Blake, Principal, Infrastructure at Arup

**SEPTEMBER 16:** 11th Annual Transportation Trivia Event

**SEPTEMBER 23:** Learn from a Leader Series, Shanique Holmes, Diversity and Inclusion Leader at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

**SEPTEMBER 23:** WTS-NJ Interactive Virtual Monthly Mixer—Hispanic Heritage Month

**SEPTEMBER 29 & 30:** WTS-GNY/PANYNJ Women's Council Emerging Women Leaders Webinar Series

## OCTOBER

**OCTOBER 1:** WTS-NJ—Systemic Racism and Transportation—A national conversation with AASHTO

**OCTOBER 20:** WTS-NJ—Addressing Systemic Racism in Transportation—A NJ-Based discussion at NJ TransAction

**OCTOBER 22:** 2020 Annual Gala

# WTS-GNY 2020 Scholarship Recipients

## LEONARD BRAUN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Diana Ramirez-Rios

**Diana Ramirez-Rios** is a Ph.D. candidate in Transportation Engineering and research assistant at Rensselaer Polytechnic

Institute (RPI). She received her B.S.-M.S. in Industrial Engineering from Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, Colombia. Her research interests are in Disaster Response Logistics and Urban Freight Transportation. Her dissertation work focuses on facility location and allocation models for the distribution of relief supplies in post-disaster environments. Ramirez-Rios has been a member of WTS for four years and was a founding member of the first WTS student chapter at RPI. In the WTS-RPI student chapter, she served on the board as secretary/treasurer (2017-2018); vice president (2018-2019); and president (2019-2020). She also is a student member of the Disaster Response, Emergency Evacuations & Business Continuity Committee at the Transportation Research Board; member of the Minority Issues Forum of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences; and member of the Latin American Chapter of the Production and Operations

Management Society. Ramirez-Rios is a fellow of the ENO Future Leaders in Transportation. She is part of the MIT CEE Rising Stars alumni (2019 Class). In addition, she was on the team of finalists for the 2017 Franz Edelman Award, which developed the Off-hour Delivery Program in New York City. In 2015, Ramirez-Rios was designated as a Colciencias Scholar by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation in her native Colombia.

## S. DAVID ALI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*This scholarship is in memory of S. David Ali, the founder of Infra Tech Engineering, a traffic engineer who achieved great heights through relentless dedication and absolute commitment to hard work and excellence.*



Srushti Rath

**Srushti Rath** is a Ph.D. candidate at New York University (NYU) Tandon School of Engineering and a research assistant at the C2SMART Tier 1 University Transportation Center. She holds a M.S. in Transportation Planning and Engineering from NYU. Her interest lies in leveraging operations research, machine learning, and supply-demand modeling to develop effective strategies for infrastruc-

ture planning, logistics and operations of emerging transportation systems (e.g., urban air mobility). Prior to attending NYU, she served as an assistant executive engineer in the housing and urban development department, Government of Odisha (India). She was involved in the country's flagship smart city program. During summer 2019, Rath was a data scientist intern at Uber in San Francisco. She worked on pricing strategies for the company's upcoming air taxi service. Witnessing the development of emerging transportation technologies and the integration challenges faced by agencies in a multimodal transportation environment, Rath's goal is to provide sustainable, data-driven and intelligent solutions.

## LEADERSHIP LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP



Sofia Duran

**Sofia Duran** is a second-year graduate student focusing on Transportation Planning and Engineering at New York University Tandon School of Engineering. Currently, she is a full-time traffic designer at VHB's New York City office, where she is an integral part of the Hunts Point Access Project. On this design-

# WTS-GNY 2020 Scholarship Recipients

continued

build project, Duran uses design and MicroStation skills to create work zone traffic control plans. In addition to her studies and job, she is a co-chair of WTS-GNY's Transportation YOU Committee; a mentor in the Big Brother Big Sister Program; a member of the ITE Mentorship Committee; and the office leader of IDEAL, VHB's employee resource group focused on promoting inclusiveness and equity.

## MOLITORIS LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDERGRADUATES



**Odette Dominguez** will be entering her senior year as a Civil Engineering and Mathematics major at Manhattan

College. Since her sophomore year, she has worked as a researcher under the guidance of Dr. Daniel Hochstein to evaluate the effectiveness of using recycled oils as rejuvenators to lower the viscosity of aged asphalt and reverse the harmful effects of oxidation to restore the binder's original properties. Dominguez presented her work at the Summer Research Showcase at Manhattan College in September 2019 and the Sigma Xi Virtual Student Scholars Symposium this past May. This summer, she

interned at RAD Engineers and Consultant PC. She was assigned to the construction management team, where she reviewed and processed work schedules; coordinated and monitored project tasks; and reviewed engineering deliverables to initiate appropriate corrective actions for the Henry Hudson Bridge East Approach Reconstruction Project.

## SUSAN MISZKOWICZ MEMORIAL UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AND TRANSPORTATION YOU HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP



**Helena Oiwa** is a rising freshman entering the School of Engineering at Cornell University this fall. As a Civil Engineering major

with an interest in the environment at Brooklyn Technical High School, Oiwa had the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica to study tropical biodiversity conservation last summer. She was a sophomore as well as intern at George Ranalli Architect through the NYC Dept. of Education Career and Technical Education Internship program. This summer, she again served as an intern at George Ranalli Architect. Oiwa plans on majoring in Civil Engineering and minoring in Environmental Engineering. ■

# Galas from Past Years

## 2007 GALA



From left: WTS-GNY President Felice Farber, MTA Executive Director Elliot Sander and WTS-GNY Woman of the Year, Susan Kupferman.



From left: New Jersey Turnpike Authority attendees Jean Laird, who is the WTS-GNY Programs Co-Chair (NJ); Gail Anderson; Thomas Sobe; Nellia Shakhmina; and Ana Tatoris.



From left: Ashok Kothari, PB, NYCDOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan and Anita Macaluso, PB.



From left: MTA Board Member Susan Metzger, Martha Walther, MTA Bridges & Tunnels Authority, and Sandra Lautenberg, Trueform.



From left: WTS International Board Member L. Dedi Gongga and WTS-GNY Advisory Board Member Sam Schwartz.



From left: WTS-GNY President Felice Farber, Immediate Past President Pippa Woods and WTS-GNY Program Committee Co-Chair (NY) Catherine Hess.

## 2008 GALA



From left: WTS-GNY Woman of the Year Susan Hayes and WTS-GNY Advisory Board Member Deborah Wathen-Finn.



From left: John Dionisio of AECOM, NY Building Congress President Richard Anderson, and MTA Executive Director Elliot Sander.



From left: Victoria Cross-Kelly of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey; Pippa Woods, WTS-GNY past president; Marcia Shapiro, CH2M Hill; and Felice Farber, WTS-GNY immediate past president.



From left: WTS-GNY Advisory Board member Stephanie Pinson; Alexandra DePrete, Gilbert Tweed Associates, and Sandra Lautenberg, Trueform.



Members of NJ Transit enjoying the dinner.

## 2009 GALA



From left: WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan, Woman of the Year Susan Bass Levin and PANY&NJ Executive Director Christopher Ward.



From left: WTS-GNY Advisory Board Member Sandra Lautenberg; WTS Foundation President Pippa Woods; WTS international Board Member L. Dedi Gongga; former WTS-GNY president Maxine Finkelstein; WTS-GNY Immediate Past President Felice Farber; and incoming WTS-GNY President Marcia Shapiro.



From left: WTS-GNY Newsletter Committee Chair Daniella Bernett (STV); Eileen Colleran, STV; and WTS-GNY Accreditation Committee Co-Chair Linda Travis.



From left: WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan; scholarship winners Daphne Cui, Tra Vu and Nayibe Perez; and WTS-GNY Scholarship Committee Chair LeAnn Waletzko.



From left: David Strong, Booz Allen Hamilton, and Kenneth Bobetsky, William Byrne and Allison Agliardo, all of David Evans and Associates.



From left: WTS-GNY Annual Dinner Award Committee Co-Chairs Claudia Haskins and Lisa Pompei.

## 2010 GALA



From left: NJ Transit Executive Director James Weinstein and 2010 Woman of the Year Pippa Woods.



From left: WTS International President and CEO Marcia Ferranto; WTS-GNY President Marcia Shapiro; and WTS Foundation Director Diane James.



The 2010 Scholarship recipients, from left: Heather Diaz; Elisabeth Wooten; Diniece Peters; and Victoria DeLouise.



From left: WTS 2011 Woman of the Year Joan McDonald; WTS-GNY President Marcia Shapiro; and Macro Associates President Mary Ann Crotty.

## 2011 GALA



From left: NJDOT Commissioner James Simpson; NYCDOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan; NJ Transit Executive Director James Weinstein; and Mayer Horn, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.



From left: Scholarship winner Esther Dornhelm and WTS-GNY Scholarship Committee Chair LeAnn Waletzko.



From left: Elliot Sander, AECOM; Woman of the Year Joan McDonald; and LIRR President Helena Williams.

## 2012 GALA



From left: WTS-GNY President Mary K. Murphy; Woman of the Year Susan Baer; and PANY&NJ Executive Director Patrick Foye.



From left: NYSDOT Commissioner Joan McDonald served as a special guest host.



NJT Executive Director James Weinstein expressed his support for WTS-GNY and the scholarship fund.



From left: NYCT Senior Vice President of Capital Programs and Chief Engineer Fred Smith; Hilary Ring, MTA; Craig Stewart, NYCT.



From left: Scholarship Winner Staci Haber; WTS-GNY Scholarship Committee Chair Ellen Zielinski; Scholarship Winner Marissa Peragine; and WTS-GNY President Mary K. Murphy.



From left: MTA COO Nuria Fernandez; Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Linda Kleinbaum; and WTS-GNY President Mary K. Murphy.

# 2013 GALA



From left: NYSDOT Commissioner Joan McDonald; Woman of the Year Helena Williams; WTS-GNY President Mary K. Murphy.



From left: WTS-GNY Vice President (NY) Linda Travis; Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Catherine Sweeney; WTS-GNY Advisory Board member Deborah Wathen Finn; WTS-GNY President Mary K. Murphy.



From left: NJDOT Commissioner James Simpson; Woman of the Year Helena Williams; former MTA COO Nuria Fernandez.



From left: WTS-GNY Advisory Board member Porie Saikia-Eapen; MTA Capital Construction President Michael Horodniceanu; and WTS-GNY Immediate Past President Marcia Shapiro.



From left: 2014 Woman of the Year Veronique "Ronnie" Hakim and WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff).



From left: Penny Eickemeyer, University Transportation Research Center; WTS-GNY Scholarship Committee Chair Keri Cibelli (AKRF); the scholarship winners; NYCDOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg.

# 2014 GALA



From left: MTA Bridges & Tunnels President Jim Ferrara; MTA Chairman Thomas Prendergast; WTS-GNY Director-At-Large Rena Barta (Jacobs); Lee Sander, HAKS; Metro-North Railroad President Joseph Giulietti; MTA Capital Construction President Michael Horodniceanu; LIRR President Patrick Nowakowski.



From left: NYCDOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg; NYSDOT Commissioner Joan McDonald; WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (Parsons Brinckerhoff); NJ Transit Board Member Flora Castillo.

## 2015 GALA



From left: WTS International President Beverly Swaim-Staley; NJ Transit Executive Director Veronique Hakim; WTS-GNY President Beth DeAngelo (WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff); Woman of the Year Polly Trottenberg; National Infrastructure Advisory Council Member Joan McDonald; WTS International Board Member & PANY&NJ COO Stephanie Dawson.



From left: NJ Transit Executive Director Veronique Hakim; MTA Board Member Susan Metzger; Metro-North Railroad President Joseph Giuletti.



Woman of the Year Polly Trottenberg (center) with the 2015 scholarship winners.



From left: LIRR President Patrick Nowakowski; MTA Vice Chairman Fernando Ferrer; MTA Capital Construction President Michael Horodniceanu; MTA Chairman Thomas Prendergast; New York Building Congress President Richard Anderson.

## 2016 GALA



From left: NYCDOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg; Woman of the Year Karen Rae; WTS-GNY President Polina Knaster (HDR).



PANY&NJ Director of Port Commerce Dept. Molly Campbell (center) and WTS-GNY President Polina Knaster (second from right) with the 2016 scholarship winners.



From left: Joan McDonald (National Infrastructure Advisory Council); Robert Dennison (VHB); WTS-GNY Advisory Board Member Deborah Wathen Finn (The Wathen Group); Steve Brunner (Cubic).



From left: Maxine Finkelstein (Interactive Elements); WTS International Vice Chair Maggie Walsh; WTS International Chair Diane Woodward Jones; WTS-GNY President Polina Knaster (HDR).



From left: MTA Bridges & Tunnels President Donald Spero; MTA Capital Construction President Michael Horodniceanu; MTA Executive Officer, Operations James Ferrara; MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas Prendergast.

## 2017 GALA

From left: NYCDOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg; Woman of the Year Mary K. Murphy; Richard Roberts, NJ Transit; and WTS-GNY President Polina Knaster (HDR).



Woman of the Year Mary K. Murphy (center) with the Scholarship recipients.



From left: MTA Chairman Joseph Lhota and Woman of the Year Mary K. Murphy.



From left: Peter Peyser (Peyser Associates LLC); Christopher Boylan (General Contractors Association); and Paul Wyckoff (NJ Transit).



From left: Deborah Hyman (New York City Transit); Woman of the Year Mary K. Murphy; Daniella Bennett (STV); WTS-GNY Director-at-Large Ani Toncheva (Wilson Ihrig); and Deirdre Harvey (New York City Transit).

## 2018 GALA



WTS-GNY President Alexa Gangemi (HNTB) and Woman of the Year Catherine Rinaldi.



From left: WTS-GNY President Alexa Gangemi (HNTB); MTA Managing Director Veronique Hakim; Woman of the Year Catherine Rinaldi; Lysa Scully, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.



The WTS-GNY Special Events Committee, from left: Jane Huang (Jacobs); Fiona Robe (New York City Transit); Sarah Colker (Parsons); Chair Desiree Gazzo (HNTB); Pamella Daley (MTA); WTS-GNY Board Member Beth Zall (WSP); Daniella Bennett (STV); Julie Polak (Sam Schwartz); Christyn Binder (B. Thayer); Gabriela Kappes (WSP); and Aviva Laurenti (Sam Schwartz).



MTA Managing Director Veronique Hakim (far left) and Woman of the Year Catherine Rinaldi (center) with the Scholarship recipients.



Woman of the Year Catherine Rinaldi and the employees of MTA Metro-North Railroad.



NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti was a special guest host.

# 2019 GALA



From left: WTS-GNY President Alexa Gangemi (HNTB) and Woman of the Year Denise Berger



From left: WTS-GNY President Alexa Gangemi (HNTB) and Zoë Davidson, general counsel at Milstein Properties, with the WTS Scholarship winners.



From left: WTS-GNY President Alexa Gangemi (HNTB); Woman of the Year Denise Berger; Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Executive Director Rick Cotton; and Zoë Davidson, general counsel at Milstein Properties.



From left: WTS-GNY Director-At-Large Portia Henry, LaTisha Smith, Rochelle Joyner and Earlyne Alexander, all of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.



From left: Lisa Thompson, HNTB; Woman of the Year Denise Berger; and WTS International Board Member Flora Castillo



From left: MTA Chief Development Officer Janno Lieber and Chris Boylan, General Contractors Association.



From left: WTS-GNY Special Events Committee Co-Chairs Sarah Colker (Parsons) and Desiree Gazzo (HNTB), and Pratima Poplai, Parsons.



From left: Margaret Newman, Arup, and Emily Gallo, HNTB.



From left: Lisa Santoro, Graham Paton and Eilika Podack, all of LTK Engineering Services

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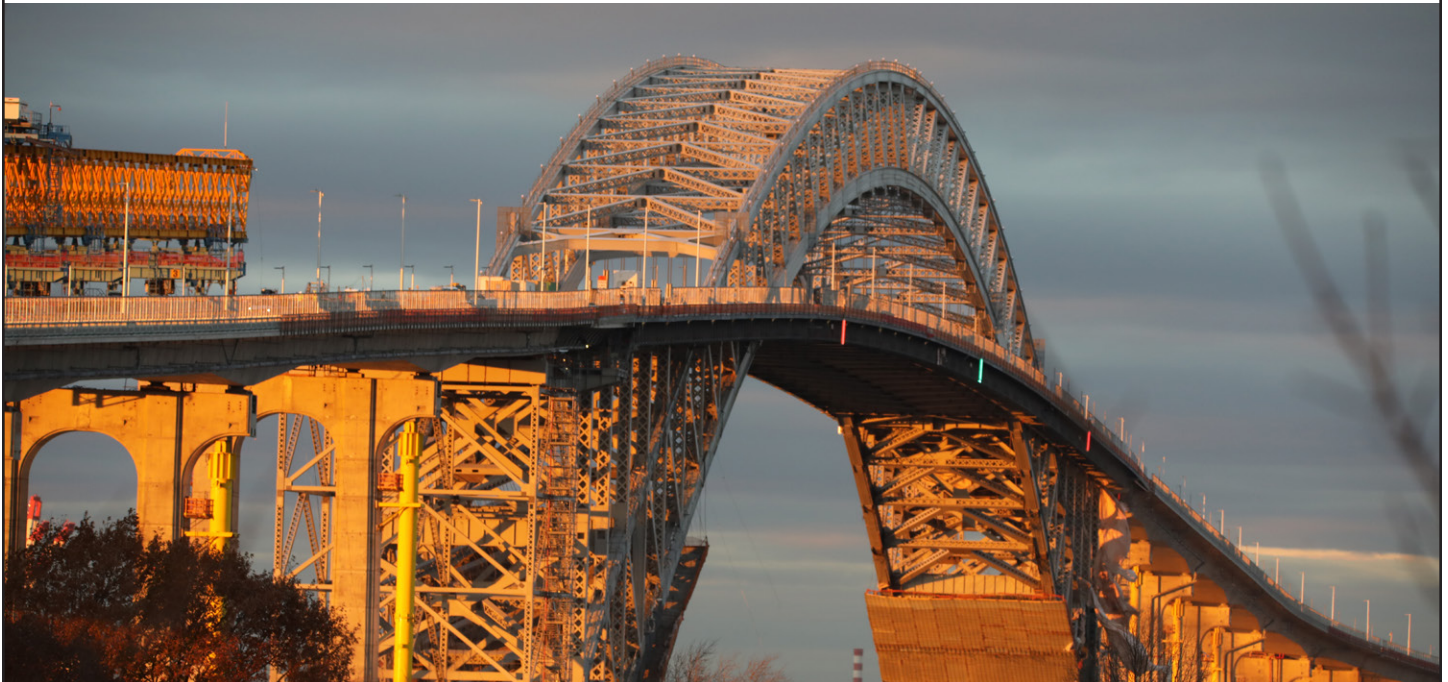


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*Congratulations to Clarelle DeGraffe,  
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*Director of Rail Transit and General Manager of PATH  
The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey*

*and all the 2020 Scholarship winners*

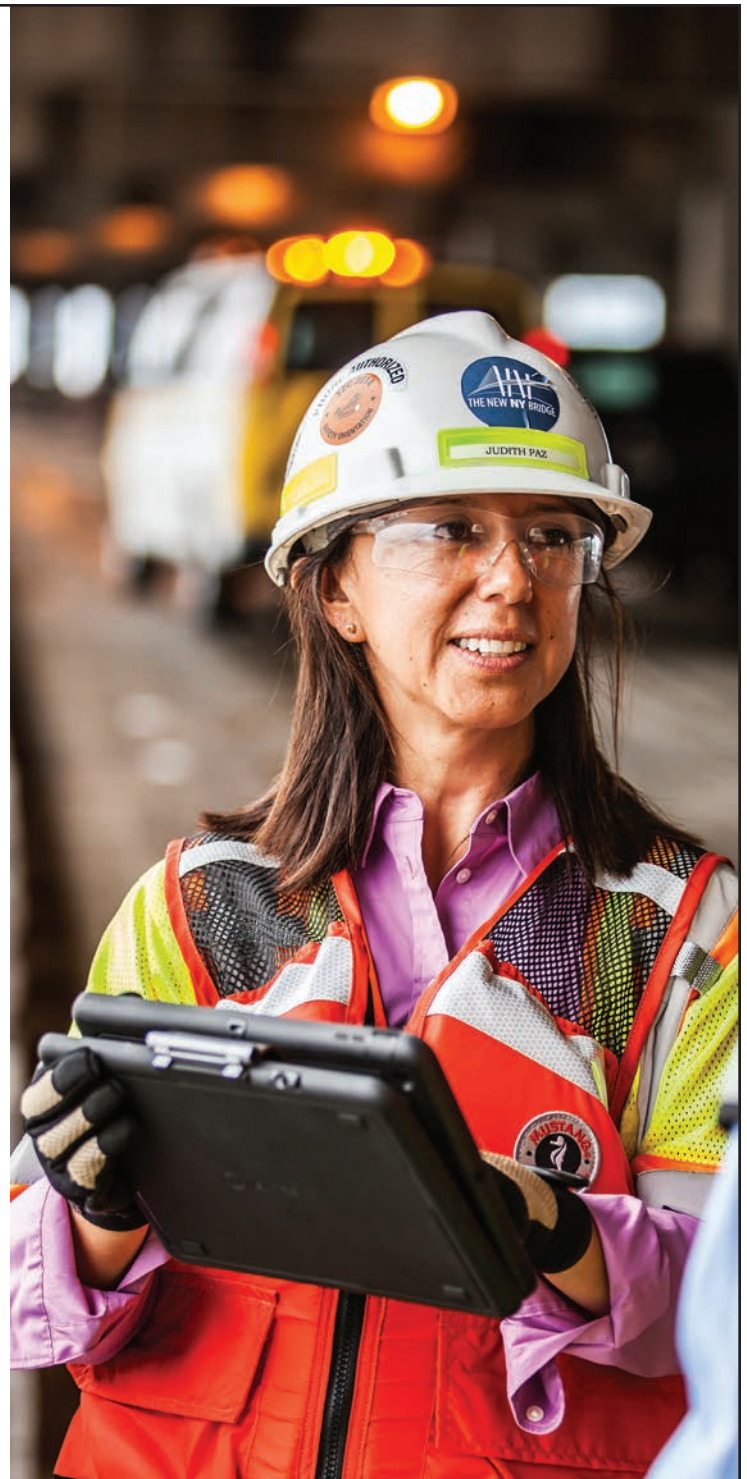


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AND CHERYL MCKISSACK DANIEL!**



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**Congratulations to Ms. Clarelle DeGraffe, Director of Rail Transit and General Manager of PATH at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey as the WTS-GNY 2020 Woman of the Year.**

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The General Contractors Association of New York  
Congratulate the honoree  
Clarelle DeGraffe, Woman of the year  
Director of Rail Transit and General Manager of PATH at the Port Authority  
of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) at the  
**WTS-GNY 2020 Gala**



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# CLARELLE DEGRAFFE

DIRECTOR OF RAIL TRANSIT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF PATH, PANYNJ



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AECOM congratulates Clarelle DeGraffe, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, Director of Rail Transit and General Manager of PATH, on receiving this year's WTS-GNY 2020 Woman of the Year.

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Connect with Keri Cibelli, WTS-GNY President, at [kcibelli@akrf.com](mailto:kcibelli@akrf.com) for more information.

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**Congratulations to WTS-GNY's Woman  
 of the Year, PATH's Director of Rail  
 Transit and General Manager,  
 Clarelle DeGraffe!**



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Honorable Ray LaHood Award  
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WTS-GNY would like to thank all of the 2020 nominations, including Dewberry for nominating our Woman of the Year.

Nominations due by December 11, 2020.

<https://www.wtsinternational.org/chapters/greater-new-york/chapter-awards>



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