



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Lea Webb

Senator Webb Presents Jo Schaffer with New York State Senate Commendation Award

LEA WEBB April 4, 2025

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(CORTLAND, NY) – Senator Lea Webb proudly presented Jo Schaffer with the prestigious New York State Senate Commendation Award, in recognition of Schaffer’s decades-long commitment to social justice, civic engagement, and community service.

Jo Schaffer has been a tireless advocate and trailblazer in the Cortland community, where her leadership has spanned education, the arts, civic engagement, and public service. Her

work with the League of Women Voters, United University Professions (UUP), Cortland Arts Connect, and many local boards and organizations has made her a cornerstone of civic life in Cortland County. From moderating candidate forums and registering voters to mentoring volunteers and strengthening democratic participation, Schaffer has left a lasting impact on the civic fabric of Cortland.

“Jo Schaffer’s contributions to the Cortland community and the entire state are both extraordinary and inspiring,” **said Senator Lea Webb**. “She embodies the spirit of public service—working diligently, selflessly, and consistently to improve the lives of those around her. Whether advocating for accessible childcare, supporting the arts, or defending workers’ rights through her union leadership, Jo has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to equity, justice, and civic responsibility. It is my great honor to present her with the New York State Senate Empire Award.”

“I’m deeply honored and humbled by this recognition,” **said Jo Schaffer**. “I’ve always believed in the power of showing up, listening carefully, and rolling up your sleeves when there’s work to be done. Civic engagement is a lifelong commitment, and I’m grateful to have worked alongside so many people in Cortland who care deeply about justice, fairness, and community.”

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