## Inside Out



## **Carol Ann Benanti**

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**MANHATTAN** 

## Greater New York Epiphany Celebration honors 'Wise Women'

he Greater New York
Region of the National
Organization of Italian American Women
(NOIAW) will honor three
outstanding Italian-American
women at its annual Epiphany
Celebration in Manhattan.

The event — 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday at Columbus Citizens Foundation, 8 E. 69th St. — celebrates the achievements of "Three Wise Women" — **Dr. Donna Corradoof** the NYC Department of Aging; **Carin Guarasci** of Wagner College; and **Sue Matthews** of Conquering Kidz Cancer.

- Guarasci is Professor of Education & Director of New Educators at Wagner College. She was inspired to create the New Educators at Wagner (NEW) program in 2009 by data revealing that nearly half of all new teachers leave the field within the first five years — primarily due to a lack of support. The NEW program nurtures Staten Island teachers who may otherwise become a part of that grim statistic. Ms. Guarasci has more than 25 years of experience as a teacher and administrator, dedicating herself to inspiring, educating and supporting children at risk and to mentoring new teachers.
- Corrado, Ph.D., LCSW, serves as Commissioner of the NYC Department for the Aging and has dedicated her career to expanding and im-

proving social services for NYC's most vulnerable residents. She has displayed deep compassion and creativity in responding to human needs, particularly as a champion for older adults. She previously provided 22 years of dedicated service to Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services — Brooklyn and Queens.

■ Matthews is the President of Conquering Kidz Cancer (CKC), a 501c(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness and funding research into cures for pediatric cancers. As its leader, Sue is a tireless advocate for pediatric cancer research and awareness and is actively involved in advocating for children with cancer in memory of her daughter, Taylor, who founded this non-profit at age 11. She is a CPA and was a Senior Manager at Deloitte specializing in mergers & acquisitions. She is writing a memoir of Taylor's journey to help parents facing the tragedy of having a child diagnosed with cancer.

"Each of NOIAW's honorees serves as a role model to young women and an inspiration to the Italian-American community," said **Dr. MaryRose Barranco** Morris, president of NOIAW's Greater New York Region and Founder of the Staten Island Network. "We are proud to recognize their accomplishments." Tickets for the Epiphany Celebration start at \$125 at noiaw.org. More information: email noiaw@noiaw.org or call 212-642-2003.

About NOIAW: The National Organization of Italian American Women is the only national 501c3 organization for women of Italian ancestry. We celebrate and preserve Italian heritage, culture and language. Through cultural programs, special events, networking opportunities, mentoring, scholarship and cultural exchange initiatives we seek to promote and support the achievements of women of Italian ancestry in the workplace and the community.







Carin Guarasci



**Sue Matthews**