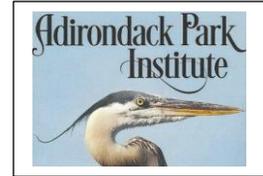


Press Release

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For Immediate Release:



Caroline Draper Lussi and Dan Berggren to be Honored at the Adirondack Park Institute's Annual Awards Gala

NEWCOMB, NY – The Adirondack Park Institute is pleased to announce that local businesswoman and philanthropist Caroline Draper Lussi will be awarded the 2021 Frank M. Hutchins Environmental Education Leadership Award at its Annual Awards Gala on September 17, 2021, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Due to a surge in COVID cases in the region, the event will be held virtually. The event is being sponsored by Paul Smith's College.

Lussi, a graduate of Paul Smith's College, has a lifelong history in the Adirondacks. Together with her husband Serge, Caroline owns and operates the Lake Placid Vacation Group. Additionally, she has served on the boards of the Adirondack Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and the Paul Smith's College Board of Trustees. She has funded numerous science-based scholarships at Paul Smith's College and raised one-million dollars for the Draper Lussi Endowed Chair in Lake Ecology and Paleoecology at Paul Smith's currently held by Dr. Curt Stager. Caroline and Serge also generously support many other charitable causes in the Adirondacks.

Musician and educator Dan Berggren will be the recipient of the third annual Community Award. Dan's contribution to the Adirondack community, through his songwriting and musical performances will be recognized, as well as his dedication to preserving the folklore and beauty of the mountains he calls home. Dan will perform an original song dedicated to his longtime friend, the late great Peter Hornbeck whom the event is being dedicated.

The program will include remarks by Senator Dan Stec and the Gala Co-Chairs, Scott Dalrymple, the President of Paul Smith's College, and Joanie Mahoney, President of SUNY ESF. Curt Stager is the guest speaker and will present his latest work.

The Adirondack Park Institute is a not-for-profit organization that raises money to help support free environmental education programs at the Paul Smith's VIC and the Adirondack Interpretive Center (AIC) in Newcomb. Some of the programs made possible by API funding are the Breck Chapin Native Species Butterfly House at the Paul Smith's College VIC and the Artist-in-Residence Program at the AIC.

This is API's major fundraising event. For those wishing to help support these programs and receive a zoom link to the Gala, there is a \$50.00 donation fee. For more information, please visit the website at <http://adkinstitute.org> or call 518-582-3376.