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THE 2010 **NEW YORK POST** LIBERTY MEDALS

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

For the individual whose accomplishments reflect the very best of our city.



HEATHER BUGGEE

The Long Island artist brightens the landscape for hospitalized kids through the nonprofit Splashes of Hope, which she founded in 1996. A team of mostly volunteer artists help Buggee design and paint cheerful murals for bare hospital walls, doors and ceilings. The goal is an environment that helps stimulate healing by soothing, entertaining and distracting kids, taking their minds off “sometimes painful procedures and scary medical equipment,” she says. The organization has “splashed” 300 facilities in the New York area and across the country, as well as at three orphanages in Ukraine.



ROBERT HAMMOND and JOSHUA DAVID

When Joshua David and Robert Hammond looked at the abandoned High Line elevated rail viaduct near the West Side Highway in 1999, they saw the structure as “a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” Hammond recalls. They created Friends of the High Line, a nonprofit that worked to save that slice of the city’s industrial history and transform it into a unique elevated park that’s the epitome of cool. Visitors stroll through a lush, landscaped wonderland, peer at splendid views of the Hudson River and get a new perspective on the city from 30 feet up.



LYNN BROOKS

She wanted out-of-towners to see the New York she loves — the wonderful blend of small-town charm and big-city diversity. In 1992, Brooks started Big Apple Greeter to welcome visitors and show them sights and neighborhoods off the beaten path. “We don’t take people on tours. It’s a personal, one-on-one experience,” she says. Despite the nonprofit’s success, it is struggling financially, and she hopes new supporters will step forward, as did “an angel,” as Brooks calls oil heiress Ariadne Getty, who donated \$200,000 this year to keep the organization running.