

Cleveland's Diversity on Display at 9th annual Cleveland International Hall of Fame Induction

For Immediate Release

April 5, 2018

Cleveland, OH – The 9th Class of the Cleveland International Hall of Fame (CIHF) will be inducted in front of 500 people at a ceremony at the Marriot at Key Center on April 17, 2018 at 6PM.

Nominees were required to have made significant and long-lasting contributions to one or more of the ethnic communities in Cleveland or to the overall ethnic community. Over 100 nominations were submitted for the 2018 Class and the class was selected with input from the members of the previous 8 classes of the Cleveland International Hall of Fame. (Complete list at <http://clevelandinternationalhalloffame.com/inductees/>)

The 2018 Class consists of (alphabetical order):

1. Sister Alicia Alvarado (Puerto Rican heritage)
2. Sheila Murphy Crawford (Irish heritage)
3. Dr. Atul Mehta (Indian heritage)
4. Abdullah (Abby) Mina (Lebanese heritage)
5. Ralph Perk Jr. (Czech and Italian Heritage)
6. Judge Ray Pianka (posthumously) (Polish heritage)

Sister Alvarado has been called the Patron Saint of the local Hispanic community. Sheila Crawford has been teaching Irish dance and culture for 40 years. Dr. Mehta has helped hundreds of Indians and others assimilate and become productive doctors at the Clinic. Abby Mina has been the voice of the Middle Eastern Arab community for decades. Judge Perk has continued his father's work with the American Nationalities Movement. The late Judge Pianka was a hero of the housing crisis especially in his beloved Polish community in Slavic Village. (Contact us for interviews with any of the inductees)

"The CIHF is a platform to show the world how immigrants built Cleveland and to showcase the major contributions of those who love America but also take great pride in their ethnic heritage," said Dan Hanson, co-founder of the CIHF "Their stories need to be shared and will be on the 17th."

About the Cleveland International Hall of Fame

The Cleveland International Hall of Fame was established by ClevelandPeople.Com in 2010, to permanently recognize those individuals who have made a valuable and lasting contribution to our multicultural city and region and to inspire a new generation of leaders. The 2018 Cleveland International Hall of Fame induction will be Tuesday April 17, 2018 at 5:30PM in the Grand Ballroom of the Marriott at Key Center downtown. More at <http://clevelandinternationalhalloffame.com/>

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