



**Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum**  
71 N Federal Highway  
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[www.bocahistory.org](http://www.bocahistory.org)

**Boca Raton  
Historical  
Society &  
Museum**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Celebrate Our Community Leaders at the 22nd Annual Walk of Recognition**

The Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum Presents the Walk of Recognition Induction Ceremony and Celebration on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, from 6:00p.m. - 9:00 p.m., at The Addison in Boca Raton, Florida

Boca Raton, FL – Now in its 22nd year, the Walk of Recognition award ceremony and reception will be presented by the Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum on Wednesday, November 7, 2018. The event will run from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at The Addison in Boca Raton. This year's induction ceremony and celebration will recognize two individuals and an organization, that have served in the interest of the community, and have enriched the lives of the citizens of Boca Raton. The ceremony will also include recognition of all past inductees to the Walk of Recognition. As a new addition, this year's winners, and all of the past winners, will receive a special Walk of Fame medallion and this year's institution, and all past institutional winners, will receive a special desk-top award. The Walk of Recognition event's Presenting Sponsors are Marta and Jim Batmasian; the Committee Co-Chairs are Marta Batmasian and Joyce DeVita; and the Committee Members are Denise Alman and Ann Schauer.

Instituted in 1997, the Walk of Recognition award has been presented to 91 deserving members of the community. Each inductee's name is also inscribed in a stunning black granite plaque, or on the Wall of Honor (for those who are deceased), which are both set into a commemorative monument featuring the mission of the program, beneath the Mizner statue in Royal Palm Place, in Boca Raton. The plaques are underwritten by Marta Batmasian, as part of her commitment to her community.

BRHS&M Executive Director Mary Csar states, "The Walk of Recognition is my favorite event because we honor the special individuals and institutions who have built our community. We are proud to recognize people from all walks of life, along with a wide range of institutions, who have made a positive impact on the quality of life in Boca Raton."

The reception and induction ceremony, at The Addison, is free for all past inductees. After the ceremony, and the presentation of medallions and desk-top awards, everyone will be able to enjoy a Mediterranean-themed dinner-by-the-bite, at a wide variety of food stations, along with a host of refreshing libations including Champagne, in the courtyard. The Addison is located at 2 East Camino Real in Boca Raton.

The new 2018 WOR inductees are: Rita Thrasher, Dr. Dick Reed, and the Boca Raton Museum of Art

Tickets--which are available to residents and visitors--are \$75, per person, and can be purchased by calling the BRHS&M at 561.395.6766, Ext.101, or by going online to [www.bocahistory.org](http://www.bocahistory.org). Tickets may also be purchased at the BRHS&M, at 71 North Federal Highway, in Boca Raton, Florida 33432, from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Short Bios of the 2018 Walk of Recognition inductees:

Dr. Dick Reed

Dick is a long-time local educator who is well known for his service as principal for both Boca Raton High School and Boca Raton Middle School. After his retirement, Dick became an active mentor for the three Boca Raton high school Key

Clubs, which have grown in leadership and gained national recognition. Dick founded and single-handedly arranged the Kiwanis/Key Club Scholarship Walk for Homeless and Foster Children, in 2013, and continued it for the past six years. He has also donated many hours, annually, to reviewing the applications for the Snow Foundation Scholarships. A humble man, Dick is most proud that his children all live close by.

#### Rita Thrasher

After her retirement as a school teacher, Rita Thrasher has continued to serve the Boca Raton community. Personal tragedy inspired her to turn adversity into a mission, to help others, by bringing groups together to identify mental health needs and resources. Rita serves as Executive Director of Boca Raton's Promise: the Alliance for Youth, an organization that is dedicated to supporting education and awareness of mental health needs and services. She is also the founder and chairman of the Palm Beach County Action Alliance for Mental Health, working to improve identification and coordination of mental health needs and resources in schools, the legal system, the workplace, and religious institutions. Rita's work has earned recognition from a wide variety of sources. She has worked tirelessly, to reduce the stigma of mental health conditions, and to improve the lives of people of all ages.

#### Boca Raton Museum of Art

Founded by artists, the Boca Raton Museum of Art was established in 1950 as the Art Guild of Boca Raton. The organization has grown to encompass an Art School, Guild, Store, and Museum, with distinguished permanent collections of contemporary art, photography, non-western art, glass, and sculpture, as well as a diverse selection of special exhibitions. The Museum is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.; and on weekends from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.. Admission is \$12 for adults; \$10 for seniors; and free for students with IDs and for children under 12. Learn more at [www.bocamuseum.org](http://www.bocamuseum.org).

#### Boca Raton Historical Society & Museum

The mission and the purpose of the Boca Raton Historical Society and Museum is to collect, preserve, and present information and artifacts, relevant to the past and evolving history of Boca Raton, and to maintain a visible role in education and advocacy of historic preservation in our community.