

2018 JBF LEADERSHIP AWARDS NOMINEES

JBF LEADERSHIP AWARDS



NAME: Liz Accles

AFFILIATION: Executive Director, Community Food Advocates

WEBSITE: <https://www.communityfoodadvocatesnyc.org/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Childhood Nutrition, Food Access, Youth Leadership

BIO: Executive Director of Community Food Advocates, Liz has spent her career in pursuit of social and economic justice and brings over 20 years of leadership experience at the city, state and national levels. Prior to joining CFA Liz served as the Senior Policy Analyst at the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies where she led the policy and advocacy work in the areas of income security and early childhood education. Liz conceptualized and built the Access to Assistance Campaign, a multi-faceted, coalition-based policy advocacy campaign designed to eliminate structural barriers to public assistance for low-income New Yorkers living in deep poverty. From 1991 to 2004 Liz served as policy analyst at the Community Food Resource Center (CFRC) and worked on welfare and food stamp policy issues on federal, state and city levels. In 1999, as a project of CFRC, Liz founded the Welfare Made A Difference National Campaign, a social marketing and legislative action campaign to reframe the debate over social programs for poor families. By engaging diverse voices of former and current welfare recipients in the policy debate the campaign challenged stereotyped images of poor women in both the public opinion and the policy-making arenas. Since 2003 Liz has served as a Trustee for the Patsy Takemoto Mink Education Foundation for Low-Income Women and Children. She previously served as a member of Planned Parenthood Federation of America's National Board of Directors.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Liz has led the successful effort to institute free lunch for all--universal free school meals--in New York City with patience, creativity, and enthusiasm. She has organized parents and students to join with labor unions and pediatricians, activists and scholars in the remarkably inclusive and successful Lunch4learning campaign. Her skill, her commitment and her persistence paid off with a big victory in September when free lunch for all was announced, and implemented, for New York City's 1.1 million school children."



NAME: Olympia Auset

AFFILIATION: Founder, Süpermarkt

WEBSITE: <http://suprmarkt.la/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Food Access, Youth Leadership

BIO: SÜPRMARKT is a pop-up organic grocery store that offers weekly produce subscription packages. In addition to offering produce to the community of South LA, they also accept EBT. As

a South LA native and practicing vegan, 26-year-old Olympia Auset had a difficult time finding organic groceries that fit her diet's requirements. With approximately 1.3 million people living in South LA, there are only 60 grocery stores across the region. This is why Auset founded [SÜPRMARKT](#), a pop-up organic grocery store and subscription service, to serve the local community of South LA. A Howard University graduate having studied public relations and sociology, Auset has always been interested in entrepreneurship, world health and governmental policies. A natural-born entrepreneur, Auset knew there was a way to alleviate both lack of access and food waste. With experience working in the food industry, Auset knew the amount of food wasted each day - [half of all produce](#). Produce is often wasted because of appearance or excess amounts – discarding food that is perfectly fine to eat. Since starting in July 2016, SÜPRMARKT has received grant funding from numerous organizations like [The Pollination Project](#) and has received mentorship and support from Robert Egger of [LA Kitchen](#) and [The Underground Museum](#).

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: Olympia was nominated for her innovative approach to solutions regarding Food Access.



NAME: Earl Blumenauer

AFFILIATION: Congressman, Oregon 3rd District

WEBSITE: <https://blumenauer.house.gov/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: A lifelong resident of Portland, Oregon, Congressman Earl Blumenauer (OR-3) has devoted his entire career to public service. In 1978, he was elected to the Multnomah County

Commission, where he served for eight years before being elected to the Portland City Council in 1986. There, his 10-year tenure as the Commissioner of Public Works demonstrated his leadership on the innovative accomplishments in transportation, planning, environmental programs and public participation that have helped Portland earn an international reputation as one of America's most livable cities. Elected to the US House of Representatives in 1996, Mr. Blumenauer has created a unique role as Congress' chief spokesperson for Livable Communities: places where people are safe, healthy and economically secure. From 1996 to 2007, he served on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where he was a strong advocate for federal policies that address transportation alternatives, provide housing choices, support sustainable economies and improve the environment. He was a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee from 2001 to 2007, and vice-chair of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming from 2007 to 2010. He is currently a member of the Ways and Means Committee and the subcommittees on Health, Oversight, and Tax Policy. Congressman Blumenauer's academic training includes undergraduate and law degrees from Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "His people's farm bill, just introduced, represents the most promising reform initiative in congress. He's been interested in food issues for years, and is a great friend of the movement."



NAME: Kelly Carlisle

AFFILIATION: Founder/Executive Director, Acta Non Verba Youth Urban Farm Project

WEBSITE: www.anvfarm.org

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability, Youth Leadership

BIO: Kelly D. Carlisle, Founder and Executive Director of Acta Non Verba, is a veteran of the United States Navy and has been the recipient of many awards, including the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. She is an avid gardener and is an Alameda County Master Gardener Trainee. She is an active member of the Farmer Veteran Coalition. Ms. Carlisle was selected as one of 200 U.S. Delegates to Slow Food International's Terra Madre and Salone del Gusto in 2012 and 2014. Ms. Carlisle is the December 2011 *Bon Appetit* Good Food Fellow. She has worked with and mentored pre-teen and teenage youth since the age of 14. A native of East Oakland, California, she is committed to creating positive change in her childhood city. Most recently, Kelly's work has been honored at the White House by President Barack Obama.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Kelly is an ex Navy Veteran who founded this organization to elevate youth leadership through urban farming from socially disadvantaged neighborhoods."



NAME: Dara Cooper

AFFILIATION: Co-Founder, National Black Food & Justice Coalition

WEBSITE: <http://www.blackfoodjustice.org>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Childhood Nutrition, Farm Advocacy, Fair Trade Food, Food Access, Racial Justice

BIO: Dara Cooper is a national organizer with the National Black Food and Justice Alliance (NBFJA), an alliance of Black led organizations working towards national Black food sovereignty and land justice. She is also an anchor team member of the HEAL (Health Environment Agriculture and Labor) Food Alliance, a cross sector alliance of organizations working to deeply transform our unjust food system. She is currently working on a project elevating racial justice and food systems infrastructure work (such as food hubs and co-ops), after completing a southern tour interviewing Black farmers, co-ops and food hubs throughout the south in partnership with the Center for Social Inclusion. Dara serves on the leadership team for the Movement for Black Lives policy table, working to link the struggle against mass police and state violence with environmental, health and nutritional violence against Black people. In August of 2016, the Movement for Black Lives' policy table introduced a Vision for Black Lives policy document providing a comprehensive set of policy demands from over 50 contributing organizations.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Dara Cooper has dedicated her life to equity and justice in the food system. Her work has focused on lifting up people of color, in particular black people doing work to improve the food system. Her work has spanned preventing and fighting back against black land-loss, creating mobile fresh vegetable markets in black and Latino neighborhoods, and most recently bringing the many experiences and expertise to a head to create the NBFJA." | "Dara Cooper has dedicated her life to equity and justice in the food system. Her work has focused on lifting up people of color, in particular black people doing work to improve the food system. Her work has spanned preventing and fighting back against black land-loss, creating mobile fresh vegetable markets in black and Latino neighborhoods, and most recently bringing the many experiences and expertise to a head to create the NBFJA." | "NBFJA is a coalition of Black-led organizations working towards cultivating and advancing Black leadership, building Black self-determination, Black institution building and organizing for food sovereignty, land and justice. The Alliance seeks to achieve this by engaging in broad based coalition organizing for black food and land, increasing visibility of Black led narratives and work, advancing Black led visions for just and sustainable communities, and building capacity for self-determination within our local, national, and international food systems and land rights work."



NAME: Michael F. Curtin, Jr.

AFFILIATION: Chief Operating Officer, DC Central Kitchen

WEBSITE: <https://dccentralkitchen.org/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Food Access

BIO: Mike joined DC Central Kitchen (DCK) in 2004. Drawing on his experiences in the restaurant business, Mike has spent significant time expanding the Kitchen's revenue-generating social enterprise initiatives. Under his leadership, DC Central Kitchen's Fresh Start Catering has expanded from traditional catering opportunities to include contracts to provide locally-sourced, scratch-cooked meals to schools across Washington, DC. DC Central Kitchen's Nutrition Lab facility, funded and launched under Mike's leadership, has allowed DCK to take on more contracts, rapidly increase investments in purchasing from local farms, and improve production efficiency. Due to its many social service programs, the Kitchen now employs over 130 people, approximately 40 percent who are graduates of the Kitchen's nationally recognized Culinary Job Training Program. Social enterprise now accounts for nearly 65 percent of DCK's total operating budget. Mike is a chair emeritus of the Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington and a Board member for The Common Market in Philadelphia. He was an advisory board for the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School and currently sits on the advisory boards of DC Greens, Real Food for Kids and Catalyst Kitchens and is a member of the Leadership Council of DC Hunger Solutions.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Mike Curtin is a leader in the anti-hunger movement, challenging us all to think creatively about how to alleviate hunger and address the root causes of poverty. Mike oversees D.C. Central Kitchen, an organization that trains jobless adults for careers in the culinary field, while also preparing millions of meals for hungry residents in DC utilizing food that would have otherwise gone to waste. Mike is always proud to offer that his organization 'fights hunger differently.' The innovative model Mike has helped to cultivate and advance has improved the lives of so many residents in the DC area, and should be replicated and expanded to reach people across our country. For his vision, his passion, and his commitment to ending hunger and making our food system fairer, healthier, and more sustainable, I nominate Mike Curtin of D.C. Central Kitchen for a 2018 James Beard Foundation Leadership Award."



NAME: Nicholas Freudenberg

AFFILIATION: Founder/Director, CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute

WEBSITE: <http://www.cunyurbanfoodpolicy.org/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Research/Academic, Food Safety, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: Nicholas Freudenberg is Director of the CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute and Distinguished Professor of Public Health at the CUNY School of Public Health and Health Policy. His research and scholarship focuses on diet-related chronic diseases, urban health, the evaluation of complex urban interventions, and the role of the food industry in health and disease. For 30 years he has assisted NYC organizations to plan, implement, and evaluate policies, programs, and advocacy campaigns to improve community health and reduce health inequities, and he was the co-founder, with Janet Poppendieck, of the NYC Food Policy Center at Hunter College. He holds a PhD and a Masters degree in Health Policy and Management from the Columbia University School of Public Health.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Distinguished Professor Nicholas Freudenberg of the City University of New York School of Public Health and Health Policy is the Founder and Director of both the CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute and Healthy CUNY. He is a tireless advocate for an end to racial and economic disparities in health, for humane and just food policy, and for a food system that promotes health and well being. He is also the author of the seminal work, *Lethal but Legal: Corporations, Consumption, and Protecting Public Health*. His recent work focuses on ending hunger among college students and promoting good food jobs-- food system jobs that provide adequate wages and benefits while contributing to the health and well being of consumers."



NAME: Jim Gerritsen

AFFILIATION: Farmer/Owner, Wood Prairie Family Farm

WEBSITE: www.woodprairie.com

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability, Access to Seeds

BIO: Jim Gerritsen of Wood Prairie Family Farm in Aroostook County, Maine, is not just a potato farmer; he's a potato artist.

Wood Prairie Farm provides certified organic seed potatoes and other products to customers around the country through their mail order catalog. Certified organic since 1982, Wood Prairie Family Farm has 40 acres in production, with ten or twelve of those acres in seed potatoes each year. Named by the editors of the Utne Reader to the magazine's 2011 list of 25 "People Who Are Changing the World," Jim is also one of those organic farmers who spends a large part of his time serving the community. As President of the Organic Seed Growers and Trade Association, Jim is at the center of an action against the corporate giant Monsanto in an effort to protect the rights of family farmers.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Exceptional leadership for many years in the areas of sustainable agriculture, open access to seeds, and the values of the family farm as the source of clean food for everyone." | "Jim Gerritsen has been a certified- organic seed potato farmer in Aroostook County, Maine for over 35 years. He is the President of the Organic Seed Growers and Trade Association (OSGTA), a national organization that represents organic farmers, seed growers and seed suppliers. Jim is without a doubt one of the strongest advocates for certified organic agriculture in Maine and beyond. In 2011, he was listed as 25 "People Who Are Changing The World" by Utne Reader Magazine, because of his ongoing work to protect family farmers from Monsanto litigation related to patents on genetically modified seeds, an effort he seeds critical in securing organic farming and organic food choices for Americans. If there was ever an organic farmer who deserved the James Beard Award, Jim Gerritsen undoubtedly should be it."



NAME: Jerry Glover

AFFILIATION: Senior Sustainable Agriculture Systems Advisor,
US Agency for International Development

WEBSITE: <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/frontlines/science-feed-future>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Research/Academic,
Food Access, Environmental Sustainability, Participatory
Research

BIO: Jerry Glover, a National Geographic Society Explorer since 2010, is the Senior Sustainable Agriculture Advisor for USAID working to develop sustainable farming strategies for small-holder farmers around the world. He earned bachelor degrees in soil science and philosophy and then a PhD in soil science at Washington State University in 2001. Jerry has studied a range of natural and farmed ecosystems, including no-till, perennial, organic and integrated systems. Documentary films and science magazines, including National Geographic, Discover, and Scientific American have featured Jerry's work and he has published papers on agricultural ecology in leading international journals, including Science and Nature, which identified Jerry as "one of five crop researchers who can change the world." Jerry serves as the technical content curator for the exhibit, "Exposed: The Secret Life of Roots," at the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C. and as an advisor to Food Tank, "focused on building a global community for safe, healthy, nourished eaters."

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "I'm nominating Jerry Glover because he's helped spread the interest in and taste for perennial crops through his work at both The Land Institute and USAID. His work not only helps provide more nutritious, sustainably grown, and tasty crops to consumers, but also helps small farmers increase their incomes. He's also a National Geographic Young Explorer and a true hero in the food and agriculture movement. I can't recommend him more highly."



NAME: Tony Hillery

AFFILIATION: Founder, Harlem Grown

WEBSITE: <http://www.harlemgrown.org/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Childhood Nutrition, Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability, Youth Leadership

BIO: In 2010, Tony Hillery founded the nonprofit organization Harlem Grown with the mission of bringing urban agriculture and youth gardening programs to Harlem residents. Over the past four years, Tony has established a high-impact program for young children in Harlem to learn about gardening, healthy living, and food justice. The programs have expanded to include school gardens and one-on-one mentoring programs; operation of a hydroponic greenhouse; a summer camp; nutrition and cooking workshops; and a training program for parents in Harlem to learn about urban agriculture. As the Director of the organization Tony specializes in forging strong partnerships, cultivating major donors, strengthening community engagement, and implementing high-impact programs. Tony has an undeniable passion for this work and shares it with all who visit Harlem Grown.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Tony is a true leader who wishes to pass on his skills and ability to think to the next generation. By working with both children and parents, he's inspiring Harlem residents to live healthier, more nutritious lives by growing, cooking, and thinking differently about their neighborhood."



NAME: Ferd Hoefner

AFFILIATION: Senior Strategic Advisor, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

WEBSITE: <http://sustainableagriculture.net/about-us/staff/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy

BIO: Ferd is a founding staff member of NSAC and has been a leader in the sustainable agriculture community for over 30 years. He led NSAC's federal policy work from 1988 through 2016, and now serves in a mentoring and advisory role to the coalition. Prior to his work with NSAC, for nearly a decade he represented Interfaith Action for Economic Justice and its predecessor, the Interreligious Taskforce on U.S. Food Policy, on federal farm, food, and development policy. He has consulted with many NGOs and has served on numerous USDA advisory committees. A graduate of Oberlin College, he has also undertaken graduate work in ethics and economics at Wesley Theological Seminary and American University.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Ferd has been actively engaged in federal food policy work for over 30 years, and I have had the pleasure of working extensively with Ferd and NSAC during my time in Congress. Ferd works tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that small farmers are represented on Capitol Hill and their voices are heard. His ability to build coalitions and mobilize grassroots efforts has been integral to the successes that we have had in making sure federal programs expand local food markets, boost conservation on farms, support beginning farmers, the list goes on. When it comes to federal good food policy, I can't think of an advocate that has had more of an impact than Ferd has."



NAME: Savonala "Savi" Horne

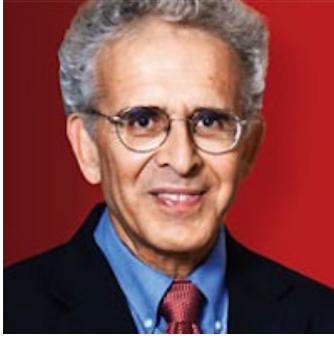
AFFILIATION: Executive Director, Land Loss Prevention Project

WEBSITE: <https://www.landloss.org/staff.html>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy

BIO: As Executive Director of the [Land Loss Prevention Project](#), Savi Horne helps use the power of the law to keep African Americans farmers in North Carolina from losing their land to indebtedness, legal challenges, and gentrification, while offering technical support for farmers to make their enterprises economically viable and environmentally sustainable. The Land Loss Prevention Project (LLPP) was founded in 1982 by the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers to curtail epidemic losses of Black owned land in North Carolina. LLPP was incorporated in the state of North Carolina in 1983. The organization broadened its mission in 1993 to provide legal support and assistance to all financially distressed and limited resource farmers and landowners in North Carolina. LLPP's advocacy for financially distressed and limited resource farmers involves action in three separate arenas: litigation, public policy, and promoting sustainable agriculture and environment. Activity in the litigation arena typically involves debt restructuring for farmers in crisis and other legal work. On the public policy front, LLPP monitors agricultural policy and the impact it has on North Carolina's small family farmers. Finally, LLPP helps family farmers and landowners develop sustainable agricultural practices that are environmentally friendly and economically viable for their rural communities. LLPP is committed to working alongside state, regional and national coalitions who support sustainable agriculture practices, development and policy innovations. It is part of LLPP's organizational strategy to integrate policy and programmatic work into the issue areas addressed in litigation.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Savi is a Black lawyer in North Carolina who has fought for decades to preserve and protect the land base and livelihoods of Black farmers in the Southeast. She is a leader in the national conversation about land and the director of the [Land Loss Prevention Project](#)."



NAME: Michael Jacobson

AFFILIATION: Director, Center for Science in the Public Interest

WEBSITE: <https://cspinet.org/michael-jacobson>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Food Nutrition and Advocacy

BIO: Michael F. Jacobson, Ph.D., is a Co-founder and long-time Executive Director of CSPI. He is now serving as Senior Scientist at CSPI. Jacobson has written numerous books and reports, including *Eater's Digest: the Consumer's Fact Book of Food Additives*, *Nutrition Scoreboard*, *Salt: the Forgotten Killer*, and *Liquid Candy: How Soft Drinks are Harming Americans' Health*. He has also been honored with such awards as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Hero Award (2010), the American Public Health Association's David P. Rall award for advocacy in public health (2011), and the Food Marketing Institute's Esther Peterson Consumer Service Award (1992). His Ph.D. in microbiology is from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "CSPI is most important food and nutrition advocacy org. He led it for 45 years."



NAME: Winona LaDuke

AFFILIATION: Executive Director, Honor the Earth

WEBSITE: www.honorearth.org

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Indigenous Food Sovereignty

BIO: Winona LaDuke is an internationally renowned activist working on issues of sustainable development renewable energy and food systems. She lives and works on the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota, and is a two time vice presidential candidate with Ralph Nader for the Green Party. As Program Director of the Honor the Earth, she works nationally and internationally on the issues of climate change, renewable energy, and environmental justice with Indigenous communities. And in her own community, she is the founder of the White Earth Land Recovery Project, one of the largest reservation based non profit organizations in the country, and a leader in the issues of culturally based sustainable development strategies, renewable energy and food systems. In this work, she also continues national and international work to protect Indigenous plants and heritage foods from patenting and genetic engineering. The White Earth Land Recovery Project has won many awards- including the prestigious 2003 International Slow Food Award for Biodiversity, recognizing the organization's work to protect wild rice from patenting and genetic engineering. A graduate of Harvard and Antioch Universities, she has written extensively on Native American and environmental issues. She is a former board member of Greenpeace USA and is presently an advisory board member for the Trust for Public Lands Native Lands Program as well as a board member of the Christensen Fund. The Author of five books, including *Recovering the Sacred*, *All our Relations* and a novel- *Last Standing Woman*, she is widely recognized for her work on environmental and human rights issues.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Winona's work on Native American foodways and food sovereignty, particularly with the White Earth Land Recovery Project, paved the way for a new generation of indigenous leaders to reclaim native species, traditions and land. Many of the ingredients that Beard award winners like to cook is "local", yet the foundation hasn't found a way to recognize the most local food traditions -the ones that were here before 1492. Winona makes that history thinkable."



NAME: Frances Moore Lappe

AFFILIATION: Writer, Activist

WEBSITE: <https://www.smallplanet.org/frances-moore-lappe>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Environmental Sustainability

BIO: Frances Moore Lappé is the author or co-author of 19 books about world hunger, living democracy, and the environment, beginning with the three-million copy *Diet for a Small Planet* in 1971. Her fall 2017 book is *Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want* coauthored with Adam Eichen. The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., describes *Diet for a Small Planet* as "one of the most influential political tracts of the times." In 2008, it was selected as one of 75 Books by Women Whose Words Have Changed the World by members of the Women's National Book Association. Frances was also named by *Gourmet Magazine* as one of 25 people (including Thomas Jefferson, Upton Sinclair, and Julia Child), whose work has changed the way America eats. Her books have been translated into 15 languages and are used widely in university courses. In 1987 Frances received the Right Livelihood Award (considered an "Alternative Nobel") "for revealing the political and economic causes of world hunger and how citizens can help to remedy them." Frances is also the recipient of 18 honorary doctorates from distinguished institutions, including The University of Michigan. Frances is the cofounder of three organizations, including Oakland based think tank Food First and, more recently, the Small Planet Institute which she leads with her daughter Anna Lappé. Frances and her daughter have also cofounded the Small Planet Fund, which channels resources to democratic social movements worldwide.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "*Diet for a Small Planet* kicked off the food environment movement. She is still going strong."



NAME: Frank Morton

AFFILIATION: Farmer, seed grower, breeder; Wild Garden Seed

WEBSITE: <https://www.wildgardenseed.com/aboutus.php>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Research/Academic, Environmental Sustainability, Biodiversity

BIO: Frank Morton and his wife Karen began Wild Garden Seed in 1994. The seed business was an adjunct to their Wild Garden Salad business until September of 2001, when they left salad selling behind and rededicated all of their energies to making a livelihood as seed growers, breeders, and sellers. In 2002 they began a joint venture with John Eveland and Sally Brewer, owners of Gathering Together Farm, to grow and sell organic seed under the Wild Garden name. Gathering Together Farm provided the infrastructure, means of production, and home office services, Shoulder to Shoulder Farm provided the seed management, processing, research, and marketing. They shared many complimentary farm functions over the years– the insectary benefits of diverse flowers in a long period of blooming, the harvest synergies of biennial crop production together, peaks and ebbs in farming cash flow, and seasonally opportune infrastructure sharing. All of these made the farm function better and helped lift Wild Garden Seed into a self-sustaining, farm-based seed enterprise with an international reach. They sold seed to 41 countries in 2014, our 20th anniversary.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Over the past twenty years, Frank has created a seed breeding program that is basically unheard of outside of university settings. Growing for flavor, diversity, nutrition and resiliency, he have created a catalog of seeds that has influenced and inspired farmers and chefs throughout the United States."



NAME: Gail Myers

AFFILIATION: Cultural Anthropologist, Farm to Grow Inc.

WEBSITE: www.drgailpmyers.com

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Farm Advocacy, Research/Academic, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: Dr. Gail Myers is a cultural anthropologist who earned her Doctorate in Anthropology from The Ohio State University, her Masters in Applied Anthropology from Georgia State University and her Bachelors in English from Florida State University. In 2001, Dr. Myers organized the first statewide conference for African American farmers in Ohio Sustaining Communities: Ohio's Black Farmers at the Crossroads. In 2005, Dr. Myers organized the 19th California Small Farm Conference in Ventura, CA, In 2004, Dr. Myers founded Farms to Grow, Inc. Farms to Grow, Inc. works with black farmers farmers and local, state, and federal organizations to bring produce from black farmers and accurate history and education to low income communities It bridges the gap between black farmers and the next generation, serving as a cultural resource for anyone to learn about African American traditional farming ways. Farms to Grow led the way in implementing farmers market in predominantly African American communities with produce grown by African American farmers. In 2013 Dr. Myers founded the Freedom Farmers Market in partnership with farmers, business owners, and makers, and community vendors who cooperate to bring the Freedom Farmers Market to West Oakland. The Farmers' Market brings produce from black farmers and local vendors to West Oakland, a historically low income community. In the past 15 years Dr. Myers she has been lecturing, researching, teaching, writing and documenting stories of African American farmers, sharecroppers, and gardeners. Myers is considered an expert in the anthropology of African American farming. In addition to managing the operations of Farms to Grow, Inc., managing the Freedom Farmers Market, working with youth in middle schools, she lectures frequently around the country and consults for community based, local, state, national organizations and federal departments.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Dr. Myers has been a champion and an expert in African American agriculture. She founded Farms to Grow to bridge the gap between black farmers and the youth. As well as the founder of Freedom Farmers Market to bring black business to participate in Oakland's West market."



NAME: George Naylor

AFFILIATION: Farmer, Past President NFFC

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Fair Trade Food

BIO: George Naylor has raised non-GMO corn and soybeans on his family's farm in Greene County since 1976. He is a board member of the Center for Food Safety and a past president of the National Family Farm Coalition. NFFC represents family farm and rural groups across the country who face the challenge of the deepening economic recession in rural communities caused primarily by low farm prices and the increasing corporate control of agriculture. George raises 470 acres of corn and soybeans near Churdan, Iowa. In addition to his leadership on national food and farm issues since the mid-1980s, he is actively engaged in international farming movements.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Longtime farmer activist organic farmer."



NAME: Leah Penniman

AFFILIATION: Co-Director, Soul Fire Farm

WEBSITE: www.soulfirefarm.org

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability, Youth Leadership

BIO: Leah Penniman, Co-Director of Soul Fire Farm, got her farming start as a teen with the Food Project in Boston, MA. She then worked with the Farm School caring for goats and teaching city kids where carrots come from. Leah also worked for and co-managed Many Hands Organic Farm in Barre, MA for several years, co-founded Youth Grow in Worcester, MA, and worked with farmers in Ghana, West Africa and Komye, Haiti. Her areas of leadership at Soul Fire include farmer training, youth educational programming, international solidarity with Haitian farmers, food justice organizing, and anything that involves heavy lifting, sweat, and soil.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Soul Fire farm is not just about growing food but committed to ending injustice and racism in our food system. Each year they offer workshops and programs dealing with complicated issues around race and food. Challenging participants to understand their own affect upon the food system and how to promote change."



NAME: John Piotti

AFFILIATION: President, American Farmland Trust

WEBSITE: <https://www.farmland.org/our-story/senior-leadership>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: John Piotti joined American Farmland Trust as President in July 2016, bringing more than 20 years of executive management and public policy experience and a passion for saving the nation's farm and ranch lands from being lost to development. Prior to joining American Farmland Trust, Piotti served as President and CEO of Maine Farmland Trust for the previous 10 years. Under Piotti's leadership, Maine Farmland Trust became an award-winning statewide non-profit organization, helping over 400 Maine farms remain viable while permanently protecting over 35,000 acres of Maine's best farmland. Before serving as President and CEO, Piotti helped found Maine Farmland Trust in 1999 and served on its board of directors. Until 2006, Piotti managed all the farm programs for Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), Maine's premiere community development organization. He has also served as chair of the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (NESAWG) and a director of the National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture. He spent time in Sweden and Brussels exploring European models for using agriculture as a vehicle to advance sustainable community development. From 2002 until termed-out in 2010, Piotti served in Maine's state legislature, representing eight rural communities and serving as House Majority Leader, chair of Committee on Taxation and chair of Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry. As a legislator, Piotti gained a reputation as a non-partisan problem-solver, leading successful efforts to stabilize Maine's dairy industry and provide new state funding to protect working waterfront and preserve natural lands.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "John is recognized as a national leader in the farmland conservation movement. In the State legislature, I worked with John in creating programs that secure funding for working waterfronts and natural lands preservation. Most recently, John joined American Farmland Trust as President and continues to work as a leader to secure farmland preservation and to be a voice for farmers in Maine and beyond. In 2005, He was one of eight Americans who were awarded the prestigious Eisenhower Fellowship, where he travelled to Sweden and Brussels studying sustainable agriculture as a means of community development. His over 20 years of policy experience working in Washington, with State legislators, farmers and food advocates on the ground makes him a strong candidate for the James Beard Award."



NAME: Doug Rauch

AFFILIATION: President/Founder, Daily Table

WEBSITE: <https://www.consciouscapitalism.org/people/doug-rauch>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Food access, Foundation or Corporate Leadership

BIO: Doug spent 31 years with Trader Joe's Company, the last 14 years as a President, helping grow the business from a small, nine-store chain in Southern California, to a nationally acclaimed retail success story. He developed their prized buying philosophy, created their unique private label food program, and wrote and executed the Business Plan for expanding Trader Joe's nationally. He graduated from Trader Joe's in 2008. Doug is also the Founder/President of Daily Table, an innovative non-profit retail solution tackling the issue of hunger/obesity by utilizing the excess, high quality, nutritious food that would otherwise be wasted. Daily Table offers tasty, nutritious grab-n-go meals and groceries at affordable prices to the food insecure (49 million Americans) in our inner cities in a manner that delivers dignity and economic sustainability. He received his Executive M.B.A. from the Peter Drucker School of Management, Claremont University, where he won several honorary awards including the Early Career Outstanding Entrepreneur Award from Peter Drucker. Doug is co-CEO of Conscious Capitalism, Inc.; Trustee at Olin College of Engineering; Board of Overseers at WBUR; and serves on the board of several for-profit and non-profit companies.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: Doug was nominated for his corporate leadership.



NAME: Doria Robinson

AFFILIATION: Executive Director, Urban Tilth

WEBSITE: <http://www.urbantilth.org/about-us/board-of-directors/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Farm Advocacy, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: Doria is 3rd generation resident of Richmond, California and the Executive Director of Urban Tilth, a community based organization rooted in Richmond dedicated to cultivating urban agriculture to help our community build a more sustainable, healthy, and just food system. Urban Tilth hires and trains residents to work with schools, community-based organizations, government agencies, businesses, and individuals to develop the capacity to produce 5% of our own food supply. Formally trained as a Watershed Restoration Ecologist, Doria has also worked on organic farms in Western Massachusetts where she attended Hampshire at Veritable Vegetable a women owned organic produce distribution company, Real Food Company and Mixed Nuts Food Co-op. She is passionate about exploring her work from the perspective that physical, social and economic health is dependent upon ecological health; the restoration of one depends on the restoration of the other. Doria is a Certified Permaculture Designer, Certified Bay Friendly Gardener, a Certified Nutrition Educator and a Certified Yoga Instructor and the founder of Sanctuary Yoga, Richmond's 1st and only yoga and meditation center. She was recognized as Environmental Advocate of the Year for Contra Costa County and as Woman of the Year for Contra Costa County in 2010 and in 2011 she was presented with a Community Resiliency Leadership Award from Bay Localize. Doria currently lives in the neighborhood she grew up in in Richmond with her wonderful 10-year old twins.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Doria is a third generation Black resident of Richmond, California's Iron Triangle and the Director of [Urban Tilth](#). Under her leadership, Urban Tilth has trained dozens of Black and Latino youth in Richmond to grow food, and provided living wage jobs to many of these youth (almost all staff at UT, including leadership, came up through the youth programs). Doria has cultivated a strong relationship with local government and secured several acres of county land for long-term lease; UT is now growing thousands of pounds of food each year that are distributed through a CSA that serves low-income residents in the Richmond Community. She is a leader in the [Climate Justice Alliance](#) and in the US Food Sovereignty Alliance."



NAME: Nick Saul

AFFILIATION: Founder/Director, Community Food Centres Canada

WEBSITE: <https://cfccanada.ca/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Farm Advocacy, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: Nick Saul is co-founder and President and CEO of Community Food Centres Canada, a national organization that builds and supports vibrant, food-focused community centres in low-income neighbourhoods. These centres are based on the idea that good food is a powerful force for greater health, equity and social change. Nick is a recipient of the prestigious Jane Jacobs Prize, as well as the Queen's Jubilee Medal and has an honorary doctorate from Ryerson University. A long-time community organizer, Nick speaks regularly on issues of justice, civic engagement and the Community Food Centre model of food access, health and community building. Born in Tanzania and raised in Canada, Nick studied at University of Toronto and Warwick University in the UK as a Commonwealth Scholar. His bestselling book, *The Stop: How the Fight for Good Food Transformed a Community and Inspired a Movement*, written with his wife, Andrea Curtis, was nominated for the Toronto Book Award and won several other awards. It is published in Canada, the US and U.K. Nick lives in Toronto and is the proud father of two boys.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "The author of *The Stop: How the Fight for Good Good Transformed a Community and Inspired A Movement*, Nick Saul has inspired a whole generation of food activists with his hands on, practical vision for "a place for food in every community." he now heads a nationwide movement that is a model for us all."



NAME: Eric Schlosser

AFFILIATION: Writer

WEBSITE: <http://www.barclayagency.com/site/speaker/eric-schlosser>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Journalism

BIO: Eric Schlosser explores subjects ignored by the mainstream media and tries to give a voice to people at the margins of society. As an investigative journalist, he's followed the harvest with migrant farm workers in California, spent time with meatpacking workers in Texas and Colorado, told the stories of marijuana growers and pornographers and the victims of violent crime, gone on duty with the New York Police Department Bomb Squad, and visited prisons throughout the United States. His aim is to shed light on worlds that are too often hidden. His work defies easy categorization, earning praise from a wide variety of publications like the *Nation*, *Fortune*, the *Financial Times*, and the *National Review*. Schlosser's first book, *Fast Food Nation* (2001), helped start a revolution in how Americans think about what they eat. It has been translated into more than twenty languages and remained on the *New York Times* bestseller list for two years. *Chew on This* (2006), a *New York Times* bestselling children's book, co-written with Charles Wilson, introduced young readers to the health effects of fast food and the workings of industrial agriculture.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "*Fast Food Nation* kicked off the food movement."



NAME: Shirley Sherrod

AFFILIATION: Executive Director, Southwest Georgia Project

WEBSITE: <http://www.swgaproject.com/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Food Access, Black Farmers and Land Access

BIO: Shirley Sherrod is co-founder and Executive Director for the Southwest Georgia Project. She is a graduate of Albany State University with a degree in Sociology and has a Master's degree in Community Development from Antioch University. Mrs. Sherrod is a former Georgia State Director of Rural Development for the United States Department of Agriculture. She became the subject of a controversy when edited remarks were used to force her to resign. However, upon review of the complete unedited video in full context, the NAACP, White House officials, and Tom Vilsack, and the United States Secretary of Agriculture; apologized for the firing and Sherrod was offered a new position. She currently serves on the boards of Rural Advancement Foundation International, Rural Development Leadership Network and the Albany Chamber of Commerce.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Shirley is one of the nation's heroes in defending farmers and farmer equity. She has built farmer coops in the south and is also currently on the boards of Rural Advancement Foundation International, Rural Development Leadership Network and the Albany Chamber of Commerce. Again, I could go on..."



NAME: Anim Steel

AFFILIATION: Director, Real Food Challenge

WEBSITE: <http://realfoodchallenge.org/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Childhood Nutrition, Nutrition and Culinary Literacy, Farm Advocacy, Research/Academic, Fair Trade Food, Food Access, Environmental Sustainability, Youth Leadership

BIO: Anim Steel is the founder of the Real Food Generation and is instrumental in developing its initiatives (including the Real Food Challenge). He is also the former Director of National Programs at The Food Project in Boston, MA. Anim holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a B.A. in Astrophysics and History from Williams College. Although his dreams of becoming an astronaut never came to fruition, he is more than happy spending countless hours working on building and bettering a just and sustainable food system. He is also a fool for soccer and enjoys traveling back to Ghana, where he was born.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Anim, is not only the founder and director of the RFC, he is also a visionary in the food movement. He along with former JBF Leadership Awards recipient Navina Khanna developed the framework and did the initial research and work to launch the HEAL (Health Environmental Agriculture and Labor) Food Alliance." | "I think Anim is one of the best leaders out there - humble and strategic. He is the founder of Real Food Challenge which has mobilized thousands of students and is helping change the way a generation of young people think about food."



NAME: Ramón Torres

AFFILIATION: President, Familias Unidas por la Justicia

WEBSITE: <http://familiasunidasjusticia.org/en/home/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Fair Trade Food, Food Worker Justice

BIO: Familias Unidas por La Justicia (FUJ) is an independent farmworker union of indigenous families located in Burlington, WA representing over 500 Triqui, Mixteco, and Spanish speaking workers at Sakuma Bros. Berry Farm. FUJ formed on July 11th, 2013 with the hopes of securing a better future for hand harvesters in the local berry fields of Whatcom and Skagit County. Nearly four years later, September 12, 2016 FUJ won a historic secret ballot election ushering in a new era for farmworker justice in WA State. FUJ is the third independent farmworker union formed in WA in 30 years and the first union led by indigenous workers.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Ramón was a leader in the organizing effort of farmworkers at Sakuma Brothers Berry Farm in Washington state, which started with a strike in 2013. Workers were being paid a piece rate so low that most were not being paid the minimum wage. Working conditions in the fields were dangerous, and the state of the housing for the workers was abysmal. The mostly indigenous and Mexican workforce were also being treated without respect. After a 3-year campaign, which took Ramon around the country, building support for him and his co-workers, the workers won recognition of their independent union, Familias Unidas por la Justicia. In 2017, the union won an historic, unprecedented contract for farmworkers, which guarantees a minimum wage of \$15 per hour, a grievance procedure, and other improvements on the job. Ramon now continues to work on the farm and serve as president of the union." | "Ramon Torres is a co-founder and President of the independent farmworker union Familias Unidas por la Justicia. The union represents low-wage, indigenous farmworkers in the Pacific Northwest. This small, but mighty union won a groundbreaking first-ever contract with Sakuma Bros Berries dramatically improving the lives of thousands of farmworkers and their families."



NAME: Rowen White

AFFILIATION: Founder & Director, Sierra Seeds

WEBSITE: <http://sierraseeds.org/>

AREA(S) OF INFLUENCE: Farm Advocacy, Environmental Sustainability

BIO: Sierra Seeds is a small, regional seed company based in Nevada County, California. Providing access to regionally-

adapted seeds that thrive in our unique conditions in the Sierra

Foothills of Northern California is only one facet of our mission. Rowen White is a Seed Keeper from the Mohawk community of Akwesasne and a passionate activist for seed sovereignty. She is the director and founder of Sierra Seeds, an innovative organic seed cooperative focusing on local seed production and education, based in Nevada City, California. She teaches creative seed training immersions around the country within tribal and small farming communities. She weaves stories of seeds, food, culture and sacred Earth stewardship on her blog, Seed Songs.

WHY THEY WERE NOMINATED: "Rowen is a Mohawk woman who has done deep and extensive work saving indigenous seeds, traditional growing practices, and traditional food preparation practices, while training and cultivating others to be able to do the same. Her work is widely recognized in the indigenous community and brought to light through vibrant storytelling and community building."