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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**James Lenox House and Carnegie East House to Honor**

**STO Building Group’s James Donaghy, CBRE’s David Hollander and Ken Rapp and Board Member William Welsh at Spring Blossoms Gala in April**

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***Annual Dinner and Auction Supports Residents of***

***NYC’s Premier Not-for-Profit Living Communities for Older Adults***

**New York, NY – March 8, 2023** – James Lenox House and Carnegie East House, New York City’s premier not-for-profit independent and enriched living communities for older adults, will honor four exceptional New Yorkers, each of whom has demonstrated a significant commitment to the needs of older adults, at its annual Spring Blossoms Gala on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at The Ziegfeld Ballroom on 141 West 54th Street in Manhattan.

The co-recipients of the *Mary Lenox Sheafe Award* are **James Donaghy,** Executive Chairman of STO Building Group, **David Hollander,** Vice Chairman of CBRE’s Manhattan operations and **Ken Rapp**, Vice Chairman of CBRE’s Midtown Manhattan office.Board member **William Welsh** will receive the*Lifetime Service Award.*

The Gala raises funds to support safe, affordable living at James Lenox House and its sister residence, Carnegie East House. Programs include excellent nursing care, social work counselors, exercise and yoga programs, health and wellness seminars, robust libraries, as well as a variety of cultural opportunities, including musical performances, dance programs, and ample opportunities to socialize, which is critical given that a major enemy of older adults is social isolation.

“As we approach our 157th anniversary of service to residents and the New York community, we are grateful for the opportunity to honor these four extraordinary New Yorkers,” said Joseph Girven, Executive Director of the James Lenox House Association. “Their extensive altruism and dedication make them more than deserving of these recognitions. James, David, Ken and William truly embody the organization’s mission.”

*Mary Lenox Sheafe Award* co-honoree **James Donaghy** is a leader in the New York City construction industry, serving as Executive Chairman of STO Building Group, a global construction management company. The award is presented to those who demonstrate extraordinary dedication and leadership to New York City and its older adults.

Mr. Donaghy has led STO Building Group into new markets, providing construction management and general contracting services through the firm’s international network of offices. He plays a key leadership role in setting the strategic direction of the organization and spearheads innovation within the firm to better serve clients and provide more opportunity for employees. When he is not taking on the role of project principal for some of STO Building Group’s high-profile pursuits, projects, and accounts, he is typically working alongside the management teams on strategic plans to ensure a sustainable growth plan for STOBG.

Mr. Donaghy is also active in developing future leaders. A strong community supporter, Mr. Donaghy is chairman of the Explorers and the Boy Scouts of America-Greater NY Council and was the chair of the Planning Committee for the Board of Trustees of St. Thomas Aquinas College for six years. He also sits on the Dean’s Advisory Council for the Engineering School of Hofstra University, the Board of Directors for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society-NYC Chapter, and Cardinal Dolan’s Committee for Charity.

“I believe that giving back to your community is essential,” Mr. Donaghy said. “I couldn’t be more thankful for the group of hardworking individuals at James Lenox House and Carnegie East House. I am grateful for this honor, and to work with so many of my colleagues in the real estate world to make this Spring Blossoms Gala the most successful ever.”

Honoree **David Hollander**, the co-recipient of the *Mary Lenox Sheafe Award*, is a recognized leader in the New York City real estate industry. He serves as Vice Chairman of CBRE’s Manhattan operations. Mr. Hollander has more than 25 years of commercial real estate experience and has long-standing blue-chip clientele that includes some of the world’s most recognizable names including Google; Interpublic Group of Companies, Charles Schwab; Dentsu Aegis Networks; Nippon Life Insurance; Crains; Apple Bank; and City University of NY.. During his tenure, Mr. Hollander has been among the firm’s Coldbert Coldwell Circle six times, which is awarded to the company’s top 3% producers.

“This recognition is an incredible honor and I hope to use it to further communicate the goals of James Lenox House,” Mr. Hollander said. “I fully believe in the organization’s mission to provide affordable, first-rate housing for the elderly community in New York City and am so thankful for the organization and all that it does for our city.”

Honoree **Ken Rapp**, the co-recipient of this year’s *Mary Lenox Sheafe Award*, serves as Vice Chairman of CBRE’s Midtown Manhattan office. Mr. Rapp’s thorough and extensive knowledge of the New York City real estate market has led him to complete more than 500 lease transactions totaling more than 20+ million sq. ft. with aggregate rent commitments in excess of $20 billion.

During his tenure at CBRE, Mr. Rapp has been named a "Top 10" Producer in the New York City office more than 20 times and has been in the top 100 of CBRE nationally more than 15 times.  He has won numerous management awards, including the Managing Officers Award, Outstanding Achievement Award, Technology Award and International Award.  Mr. Rapp has been awarded the CBRE Colbert Coldwell Circle designation 15 times, representing the top 3% of producers at CBRE worldwide. Mr. Rapp was also the 2021 recipient of CBRE’s highest award, the William H. McCarthy Award which recognizes one high-producing professional annually.

“I have dedicated my career to helping people and their businesses prosper, so I am eager to assist an organization that is all about giving older adults environments and services that help them get the most out of their lives,” Mr. Rapp said. “I am grateful for this honor, and to work with so many of my colleagues in the real estate world to make this Spring Blossoms Gala the most successful ever.”

The organization’s *Lifetime Service Award* will be given to board member **William J. Welsh**, a member of the James Lenox House Association Board of Directors for over a decade. Mr. Welsh has served on a number of James Lenox House Committees such as the Investment Committee and currently chairing the Stewardship Committee (helping those residents who need economic support to pay rent) as well as the Tenants Liaison Committee. Mr. Welsh currently serves as Portfolio Manager and Partner at Wilkinson Global Asset Management, an independent investment advisory and asset management firm.

For sponsorship and ticket information, visit [www.jlhainc.org](http://www.jlhainc.org), or contact Lane Peace at lpeace@jlhainc.org

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