

DISABILITY RIGHTS MARYLAND BREAKING BARRIERS AWARDS GALA

September 18, 2019 · American Visionary Art Museum

Erica L. Green

Correspondent, *The New York Times*, Washington Bureau

Excellence in Journalism Award

Honors an individual who, through journalistic excellence, has advanced or challenged public understanding of discrimination experienced by children and adults with disabilities.



Vanita Gupta

CEO & President, The Leadership Conference

Champion of Justice Award

Honors an individual who has made outstanding efforts in advocating for equality, inclusion, and empowerment of people with disabilities.



Chris Van Hollen

United States Senator, Maryland

Public Policy Award

Honors an individual who has demonstrated a strong commitment to advancing the civil legal rights of people with disabilities through policy work and legislation.



The Breaking Barriers Awards Gala is DRM'S signature celebration in which individuals, law firms and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional leadership, vision, and achievement in safeguarding the legal rights of people with disabilities in Maryland are recognized and honored. Bringing together more than 200 attorneys, corporate and foundation leaders, government representatives, and disability advocates, DRM's Gala shines a powerful spotlight on the selfless individuals who are protecting the civil rights of Marylanders with disabilities.

Please contact Robin Murphy, Executive Director, for further information at
RobinM@DisabilityRightsMD.org or (443) 692-2482

About Disability Rights Maryland (DRM)

Disability Rights Maryland (DRM) is the Congressionally-mandated Protection and Advocacy organization for individuals with disabilities in Maryland. Established over 40 years ago by the renewal of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1975, DRM works to create a just and inclusive society by defending and advancing the legal and human rights of people with disabilities. DRM partners with people with disabilities to expand their opportunities to participate fully in all aspects of community life and champions rights to self-determination, dignity, equality, choice and freedom from abuse and neglect. DRM's mission is achieved by focusing on creating significant, lasting systemic change.

DRM is pleased to announce that **Erica L. Green**, Correspondent for the Washington Bureau of The New York Times, is the recipient of DRM's *Excellence in Journalism Award*; **Vanita Gupta**, CEO and President of The Leadership Conference is the recipient of DRM's *Champion of Justice Award*, and **The Honorable Chris Van Hollen** is the recipient of DRM's *Public Policy Award*. The awards will be presented to the honorees at DRM's 2019 Breaking Barriers Gala on Wednesday, September 18, at the American Visionary Art Museum (AVAM) in Baltimore, Maryland.

The **Breaking Barriers Awards Gala** is DRM'S signature celebration where individuals, law firms and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional leadership, vision, and achievement in safeguarding the legal rights of people with disabilities in Maryland are recognized and honored. Bringing together attorneys, corporate and foundation leaders, government representatives, and disability advocates, DRM's gala shines a powerful spotlight on noble individuals who further the rights of Marylanders with disabilities. Funds raised at the Gala will directly support DRM and expand our capacity to provide critical legal assistance so Marylanders with disabilities, regardless of income, age or race, can live full independent lives in the community.

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Distinguished Former Gala Honorees

2018 Honorees

Public Policy Award: Congressman Elijah E. Cummings

Influencer Award: Tatyana McFadden

Advocacy Leadership Award: Regina Lee & Dominic Radcliff

Lorraine Sheehan Lifetime Achievement Award: Curt Decker

2015 Honorees

Public Policy Award: Congressman Steny H. Hoyer

Legal Advocacy Award: Sidley Austin LLP

Gayle Hafner Grassroots Advocacy Award: Thomas Hicks

Lorraine Sheehan Lifetime Achievement Award: Judith Heumann

2012 Honorees

Public Policy Award: Maryland Senator Verna Jones-Rodwell

Public Policy Award: Maryland Senator Richard Madaleno

Legal Advocacy Award: Raymond Marshall

Grassroots Advocacy Award: Kenneth Capone

2011 Honorees

Public Policy Award: Maryland Delegate James W. Hubbard

Legal Advocacy Award: Venable LLP

Grassroots Advocacy Award: Sandra Spears

Lorraine Sheehan Lifetime Achievement Award: U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin

2010 Honorees

Public Policy Award: Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger

Legal Advocacy Award: Earl Bartgis, Jr.

Grassroots Advocacy Award: Floyd Hartley

Lifetime Achievement Award: Lorraine Sheehan, posthumously
(presented to Laura Carr & John Sheehan by Senator Benjamin L. Cardin)

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Sponsorship Opportunities

Patron

\$10,000

- Eight (8) Complimentary Event Tickets
- Special acknowledgment during awards presentation
- Premier logo recognition on event signage
- Full page, color ad in Gala program book
- Premier recognition in invitations, electronic materials and social media
- Logo acknowledgment on event page
- Premier recognition in DRM's e-newsletter

Benefactor

\$5,000

- Six (6) Complimentary Event Tickets
- Special acknowledgment during awards presentation
- Premier logo recognition on event signage
- Half-page, color ad in Gala program book
- Premier recognition in invitations, electronic materials and social media
- Logo acknowledgment on event page
- Premier recognition in DRM's e-newsletter

Partner

\$2,500

- Four (4) Complimentary Event Tickets
- Special acknowledgment during awards presentation
- Logo recognition on event signage
- Quarter-page, color ad in Gala program book
- Recognition in invitations, electronic materials and social media
- Logo acknowledgment on event page
- Recognition in DRM's e-newsletter

Ambassador

\$1,000

- Two (2) Complimentary Event Tickets
- Recognition in event program book
- Recognition in invitations, electronic materials and social media
- Logo acknowledgment on event page
- Recognition in DRM's e-newsletter

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Reservation Form

YES, our organization would like to support DRM and attend the 2019 Breaking Barriers Gala.

Please reserve:

___ \$10,000 **Patron**

___ \$5,000 **Benefactor**

___ \$2,500 **Partner**

___ \$1,000 **Ambassador**

NO, we will not be able to attend, but wish to support DRM with the enclosed tax-deductible contribution of:

\$ _____

Organization Contact Information

Name _____
(As you wish to be listed on Gala-related materials) We wish to remain anonymous

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Payment Information

A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make checks payable to **Disability Rights Maryland**

Please charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____
 American Express Visa MasterCard

Credit Card# _____ CVC _____ Exp. _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Kindly respond by August 16, 2019
Please return payment form to: Robin Murphy, Executive Director
RobinM@DisabilityRightsMD.org or (443) 692-2482
Disability Rights Maryland
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