

LOCAL NEWS



STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE PHOTOS/HILTON FLORES

At left, attending the Wagner College DaVinci Society's scholarship and awards dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn, Bloomfield, are, seated from left: Honoree Carol Ann Benanti, Eleanor Conforti and honoree Dr. Ginny Mantello. Standing, from left, are Ralph Lamberti; honorees Joe Sorrentino, Samir Farag, Mark Lauria, Dr. Gerard Villa and Dr. Frank Forte, and Carin and Dr. Richard Guarasci, Wagner's president. Above, Ms. Conforti gets a hug from Farag, winner of a Renaissance Award.

DaVinci Society of Wagner College bestows honors

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

The Wagner College DaVinci Society hosted its 10th annual scholarship and awards dinner Wednesday night at the Hilton Garden Inn, Bloomfield.

Community Service Awards were presented to Carol Ann Benanti, the "Inside Out" columnist for the Staten Island Advance; Mark Lauria, president of Mark Lauria Associates Inc.; Joe Sorrentino, a former prosecutor in the Bronx District Attorney's Office, and Dr. Gerard Villa, a dentist with a practice in Eltingville.

"To see such camaraderie and community spirit is truly heart-warming," said Mrs. Benanti.

"More than 400 Staten Islanders came out in support of the organization that awards scholarships to Italian-American students at



Dr. Mantello receives a Renaissance Award.

Wagner College who are worthy and in financial need." Renaissance Awards were bestowed upon Samir Farag, founder and president of Worldwide Electronic Corp. of Staten Island; and Dr. Ginny Mantello, a neuroradiologist at Albert Einstein



Ron Cerrachio, left, Jerry Judin and Thomas Sipp Jr. enjoy the event.

College of Medicine in the Bronx. Each year, the DaVinci Society presents a Lifetime Achievement Award.

This year's honor went to Dr. Frank Forte, director of medical oncology and hematology at Staten Island University Hospital.

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