



Preservation League of New York State  
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**UNITED NATIONS AND SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON,  
ELIZABETH BARLOW ROGERS, TO BE HONORED  
AT PILLAR OF NEW YORK GALA**

ALBANY, NY – September 4, 2013 – The Preservation League of New York State will present its most prestigious commendation, the Pillar of New York Award, to two honorees at the 2013 Pillar of New York Awards gala on October 30 at the United Nations in New York City.

Since 1992 the Preservation League has presented its Pillar of New York Award to individuals and organizations whose work in the field of historic preservation makes them role models for others throughout the state and nation.

Under the leadership of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the **United Nations** has embarked on a historic multi-phase restoration. Completed in 1952 on a 17-acre site along the East River, the United Nations Headquarters is an International Style landmark owing its design to Le Corbusier, Oscar Niemeyer, and Wallace Harrison. After years of intensive use, its buildings – including the soaring Secretariat building and the domed General Assembly building – were suffering from inefficient and outdated systems and in need of restoration. Through the Office of the Capital Master Plan, the United Nations' buildings, finishes and works of art are being returned to their mid-century splendor. By respecting the intentions of the original architects, the United Nations has demonstrated that a modern landmark can be renewed to create a safe and sustainable work environment while continuing to play a vital role in the world's future.

As the founding president of the Central Park Conservancy, **Elizabeth Barlow Rogers** has left an indelible mark on New York's most important cultural landscape, the Olmstead and Vaux-designed Central Park. Under her leadership, the park's crumbling infrastructure, deteriorating structures, and barren public spaces have been returned to the welcoming gathering spots, verdant fields and forests, and lush gardens envisioned by its creators. Since 1980, the Conservancy's public-private partnership with the City of New York has become a model for

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others throughout the country. Its success is illustrated by more than 40 million people who visit the restored Central Park each year. Now, as president of the Foundation for Landscape Studies, Betsy continues to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of place in people's lives through her many books and studies of cultural landscapes, gardens, parks, and cities.

Each year the League presents The Pillar of New York Award to those who have demonstrated a keen understanding of the value of New York's historic resources by taking extraordinary actions to protect, preserve, and promote those assets. Tickets for the black tie gala start at \$750 for individuals, and tables of 10 are available starting at \$10,000. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Preservation League at 518-462-5658 x11.

Past honorees of the League's Pillar of New York Award include Nicholson & Galloway, Inc. and Building Conservation Associates, Inc. for their roles in restoring many of New York's landmark properties; Paul LeClerc, President Emeritus of the New York Public Library; Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP of New York City; Matthew Bender IV of Albany; the Pell Family for their leadership in the preservation of Fort Ticonderoga and its surroundings; the Pratt Family for the founding and preservation of the Pratt Institute Campus; Tiffany & Co. and The Tiffany & Co Foundation; preservation advocates Connie and David Clapp; Phyllis Lambert, the film *Citizen Lambert: Joan of Architecture*, and its director, Teri Wehn Damisch; Southampton Town Councilman Dennis Suskind; Governor George E. Pataki; developer Frank J. Sciame; Ronald Lauder; the Honorable James R. Houghton; Mrs. Vincent Astor; Peggy and David Rockefeller; architect Hugh Hardy; and Jane Forbes Clark. The League has also previously honored the Leon Levy Foundation and its trustees Shelby White and Elizabeth B. Moynihan; William S. Beinecke, Chairman and Director of the Prospect Hill Foundation; Dia:Beacon, Riggio Galleries; LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust and the Mertz Gilmore Foundation.

The Preservation League of New York State invests in people and projects that champion the essential role of preservation in community revitalization, sustainable economic growth, and the protection of our historic buildings and landscapes. It leads advocacy, economic development, and education programs all across the state. As the State's preservation leader, the League seeks to recognize and applaud individuals, organizations and businesses which understand the value of our historic resources and have taken extraordinary actions to protect, preserve and promote those assets.