

# **The Friend of the Council Award**

The Friend of the Council Award is given every year in recognition of a non-members contribution to THE COUNCIL and the field of education. They have to be a person who is actively involved in education and is active with THE COUNCIL. They also have to be recognized by superintendents as a person/organization who contributes time for the purpose of improving public education.

**The Award is presented at the Winter Institute & Lobby Day.**

**2018**

**Michael Horning, Jr., M. Ed., PLS 3rd Learning**

**2017**

**James R. Tallon, Jr.**

**2016**

**Dr. Elaine Zseller, Nassau BOCES**

**2015**

**John W. Sipple, New York State Center for Rural Schools**

**2014**

**New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR)**

**2013**

**Regent Roger B. Tilles, Board of Regents**

**Senator Stephen M. Saland**

**2012**

**Regent James C. Dawson, Board of Regents**

**2011**

**Robert G. Bentley, Assistant Commissioner of Office of Teaching Initiatives,  
New York State Education Department**

**&**

**Joseph P. Frey, Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Higher Education, New  
York State Education Department**

**2010**

**Sheila Gardella**, Director of Member Relations Division,  
Teachers Retirement Division

&

**Johanna Duncan-Poitier**, Chancellor's Deputy for the Education Pipeline of  
the State University of New York and former Senior Deputy Commissioner at the  
New York State Education Department

**2009**

**Charles A. Szuberla**, Coordinator of Operations & Management Services  
New York State Education Department

**2008**

**Timothy Kremer**, Executive Director NYSSBA

**2007**

**Chancellor Robert Bennett**, Board of Regents

**2006**

**Steven Sanders**, Former Chair, Assembly Education Committee

**2005**

**Utica National Insurance Group**

**2004**

**William Silky**, Professor of Educational Admin., SUNY Oswego

**John Fagan**, Executive Director, SCOPE

**2003**

**Thomas Sobol**, Teachers College, Columbia

**Steve Stephens**, Aramark ServiceMaster

**2002**

**George A. Perry**, New York State Association of School Business Officials

**2001**

**Charles Mackey**, NYS Education Department  
**Robert L. DeLuca**, New York State Teachers' Retirement System

**2000**

**James Kadamus**, NYS Education Department

**1999**

**Robert Heller** (retired), Western New York Educational Service Council

**1998**

**Linda Tinelli Sheive**, SUNY Oswego

**1997**

**Lois Wilson** (retired), Director, Education Committee, New York State Senate

**1996**

**J. Robert Daggett** (retired), NYS Education Department  
**Fred H. Thomas** (deceased), Thomas Associates