



CBC's 2023 Annual Gala Award

Welcome by NYS Attorney General Letitia James and NYC Comptroller Brad Lander

Transcript

[Vimeo](#)

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Comptroller Brad Lander:

Good walkup music, huh? Thank you so much to Andrew and Marissa. Congratulations to Walter and the governor and all the honorees. It's really an honor to be here. I want to give a special shout out to Carol Kellerman, your past president, who co-chaired my comptroller transition committee somewhat reluctantly to be fair. Which Andrew and several other of your trustees served on. Carol and Andrew, I'm trying hard to make you proud, or at least not too uncomfortable. You know, I think sometimes there's an idea that the values that CBC is perceived to care about--fiscal prudence and effective government--and the values that I'm perceived to care about--a progressive and more equally thriving New York City--don't go together. But I believe that they can, and they must because we can only have a city that advances equality if we have a city government that has the capacity to deliver effective services and that deploys its resources wisely.

Let's hear it for that. That's really worth it. Thank you. That's why, as Andrew mentioned, I'm really proud of the work we've done together in my first year together, we advocated successfully for the largest contribution to the city's rainy day fund in our city's history. And we'll keep working to make those contributions automatic. And we are making progress on the stubborn challenges of procurement reform so that we can provide the services and infrastructure that we need without wasting our time and money. I'm grateful for your leadership and I pledge to stay accountable to not embarrassing Carol. It is now my pleasure to introduce an elected official that I truly admire and someone who has ambitious goals for what we can do together to make New York a more just and equal and affordable place, and who also demands government with integrity in her four years as Attorney General. Tisch James has had the courage to take on some of the biggest fights in American politics, but she sweats the details too, and she'd rather be fighting for the little guy like homeowners facing deep theft than in the national spotlight. That's the kind of elected official who is in the CBC mold and one that all New



Yorkers are lucky to call our Attorney General. Please join me in giving a warm CBC welcome to New York State Attorney General

Attorney General Letitia James:

Thank you, Brad, for that kind introduction and welcome to all of my colleagues and government in the rest of the community who are here to join us for this very important event. I want to recognize this evening's honoree the great governor of the state of New York, the first female governor of New York, Kathy Hochul and Stephen Berger of the Chairman of Odyssey Investment Partners. Yay. Additionally, I wanna thank all of the chairs and co-chairs and supporters who made this event possible. And look at this crowd. You are, wow, you packed this place. Everyone here this evening and all of the CBC supporters are dedicated to making sure New York State and New York City are governed well, and with an eye to the future. Congratulations to the CBC for 91 years of dedicated service to New York City and New York State, your commitment to transparency and integrity and data driven policy research has helped our state grow during a time of hyper partisanship.

You are committed to rising above the fray, rising above all of the noise, and focusing on building a better future for all New Yorkers. You are vigilant and you keep an eye on the workings of government, and that is something that I can relate to. And through the research you undertake and the resources you make available, you help guide good public policy. Our city and our state are truly in your debt, and I'm grateful for the generation of service CBC has provided to all of us. So I thank you for the honor of speaking before you this evening and joining this august group of Public Service and passionate New Yorkers. Congratulations and thank you so much.

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