



2018 Education Conference

October 26-28

The Wolf Road Marriott Hotel, Albany

A large yellow arrow pointing to the right, with a series of vertical yellow bars of varying heights on its left side, creating a sense of motion or a staircase effect.

Moving Forward

Moving Forward: Identifying and Advocating for the Latest Breakthroughs in Research and Treatment of Mental Health Issues and Neurobiological Disorders

2018 HONOREES

This year's honorees are leading the way on key NAMI-NYS priority issues including incorporating families in the recovery process, mental health housing, mental health parity and criminal justice reform.

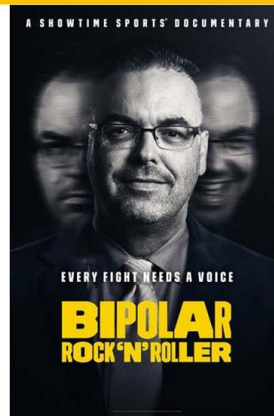
Join us in celebrating their work and thanking them for their commitment to creating a more mentally healthy New York State.

[Click here](#) to register for the 2018 NAMI-NYS Education Conference.

[Click here](#) to learn how you can take an ad out to congratulate this year's honorees.

Scroll down to meet our 2018 honorees.

2018 NAMI-NYS
LEADERS OF MENTAL HEALTH



MAURO RANALLO

SPORTS ANNOUNCER, SHOWTIME NETWORKS
SUBJECT OF THE ACCLAIMED DOCUMENTARY
BIPOLAR ROCK "N" ROLLER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 6:30PM

NAMI-NYS is thrilled to recognize the commitment of [Mauro Ranallo](#) of raising awareness of what it means to live with a mental illness. Since 2007, Mauro has been a part of the CBS Broadcasting family as Lead Announcer for the Strikeforce MMA promotion, and in 2012, was chosen as the play-by-play announcer for Championship Boxing on Showtime. The next year, Mauro's wit and booming voice earned him the Boxing Announcer of the Year Award from Yahoo sports. Mauro has also made history as the only sports broadcaster ever to call every major combat sport on national television: Boxing, Kickboxing, MMA, and Professional Wrestling.

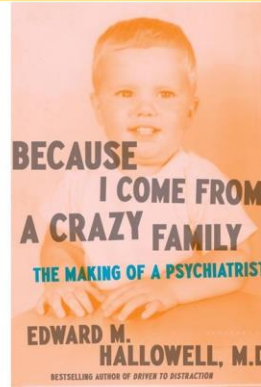
Mauro has bi-polar disorder and is the subject of the Showtime documentary [Bipolar Rock "N" Roller](#), which is one of the most honest and gripping films ever made on the experience of living with a serious mental illness.

Showtime describes the film as: "A raw and unflinching account of Mauro Ranallo's decades-long struggle with Bipolar Affective Disorder. The voice of WWE and Showtime Championship Boxing, Ranallo has called some of the biggest sports events in history - all the while fighting his own epic battles with mental health. Follow his journey as he combats the stigma behind mental health issues and sheds light on what it's like being at the top of the industry despite seemingly insurmountable odds."

[Click here](#) to watch the film's trailer.

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2018 NAMI-NYS
LEADERS OF MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS HONOREE



EDWARD M. HALLOWELL, M.D.

RENOWNED ADHD EXPERT, NY TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR AND HOST
OF THE WEEKLY *DISTRACTION* PODCAST

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 6:30PM

NAMI-NYS is thrilled to announce our first Leader of Mental Health Awareness honoree, [Dr. Edward "Ned" Hallowell](#). Dr. Hallowell is one of the foremost experts on ADHD. He is the co-author of [Driven to Distraction](#), and *Answers to Distraction*, which have sold more than a million copies.

Dr. Hallowell also discusses his own struggles with ADHD as well as how mental illness has impacted his family in his new memoir, [Because I Come From A Crazy Family The Making of A Psychiatrist](#). It chronicles the often strange story of a childhood marked by what he calls the "WASP triad" of alcoholism, mental illness, and politeness, and explores the wild wish, surging beneath his incredible ambition, that he could have saved his own family of drunk, crazy, and well-intentioned eccentrics, and himself. He is also the host of "[DISTRACTION](#)" a weekly podcast series created to explore how we are driven to distraction and offers coping strategies to turn modern problems into new-found strengths.

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2018 NAMI-NYS
LEADERS OF MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS HONOREE



TONI LASICKI, J.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING
LEADER OF THE BRING IT HOME CAMPAIGN

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 6:30PM

NAMI-NYS is thrilled to announce our second 2018 Leader of Mental Health Awareness Award recipient, Toni Lasicki, executive director of the Association for Community Living. Housing with wrap-around mental health services has long been NAMI-NYS's leading advocacy issue.

This award acknowledges Toni's work as New York's leading crusader for mental health housing. In late 2016, Toni launched the [Bring It Home-Better Funding for Better Care](#) campaign. Bring It Home is a coalition of community-based mental health housing providers, mental health advocates, faith leaders, and consumers and their families, urging New York State to adequately fund community-based housing programs for individuals with psychiatric disabilities. Bring It Home has raised increased awareness of why mental health housing is crucial to recovery.

[Click here](#) to watch the Mental Health Now episode on Mental Health Housing featuring Toni.

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**PARITY @ 10:
LEADERS OF MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
PARITY AWARD RECIPIENTS**



CONGRESSMAN
PAUL TONKO



TOM
O'CLAIR



ANDREW
MALEKOFF



KARLA
LOPEZ

JOIN US IN THANKING LEADERS WHO ARE ADDRESSING ONE OF THE GREATEST
SOCIAL INJUSTICES OF OUR TIME!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 6:30PM

Along with recognizing the work done by prominent leaders of awareness, we will also honor those working to address one of the greatest social injustices of our time, insurance providers who have continued to discriminate against mental illness by failing to adhere to mental health parity and create true network adequacy. While we will celebrate the fact that October marks the ten-year anniversary of the enactment of The Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), we will also detail how finding providers who take private insurance remains a daunting task for far too many New Yorkers.

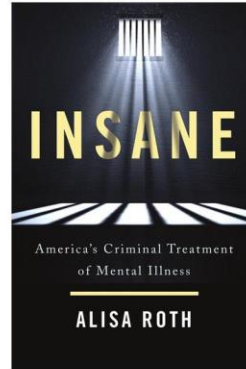
It is our privilege to show our gratitude to both the pioneers and the current leaders in the fight to create true parity. New York led the way in introducing parity through Timothy's Law and we will be joined by **Congressman Paul Tonko** (NY-20), who during his service in the NYS Assembly was the sponsor and a passionate advocate for Timothy's Law. We will also be joined by **Tom O'Clair**, whose family's story inspired the parity law. We will also honor current leaders **Andrew Malekoff**, Executive Director of the North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center, who produced the [Project Access Report](#) which detailed the struggles New Yorkers are experiencing accessing mental health services and **Karla Lopez**, of the Legal Action Center who is leading the [Parity@10 campaign](#) in New York State.

[Click here](#) to watch the Mental Health Now episode with Congressman Tonko

[Click here](#) to watch the Mental Health Now episode on Parity featuring Andrew Malekoff.

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2018 HONOREE
MEDIA AWARD RECIPIENT



ALISA ROTH, AUTHOR
*INSANE: AMERICA'S CRIMINAL TREATMENT
OF MENTAL ILLNESS*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 6:30PM

NAMI-NYS is thrilled to present our 2018 Media Award to [Alisa Roth](#), author of the acclaimed book [Insane: America's Criminal Treatment of Mental Illness](#). The award acknowledges Ms. Roth's extraordinary work revealing one of the greatest modern tragedies; the criminalization of mental illness.

NAMI-NYS is honored to recognize Alisa's commitment to giving this epidemic the attention and scrutiny it deserves. [Click here](#) to learn more about Alisa's work including her interview on NPR and the issues around criminal justice and mental illness.

(CONTINUED)

2018 HONOREE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AWARD



THE HONORABLE MATTHEW J. D'EMIC
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE 2ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, NOON

NAMI-NYS is thrilled to present our 2018 Criminal Justice Award to the Honorable Matthew J. D'Emic, Administrative Judge, 2nd Judicial District in Brooklyn. Judge D'Emic presides over the King's County Mental Health Court and has been a true advocate for connecting those with a mental illness with appropriate recovery oriented services.

To learn more about Judge D'Emic's compassion for people living with a mental illness, we recommend [clicking here](#) to read *Requiem for Rene*, a piece Judge D'Emic wrote for Mental Illness Policy Org about attending a funeral for someone he helped, but who eventually succumbed to suicide. He concludes the article with this hopeful thought, "Perhaps criminal justice initiatives like mental health courts can help further eliminate the stigma attached to mental illness. Perhaps one day society will treat persons suffering from mental illness like it does those suffering from physical illness - with kindness."

Join us in celebrating their work and thanking them for their commitment to creating a more mentally healthy New York State.

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