Our Honorees

**Jill Simeone** is Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary for Etsy, overseeing the Legal, Compliance, Policy, and Government Affairs teams for the Etsy, Inc. house of brands. Jill is deeply committed to Etsy’s mission to “Keep Commerce Human” for their over 5.5M sellers â€” the majority of whom are women and businesses of one â€” and fundamentally believes that good corporate citizenship is key to business success. Jill is as passionate about making Etsy a diverse and equitable workplace as she is about supporting the company’s financial goals.

Before joining Etsy, Jill held leadership positions at a variety of companies. She started her career in public service as a sex crimes prosecutor at the Manhattan DA’s Office. Jill received a B.A. cum laude from Harvard University, earned her J.D. at UC Hastings College of the Law, and studied international corporate law as a Fulbright Scholar in Mexico.

Jill has called Brooklyn home for almost 30 years. She is deeply engaged in her community, and has donated her time and leadership to support and educate diverse future leaders through mentoring, teaching, and building scholarship programs.

**Hon. Velmanette Montgomery (New York State Senator - Retired)** is recognized for her effective leadership and steadfast commitment to her constituents of North and Central Brooklyn. Senator Montgomery’s career as a New York State Legislator includes tireless advocacy for youth, public education, criminal justice reform, environmental preservation and civil rights.

As the Chair of the New York State Senate Standing Committee on Children and Families, Senator Montgomery has been committed to helping young people achieve positive outcomes through reform of the State’s juvenile justice, foster care and adoptive care systems. Senator Montgomery is the recipient of numerous awards, most recently she received the Barbara M. Clark Kinship Champion Award in recognition of
her longtime advocacy on the issue of kinship care.

The New York State Bar Association in 2010 honored Senator Montgomery with the Howard Levine Award For Excellence in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare. The award recognized the Senator for Reforming the Juvenile Justice System and her Untiring Commitment to Children. Sponsored by the Committee on Children and the Law, the award recognizes individuals who have done outstanding work protecting and promoting the rights of New York’s children.

IMPACCT Brooklyn, formally known as the Pratt Area Community Council, is a community development corporation committed to helping residents build and sustain flourishing communities in Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Bedford Stuyvesant, Crown Heights, Prospect Heights and Ocean Hill-Brownsville. For over 50 years, Impact Brooklyn has worked hand-in-hand with community members to preserve and develop affordable housing, promote commercial revitalization, strengthen local businesses, create homeownership opportunities, protect tenant rights, and prevent home loss.

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Please note that for all-in person attendees, proof of vaccination against Covid-19 is required to enter the venue. Masks are required in common areas of BRIC when not eating or drinking.

Online ticket sales for this event have ended. Please contact Anna Meyer (ameyer@lsny.org) if you are interested in purchasing tickets. If you would like to make a donation, please click here.