



NATIONAL
IMMIGRATION
FORUM

THE NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM AND
THE NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM ACTION FUND
PROUDLY PRESENT THE

KEEPERS
OF THE
AMERICAN DREAM

14TH ANNUAL AWARDS

OCTOBER 23, 2014



FORUM
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**KEEPERS OF THE AMERICAN
DREAM AWARDS**

THE W WASHINGTON D.C.
OCTOBER 23, 2014

**THE KEEPERS OF THE AMERICAN
DREAM AWARDS** celebrate the heroes

who embody the spirit of immigrant achievement and the American dream, contribute significantly to the well-being of immigrants in America and enhance our appreciation of immigrants and the immigrant tradition.

In addition to recognizing the entrepreneurial and pioneering accomplishments of these honorees, we also celebrate the Forum's 32 years of leadership, policy expertise, coalition-building success and commitment to advocating for the value of immigrants and immigration to our nation. ★ ➤

★ AWARDS PRESENTATION ★

WELCOME

Eddie Aldrete

Senior Vice President, IBC Bank
Board of Directors, National Immigration Forum

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Ali Noorani

Executive Director, National Immigration Forum

2014 KEEPERS OF THE AMERICAN DREAM HONOREES

Randi Weingarten

President, American Federation of Teachers


Jonathan Plutzik

Chairman, The Betsy-South Beach

Walmart

CLOSING REMARKS

Ali Noorani



“We may all come from different places and backgrounds, but we still look with awe to that same remarkable sky, and we want nothing more than the simple chance to reach for our own American dream.”

— José Andrés, Washington Post,
December 2013
2013 Keepers of the American
Dream Honoree



RANDI WEINGARTEN

President, American Federation of Teachers



RANDI WEINGARTEN is President of the 1.6 million-member American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, which represents teachers; paraprofessionals and school-related personnel; higher education faculty and staff; nurses and other healthcare professionals; local, state and federal government employees; and early childhood educators. The AFT champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for students, their families and communities. The AFT and its members advance these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through members' work.

Prior to her election as AFT president in 2008, Weingarten served for 12 years as president of the United Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 2, representing approximately 200,000 educators in the New York City public school system, as well as home child care providers and other workers in health, law and education.

In 2013, the New York Observer named Weingarten one of the most influential New Yorkers of the past 25 years. Washington Life magazine included Weingarten on its 2013 Power 100 list of influential leaders.

Weingarten has launched major efforts to place real education reform high on the nation's and her union's agendas. She created the AFT Innovation Fund, a groundbreaking initiative to support sustainable, innovative and collaborative education reform projects developed by members and their local unions. At Weingarten's direction, the AFT developed a model to transform teacher evaluations from a way of simply rating teachers to a tool for continuous improvement and feedback, and is using this model to align tenure and due process so that tenure serves as a guarantee of fairness, not of a job for life. Weingarten led an AFT committee that called for all prospective teachers to meet a high entry standard—similar to medicine or law—so that they're prepared from the day they enter the classroom.



JONATHAN PLUTZIK

Chairman, The Betsy-South Beach



JONATHAN PLUTZIK is Co-President of the PG Family Foundation in NYC, and principal owner and Chairman of The Betsy-South Beach (www.thebetsyhotel.com), home of The Writer's Room (www.betsywritersroom.com). Under Jonathan's leadership The Betsy-South Beach team has played a key role in promoting immigrant integration opportunities. He retired as a Vice-Chairman of Credit Suisse First Boston (CSFB) in 2003, after a 24-year career. His responsibilities included oversight for the firm's work with U.S. state and local governments, international privatization initiatives, investment banking activities in Washington, D.C., and global financial services. He also led the CSFB team that provided advisory services to the City of New York during the city's financial crisis and return to the capital markets. From 2003 to 2005 Jonathan

served as Chairman of Firaxis Games, a leading computer game company and home of Civilization, the widely acclaimed strategy game.

Jonathan has a long legacy of charitable leadership, serving 12 years as Chairman of the Board of the CORO New York Leadership Center, with additional Executive Leadership service to UJA-Federation of NY (including having served as a member of the Board and Executive Committee and Chair of both the Caring Commission and Connect to Caring Initiative). He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on the Board of Directors of Fannie Mae since 2009. Jonathan received his B.A. from Brandeis University and his M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.



Walmart offers products and services to 140 million customers each week. The nation's largest private employer, Walmart's U.S. workforce is about 1.3 million associates, including more than 807,000 female associates; more than 255,000 African-American associates; more than 169,000 Hispanic associates; more than 43,000 Asian and 6,000 Pacific Islander associates; and more than 14,000 American Indian and Alaska Native associates.

Beyond the company's fundamental commitment to corporate diversity, the Walmart Foundation has also been active in improving the lives of immigrants. In 2013, the Walmart Foundation announced \$1.5 million in grants to help nearly 19,000 Hispanic immigrants access integration programs that will provide the knowledge, training and support needed to become citizens of the United States and more easily integrate into the American culture.



moving money for better

SPECIAL THANKS TO SUPPORTERS OF OUR SEPTEMBER 29 IMMIGRATION 2020 RECEPTION IN LOS ANGELES:

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Raul Anaya—Bank of America
Fabian Núñez



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Greenberg Traurig is proud to be a sponsor of the Keepers of the American Dream Awards.

We congratulate all the individuals and organizations recognized.

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THE
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S O U T H B E A C H

Walmart 

Walmart is proud to be a sponsor of the National Immigration Forum. Congratulations to all the Keepers of the American Dream honorees.



Reclaiming the Promise

The American Federation of Teachers is proud to stand with the **NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM** to support commonsense, comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform for all aspiring Americans.

The AFT's 1.6 million members are honored by your recognition of our president, **RANDI WEINGARTEN**, with a **Keepers of the American Dream Award**. Her leadership in the effort to reclaim the promise of public education has given new life to our commitment to ensure that everyone in the American family has the opportunity to succeed.

In America, our public schools are part of the pathway to success. We must reclaim the promise of public education if we are to fulfill our collective obligation to help all children dream their dreams and achieve them.

aft.org/promise | [#ReclaimIt](https://twitter.com/ReclaimIt)

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WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...

Over the next six years, irrefutable demographic changes will influence politics, policy and, fundamentally, people. America's march toward diversity and connectedness will continue to change our nation's culture.

We have come to believe that **for America to thrive, new Americans must have the opportunities, skills and status to reach their fullest potential.**

To meet this goal, the Forum will deepen our engagement of faith, law enforcement and business leaders across the country, aiming toward the achievement of an *Immigration 2020 Agenda*.

For more information about Immigration 2020, please visit www.immigration2020.org.





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