

Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance

P.O. Box 75265, Washington, D.C. 20013

www.glaa.org

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GLAA Announces 2016 Distinguished Service Awards

The Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C., is pleased to announce its 2016 Distinguished Service Award recipients. GLAA presents awards to local individuals and organizations that have served the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community in the national capital area. The awards will be presented at **GLAA's 45th Anniversary Reception** on Thursday, **April 21** from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Policy Restaurant and Lounge at 1904 14th Street, NW (at T Street). Tickets are \$55 and can be purchased at <http://www.glaa.org/anniversary/> or calling Rick at 202-328-6278. A range of donor levels is also available.

GLAA's 2016 Distinguished Service Award recipients are:

- June Crenshaw
- Mónica Palacio
- Sterling A. Washington

June Crenshaw serves as the chair of the Board of Rainbow Response Coalition (RRC). June is one of the original founders and continues to lead this all volunteer Coalition. She is a Board member and emeritus Chair of Whitman Walker Health (WWH). In addition, June is a Board of Governor of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). June was the first African-American woman to co-chair HRC's National Dinner. She was a longstanding member of the Advisory Board of the Mayor's Office of LGBT Affairs. She also previously served on the Community Advisory Board of Lesbian Services Programs and Black Lesbian Support Group. She volunteered for over 5 years with Heartly House. Professionally she is PMP® certified and has worked over 19 years as a project manager.

Mónica Palacio has served as Director of the D.C. Office of Human Rights since March 2014. In that capacity, she directed a six-month study in 2015 that revealed anti-transgender job bias in 48 percent of District employers. Mónica brings twenty years of experience in civil rights, strengthening communities in crisis and coalition building for social justice. She previously directed the District's Language Access Program, and served as a commissioner on the D.C. Commission on Human Rights. She holds a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center and a B.A. from Fordham University. Mónica has lived in the District for 25 years and was born in Bogotá, Colombia.

Sterling A. Washington served as director of the Mayor's Office of GLBT Affairs for two years ending in January 2015. Prior to that he was Resource and Grant Development Manager for the Center for Black Equity; worked on grants, newsletter, and community relations at Us Helping Us, People into Living, Inc. (UHU); and led the Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Organization of Students at Howard (BLAGOSAH). He has a bachelor's degree in political science from The George Washington University, and a bachelor's degree in music history from Howard University. He is a tenor soloist and section leader at National City Christian Church.

A list of previous award winners can be found on the GLAA website at www.glaa.org/resources/awardshistory.shtml.

Founded in 1971, the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington (GLAA) is an all-volunteer, non-partisan, non-profit political organization that defends the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the Nation's Capital. GLAA lobbies the D.C. Council, monitors government agencies, educates and rates local candidates, and works in coalitions to defend the safety, health, and equal rights of LGBT families. GLAA remains the nation's oldest continuously active gay and lesbian civil rights organization.

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