

## Gardens Conservancy's "Evening in the Gardens" Honors Recipients of the Ann Norton Philanthropy Award

Under the clear blue skies and soaring rare palms, Frances Fisher, Gardens Conservancy founding chair, welcomed over 100 benefactors on April 1 to Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens (ANSG) for a very special "Evening in the Gardens." The Gardens Conservancy's cocktail reception included a presentation of the Ann Norton Philanthropy Awards.

"Evening in the Gardens" was chaired by Karyn Lamb, a member of the Gardens Conservancy Founder's Circle and former ANSG board member. Katharine and William Rayner were the night's honorary chairs. Presented by Wilmington Trust, the reception included cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, entertainment by Phill Fest Jazz Trio and also spotlighted author Jack Staub's new book, *Private Gardens of South Florida*. The Gardens Conservancy graciously provided each guest who attended the evening a copy of Mr. Staub's new coffee table book, which features 22 lush landscapes, including nine gardens from Palm Beach.

"I'm honored to be chairing tonight's third annual Gardens Conservancy gathering," stated Lamb. "Thank you Conservancy members for your continued support in preserving the historic beauty of ANSG. I think you'll agree that much has been accomplished in the last years. For those who are not yet members of the Conservancy, we hope that you'll join us in the future to help protect this treasured oasis for the community."

Karen Steele, executive director for ANSG, and Katrina Lee, with Wilmington Trust and a Gardens Conservancy Founder's Circle member, presented the Ann Norton Philanthropy Awards that evening. The recipients reflect Ann Norton's philanthropic ideals and commitment to the community through her garden, art and home.

The first award of the evening was presented to The Gentlemen of the Garden (The GOGs), represented by three of the original founders, Robert Eigelberger, Jonathan Cameron-Hayes and David Miller. Formed in 1990, The GOGs have shown their consistent, decades-long commitment to Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens through leadership and stewardship by serving as board members and by providing dedicated funding for garden



Frances Fisher and Sally Soter  
(CAPEHART)



David Miller, Robert Eigelberger, Edwina Sandys, and Jonathan Cameron-Hayes (CAPEHART)

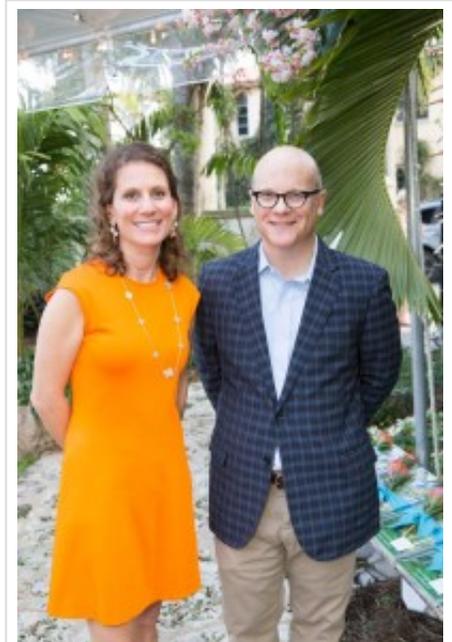
maintenance and enhancements. In addition to the award, it was announced that the ANSG Courtyard has been renamed to Gentlemen of the Garden Courtyard.

The second award was presented to Edwina Sandys, sculptor, and her late husband Richard Kaplan, architect, who have been generous supporters and trusted advisors to the Gardens for more than 25 years. In addition to Edwina's and Richard's personal commitment, The J.M. Kaplan Fund has also been a loyal benefactor for decades.

The last award of the evening was given to Board of Trustee member, Leslie Rose. Rose has been an active member of the ANSG Board for six years, including serving on the board's executive committee. A founding member of the Gardens Conservancy, he has sponsored exhibitions, including this winter's *Flowers*, and has been a supporter of many efforts and events, including Festival of Trees. He most recently has provided a major gift for restoration and preservation initiatives which has allowed the Gardens to kick off the ANSG Restore-a-Sculpture campaign. Accepting on behalf of Leslie Rose was his daughter, Cindy Anderson.

"As part of the Conservancy's efforts to preserve the ANSG as a treasure to our community, we're pleased to honor this outstanding group of individuals," stated Fisher. "Each recipient has embraced Ann Norton's vision with their own passion for these gardens as well as their stewardship and remarkable service for many years. Each of them punctuates the rich history of the Gardens in a very unique way."

A multi-category membership and stewardship program, the Gardens Conservancy supports the preservation and restoration of Ann Norton's art and archives, her home and studio, and horticultural initiatives. Of particular interest, the Conservancy is engaged in projects that raise awareness of Ann Norton's art and gardens through ongoing cultural and horticultural education via school and community enrichment programs and partnerships. Annual Gardens Conservancy membership is available starting at a \$500 donation, and donors receive complimentary admission



Karyn Lamb and David Gochman (CAPEHART)

to the Gardens, art openings, an invitation to the Conservancy's annual event, and discounted tickets to special events.

Gardens Conservancy Founder's Circle members include Frances Fisher, Chair; Sarah Benitz; James Borynack; Lourdes Fanjul; Becky Gochman, Susan Keenan; Karyn Lamb; Katrina Lee; Anne Messer; David Miller; Merry O'Donnell; Leslie Rose; Edwina Sandys; Amanda Schumacher; Sally Soter; Karen Steele, Cynthia Sulzberger and Emmy Wolbach.

The historic Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, Inc. is a recognized 501 (c) (3) operating foundation, established in 1977 by the prominent sculptor Ann Weaver Norton (1905-1982). The rare palm and sculpture gardens, exhibition galleries and artist studio are currently open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. For Conservancy membership information or details about upcoming exhibitions at the Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, please visit [www.ansg.org](http://www.ansg.org) or call [561-832-5328](tel:561-832-5328).