



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph A. Griffo

Parsons recognized by Griffo as 2019 New York State Woman of Distinction

JOSEPH A. GRIFFO July 11, 2019



ALBANY – New York State Senate Deputy Minority Leader Joseph Griffo, R-I-C-Rome, announced today that Kelly Parsons has been honored as a 2019 New York State Woman of Distinction. The award recognizes the outstanding work of extraordinary women throughout New York State, with one honoree selected from each state Senate District.

“It is an honor to recognize Kelly as a New York State Woman of Distinction,” Deputy Minority Leader Griffo said. “Kelly has worked and volunteered for a number of regional

organizations, groups and events that have a direct and positive impact on the lives of many Mohawk Valley residents. She has deep roots in the Mohawk Valley and has established herself as a community leader and advocate who strives to make the region a better place for all.”

Deputy Minority Leader Griffo recognized Parsons today at a special ceremony and presented her with a plaque, resolution and poster.

A brief bio of Parsons is below:

A graduate of Notre Dame High School, Mohawk Valley Community College and Saint Rose College, Kelly Parsons advanced her understanding of philanthropy at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. She has worked in a variety of fields that have allowed her to have a direct and positive impact on her community, including as a fourth grade and special education teacher. Other involvement includes serving as senior vice president of the United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica Area, director of development at The Stanley Center for the Arts and as major gifts director at Upstate Cerebral Palsy.

She currently serves on the Slocum-Dickson Foundation Board and has previously served on the boards of the Family Advocacy Center, Mohawk Valley Child Care Center, Mohawk Valley Ballet, the Landmarks Society of Greater Utica, First Source Federal Credit Union, the ARC Oneida-Lewis Chapter and Upstate Cerebral Palsy. She also has chaired a variety of events, including the 75th Gala for Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, the 2012 CURE Gala and an Irish raffle to benefit the Compassion Coalition. Further, Parsons was on the Master Plan Launch Committee for the Utica Zoo and was a parent advocate for CSI Meetings in the Mohawk Valley.

Parsons lives in Utica with her husband, Mike. They have a son, Daniel.

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