

**CECILIA GASTÓN, DR. MARTA MORENO VEGA, MAXINE DANIELS AND MELBA WILSON
HONORED FOR LEADERSHIP AT THE NEW YORK WOMEN'S FOUNDATION'S
MANHATTAN NEIGHBORHOOD DINNER**

New York (September 20, 2017) - The New York Women's Foundation (The Foundation) honored four inspiring Manhattan women at its Neighborhood Dinner on September 19th. **Cecilia Gastón, Dr. Marta Moreno Vega, Maxine Daniels** and **Melba Wilson** were recognized for their accomplishments as community leaders. Each, in her own way, has been instrumental in promoting enrichment for the borough's women and families. More than 200 people attended the dinner held at the Museum of the City of New York.

Ana Oliveira, President and CEO of The Foundation said, "We are excited by this opportunity to celebrate four exceptional women, **Cecilia Gastón, Dr. Marta Moreno Vega, Maxine Daniels** and **Melba Wilson**, for their efforts in making their Manhattan neighborhoods better places for women and families. Their achievements show that when communities unite, they build a greater future together."

Ms. Gastón, Executive Director of Violence Intervention Program and **Dr. Moreno Vega**, President/Founder of the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, received **Neighborhood Leadership Awards**. **Ms. Gastón** was honored for her commitment to social justice and women's health and safety. **Dr. Moreno Vega** was recognized for advocating and defending cultural equality and education, while also fostering social transformation.

Ms. Daniels, founder of I Bike Harlem, and **Ms. Wilson**, owner of Melba's Restaurant and Melba's Catering, were awarded **Spirit of Entrepreneurship Awards**. Ms. Daniel's I Bike Harlem was honored for introducing people from all over the world to Harlem, enabling them to explore the vibrant melting pot of cultures that makes the neighborhood a unique part of New York City. Ms. Wilson was honored for making a major contribution to the Second Harlem Renaissance with her restaurants.

The event also featured several of The Foundation's grantee partners in Manhattan, including [A Better Balance: The Work and Family Legal Center](#), [CONNECT, Inc.](#), [Covenant House New York](#), and [PA'LANTEPA'LANTE Harlem \(People Against Landlord Abuse And Tenant Exploitation\) Harlem](#). Through advocacy and service, these partners make the borough a place where women and families can thrive.

[About The New York Women's Foundation](#)

The New York Women's Foundation creates an equitable and just future for women and families by uniting a cross-cultural alliance that ignites action and invests in bold, community-led solutions across the city.

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To view and/or download photos from The New York Women's Foundation's 2017 Manhattan Neighborhood Dinner, visit <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vf6cbzysmwin1c/AACE53HLqBUKJCact3xoDI4Ja?dl=0> . Photos are to be credited to Kristy May Photography

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