



**OVERCOMING OBSTACLES  
2008 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

*Wednesday November 12, 2008*

Community for Education  
Foundation was founded  
to ensure that all  
young people learn the  
communication,  
decision making,  
and goal setting skills  
they need to be  
successful in life.



**OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008**

*Achievement Awards Gala Dinner*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008  
CIPRIANI 23rd STREET  
HISTORIC TOY BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY

**TONIGHT'S PROGRAM**

**Master of Ceremonies**

Rick Folbaum

**Welcome**

Stuart Subotnick

**Opening Remarks**

Susan Dawson

**Student Achievement**

Samy LaGuerre

*Presented by Rosalie Rothenstein*

**Student Achievement**

Mary Wright

*Presented by Wayne Harris*

**Jack L. Siegal Memorial Scholarship**

*Presented by Jill Siegal Chalsty*

**American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Scholarship**

*Presented by Richard M. Hodosh, M.D.*

**Dinner**

**Lifetime Achievement**

Daniel L. Doctoroff

*Presented by John Chalsty*

**Lifetime Achievement**

John S. Dyson

*Presented by John Chalsty*

## COMMUNITY FOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION

# *The Overcoming Obstacles Program*

The mission of the Community for Education Foundation is to ensure that all young people learn the communication, decision making, and goal setting skills they need to be successful in life. Our vehicle to ensure a bright future for our children is the Overcoming Obstacles program, which includes curriculum materials, teacher training, and ongoing support. Since 1992, thousands of teachers across the country have taught the Overcoming Obstacles program in their classrooms, positively impacting the lives of more than 2 million young people.

### **What is the Overcoming Obstacles program?**

The Overcoming Obstacles program is an essential life skills curriculum that provides educators with the tools to teach students to think critically through issues they face daily. It also helps young people navigate life's obstacles, reach their full potential, and understand the importance of good citizenship, personal responsibility, and core ethical values such as fairness and caring.

The program focuses on middle and high school students and includes: a full school year of activity-based lessons that engage and motivate students, teacher training workshops, and ongoing professional support – all of which are flexibly designed to meet the needs of individual schools, teachers, and students. Schools can implement the curriculum in stand-alone classes, advisory periods, after-school programs, mentoring initiatives, or infuse Overcoming Obstacles skills instruction into their core academic courses.

*Every child deserves the opportunity to effectively communicate his or her ideas, feelings, hopes, and fears.*



*Every child should learn to make decisions, solve problems, and understand that all actions have consequences, both positive and negative.*

Whether it is our standard materials or a customized version of the Overcoming Obstacles program, the curriculum is tested and proven to increase student achievement and improve the school environment.

### **The Overcoming Obstacles program addresses a wide range of life skills, including:**

- Communication, decision making, and goal setting – high priority skills for all students
- Problem solving, effective studying, and conflict resolution – skills to achieve success in the classroom and beyond
- Personal health, time management, and preparation for college and career – specific skills for students to practice and apply in their daily lives.

*Every child should have the opportunity to practice setting small, attainable goals while actively pursuing larger objectives.*



- In New York City, the Legacy School for Integrated Studies and the Academy for Environmental Leadership have launched customized Overcoming Obstacles advisory programs in order to fulfill the missions of their schools and prepare students for college.
- The Overcoming Obstacles program was used by the Genesis Educational Center in Jersey City to supplement its summer program and give middle school students an opportunity to learn and practice the life skills necessary for success in high school.

**The Overcoming Obstacles program is full of success stories. A few highlights include:**

- Based on the success of last year's program implementation, the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development continues to use a customized version of the Overcoming Obstacles program in its work with students in temporary housing. The curriculum teaches students to cope with transition and has positively impacted many lives, including Achievement Award honorees Shaquana Andrews and Mary Wright.
- This year, Middle School 2 was removed from the No Child Left Behind list of "Persistently Dangerous Schools" due, in part, to their 2007 Overcoming Obstacles peer mentoring program. Middle School 2 continues to use the Overcoming Obstacles program as part of their school-wide peer mediation initiative.
- Public School 109 in Brooklyn is expanding its Overcoming Obstacles peer mentoring program to include more of the school's students. This decision is based on the ability of last year's program to improve the school environment and strengthen students' leadership skills.
- Kansas City Missouri Public School District is using the Overcoming Obstacles high school curriculum in a district-wide advisory program.



*Every child deserves the opportunity to use his or her skills and strengths to positively impact others and contribute to the community.*

**About the Achievement Awards**

Each year, Overcoming Obstacles presents Achievement Awards to outstanding business leaders, educators, and students who exemplify the spirit of the Overcoming Obstacles program. Lifetime Achievement Awards honor the lives of adults who have attained excellence in their careers while also giving back to their communities. Previous Lifetime Achievement Award honorees are Muhammad Ali, Wayne Huizenga, Al Lerner, Pete Dawkins, Jack Rowe, Peter Grauer, and John Chalsty.

Students are honored for demonstrating exemplary communication, decision making, and goal setting skills, and for having successfully overcome challenges in their lives. They are awarded scholarships for post-secondary education.

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## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Achievement Awards Dinner*

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## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Master of Ceremonies*



### **Rick Folbaum**

Rick Folbaum has almost two decades of award-winning broadcast experience. He has covered the world as an anchor and reporter, and he is currently anchoring the WNYW-TV Fox 5 News at 6 p.m. in New York City.

While with Fox 5, Rick has anchored live breaking coverage of some of the biggest stories in New York, including the 2005 transit strike, the 2007 Midtown steam pipe explosion, and the recent deadly East side crane collapse. He has reported on numerous major stories too, most prominently the recent visit of Pope Benedict as well as the Papal Mass at Yankee Stadium. Folbaum also reported and anchored from the 2008 Republican National Convention in Minnesota.

Rick joined Fox 5 from Fox News Channel (FNC). In his years at FNC, he was the lead anchor on many big breaking stories, including the Space Shuttle Columbia, the 2003 Northeast blackout, and the United States invasion of Iraq. At FNC, Folbaum served as anchor of

the weekend edition of The Fox Report; substitute anchor for the weekday edition of The Fox Report; weekend anchor for Fox News Live; and a New York-based correspondent. Rick began at FNC in August 1996 as a news anchor in New York and later spent a year and a half traveling the globe as a foreign correspondent based in London.

While working overseas, Rick covered the NATO-led war in Kosovo; the conflict in the Middle East; the peace process in Northern Ireland; Prince Edward's royal wedding; the investigation into Princess Diana's fatal car crash; and the 2000 Millennium celebrations.

In 2005, he hosted a one-hour documentary on global warming for FNC called "The Heat Is On." For the special, Rick traveled extensively throughout the United States, including a compelling visit to Alaska, and to Europe as well. On September 11, 2001, Folbaum was one of the first reporters on the scene after the attack on the World Trade Center. Earlier in his career, he also covered the first WTC bombing in 1993 while working for WOR-AM.

His previous experience includes stints at America's Talking, MSNBC, and various broadcasting positions in Syracuse, Philadelphia, and Aspen. While working in Colorado, Folbaum's breaking coverage of a tragedy involving 14 firefighter deaths at Storm King Mountain won a Best Reporting Award from the Associated Press. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications.

Rick serves on the Board of the Greater NY Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. He is proud of his involvement with that and other nonprofit organizations, including his role as Master of Ceremonies for the Overcoming Obstacles Achievement Awards. He lives in New York City with his wife and their two daughters.

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Student Achievement*

### **Samy LaGuerre**

Although only in the eighth grade at Public School 109 in New York City, Samy LaGuerre is already an insightful and mature young man. He credits his parents for teaching him how to persevere, remain focused, and know the difference between right and wrong. Since he was a little boy, Samy has watched his mother and father work hard to make sure he has every opportunity to succeed. Their dedication and desire to provide a good life for their family has inspired Samy to be the strong, wise young man he is today.

Samy credits Overcoming Obstacles with helping him to hone these skills and use them as a leader in his school. He is part of the Overcoming Obstacles Buddy Mentoring program where 7th and 8th graders are trained to facilitate lessons on communication, decision making, and goal setting. Samy uses these lessons to teach younger students life skills for use in school, at home, and beyond. He recognizes that these moments are opportunities to encourage his students to achieve their dreams the same way others have encouraged him. He wants to send the message that "changing is possible if you don't give up on your goals."



This is Samy's second year with the Overcoming Obstacles program, and so far he has participated in numerous activities and lessons that have had a strong impact on him. Samy's favorite activity is "What Am I Trying to Tell You?" – an activity where students must act out emotions without using words. He identified that, as a leader, the way one communicates with others can affect a team's ability to accomplish a common goal.

Samy also credits his teachers with having a great influence on him, particularly his second grade teacher. While he was constantly being disruptive in class, the teacher pulled him aside and warned him that every decision he makes has a great impact on his future. This changed his outlook on his behavior and he carries it with him today. Even as the lesson facilitator, Samy says he benefits from the Overcoming Obstacles lessons by learning new decision making techniques and preparing for whatever obstacles may lie ahead.

Samy's goals are to graduate from high school and college and become a scientist. In school, Samy gets along with everyone while staying true to himself, observing that "some kids follow others to fit in and, doing that, they will end up in a bad place. Being a leader, you will end up in an excellent place."

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Student Achievement*



### **Mary Wright**

Mary Wright is described by her family and peers as the type of person who is determined, passionate, and always willing to help those in need. It is this attitude, combined with her conviction to stay true to herself, that has made her into the remarkable young woman she is today. Currently, she is a senior at Sheepshead Bay High School in Brooklyn and is proud to be a student in the New York City public school system.

Mary's thirst for knowledge and desire to expand her horizons are uncommon in young people her age; her excellent grades and participation in school activities are a result of this. Presently, she is a member of her school's track, softball, and basketball teams and is involved extensively in the school's music programs, including the school band, drum line, and the marching band.

Mary's involvement in her school does not end there, as her list of extracurricular activities is extensive. She belongs to the SMART (Science Medicine And Related

Topics) Program of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, a five-week program which seeks to increase the number of minorities interested in pursuing careers in the fields of science and health; Project Rebound, a program to help basketball players keep their grades up; and All Sisters Evolving Together (ASET), a program that seeks to strengthen the bond of sisterhood.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about Mary is that she has never allowed her current circumstances to determine her future. She is a student living in transitional housing who, despite the many years she has spent in the shelter system, has never lost sight of her ambition. Mary attributes the Overcoming Obstacles program with helping her stay focused on her goals and make wise decisions. She credits a confidence-building activity, where she had to identify her strengths, as a turning point. Before participating in the Overcoming Obstacles program, Mary always felt different and out of place, but after seeing all her strengths listed on a chalkboard, she realized that she has many admirable qualities that can be used to attain her goals and ultimately improve her life.

Mary has chosen to study medicine and is now enrolled in her school's nursing program, which requires that she complete 120 hours of clinical work at Sheepshead Bay Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Not only is Mary excelling in her nursing courses, but she continues to shine in her general courses as well.

Her future plans include graduating high school, continuing on to college, and enrolling in medical school to become a cardiothoracic surgeon.

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Lifetime Achievement*

### **Daniel L. Doctoroff**

Daniel L. Doctoroff became President of Bloomberg, LP, the leading global provider of financial data, analytics and news, in January 2008.

Prior to joining Bloomberg, Mr. Doctoroff was Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding for the City of New York. Under the leadership of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Mr. Doctoroff led one of the city's most dramatic economic resurgences, spearheading the effort to reverse New York's fiscal crisis after the attacks of 9/11 through a five-borough economic development strategy. This plan included the most ambitious land-use transformation in the city's modern history; the largest affordable housing program ever launched by an American city; the formation of new Central Business Districts and Industrial Business Zones; and the creation of new, great destinations like the Harbor District, which links together new parkland and miles of waterfront esplanades in Lower Manhattan, Governors Island, and Brooklyn. All told, Mr. Doctoroff helped lead New York to its strongest economic position in decades. The city has achieved record levels of jobs, visitors, population, and the greatest number of housing starts since the 1960's.



Mr. Doctoroff also led the creation of PlaNYC, the most extensive plan to strengthen an urban environment ever undertaken by an American city. The 127-point plan, designed to create the first environmentally sustainable 21st century city, focuses on every facet of New York's physical environment – its transportation network, housing stock, land and park system, energy network, water supply and air quality – and sets the course for a 30% reduction in global warming emissions by 2030.

Prior to joining the Bloomberg administration, Mr. Doctoroff was Managing Partner of Oak Hill Capital Partners, a major private equity investment firm. During his fourteen-year association with Oak Hill, Mr. Doctoroff led the purchases of companies in a wide variety of industries, including information services, insurance, thrifts, cable television, hotels and leasing. While at Oak Hill, Mr. Doctoroff founded NYC2012, the organization dedicated to bringing the Olympic Games to New York. He continued to oversee the New York City bid as Deputy Mayor, ensuring that the Olympic effort spurred parks, housing, and economic development projects in all five boroughs.

Prior to joining Oak Hill, Mr. Doctoroff was an investment banker at Lehman Brothers. He received a B.A. degree from Harvard College and a J.D. degree from The Law School at the University of Chicago. Before attending law school, Mr. Doctoroff was a political pollster. He lives in New York City with his wife, Alisa, and their three children, Jacob, Ariel, and Jenna.

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Lifetime Achievement*



### **John S. Dyson**

John Dyson is Chairman of Millbrook Capital Management, Inc., an investment firm. MCM's business activities include managing private equity investments and a hedge fund. Mr. Dyson is also the Founder and Chairman of Millcap Advisors, which manages MMI Investments, L.P., a hedge fund focused on small capitalization value-based equity investing. MMI has produced an average net return of over 30% per annum over its 10 year track record.

Throughout his career, Mr. Dyson has combined his entrepreneurial drive, his leadership talents and his desire and dedication to keep businesses in New York City strong and thriving. Whether as New York City deputy mayor for finance and economic development in the Giuliani administration or commissioner of commerce for New York State, his achievements always created new jobs and economic activity. He spearheaded the creation of the "I Love New York" advertising campaign, which created 100,000 jobs, and the development of the "Grown in New York" program, which highlighted the food and agricultural industry in New

York State. Dozens of major companies, representing over 50,000 jobs, have remained in New York City as a result of Mr. Dyson's work in the development of new incentives and tax cuts. He negotiated the breakthrough deal with Disney to revitalize the Times Square area and engineered the deal to save Radio City Music Hall.

Mr. Dyson also serves as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Pebble Ridge Vineyards and its affiliates, which own and manage three wineries and three vineyards. The vineyards comprise over 600 acres in the Central Coast and Russian River Valley of California. Williams Selyem Winery is one of the nation's premier producers of fine and rare Pinot Noir and is located in the Russian River Valley of Sonoma County. Millbrook Winery is located in New York's Hudson Valley and Villa Pillo is located in Tuscany, Italy. Together the wine group produces approximately 30,000 cases of wine and cultivates nearly 1,000 acres of grapes per year.

Mr. Dyson received a B.A. in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University and an M.A. in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. Mr. Dyson serves as a Trustee Emeritus at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and Middlesex School in Concord, Massachusetts. He served as First Lieutenant in the United States Army for two years and was awarded the Bronze Star. He is the author of *Our Historic Hudson*, a book on the history of the Hudson River Valley. Mr. Dyson is married to Kathe Maria Bova and has two daughters and three grandchildren.

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Past Award Honorees*

Each year, the Community for Education Foundation recognizes adults and young people who demonstrate exemplary communication, decision making and goal setting skills to overcome life's challenges. Since 1995, we have honored some of our nation's finest citizens.

### 1995

Muhammad Ali\*  
Grant Hill  
Jackie Joyner-Kersey  
Steve Young  
Chris Zorich  
Ashley Buchan  
Theresa Deberry  
Ricardo Velasquez

### 1996

Robert L. Johnson  
Sherry Lansing  
Edward James Olmos  
Don Shula  
Hon. Christine Todd Whitman  
Heather Johnson  
Javier Nunez  
Kenneth Palmer, Jr.  
Angel Ruvalcalba

### 1997

Chancellor Rudy Crew  
John S. Chalsty  
Joe Torre  
Reggie White  
Wesley Bailey  
Tiffany Kehoe  
Deadrian Leonard  
Angelica Rivera

### 1998

Marian Wright Edelman  
Jonah Martin Edelman  
Scott Hamilton  
Rita Moreno  
Philip J. Purcell  
Deandra Gilbert  
Juul Miller  
Shahina Miller  
Rami Suaifan

### 1999

Kenneth I. Chenault  
H. Wayne Huizenga\*  
U.S. Women's Soccer Team  
Rosemary Nunez  
Jasmin Ortiz  
Eddie Royster

### 2000

Meryl Marshall-Daniels  
Catherine R. Kinney  
Isiah Thomas  
Rosa Basil  
Rayshon Johnson  
Tashida Pryor

### 2001-2002

Neal Baer, M.D.  
Donna de Varona  
Millard Fuller  
Alfred Lerner\*  
Stuart Subotnick  
Antoinette Acero  
Timothy Benford  
Thaesia Joseph  
Kevin Brian Smylie  
Kenneth Williams

### 2003

Valerie Ackerman  
James Dubin  
Marla Runyan  
Hon. Steven Sanders  
Lois Schwartz  
Mary Maisonet

### 2004

Pete Dawkins\*  
Verna Lauria  
Jack Wright  
Ariel Jimenez  
Rossana Villaflor

### 2005

Dr. Phil Brown  
Fannie Davis  
John W. Rowe, M.D.\*  
Keith Olkewicz  
Esther Ragbeer

### 2006

Judith Albornoz, Ed.D.  
Peter T. Grauer\*  
Verone Kennedy  
Taiwan Brown  
Marissa Mangru

### 2007

John S. Chalsty\*  
Shaquana Lateesha Andrews  
Octavia Casillas-Warren

\* Lifetime Achievement Honorees

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES 2008

# *Special Thanks*

Thank you to the following individuals and corporations for their commitment to the success of the 2008 Overcoming Obstacles Achievement Awards.

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John S. Chalsty  
Peter T. Grauer  
Catherine R. Kinney  
John W. Rowe, M.D.  
Geoffrey Stern  
Stuart Subotnick

### **MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

Rick Folbaum

### **COMMUNITY FOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Vincenzo Capone  
Matthew Damm  
Evan Dawson  
Susan Dawson  
Erin Doohan  
Jason Urbanski

### **AND FRIENDS**

Rochelle Ash	Marla Pardee
Helaine Baruch	Ching Rose
Nanci Bizzell	Kate Schroeder
Laura Clancy	Palma Sereno
Cathy Dantchik	Pam Thomas
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Annette Kuzmiak	Wallis Turner
Erika Mancini	Eugene Yu

### **JOURNAL DESIGN AND PRINTING**

Bill Wohler  
Hard Copy Printing

### **FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Eva's Garden

## WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE

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\*as of November 11, 2008



# *Congratulations*

Dan Doctoroff  
and  
John Dyson

Samy LaGuerre  
and  
Mary Wright

Thank you for being  
great role models!

Thank you for being  
great role models  
for the future!

**Jill and John Chalsty**



MUIRFIELD CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

salutes the accomplishments of tonight's  
Overcoming Obstacles Honorees

Dan Doctoroff  
and  
John Dyson

Samy LaGuerre  
and  
Mary Wright



Muirfield Capital Management

# *Congratulations*

2008 Achievement Awards Honorees

Samy LaGuerre

Mary Wright

and

**Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients**

**Dan Doctoroff**

**and**

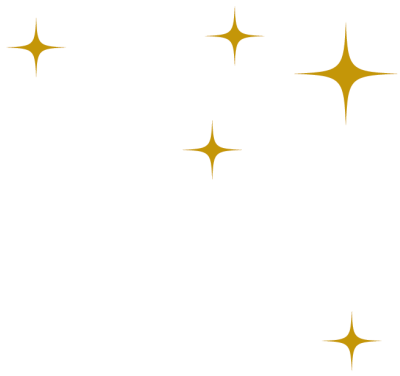
**John Dyson**

*Anita & Stu Subotnick*

# **METROMEDIA COMPANY IS PROUD TO SUPPORT OVERCOMING OBSTACLES**

We congratulate all the honorees on their outstanding achievements

**MMI**



Congratulations to the  
2008

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients

Dan Doctoroff

and

John Dyson

and to the

Overcoming Obstacles Student  
Achievement Award Honorees

Samy LaGuerre

and

Mary Wright

*~Valerie and John W. Rowe, M.D.*

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EDUCATION

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**Overcoming Obstacles 2008 Achievement Awards**

We congratulate tonight's honorees John Dyson and Dan Doctoroff



Occidental Petroleum Corporation  
would like to congratulate  
*Overcoming Obstacles*  
Honorees

**Dan Doctoroff**  
and  
**John Dyson**

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**Samy LaGuerre**  
and  
**Mary Wright**

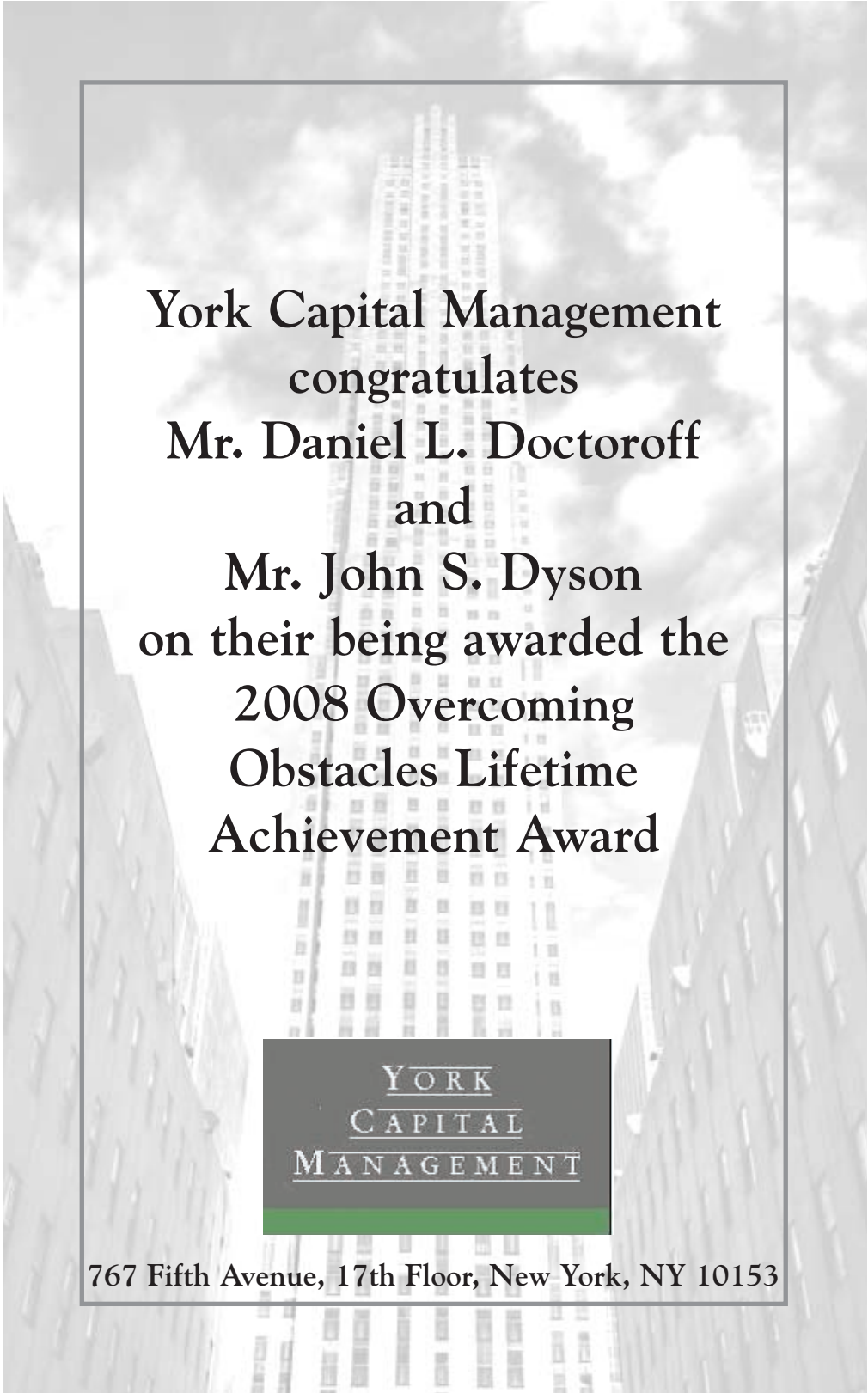
on their receipt of the  
Achievement Award.

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York Capital Management  
congratulates  
Mr. Daniel L. Doctoroff  
and  
Mr. John S. Dyson  
on their being awarded the  
2008 Overcoming  
Obstacles Lifetime  
Achievement Award

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*Salutes*

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DAN DOCTOROFF

AND

JOHN DYSON



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AND

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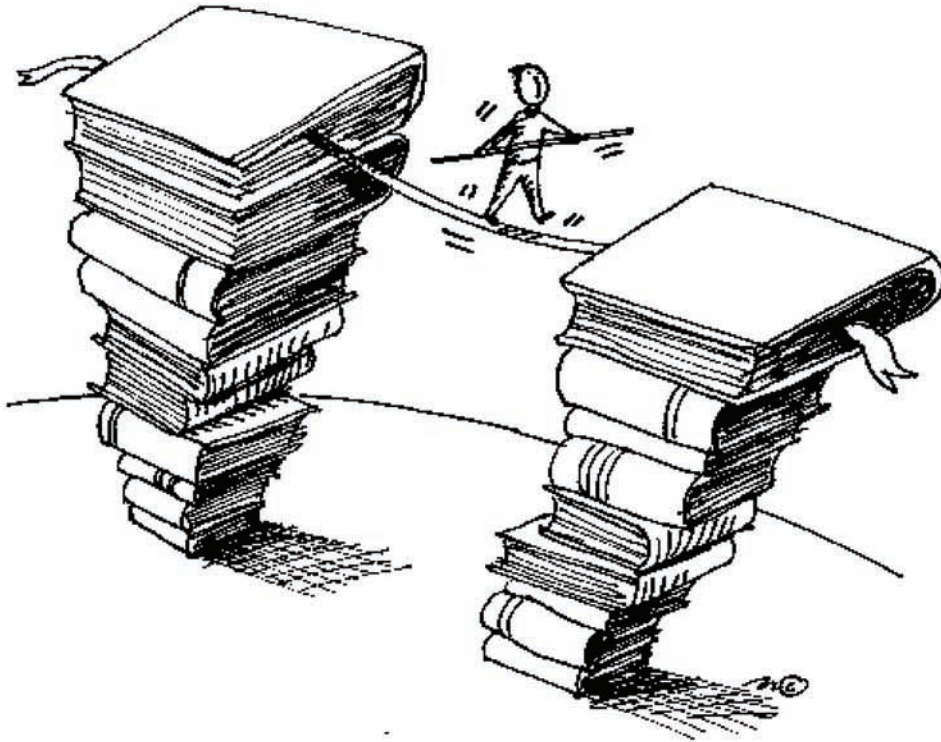
In recognition of her aspirations  
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