

Congratulations to our 2009 Excellence Award Winners!

MNN Nonprofit Advocacy Award: *Dot Art*

The mission of [Dot Art](#) is to make exemplary visual arts education available to everyone in Dorchester and surrounding neighborhoods. Advocacy for access to the arts on behalf of Dot Art's target population is vital, and has required creative approaches. Dot Art's effective advocacy stems from its openness to change in response to shifts in need and on-going dialog with constituents and collaborators. Despite its small annual budget and staff, Dot Art typically teaches 1,000+ students each year, and reaches thousands more through its public art installations and performances, a reach the organization attributes to its creative advocacy principles.

MNN Nonprofit Collaboration Award: *Fairmont/Indigo Line CDC Collaborative*

Building on the advocacy of several neighborhood-based community organizations for new T stations and more frequent service, the [Fairmont/Indigo Line CDC Collaborative](#), formed in 2004, includes four Community Development Corporations (CDCs) that have contiguous boundaries along the Fairmount Corridor. The Collaborative CDCs are: Dorchester Bay EDC, Codman Square NDC, Mattapan CDC, and Southwest Boston CDC. By working together, the Collaborative has been able to launch one of the most ambitious development programs in the City of Boston, and has attracted resources, media and funder attention that would not have been possible working alone.

MNN Nonprofit Governance Award: *Minute Man Arc*

[Minute Man Arc](#) of Concord is committed to enhancing the quality of life for people of all ages with developmental disabilities and their families. They fully integrate board members, sometimes family members of those it serves, and senior managers as strategic partners for the management and oversight of the organization. Through its successful collaborations, the board and staff is exploring alternative revenue streams and creative models within the service delivery system to enhance services to its clients.

MNN Nonprofit Innovation Award: *Community Servings*

[Community Servings](#) is dedicated to providing free, home-delivered meals throughout eastern Massachusetts to people home-bound with acute, life-threatening illnesses and who are unable to shop or cook for themselves. Community Servings has served over 3.6 million free meals to the critically ill since 1990. Two recent innovative programs include: Meals for Many Social Enterprise and Community Servings Teaching Kitchen. The organization is using the increased capacity of a new state-of-the-art nutrition facility to sell culturally appropriate, nutritionally tailored meals to schools and nonprofits that serve vulnerable populations. This business approach makes wise use of core expertise in medical nutrition therapy and specialized diets and also provides revenue. The Community Servings Teaching Kitchen program grew from the recognition that for many, the problem of hunger is not a matter of access to food, but instead, a matter of breaking the cycle of poverty and creating higher levels of self-sustainability through steady, skilled employment.

MNN Nonprofit Leadership Award: *Billy Starr, Pan-Massachusetts Challenge*

[The Pan-Massachusetts Challenge \(PMC\)](#) raises money for life-saving cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through an annual bike-a-thon that crosses the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. **Billy Starr**, founder and executive director of the Pan-Mass Challenge, manages the PMC with a commitment to efficiency, quality and authenticity. The PMC raises and contributes more money to charity than any other athletic fund-raising event in the United States. The Pan-Mass Challenge celebrates its 30th ride on this August.

MNN Nonprofit Management Award: *Big Sister Association of Greater Boston*

The mission of [Big Sister Association of Greater Boston](#) is to help girls realize their full potential by providing them with positive mentoring relationships with women. In late 2007, the entire agency staff and Board of Directors built an agency culture document that includes the Mission, Vision, Values, Core Competencies and Culture. The management efforts have produced significant positive outcomes in reducing expenses while maintaining and even growing its services to Greater Boston girls.

MNN Nonprofit Young Professional Award: *Megan Trombly of Strong Women, Strong Girls*

Meghan Trombly of [Strong Women, Strong Girls](#) has focused tirelessly on researching best practices from high performing not for profit agencies and bringing to SWSG the best of the best: creating replicable systems, building a strong brand, creating standardized documents and a virtual distribution mechanism, and providing on-going staff training. SWSG utilizes the lessons learned from strong women throughout history to encourage girls and young women to become strong women themselves. This is done by partnering college undergraduate women as volunteer mentors for low income girls in grades 3-5.



Judges

Laurie Dopkins - Senior Research Associate, Program Coordinator, Northeastern University School of Social Science

Donna Haig Friedman - Center Director and Research Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts Boston

Kristen McCormack - Executive-in-Residence, Lecturer, Faculty Director, Boston University Public and Nonprofit Management Program

Melissa Morriss-Olson - Graduate School Dean, Professor of Nonprofit Management and Philanthropy, Bay Path College.