

THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, NY 10007

March 7, 2016

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to welcome everyone to the Guides Association of New York City Apple Awards Ceremony.

Travel is one of New York's most vibrant industries, bringing a record-breaking 58 million visitors to our city in 2015 alone. My team and I are working hard to make New York a city that people from all walks of life can enjoy as a place to live and visit, and as this vital sector continues to grow, I am grateful to GANYC for helping to foster tourism throughout the five boroughs. Since 1974, the dedicated tour guides of GANYC have been New York's welcoming ambassadors, drawing upon their expertise and passions to showcase the rich heritage, diversity and beauty of our iconic city. I applaud GANYC's members for their many valuable contributions as we work together to ensure that New York remains a destination of choice for people around the globe.

On behalf of our great city, I extend congratulations to tonight's honorees. Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio

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Mayor