



**New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling Inc.**

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## **Columbia University Receives State Recycling Leadership Award**

COOPERSTOWN – Columbia University recently received the 2018 New York State Recycling Leadership Award in the College or University category from the New York State Association of Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling (NYSAR<sup>3</sup>).

Columbia University is noted for constantly improving waste management through its programs and services, from on-the-ground educational outreach to behind-the-scenes operational improvements. The Environmental Stewardship (ES) office partners with Operations Department to drive change in accordance with the University's Sustainability Plan. Columbia is on track to align with NYC's OneNYC waste-to-landfill goal by 2030.

The ES office produced the Workspace Certification Program, a set of interactive guidelines that provides eco-conscious action items and gamifies recycling, refurbished hundreds of recycling bins and held 80 "Know Where to Throw" presentations. Other highlights of the Columbia program include: consistent recycling signage; expanded composting to 41 buildings; EPA-award-winning Clean + Go Green events (for year-end clean outs); and a surplus furniture and equipment reuse program.

The professional recyclers' association for New York State, NYSAR<sup>3</sup> recognizes a few outstanding achievers each year for their dedication, innovation, and passion for recycling. The awards were presented during closing ceremonies at the annual New York State Recycling Conference in Cooperstown on Nov. 8.

"NYSAR<sup>3</sup> is proud to recognize and honor the professionals and organizations who work every day to make a positive impact on our environment through sustainable materials management in New York," said Kelli Timbrook, NYSAR<sup>3</sup> president.

*NYSAR<sup>3</sup>, the premiere recycling organization in New York State, provides members with expertise and education on waste reduction, reuse and recycling issues and practices to improve the environment. The group advocates for policies and programs that support environmental sustainability in the Empire State and provides access to a network of individuals and organizations that share ideas about starting and improving reduction, reuse, and recycling programs, as well as information on education and funding. More details are available on their website: [www.NYSAR3.org](http://www.NYSAR3.org).*



**CAPTION**

**Jessica Prata, Assistant Vice President of Environmental Stewardship for Columbia University, (right) is presented with the 2018 Recycling Leadership Award-College or University by NYSAR<sup>3</sup> President Kelli Timbrook.**