



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 18, 2017

Contact: Amy Menzer, Executive Director
410 282-0261 office
amy@dundalkusa.org

**DUNDALK RENAISSANCE CORPORATION NAMES 2018
DUNDALK RENAISSANCE MILESTONE AWARDS HONOREES**

The Dundalk Renaissance Corporation (DRC), a non-profit community development corporation, was founded in 2001 to mobilize stakeholders to invest in greater Dundalk's neighborhoods, economy and quality of life. The Renaissance Milestone Awards were established to recognize the contributions of the many people and institutions that help make this revitalization possible. DRC is pleased to announce the honorees for the 9th Dundalk Renaissance Milestone Awards event:

The "**Renaissance Cornerstone Award**," will be presented to **Tradepoint Atlantic** in recognition of their work to rebrand the Sparrows Point Peninsula, plan for a more vibrant future, bring jobs for Dundalk's next generation, and communicate with the community on their progress in a regular and meaningful way.

Three "**Renaissance Milestone Awards**" will also be presented by the DRC to community leaders for their roles in nurturing Dundalk's healthy and vibrant future:

- **Jessica Lilli** – for her leadership as President of the Dundalk Elementary Parent Teacher Association (PTA). She has organized fellow parents and helped strengthen partnerships between parents, teachers and school administrators to improve education. Together, they successfully advocated to the school system and elected officials for a new Dundalk Elementary school, scheduled to open in August 2019.
- **Michael Andy** – for his dedication to creating the Train Garden for the Dundalk-Patapsco Neck Historical Society (DPNHS) for the last eighteen years. His efforts have created a holiday destination for young and old in our Historic Main Street, and helped raise funds for DPNHS. He is also actively involved in making other Dundalk events happen including the 4th of July Parade and Defenders Day.
- **Rob Zacherl** – Rob is President of the Wells McComas Citizens Improvement Association, and has lead efforts to highlight the area's contributions to the War of 1812 and address livability issues involving zoning, the environment, and disruptive businesses. He is also actively involved in his local parish community, and has helped the parish school raise money through various fundraisers. He is also the President of the Last Call Athletic Club that Sponsors high school scholarships and raises money for needy children and programs in the community.

We are also presenting four **2018 Renaissance Gemstone Awards** to four students who have made a difference in their communities. The Gemstone Awardees will be announced in the upcoming month.

"Our honorees demonstrate the wide range of ways that people and institutions make Dundalk a better place for us all. I am so heartened and inspired by their example," said Executive Director Amy Menzer. Nominations for this year's awards were solicited from the public through the Dundalk Eagle, DRC's Facebook page, DRC's Instagram, website, and email newsletter.

All are welcome to honor this year's awardees at the DRC's Renaissance Milestone Celebration on Friday evening, **March 23rd, 2018, 5-9pm at the Sparrows Point Country Club**, 919 Wise Avenue in Dundalk. Seats are \$75 each or \$750 for a table of ten. **For reservations to the celebration**, please contact Chris at 410-282-0261 or chris@dundalkusa.org, or make checks payable to DRC, P.O. Box 9276 Dundalk, MD 21222.