



HONORARY CHAIRS

John J. Giardino
Samuel P. Granieri

**BUFFALO NIAGARA
ALL-AMERICA CITY
COMMITTEE**

Joan Broderick
Christine Carr
Joseph P. DeBergalis Jr.
Alforna H. Evans
Jerry Flaschner
Andrew Freeman
Philip L. Haberstro
Stacy Hartley
Beth Holleran
Patricia Jensen
Thomas Jones
Stanley Keysa
Joe McCoy
Suzanne Novelli
Art Ray
Shane Stephenson
Lyle Toohey
Dale Zuchlewski

**CIVIC EMPOWERMENT
AWARD HONOREES 2002**

- *Carnival in the Park
- *Erie County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program
- *F.A.T.H.E.R.S.
- *future leaders network
- *League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara Educational Campaign on the costs of Urban Sprawl
- *Moving In Faith
- *mudpies children's museum
- *The Parent-Child Connection
- Niagara Arts & Cultural
- *Center/SOS, Inc.
- *WNED's Commitment to Community Engagement

**CIVIC EMPOWERMENT
AWARD HONOREES 2001**

- *CASA Caregiver Education Program
- *Computers For Children, Inc.
- *Downtown Buffalo 2002!
- *Elderly Crime Victims Assistance Program
- *Fruitbelt Friendly Neighborhood Block Club Beautification Project
- *Herd About Buffalo
- *Kidsvention 2000
- *National Statler Center for Careers in Hospitality Service
- *The Historic Palace Theatre, Inc.
- *YWCA Institute for Public Leadership (IPL)

UPDATED MEDIA RELEASE

Date: May 30, 2002
To: All Erie-Niagara Media
For: Immediate Release
From: Phil Haberstro
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BUFFALO NIAGARA REGION IS ALL-AMERICA CITY FINALIST!

Buffalo, New York—May 28, 2002- The Buffalo Niagara Region is among 30 finalists for the 2002 All-America City Award, which will be announced by the National Civic League on June 15 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Ten communities will be awarded the All-America City designation during the 53rd annual Nation-wide effort to recognize successful collaborations among citizens, government, businesses and not-for-profit sectors. Greater Buffalo (the City of Buffalo and Erie County) previously earned the lifetime designation in 1996.

Buffalo Niagara, which was a 2001 finalist, built its 2002 entry around the achievements of three initiatives: the Materials Reuse Project, the State of the Region Project, and Computers For Children organization.

Philip Haberstro of the Wellness Institute and Joan Broderick of Youngstown will lead the regional delegation whose presentation will be judged on community involvement and effectiveness in addressing critical issues.

Delegation participants include Joe McCoy, Andy Freeman and Alforna Evans of the Buffalo Niagara All-America City Committee; Patricia Jensen of the Materials Reuse Project; Dr. Katherine Foster of the State of the Region Project; Christine Carr of Computers For Children, Kathy Benzel from the Buffalo Niagara Convention and Visitors Bureau, Sam Ferraro, Niagara County and sustainability advocate Jay Burney.

Honorary Chairs of the delegation are John J. Giardino, President, and CEO of the Ciminelli Construction Companies, and the Honorable Samuel P. Granieri of the Niagara County Legislature.

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PRESENTERS OF THE CIVIC EMPOWERMENT AWARDS

c/o The Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo • 65 Niagara Square, Room 607, Buffalo, NY 14202 • Phone (716)851-4052 • Fax (716) 851-4309
Visit the Greater Buffalo All America City Webpage at www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/document-246.html

Giardino and Granieri jointly commented “ Each of the projects we are highlighting is a success story that brings a meaningful benefit to our community.” Their individual accomplishments spur positive change, strengthen Buffalo Niagara, and merit national recognition.”

The Materials Reuse Project facilitates direct donations of surplus supplies from businesses for classrooms and not-for-profit organizations. In the past year, 750 tons of materials were distributed, which also removed those materials from the environmental waste stream.

The State of the Region Performance Indicators Project is derived from the research and recommendations of the Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth, housed at the State University of Buffalo. The results focused community action on the health and human services areas.

Computers For Children is a grass –roots community organization dedicated to enhancing learning opportunities by increasing the access of schoolchildren to current computers and information technology. Its target is to assist the area's most needy schools and 2000 computers were distributed in the previous year.

Since 1949 (when the All-America City Competition began) more than 4000 applications have been received by the National Civic League and 400 communities honored. Christopher T. Gates, President of the 108-year-old League, said that the 2002 winners will meet the criteria of “tackling challenges that seem insurmountable and producing positive and tangible results with ingenuity and collaboration.”

National Sponsors of the 2002 All-America City Awards include the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Great Kansas City, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, and the City of Kansas City Missouri. Local sponsorship of the Buffalo Niagara delegation is welcome. Please call 851-4052.

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Contact:

Phil Haberstro, Wellness Institute, (716) 851-4052 (**through June 12**) or at Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City (**June 13-15**) (816) 421-1234.