

- For Immediate Release -
October 24, 2006

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MASSACHUSETTS SERVICE ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES 2006 GOVERNOR'S POINTS OF LIGHT AWARD WINNERS

Boston – Massachusetts Service Alliance, the state commission on community service and volunteerism, has announced the seven winners of the first annual Governor's Points of Light Award, the highest honor bestowed on a volunteer in Massachusetts. The award is given in seven categories: Youth and Young Adult; Adult; Older Adult; Lifetime Achievement; Community-Based Organization; Business; and the Nancy Korman Innovation in Service Award, named in honor of Massachusetts Service Alliance's past Board Chair and longtime champion of service, Nancy Korman. Winners will participate in a special award presentation by Governor Mitt Romney and Mrs. Ann Romney at a Gala on November 14, 2006 at the Massachusetts State House.

The Governor's Points of Light Award, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' annual volunteer service award, honors youth, adults, community-based organizations, and businesses for their contribution to communities through volunteer service. Winners are selected based on the extent to which their service makes a positive impact on a specific community need. Award winners have a demonstrated commitment to serving their community and often employ creative ways to leverage time and resources in order to enhance their service.

"Massachusetts Service Alliance is proud to recognize individuals and organizations that set an example for what can be accomplished in communities across the commonwealth when individuals dedicate their time and talents to service," said Melanie Tavares, Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Massachusetts Service Alliance. "This year's award winners represent countless individuals who give of themselves each and everyday without thanks or recognition. We hope this award honors each of them for their commitment and dedication to improving Massachusetts neighborhoods, communities, schools and environment."

The seven award winners - selected by a panel of leaders in business, academia, politics, and the nonprofit sector – include:

Youth and Young Adult - **Julia Dillon**, Greenfield, MA
Adult - **Tracy Karlinsky**, Boston, MA
Older Adult - **James Chance**, Southborough, MA
Lifetime Achievement - **J. Denis Cormier**, Ashburnham, MA
Community-Based Organization - **Women of Means**, Wellesley, MA
Business - **State Street Corporation**, Boston, MA
Nancy Korman Innovation in Service - **Common Impact**, Cambridge MA

Meet the 2006 award winners at the inaugural Governor's Points of Light Awards Gala on November 14, 2006 at the Massachusetts State House. Sponsorship opportunities and a limited number of tickets are available. For more information, visit www.mass-service.org.

About The Massachusetts Service Alliance

The Massachusetts Service Alliance, established in 1991, is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as the state commission on community service. Our mission is to generate an ethic of service throughout the Commonwealth by creating and supporting diverse, high quality service and volunteer opportunities for all age groups, resulting in stronger communities and more active citizens.

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