

Aging: Embracing the Journey, Shaping the Future

51st Annual Conference of the State Society on Aging of New York

Monday, September 30 – Tuesday, October 1, 2024 The Gideon Putnam Hotel 24 Gideon Putnam Road Saratoga Springs, New York 12866



51st Annual Conference of the State Society on Aging of New York

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Dear Colleagues:

The State Society on Aging of New York (SSA) is proud to host our 51st annual conference!

Many of us are still adjusting to a "new normal" following the numerous historic events of the past few years. This year, our conference theme is *Aging: Embracing the Journey, Shaping the Future.* This theme recognizes the challenges faced by our older adults and providers and considers how we can make positive changes to move forward.



Our conference organizers, christian gonzález-rivera and Dr. Janna Heyman have assembled an exciting program that features outstanding speakers and workshops on a range of topics focused on this year's theme. Many of these sessions highlight the needs of unique and underserved populations, the evolving roles of caregivers and communities, and the changes in policies and programs that encourage flexibility and resilience for older adults and caregivers.

We are delighted to offer a thought-provoking Town Hall, as well as the opportunity to celebrate International Day of Older Persons with a panel on diversity and universal human rights.

We offer special thanks to our SSA Board, immediate past president Dr. Jackie Berman, and to this year's award recipients for their dedication to scholarship, activism, and advocacy for our older adult community.

Best wishes for a wonderful conference! We look forward to seeing you in beautiful Saratoga Springs!

Warmly,

Danielle D. Gagne, President, State Society on Aging of New York

Monday, September 30, 2024

<u>8:00 – 9:30 am – Breakfast</u>

9:00 - 9:20 am - Welcome Remarks

christian gonzález-rivera and Janna Heyman Co-chairs, SSA Program Committee

<u>9:25 - 10:40 am – SESSION A</u>

A1: Health Technology

Aging 2014-2024 Telehealth Intervention Programs for Seniors: The First Decade Colette Phipps, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services Jennifer Schwartz-Crawford, Westchester County DSPS

Creation of a Health Aging Technology Center at a Community-Based Older Adult Center

Dozene Guishard, Carter Burden Network

A2: Health and NYS LandscapeRedInnovations in Aging: How NYS is Changing the LandscapeBecky Preve, Association on Aging in New YorkGreg Olsen, NYS Office for the Aging

Aging Without Hunger in NYC

Jeanette Estima, Citymeals on Wheels Tomino Fraser, Citymeals on Wheels

A3: Multigenerational Innovations

New Innovations in Intergenerational Care Janna Heyman, Fordham University Linda White-Ryan, Fordham University Jackie Berman, Social Worker Tobi Abramson, Psychologist

GENuine Connections – A Virtual, Intergenerational Program Resource Shai Rosenfeld, DOROT

Gallery

Orenda

Blue

Orenda

Monday, September 30, 2024

<u>10:45 - 12:00 pm - SESSION B</u>

B1: Mindfulness

Mature Motivational Mindfulness
Derek Tice-Brown, Fordham University
Janna Heyman, Fordham University
Colette Phipps, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services
Henry Davis, Fordham University
JoAnne McMahon, Fordham University
Laura Sutter, Fordham University

The Tea Study: Examining the feasibility of a Culturally based, Intergenerational Mindfulness Intervention for Chinese Older Adults in NYC

Keith Chan, Hunter College Isabel Ching, Hunter College

B2: Palliative Care

Health Equity Across the Life Space: From Birthing to Brain Health and Palliative Care Mary Beth Morrissey, Yeshiva University Judith L. Howe, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Roles for Social Workers in Providing Palliative Care for Securing Comfort Nicole Lynch, Lehman College

B3: Innovations in Aging

Embracing the Journey: Creative Arts and Aging Marikay Capasso, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services

From Church Basement to State-of-the-Art Facility: The transformation of an Older Adult Center Bay Ridge, Brooklyn

Todd Fliedner, Bay Ridge Center Judith Grimalbi, Bay Ridge Center Aubrey Balcom, Bay Ridge Center Joy Scott, Bay Ridge Center Red

Orenda

Blue

<u>12:00 - 1:45 pm</u>

Arches

TOWN HALL DISCUSSION Buffet Lunch and Presentation

The Older Americans Act of 1967 is up for reauthorization in 2026. Hear about current efforts to amend and improve the federal legislation that provides \$2.4 billion for critical services for older Americans across the country.

Moderator

James O'Neal New York State President, AARP

Panelists

Ravi Reddy Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's Office

Robert Blancato

Elder Justice Coalition

Greg Olsen

Acting Director, New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA)

Monday, September 30, 2024

2:00 - 3:15 pm - Session DBlueD1: Age Friendly CommunitiesBlueAge-Friendly Health Systems: Improving Care for Older Adults in NYS
Lance San Souci, The Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS)Shaping Our Future of Aging: Creating the Age-Friendly Communities
We Need to See
David Steitz, Nazareth UniversityD2: Shaping Care and Communities
The Impact of Antisemitism on Holocaust Survivors and Their Older Adult Children

The Impact of Antisemitism on Holocaust Survivors and Their Older Adult Children Dana Marlowe, Fordham University Carole Cox, Fordham University

Faith-Based Organizations: A Roadmap for Resiliency Hilary Forrest, DOROT Jessica Bloom, DOROT

D3: Shaping Care and Communities

Supporting Aging though Housing Choice A Discussion Tool for Policy Collaboration Toward Local Solutions

Orenda

Nancy Berlinger, Hastings Center

Estimates of Loneliness and Ethnically Diverse Adults with Serious Mental Illness in NYC Boroughs: Manhattan, Bronx, and Brooklyn

Karen Fortuna, Dartmouth College
Rebeca Heller, Dartmouth College
Lindsay Leininger, Dartmouth College
Taeho Greg Rhee, Yale University, School of Medicine
Joelle Ferron, Dartmouth College, Geisel School of Medicine
Glyn Elwyn, The Dartmouth Institute
Patrick J. Raue, University of Washington
Jonathan Werlin, The Bridge Inc.

Monday, September 30, 2024

<u>3:30 – 4:45 pm – Session E</u> E1: Addressing Older Adults Needs

Building Cross-Sector Partnerships to Address Health-Related Social Needs and Prevent Avoidable Hospital Admissions

Arielle Basch, JASA Karen Schmalbach, JASA

Advancing the Science: The Latest in Alzheimer's and Dementia Research Erica Salamida, Alzheimer's Association

E2: Innovative Models

Introducing a New Aging Research Center for New York: The New York Retirement and Disability Research Center (NYRDRC)

Ruth K. Finkelstein, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College, CUNY christian gonzález-rivera, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College Mark Brennan-Ing, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College, CUNY

E3: Creating Inclusivity

Diversity Equity & Inclusivity Among NYS Elders - Pilot Program Maria Alvarez, NY Statewide Senior Action Council

COPO's innovation Path for Aging; A Collaborative Blueprint for Creating Inclusive, Age-Friendly Communities

Aasma Mehdi, Council of Peoples Organization

E4: Serving Older Adults

Keeping Seniors in the Loop

Jillian Gorman-King, Town of Hamburg Youth, Recreation, and Senior Services Nicole Ruberto, Town of Hamburg Youth, Recreation, and Senior Services Hilary Pundt, Town of Hamburg Youth, Recreation, and Senior Services

Intersectional Disparities in Healthcare Utilization Among Older Adults: Exploring Gender Differences

Yanjun Dong, University at Albany, SUNY Victoria Rizzo, University at Albany, SUNY Orenda

Geyser

Blue

Red

<u>6:00 – 8:00 pm</u>

Arches

RECEPTION, POSTER SESSION, DINNER, AWARDS, AND SILENT AUCTION

President's Award Helen Evans

Presented by Danielle Gagne Alfred University

Walter M. Beattie Award

Patricia Kolb Lehman College, CUNY

Presented by Linda Elisabeth LaPinta Walter Beattie's daughter

Advocate for Older Adults Award

Jackie Berman NYC Department for the Aging

Presented by James O'Neal New York State President, AARP

> Student Awards Yanjun Dong Lucy Hogan Carla McNulty

Raffle Announcement

Posters

Arches

Centers for All Generations: A Promising Practice Khristel Simmons, Goddard Riverside Susan Matloff-Neves, Goddard Riverside

Live Well & Age Well

Janna Heyman, Fordham University Smita Dewan, CityTech, CUNY Colette Phipps, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services Henry Davis, Fordham University Laura Sutter, Fordham University JoAnne McMahon, Fordham University Jackie Heyde, Fordham University

Home–Delivered Meals: Can Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology Improve Production, Speed Delivery, and Lower Costs Alex Costley, York College, CUNY

Lack of Quality of the Elderly in Long Term Care Facilities Oyindamola Jemilawon, Yeshiva University Chanette Borell, Yeshiva University

Aging & Technology Use: Presenting Essentials of Your Smartphone in Westchester County

Colette Phipps, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services Jennifer Crawford, Westchester County Dept. of Senior Programs and Services

Different Stressors in Senior-Spousal Bereavement; Men Need Community, While Women further Creep Toward Financial Instability Adam Neufeld, Lehman College, CUNY

Posters (continued)

Contributing Factors to Post-Retirement Employment and Life Satisfaction Zhong Wang, Yeshiva University

Comprehensive Models for Home Care Worker Advancement in New York State Amy Robins, PHI

Trauma Informed Approaches to Support the LGBTQIA+ Older Adult Population Pat Precin, Columbia University Phyllis Simon, Columbia University

Addressing Mental Health Challenges in Older Adults: Statistics, Symptom Identification, and Strategies for Effective Treatment Sharon Turnage, Yeshiva University

A Proposal to Increase Undergraduate Enrollment in Gerontology at Alfred University Robert Maiden, Alfred University Danielle Gagne, Alfred University

Aging and Mental Health Theresa Timmons, JASA

Aging in Place with Complex Needs: The NORC Approach Ronald Bruno, Morningside Retirement & Health Services, Inc.

Changing Ageism from the Inside Out: Promoting Positive Self-Perceptions of Aging for Better Health and Longevity Robert Stephens

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

7:00 - 8:00 am - Join us for a morning hike!

8:00 am - 9:30 am - Breakfast

<u>8:45 – 10:00 am – SESSION E</u>

E1: Intergenerational Initiatives

Wisdom for Intergenerational Care Lucy Hogan, Ithaca College

The Promise of Multigenerational and Intergenerational Approaches Susan Matloff-Nieves and Khristel Simmons, Goddard Riverside

E2: Addressing Older Adults Needs

Helping Older Adults at Risk in Their Homes from Extreme Hoarding: Complicated Situations Requiring Careful Planning and Collaboration Kristin P. Bergfeld, BERGFELD's Clearance Services LLC

Breaking Barriers: The Role of Language on End-of-Life Care for Hispanics Carla McNulty, Pace University

E3: Addressing Needs of Older Adults

Are Older LGBTQ+ Older Adults Prepared for Retirement? Mark Brennan-Ing, Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College, CUNY

Inclusion: Grandparent Caregivers and the Important Role of Virtual Support Carole Cox, Fordham University

E4: Education

Orenda

Enrichment of Students' Gerontological Knowledge Through Workshop Content and Community-based Practicum

Pat Kolb and Nicole Lynch, Lehman College

Is One's Personality Immutable After the Age of 30? Maybe: This Is What We Found Robert Maiden, Alfred University

Red

Sun

Geyser

<u>10:15 - 11:30 am</u>

Orenda

WALTER M. BEATTIE, JR. SYMPOSIUM

Walter M. Beattie, Jr., received his M.A. in sociology from the University of Chicago. Through his outstanding contributions and commitment to SSA, he was influential in broadening the conceptualization of aging. The Symposium recognizes these contributions by highlighting the work of SSA members in the field of aging.

Patricia Kolb

Lehman College, CUNY 2024 Beattie Awardee

Celebrating the IDOP and Promoting the UDHR with Multi-Generational Input

James O'Neal, AARP Colette Phipps, Westchester County DSPS Eunice Flemister, Hostos Community College, CUNY

October 1st is recognized globally as the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP), a day designated by the United Nations General Assembly to honor older adults and address the issues affecting their lives. For 14 years, UN NGOs have advocated for a Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), a global framework that includes the rights of older adults.

This session will explore the significance of IDOP and UDHR while engaging students in a program aimed at urging UN members to support a Convention on the rights of older persons. Students will gain historical context, tackle ongoing challenges, and offer feedback and innovative perspectives, providing a valuable opportunity to advocate for older adults' well-being. <u>11:45pm – 12:45 pm</u>

Orenda

KERMIT SCHOOLER SYMPOSIUM

Innovations is Caregiver Support: NYU Langone Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Family Support Program

Overview Mary Mittelman, NYU Langone

The Buddy Program at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine: Sharing the Lived Experience

> Thea Micoli, NYU Langone Mary Mittelman, NYU Langone Peggy Morton, NYU Langone

Innovations in Caregiver Support: NYU Langone Health Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Family Support Program

Mary Mittelman, NYU Langone Amy Harris, NYU Langone Thea Micoli, NYU Langone Carolyn Halpin-Healey, Arts and Minds

Creating Connection: A Person-Centered Art Program for Dementia Caregivers and the People they Care For

> Carolyn Halpin-Healey, Arts and Minds Mary Mittelman, NYU Langone

<u>12:45 – 2:00 pm</u>

Arches

PAST PRESIDENTS' SYMPOSIUM AND LUNCHEON

Rachel Bedard

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

in conversation with

christian gonzález-rivera

Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, Hunter College, CUNY

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

<u>2:15 - 3:15 pm – SESSION G</u> G1: Brain Health

PTSD and Dementia: An Exploration of Brain Health and Trauma-Informed Care Jennifer Reeder, Alzheimer's Foundation

Introducing Healthy Brain, Embedding the Early Identification of Cognitive Impairment Among Older Adults into New York State Area Agencies on Aging Maria Brown, Syracuse University Sharon Brangman, SUNY Upstate Medical University

G2: Social Support and Connections

National Dementia Policy in the U.S. and Netherlands: A Strengths Perspective Molly Bray-Hayes, Albany University

The Stonewall Bridge – Care, Legacy and Chosen Family Paul Nagle, Stonewall Community Development Corporation David Nimmons, Stonewall Community Development Corporation

Client-Reported Benefits of an Age-Specific Cancer Support Group for Older Adults Sarah Tennenhaus, Cancer Care

G3: Wellness

Orenda

Red

Sun

"Whispers of Ancients": Discover your Storyteller, Shaman Roots with Masks, Myths and Mime

Barbara Gregson, Gregson Theater

A Thief in the Night: Poetry as Self-Care Laurie Blackman, Yeshiva University

Cognitive Wellness in Community-Dwelling Older Adults: A Concept Analysis Using an Evolutionary Approach

Eunice Adu-Gyamfi, Pace University

3:15 – 4:00pm – SSA Annual Membership Meeting Sun

SSA Awards

President's Award

Helen Evans

Associate Director, Ardent Solutions

The President's Award recognizes a leader in the field for his/her outstanding service. This year's Award is presented to Helen Evans.

Helen Evans is the Associate Director at Ardent Solutions, a non-profit focused on improving rural community health through education and collaboration. Since 2005, she has led initiatives like Growing Stronger, A Matter of Balance, and the Trauma-Informed Champions program in Allegany County.



Helen's team established the Allegany County Community Partnership on Aging, earning an Age-Friendly Community designation from AARP and partnering with Alfred University in the Age-Friendly University Global Network. She introduced Uniper Cares, connecting homebound older adults with technology, and an Intergenerational Enrichment and Respite Care Program. This fall, her team will launch a monthly Musical Memories Café. Helen is President of the New York State Association for Rural Health's Board of Directors. She holds a bachelor's degree from SUNY Fredonia and is a graduate of the Health Leadership Fellows Program.

Previous President's Award Recipients

Helen Hamlin Neal Lane Msgr. Charles Fahey T. Franklin Williams Patricia Bomba Mary Beth Morrissey Michael Friedman Carter Catlett Williams Mae Carpenter Bob Blancato Ann Marie Cook Lilliam Barrios-Paoli Carol Levine Susan Perlstein Karl Pillemer Mark S. Lachs Beth Finkel Ruth Finklestein

Walter M. Beattie Award

Patricia Kolb

Professor of Social Work, Lehman College, CUNY

The purpose of the Walter M. Beattie Jr. award is to honor a distinguished member of SSA for outstanding contributions to the work of SSA and for commitment to the goals of the State Society. This year's Award is presented to Dr. Patricia Kolb.



Dr. Kolb is an expert in gerontological social work with experience in direct practice, supervision, mentoring, administration, research, and teaching. She

has authored key works, including *Caring for Our Elders: Multicultural Experiences with Social Work Practice* and *Understanding Aging and Diversity: Theories and Concepts.*

She has published articles and book chapters on aging in journals like *Affilia: Feminist Inquiry in Social Work*. She is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and the New York Academy of Medicine, where she served as co-chair of the social work section. She also chaired the Research, Education, and Practice Section of GSA and edited a special issue of *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education*. She is currently co-editing an issue of *Social Work* focused on supervision.

Previous Walter M. Beattie Award Recipients

Ruth Bennett	Theodora G. Jackson	Jurgis Karuza
Msgr. Charles Fahey	Janet Sainer	Marcus Harazin
Neal Bellos	William Lane	Judith L. Howe
Sheldon Tobin	M. Beatty, Jr.	Robert J. Maiden
Evan Calkins	Anna "Honey" Zimmer	Patricia Brownell
Rose Dobrof	Lou Glasse	Janna C. Heyman
Susan Sherman	Patricia Pine	James O'Neal
Marjorie Cantor	John Krout	Mark Brennan-Ing
Pasquale Gilberto	Joanna Mellor	Mary Ann Erickson
Cynthia Stuen	Helen Hamlin	Beverly Horowitz
Barbara Silverstone	Terry Fulmer	Thomas V. Caprio
T. Franklin Williams	Michael Burgess	

Advocate for Older Adults Award

Jackie Berman

Director, Program Evaluation and Research, NYC Department for the Aging

The Advocate for Older Adults Award recognizes a record of planning, policy development, and advocacy work. This year's award is presented to Dr. Jackie Berman.

Dr. Berman is the director of program evaluation and research at NYC Department for the Aging. For three decades, she has focused on integrating mental health services within the aging network.



She has designed and coordinated numerous nationally recognized programs, including the evidence based PROTECT, tailored for depressed elder abuse victims. She developed a health and wellness program that uses game play and group discussions to improve older adults' wellbeing and embedded mental health services in NYC older adult centers. Her programs have won national innovation awards from USAging.

Dr. Berman, a past president of the State Society on Aging of New York, co-authored Depressed Older Adults Education and Screening and co-led the first Elder Abuse Prevalence study in NYS. She holds an MSW and PhD from Columbia University and a BA from the University of Michigan.

Previous Advocate for Older Adults Award Recipients

James Collins Rosie Marie Fagan William Dionne Evelyn Laureano Bobbie Sackman James O'Neal Alejandro Garcia Greg Olsen Robert Blancato Bill Thomas

Donna Corrado Maria Álvarez Laura Whitehorn

Student Awardees

Lucy Hogan

Ithaca College

Lucy Hogan is a Junior pursuing her combined B.S. in Occupational Science and Master of Occupational Therapy Degree at Ithaca College. In addition, she is earning a minor in Aging Studies. Last semester she completed her independent research in gerontology with Dr. Erickson from Ithaca College. Lucy's research brought together intergenerational discussion groups which focused on ideas of wisdom.



Lucy hopes to be an Occupational Therapist for the older adult population. Through spending time with the aging population, Lucy recognizes the special need for Occupational Therapy within this group and hopes to focus her career on attending to their specific needs. Her goal is to provide them the opportunity to live more comfortably as they age.

Yanjun Dong

Albany University

Yanjun Dong is a doctoral student in the School of Social Welfare at the University at Albany, State University of New York. Her research interests are in aging, dementia, the effects of climate change on older people, and elder abuse. Yanjun has been involved in research projects on vital aspects of the aging trend, including health-related concerns, the intricacies of caregiving, elder abuse, and the social and emotional challenges older people face.



Her work aims to contribute to a better understanding of the aging population and to advocate for policies and practices that enhance the well-being of older adults.

Carla McNulty

Pace University

Carla McNulty works as a certified oncology nurse practitioner at Montefiore Medical Center. Her nursing career spans over 15 years. She graduated Magna Cum Laude on dean's list receiving her bachelor's in nursing degree from Lehman College. She received her master's degree from the College of Mount Saint Vincent, and now is pursuing a PhD in nursing at Pace University.



In addition to oncology nursing, her experience includes working in the medical intensive care unit at Saint John's Riverside Hospital, Yonkers, NY and as a clinical instructor at the Cochran School of Nursing. She has received several scholarships including the Audrey Jones Scholarship, Omicron Chi Chi Scholarship, and the Professional Nurses Association of Dutchess/Putnam Scholarship. As a PhD student, her current research area of interest is end-of-life care, specifically palliative care for Hispanics.

On May 7th, 2024, Carla gave an oral presentation of her PhD qualifying exam (integrative review) at the New York Medical Academy: FIRE event. She is passionate about oncology and palliative/hospice care, and wants to create a positive change, especially in the community setting.

Hotel, Registration, and Membership Information

Location. Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa, 24 Gideon Putnam Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. This beautiful, historic hotel is located on the grounds of the Saratoga Spa State Park, which is also home to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center and the historic Roosevelt Baths.

Duration. Monday, September 30, 9:00 am to Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 5:00 pm.

Limited discounted rooms. Please **click here** to receive the discounted rate. (Will open as synxis.com.) To receive the discounted rate, please use discount code KGK92924SSA when booking. Deadline for the hotel discount is **August 30, 2024.**

Requests received after that date will be accepted only based on room and rate availability. All reservations must be accompanied by a first night's room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. If calling, use 519-226-4700 and mention that your reservation is part of the State Society on Aging of New York Annual Conference.

Please register for the conference at www.ssany.org.

Become a member!

Membership in the State Society on Aging of New York entitles you to reduced member rates on registration fees and access to the information sent through our mailing list. Join by accessing the Membership section of our website, www.ssany.org. Membership rates are \$40.00 for professionals, \$15.00 for students/seniors, and \$75 for organizations.

CONFERENCE FEES	Rcd. by 9/15/24	After 9/15/24
Full conference registration		
Professional SSA member	\$250	\$300
Retiree SSA member	\$225	\$275
Non-member	\$325	\$375
Full-time student (SSA member)	\$80	\$100
Full-time student (non SSA member)	\$110	\$130
One-day conference registration		
Professional SSA member	\$140	\$190
Non-member	\$175	\$225
Full-time student (SSA member)	\$60	\$75
Full-time student (non-SSA member)	\$75	\$95



BERGFELD's dedicates this Gold Sponsorship in gratitude for the life of **Dr. Joanna Mellor**, consummate Teacher, Role Model, Mentor at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work, who also served as SSA President.

Joanna truly made a lasting difference in the lives of older adults and their families, as well as her students and colleagues.



We congratulate the State Society on Aging of New York on this 51st Annual Conference and each of the 2024 Honorees



Kristin P. Bergfeld, Owner



Congratulates the Recipients & Student Award Winners of the

51st Annual Conference of the State Society on Aging of New York



Fordham University Henry C. Ravazzin Center on Aging and Intergenerational Studies

> Congratulates Helen Evans Recipient of the 2024 SSA President's Award

Patricia Kolb Recipient of the 2024 Walter M. Beattie Jr. Award

Jackie Berman Recipient of the 2024 Advocate for Older Adults Award

> Student Award Winners Yanjun Dong, MA Lucy Hogan Carla McNulty



...to make it possible for *everyone* to age as well as well as *anyone* can...

Founded in 1974 by Dr. Rose Dobrof, a pioneer in the field of social gerontology, Brookdale is one of the country's first university-based aging research and policy centers.

We congratulate the State Society on Aging for a successful 51st annual conference and Brookdale's director of strategic policy initiatives, **christian gonzález-rivera** for serving as program co-chair this year. We congratulate **Helen Evans**, **Patricia Kolb**, and **Jackie Berman** for their awards. We also congratulate the students who won awards this year!

We are proud that this year's program includes presentations by our research and evaluation director **Mark Brennan-Ing**, christian gonzález-rivera and our executive director, **Ruth K. Finkelstein**.



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Past Presidents of the State Society on Aging of New York

Congratulates

Helen Evans *Recipient of the 2024 SSA President's Award*

Patricia Kolb

Recipient of the 2024 Walter M. Beattie Jr. Award

Jackie Berman Recipient of the 2024 Advocate for Older Adults Award

> Yanjun Dong, MA Lucy Hogan Carla McNulty Student Award Winners



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Jackie Berman Recipient of the 2024 Advocate for Older Adults Award

> Yanjun Dong, MA Lucy Hogan Carla McNulty Student Award Winners



Thank you to SSA for improving the quality of life for older New Yorkers through education, research, service, and advocacy.

CONGRATULATIONS

Recipient of the 2024 SSA President's Award Helen Evans

Recipient of the 2024 Walter M. Beattie Jr. Award Patricia Kolb

Recipient of the 2024 Advocate for Older Adults Award Jackie Berman

> Student Award Winners Yanjun Dong Lucy Hogan Carla McNulty

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