

NUTLEY HALL OF FAME HONOREES ANNOUNCED

The Nutley Hall of Fame Committee has announced that there will be eight persons inducted in 2017, 7 living and one deceased. The initial inductions was in 2003 and on a bicentennial basis thereafter, this being the eighth occasion.

This year's honorees are:

Henry Bunner

The one 2017 posthumous inductee is Henry Bunner who lived in Nutley in the 1800's among a number of artists and writers. Bunner was best known as the editor-in-chief of the then popular Puck magazine which he undertook in 1871. But, far more than that, he was a talented writer, illustrator and cartoonist. Bunner used his satirical pen to target greed and corruption in both parties, as well as other then current public issues. Along with the owners of Puck, he founded the New York Independent Party to foster non-partisan solutions to the nation's problems.

Leonardo Capalbo

A 1996 graduate of Nutley High School, Leonardo Capalbo, has achieved one of the more difficult accomplishments in the entertainment world, namely, leading tenor roles in grand opera. He has a broad and diverse repertoire combined with a rich lyric voice, good looks and stage presence. He has performed with some of the more famous opera personalities in multiple venues throughout the United States and Europe, as well as Brazil. He trained at the Juilliard School of Music and the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California, where he worked closely with the legendary Lena Horne.

Phil Cuzzi

A resident of Nutley for a number of years, Phil Cuzzi has reached the pinnacle of sports officials. After paying his dues in the minor leagues and some early ups and downs in the majors, he has worked steadily as a major league umpire since 2000. This is one of the more high-pressure positions in all of sports, where critical calls have to be made before huge, partisan crowds. While not relevant to his selection, his work on raising funds to fight Lou Gehrig's Disease through the Robert Luongo ALS fund, which he initiated in 2003 is worth noting.

Rena DeAngelo

A 1984 graduate of Nutley High School, Rena DeAngelo, has found an interesting niche in the world of filmdom in which to excel, namely, as a set decorator. She was a shared 2016 nominee for an Academy Award Oscar for her work on the movie Bridge of Spies. In 2008 she shared a Primetime Emmy for her work on an episode of the well-known television drama Mad Men. She has been nominated for several other awards from such as BAFTA, the Art Directors Guild, the Broadcast Film Critics Association, the Online Film and Television Association and the San Francisco Film Critics' Choice.

David Difrancesco

David Difrancesco is a photo scientist, inventor, cinematographer, and photographer. His contributions to the technical aspects of film making are truly outstanding. Most notably was his position as director of the Pixar Photoscience Team at Pixar Animation Studios. He has earned two scientific and engineering technical academy awards and has 16 patents. He is a 1967 graduate of Nutley High School

Tom Evans

Tom Evans is a lifelong resident of Nutley and a 1973 graduate of Nutley High School. A certified public accountant, (CPA), he began his 38-year career at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the world's largest accounting firm, in 1977. With increasingly responsible positions, he became a partner. Eventually he became the chief learning officer, responsible for the corporate education of some 39,000 United States employees. He

initiated many innovative programs beyond the ordinary that made PwC's program the learning standard of the industry. In 2011 his responsibilities expanded internationally, when he was named Development Leader for PwC West Cluster firms across North and South America. His merit was recognized by Corporate Learning Officer Magazine, which featured him on its cover, with an accompanying article, as its 2014 Corporate Learning Officer of the Year.

David Gilbert

A resident of Nutley since 1986, David Gilbert has had a long and illustrious musical career. The holder of a master's degree from the Eastman School of Music, he is a virtuoso flutist and served as the principal member of that instrument with the United States Marine Corp Band. His fame in the musical world was garnered mainly as a conductor. While he conducted many ensembles, most notably he won the 1970 Dmitri Mitropoulos International Conducting Competition, was assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic and was principal conductor of the American Ballet Theatre. From 1980 to 1982 he served as principal guest conductor of the Beijing Central Philharmonic and was instrumental in its rebuilding as the first American musician to hold a position of prominence in China.

Adam LaReau

Adam LaReau is a 1999 graduate of Nutley High School, where, among his athletic achievements, he held four A.A.U. power lifting records for his age group. He was appointed to the United States Merchant Marine Academy where he continued to excel at sports. Based on his persuasive determination, upon graduation in 2002, he was the first Merchant Marine Academy graduate to be accepted into the Navy's SEAL program. He served as a SEAL officer for 11 years, including as a member of the famous Seal Team Six in places such as Africa, Afghanistan and Iraq. During his service, he received two bronze stars, nine service and two combat ribbons and three presidential and one Navy unit citations.

The basic criteria are someone born in Nutley, a resident for at least ten years or a graduate of Nutley High School, who has achieved at the state, national and/or international level such that they become a matter of community pride. The integrity of the process is maintained by having the merits of the candidate determined by a panel of judges consisting of distinguished Nutley citizens acting independently of the committee.

The induction ceremony will be held in the Nutley Public Library on Sunday, November 19, 2017 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. The \$40.00 admission price includes champagne, soft drinks, beer and wine, a selection of gourmet finger foods by Tarik Huggins, desserts and coffee. Checks payable to the "Nutley Hall of Fame Committee" may be sent or delivered to the Nutley Public Library, 93 Booth Drive, Nutley, NJ 07110 Attn: Gioya McRae. Questions may be directed to Sandra Carella at 973-284-4929 (scarella@nutleynj.org) or Tony Iannarone at 973-235-1065 (ajianarone@aol.com)