



Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jim Devine of the New York Container Terminal and Madelyn Wils of Hudson River Park to be Honored as Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's Heroes of the Harbor

Popular "Parade of Boats" for Gala Guests to be Extended for Viewing by the General Public from Hudson River Park

Progress on Harbor Transformation Celebrated Along with the Creation of Harbor Coalition

New York, NY – On Tuesday, October 11, the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance will honor Madelyn Wils, President and CEO of the Hudson River Park Trust, and James J. Devine, President and CEO of the New York Container Terminal at the 2011 Heroes of the Harbor Awards Dinner at the Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers. The 2011 Gala will be chaired by Joan K. Davidson, a longtime environmentalist, public servant and philanthropist, and a 2010 Hero of the Harbor.

Jim Devine, a port leader with a degree in marine biology, is being recognized for the remarkable growth of the New York Container Terminal and the introduction of green technology married with economic development.

"New York's magnificent harbor was the foundation upon which the City of New York was built," said Mr. Devine. "It provided the resources that allowed the City to grow and prosper through world trade. It is totally fitting that the harbor receives the care and nurturing it needs to restore it to the fabulous resource it once was and will be again in the future. I am extremely humbled and pleased to be receiving the recognition from the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance."

This year, [Hudson River Park](#) is being recognized for its landmark design and its role in transforming an important stretch of the New York waterfront for public use. The award will be accepted by Madelyn Wils, who took the helm at the Hudson River Park Trust this past summer, was Executive Vice President of the New York City Economic Development Corporation and one of the architects of the City's new Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, Vision 2020.

"I am honored to receive this award on behalf of the Hudson River Park and want to thank the many community activists, civic leaders and government officials whose tireless work and vision have led to the reinvention of this important stretch of waterfront, which has transformed the west side of Manhattan," said Ms. Wils. "The recreational, environmental and economic benefits are just starting to be realized."

"Each year hundreds of thousands of people and organizations, large and small, are working to realize the world-class potential of our waterways," said MWA President and CEO Roland

Lewis. "The Heroes of the Harbor Awards is our chance to celebrate this work, as well as recognize those who've demonstrated extraordinary leadership in this effort. Madelyn Wils and Jim Devine and the institutions they represent exemplify the best about the resurgence of our harbor. They richly deserve to be honored as waterfront heroes."

This year, for the first time, the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance invites the public to join the fun and enjoy its popular Parade of Boats for free from Hudson River Park as part of its 2011 Gala festivities.

The Boat Parade, held at sunset, features yachts to kayaks and everything in between and will begin at 6 pm. The public can gather on Pier 62 in Hudson River Park to view the maritime spectacle and to hear the narration of the passing boats. With sunset expected at 6:22 pm, the ships will remain briefly at rest near Chelsea Piers – presenting a perfect opportunity for photographs -- before dispersing. The dinner will be held at the Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers, on Pier 61. The evening will also include a performance by the SUNY Maritime Band.

The 2011 Gala will also feature the NY-NJ Harbor Coalition, a bi-state coalition that formed recently to restore and transform our waterways into a world-class harbor and estuary. The MWA is a co-chair of this important campaign focused on securing the federal funding needed to restore wetlands, create urban parks and green our waterfront businesses and neighborhoods.

"We have spent decades studying the area's environment and planning for its recovery, but without the necessary funding these ideas will remain stuck on the drawing board," Lewis, of MWA said. "The Harbor Coalition was created to harness public excitement about the waterfront and to work with stakeholders and elected officials to make these dreams of a 21st Century waterfront into a reality."

The Heroes of the Harbor Awards Dinner is an annual fundraising event benefitting the Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance. Past honorees include Joan Davidson, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Ms. Ann Bittenwieser, the Honorable Adolfo Carrión Jr., and many others.

For details on the MWA's 2011 Gala, including information on tickets, contact Becky Schneider bschneider@waterfrontalliance.org. Details on the Parade of Boats and Gala tickets are also available at: <http://www.waterfrontalliance.org/events/heroes>

MWA is an alliance of over 560 businesses, community and recreational groups, educational institutions, and other stakeholders committed to transforming the New York-New Jersey Harbor and its waterways to make them cleaner and more accessible, a vibrant place to play, learn and work with great parks, great jobs and great transportation for all.

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