



YEARS

Double Discovery

Center

60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

Digital Journal

October 22, 2025

# Elevate Your Performance w/ Broadway Star

## Coleen Sexton

### **Unlock your full potential!**

Whether you're an aspiring artist or a seasoned performer, Coleen brings her expertise to help you refine technique, build confidence, and shine on stage.

- Private one-on-one vocal coaching and performance training for ages 8 and up
- Coaching virtually online
- In-person sessions available in Westfield, NJ

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csexton79@gmail.com



### **Starring roles:**

- Elphaba (Wicked)
- Heidi (Dear Evan Hansen)
- Lucy (Jekyll & Hyde)
- Brooke (Legally Blonde)





**YOU ARE VOICES FOR CHANGE**  
**congratulations to our honorees**

Denise, Duchesne and Khadijah  
for empowering our children through DDC

**a standing ovation**  
to roger lehecka  
for your 60-year inspirational leadership

**thank you**  
magnificent DDC staff members  
for sharing your commitment and dedication

**thunderous applause**  
to our passionate, wise, generous board  
you all inspire us to work to make DDC thrive  
with joy and humanity

**with our endless gratitude**  
**helen stambler neuberger and jim neuberger**

The background features a grayscale image of several hands stacked together in a supportive gesture. At the top, the words "10 YEARS" are written in a large, white, outlined font. On the left side, there is a decorative graphic consisting of overlapping yellow and light blue shapes, including a large yellow circle and a blue square with a yellow triangle.

**The Double Discovery  
Center was a good idea  
then, and it's a great  
idea now.**

*Mozelle Thompson*

# ***AM***plified Communications



- Strategic Marketing for B2B SaaS and Tech Companies
- Demand Gen Growth & GTM Strategy
- Salesforce, Hubspot, Marketo, AI Tools

New York  San Francisco

Antoine Mitchell, Founding Member



60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Saltzman Family**



In honor of  
Helen  
Lowenstein

With all my love and deepest respect for Roger  
and DDC.

You've shaped lives, including mine, in ways  
words can't fully capture.

Thank you for everything.

*Natalie Edwards*

# CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES

For six decades, the **Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center** has opened doors of opportunity, inspired ambition, and empowered generations of young people to reach their fullest potential.

## **The Office of Public Affairs**

proudly joins

The Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center and the Columbia  
Community

In celebrating this extraordinary milestone  
and honoring the 2025 James P. Shenton Award Recipients

Here's to 60 Years of Aspirations, Inspirations, and Excellence!

With Heartfelt Congratulations!



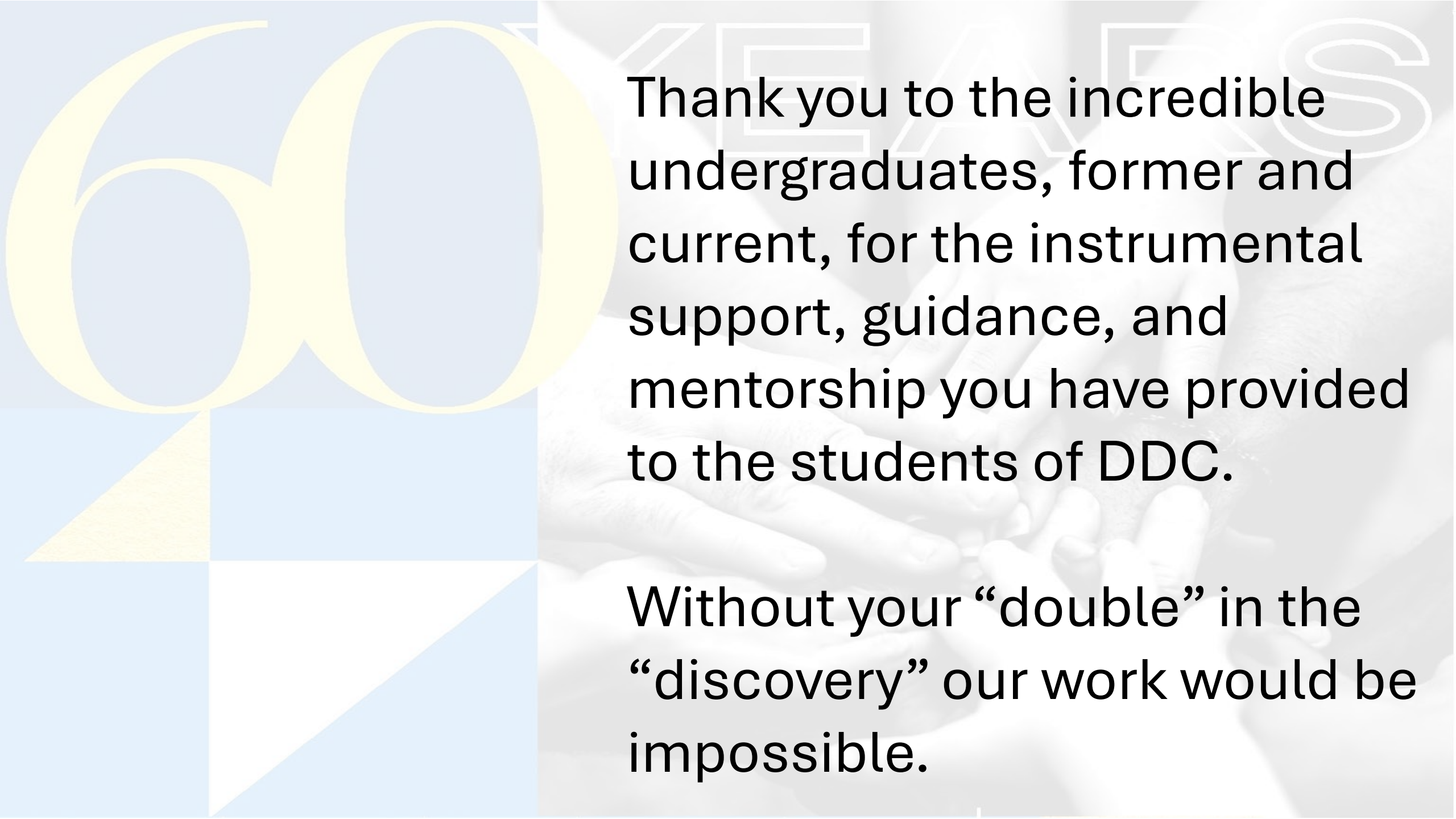


60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**McKnight**

**Foundation**

The background features a large, stylized '60' in yellow and light blue on the left. To the right, the words '60 YEARS' are written in a large, white, outlined font. Below the text, a grayscale image shows several hands of different skin tones cupping a globe. The overall theme is one of global unity and support.

Thank you to the incredible undergraduates, former and current, for the instrumental support, guidance, and mentorship you have provided to the students of DDC.

Without your “double” in the “discovery” our work would be impossible.

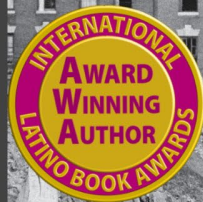
CONGRATULATIONS  
DOUBLE DISCOVERY CENTER

THE FIGHT FOR  
**EQUITY**  
IN THE  
**BR**  **NX**

CHANGING LIVES AND  
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES  
ONE SCHOLAR AT A TIME

DR. ELAINE RUÍZ LÓPEZ

60 YEARS  
CHANGING LIVES





60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Lavine and Rosin  
Families**

**Forever Grateful  
for  
Arnold Saltzman**



In loving  
memory of  
Gerry  
Sherwin

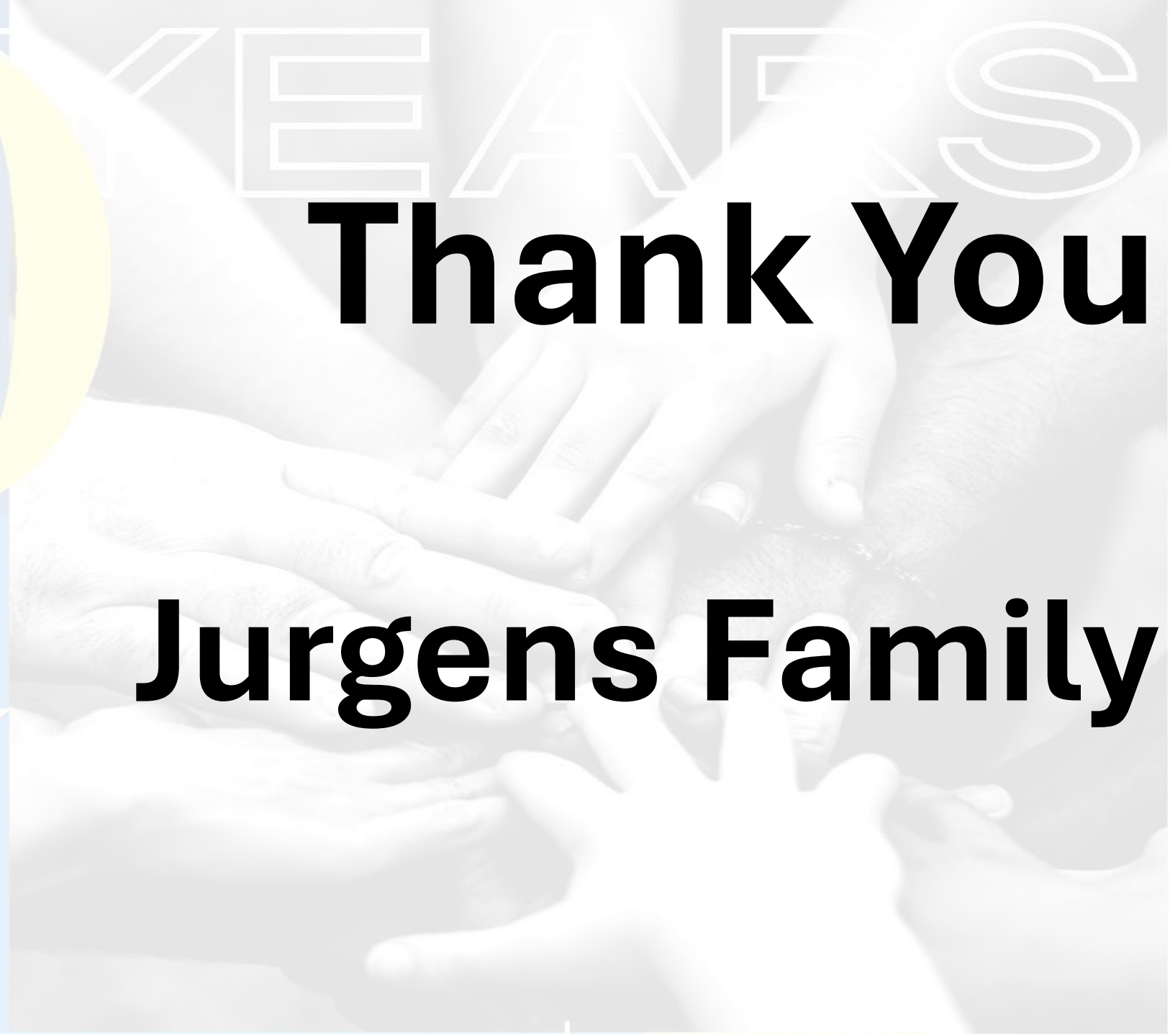




60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Jurgens Family**

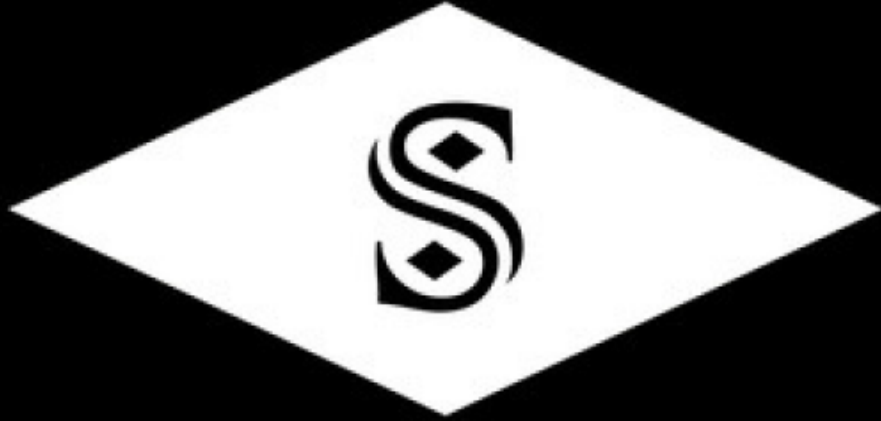




60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Mozelle Thompson**



# THE 1915 SOCIETY

By your deeds and not your words shall you be known



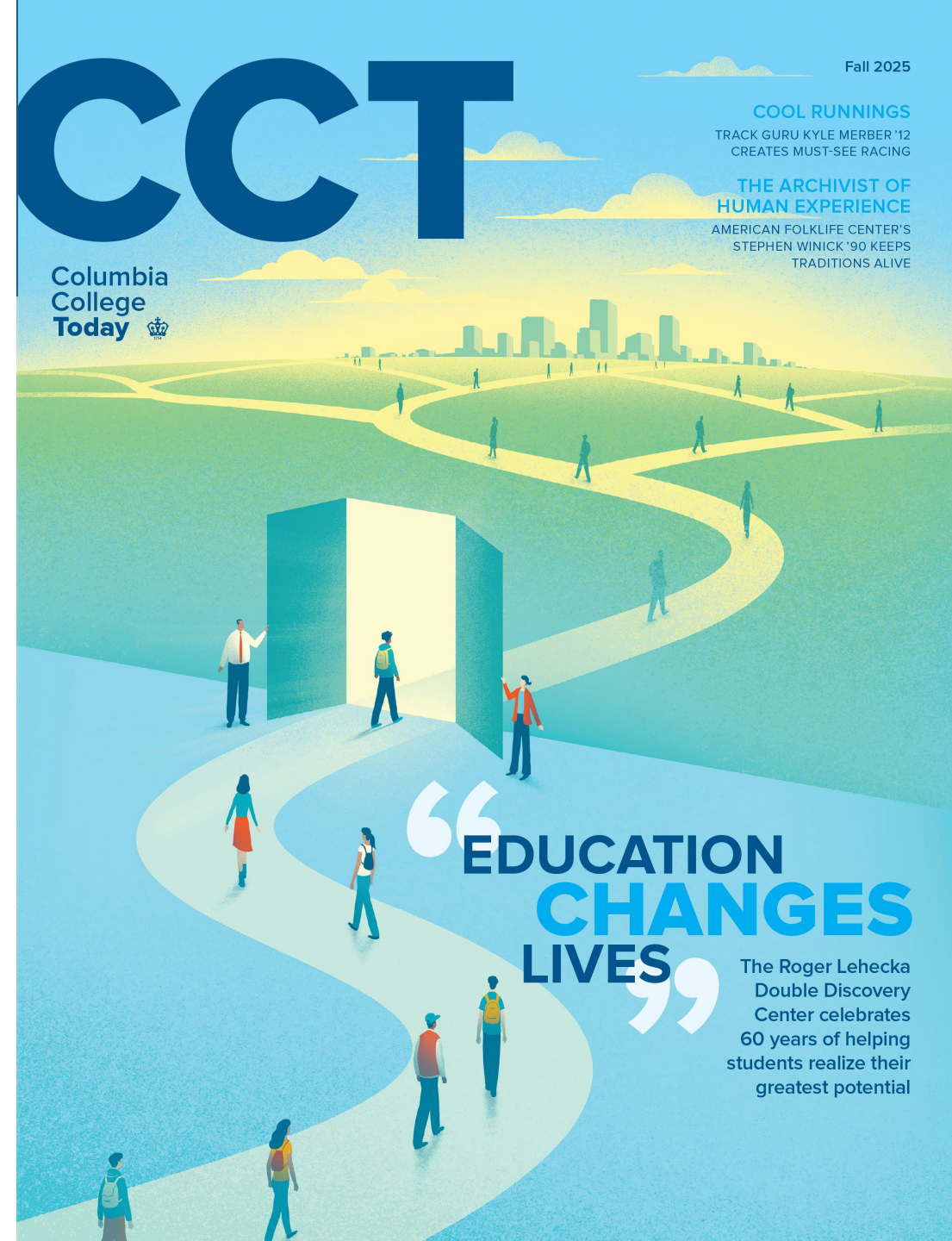
60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Kristi Kennedy**



Thank You  
CCT!



Fall 2025

# CCT

Columbia  
College  
Today 

COOL RUNNINGS

TRACK GURU KYLE MERBER '12  
CREATES MUST-SEE RACING

THE ARCHIVIST OF  
HUMAN EXPERIENCE

AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER'S  
STEPHEN WINICK '90 KEEPS  
TRADITIONS ALIVE

“  
EDUCATION  
CHANGES  
LIVES  
”

The Roger Lehecka  
Double Discovery  
Center celebrates  
60 years of helping  
students realize their  
greatest potential



**THANK YOU DDC STAFF & STUDENT MENTORS!**



YEARS

**Thank You**

**Natalie Edwards**



In loving  
memory of  
Herminia  
Calderon de  
Seijo



YEARS

60

**Thank You**

**Delta Sigma Theta**

**Rho Chapter**



60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Lisa Carnoy**



DDC Thanks





60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Cristina Gil**





YEARS

**Thank You**

**Kaiivan Shakib**



**Dean Josef Sorett and the Columbia College community congratulate The Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center on 60 years of serving the University and helping local high school students realize their greatest potential. We are proud of the generations of College students who have volunteered at DDC and immensely grateful to Roger Lehecka CC'67 for his many years of dedication. Continued thanks to Sasha Wells and the entire Double Discovery team for your commitment to advancing the mission. "Education changes lives."**

**This evening we also celebrate the honorees of the James P. Shenton Award for Excellence:**



**Dr. Denise De Las Nueces CC'03  
Duchesne Drew CC'89  
Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard CC'93**



# **THANK YOU**

**Gala Planning Committee**

**Cristina Gil, Co-Chair**

**Maria Ramirez Jurgens, Co-Chair**

**Antoine Mitchell**

**Margaret Donghyang Lukoff**

**Anna Maria Tejada**



YEARS

**Thank You**

**Jonathan Schiller**

**Congratulations Soror Khadijah  
Sharif-Drinkard (Fall '91) receiving  
the James P. Shelton Award for  
Excellence!**



Your Rho Chapter Sorors are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished. We are sending love and sisterly support as we celebrate your hard work!



60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Brian Krisberg**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO DUCHESNE DREW CC '89**

**AND TO ALL THE DOUBLE DISCOVERY HONOREES**



**Kaivan M. A. Shakib CC '89 on Behalf of The Brothers of Kappa Delta Rho, Nu Alpha Chapter**

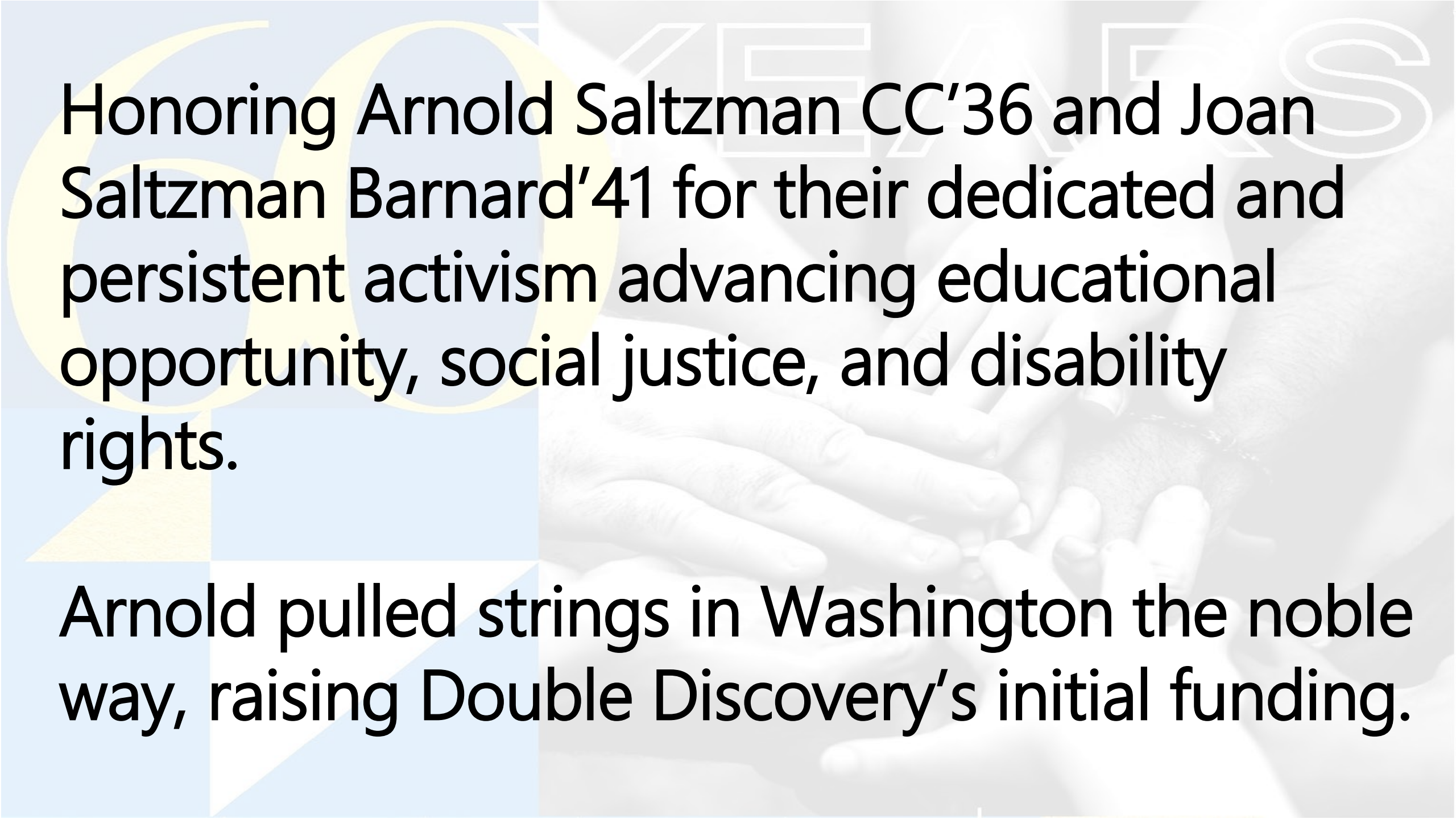


60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**El Gray**





Honoring Arnold Saltzman CC'36 and Joan Saltzman Barnard'41 for their dedicated and persistent activism advancing educational opportunity, social justice, and disability rights.

Arnold pulled strings in Washington the noble way, raising Double Discovery's initial funding.

In honor of  
Joan &  
Arnold  
Saltzman





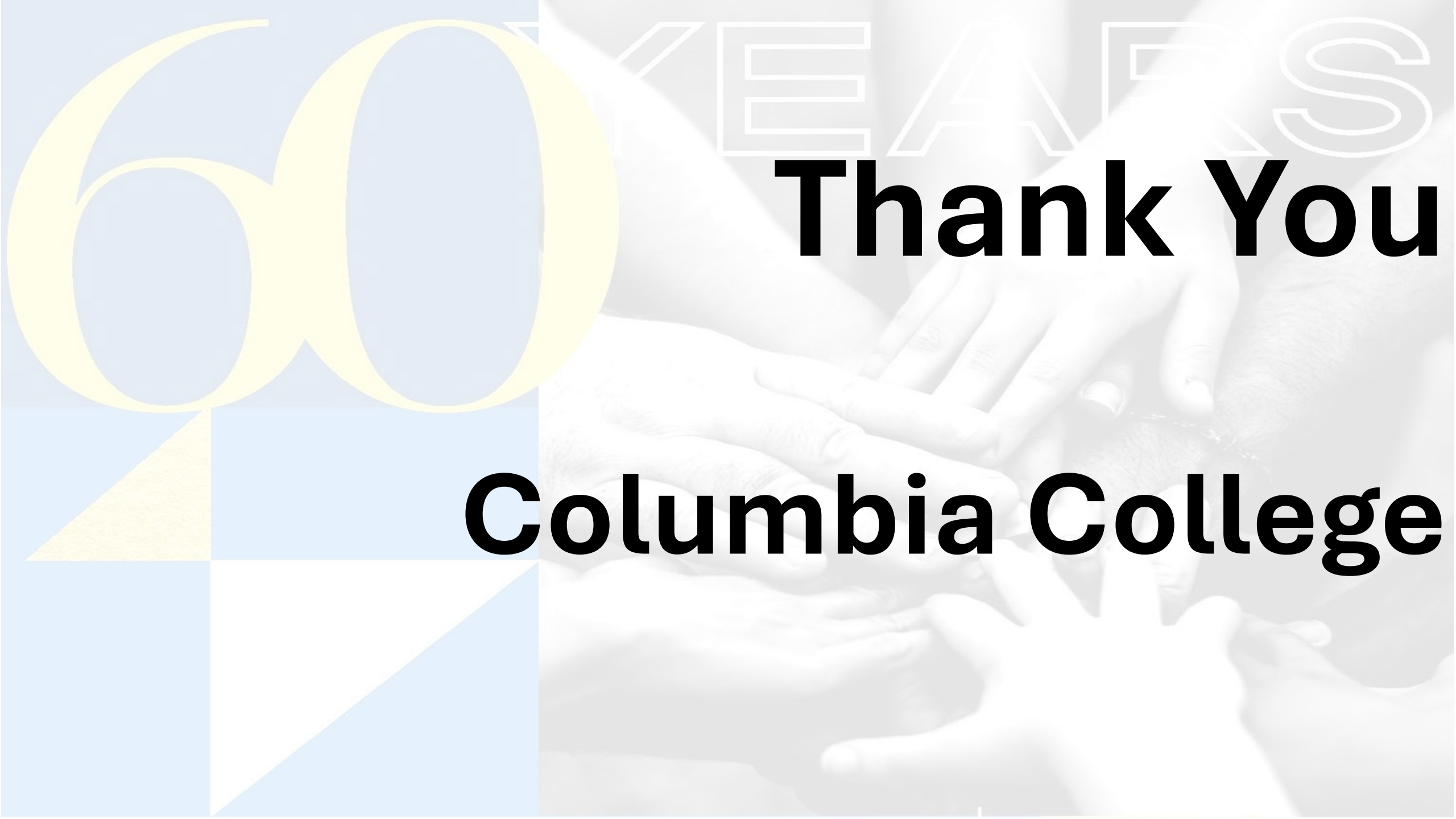
YEARS

**Thank You**

**Office of Public  
Affairs**

SEVEN  POST®

PRIVATE INVESTMENT OFFICE



60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Columbia College**



**Thank You**

**Helen Stambler**

**Neuberger &**

**Jim Neuberger**

# Congratulations to the Double Discovery Center on 60 Years of Success!



**Maria Ramirez Jurgens (CC '92) and Jason Jurgens (Law '99)** are proud to continue supporting **The Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center** as it celebrates its 60th year broadening the horizons of students from Harlem and Washington Heights, while opening the eyes of **Columbia University** students to the positive impact they can have on underserved communities.

Congratulations also to **Denise De Las Nueces, Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard and Duchesne Drew** on their well-deserved honor of receiving the **James P. Shenton Award of Excellence!**

Here's to 60 more years of breaking down walls!

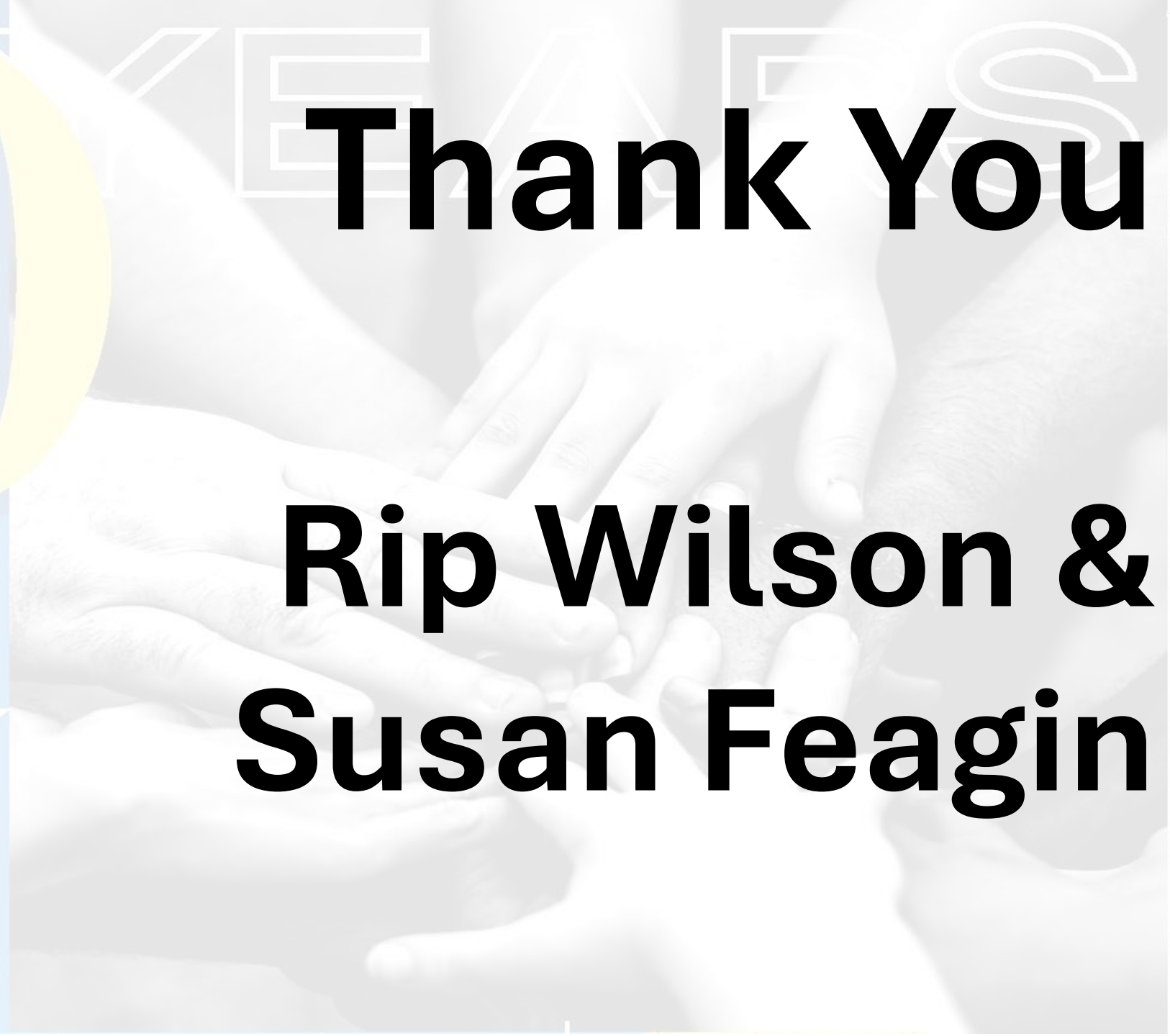


YEARS

**Thank You**

**Michael Cho &**

**Julie Hong**



YEARS

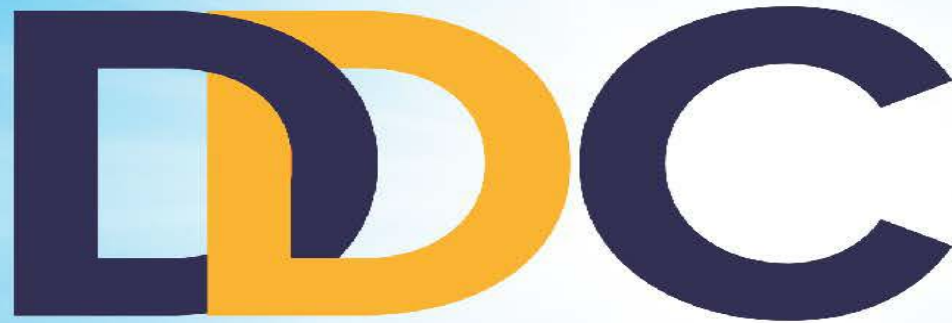
**Thank You**

**Rip Wilson &  
Susan Feagin**

NOTHING TYPIFIES

*"In Lumine Tuo Videbimus Lumen"*

MORE THAN



THE ROGER LEHECKA

**Double  
Discovery  
Center**

at Columbia University



Ana R. Dimas + Simos C. Dimas (CC '28)



60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Michael Schmidtberger  
& Margaret Sung**



60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**Lida Orzeck**



**S&P Global**

**S&P Global proudly  
supports Double  
Discovery Center's  
60th Anniversary Gala**

Congratulations to the 2025 Honorees:

**Khadijah Sharif-Drinkard**

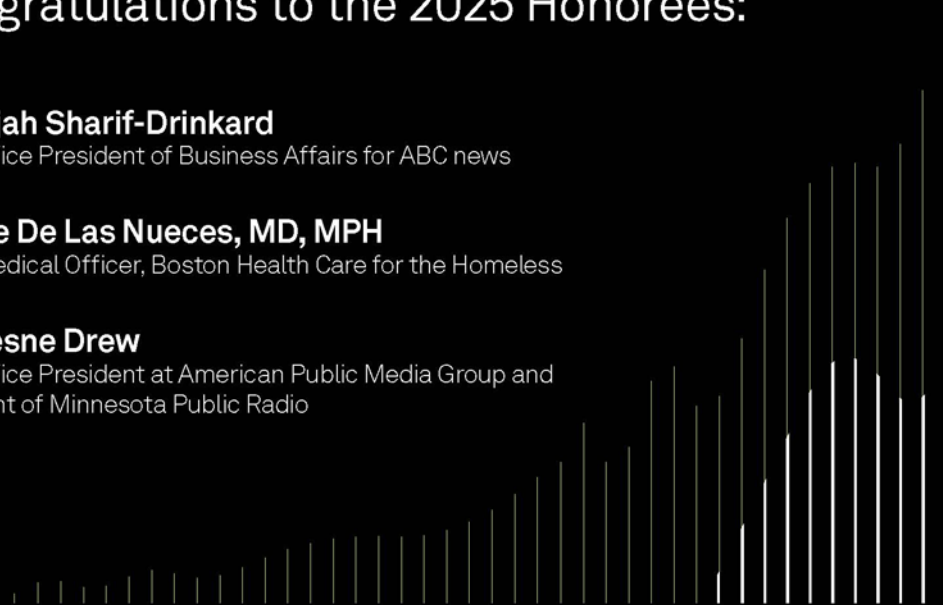
Senior Vice President of Business Affairs for ABC news

**Denise De Las Nueces, MD, MPH**

Chief Medical Officer, Boston Health Care for the Homeless

**Duchesne Drew**

Senior Vice President at American Public Media Group and  
President of Minnesota Public Radio





60 YEARS

**Thank You**

**DDC Board of Friends**



Thank You  
Dean Sorett!