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Information: Joy Testa Cinquino, testaj@buffalolib.org 716-858-7182

Mary Wilson and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation to Receive IMAGINE Greater Buffalo Recognition Award on May 7

All are welcome to join via Zoom

Mary Wilson and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation will be honored with the 2024 IMAGINE Greater Buffalo Recognition Award as part of the virtual IMAGINE Buffalo program on Tuesday, May 7 at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom. All are welcome to join at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82976128169>.

Mary Wilson is one of three Life Trustees appointed to guide the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, the grantmaking organization based in Detroit that was established by her late husband, the longtime owner of the Buffalo Bills football team. Since its grantmaking began in 2015, the Foundation has been committed to improving the quality of life in two regions close to Ralph Wilson's heart, his hometown regions of Southeast Michigan and Western New York. Its grantmaking capacity of \$1.2 billion over a twenty-year period has made the Foundation a game-changing entity in both regions, issuing to date over 1,000 grants across its five focus areas: Active Lifestyles, Preparing for Success, Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, Caregivers, and Nonprofit Support & Innovation.

Mary Wilson has been significantly supportive personally to numerous local organizations, including the Girl Scouts of WNY, Oishei Children's Hospital, Hospice WNY, the Buffalo History Museum, and FeedMore WNY.

Wilson will be joined on the May 7 program by Foundation President & CEO David O. Egnor. His approach to grantmaking at the Wilson Foundation includes the belief that the most impactful community strategies center on public and private sector collaboration and the ideals of innovation, teamwork, and outcomes. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation is set to allocate more than \$2 billion in grants before its limited lifespan ends in 2035.

The IMAGINE Buffalo series is presented in collaboration with the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library and C-SAAHN, the Center for the Study of Art, Architecture, History & Nature. The interview program was founded by volunteer Dennis Galucki in 2009. The Recognition Award is granted annually to individuals making significant contributions to the WNY region and has previously been awarded to local leaders including Robert Kresse, Stanford Lipsey, former Congressman Brian Higgins, Joan Bozer, and Mary Roberts.

For more information on Library activities, visit BuffaloLib.org or call 716-858-8900.

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