Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
Mission Statement

Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy is a statewide, nonprofit, policy analysis and advocacy organization working to shape policies to improve health, welfare and human services for all New Yorkers, especially those who are poor or vulnerable. Since 1872, the Schuyler Center has served as a voice for social and economic justice and policies that work for children, people living in poverty, and persons who are chronically ill and disabled in New York State. Located in Albany, we work with partners including civic, business, religious, human service and government agencies to identify, research, and analyze problems and design compassionate and cost-effective solutions.
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
Policy Forum
New York’s Cities: Confronting Income Inequality
January 13, 2015

PROGRAM

9:30–10:15 am  Registration & Refreshments

10:15–11:00 am  Welcome
Kate Breslin / Paul Kaye, M.D.
President & CEO / Chair, Board of Trustees
Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

Introductory remarks
Mike Konczal
Roosevelt Institute Fellow

11:00–11:45 am  Keynote Addresses
SVANTE MYRICK
Mayor of Ithaca

KATHY SHEEHAN
Mayor of Albany

LOVELY WARREN
Mayor of Rochester
11:45 am–12:30 pm  **DISCUSSION**

**Moderators:**

Kate Breslin  
*President & CEO*  
*Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy*

Mike Konczal  
*Roosevelt Institute Fellow*

12:30–12:45 pm  **WRAP-UP**

Kate Breslin / Paul Kaye, M.D.  
*President & CEO / Chair, Board of Trustees*  
*Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy*
Mayor Svante L. Myrick

Svante L. Myrick was sworn into office in January 2012 and, at 24, became the City of Ithaca’s youngest mayor and first mayor of color. The Mayor was first elected to the Common Council at the age of 20 while still a junior at Cornell University.

His first budget included a radical overhaul of City government that merged departments, streamlined processes and was able to successfully close a $3 million deficit—all while delivering the lowest tax increase in the City of Ithaca since the year 2000.

Mayor Myrick’s active advocacy in Albany and in Washington D.C. has resulted in over $20 million of grants and awards from the state and federal government.

His recent accomplishments include revisions to the City of Ithaca’s sidewalk policy, an overhaul of storm water utility legislation, successful implementation of the total rehabilitation of the Commons, Ithaca’s downtown pedestrian mall, and changes within the Ithaca Police Department in an effort to improve police and community relations.

Mayor Kathy M. Sheehan

On January 1, 2014, Kathy M. Sheehan became the first woman mayor in Albany’s history. Previously, she served as Albany’s Treasurer and Chief Fiscal Officer. In that role she modernized the City’s tax collection system and completely overhauled its parking ticket system. Mayor Sheehan serves on the Boards of the Central Avenue and Downtown Business Improvement Districts, Albany Industrial Development Agency and Albany Community Development Agency. She is also a founding member of the Albany Promise, a coalition of community members, educators, service providers and business leaders working to ensure that every child in the City of Albany succeeds academically.

Mayor Sheehan grew up in a family that valued hard work and community service. She put herself through college, earning a bachelor’s degree in journalism. After a five year career in communications, Sheehan returned to school in 1991, attending Albany Law School and graduated magna cum laude in 1994.
She began her legal career as an attorney in the Albany office of Bond, Schoeneck & King. In 1996, she joined Intermagnetics General Corporation, a leading medical device manufacturer based in Latham. As vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary, Mayor Sheehan helped grow the company from 500 employees to more than 1,200 and from $90 million to more than $300 million in sales. In 2006, she worked to negotiate the $1.3 billion acquisition of Intermagnetics by its largest customer, Philips Medical Systems.

**Mayor Lovely A. Warren**

Lovely A. Warren is the first female mayor in the City of Rochester, the second African-American mayor, and Rochester's youngest mayor in modern times.

Mayor Warren’s goals are to improve educational outcomes for City students, increase economic development, improve public safety and community/police relations, and close the gaps and disparities that plague many parts of the City.

Noting that improving educational outcomes is at the crux of many of the City’s most pressing challenges, Warren has made education a focal point of her tenure as mayor. She frequently visits the City’s schools to interact with students and encourage them to stay in school and reach for the stars.

Prior to becoming mayor, Warren was elected in 2007 to the Northeast District seat on the City Council. In 2010, she was elected by her colleagues to serve as President—making her the youngest City Council President in Rochester’s history.

Warren is past president of the Rochester Black Bar Association. Her work in government and in the community has been recognized by the City of Rochester Black Heritage Pioneer Award, RBJ’s “Forty Under Forty,” Daily Record’s “Up and Coming Attorneys,” and Democrat & Chronicle’s “Emerging African-American Leaders.”

Warren was born and raised in the City of Rochester, and is a graduate of Wilson Magnet High School. She earned a bachelor’s degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and a Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School of Union University. She and her husband, Timothy Granison, are parents to a daughter, Taylor.
Mike Konczal

Mike Konczal is a fellow with the Roosevelt Institute, where he works on financial reform, unemployment, inequality, and a progressive vision of the economy. His blog, Rortybomb, was named one of the 25 Best Financial Blogs by Time Magazine. His writing has appeared in Boston Review, The American Prospect, Washington Monthly, The Nation, Slate, and Dissent, and he’s appeared on PBS NewsHour, MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow Show, CNN, Marketplace, and more.

Kate Breslin

Kate Breslin is the President & CEO of the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy. With Kate’s leadership, SCAA is building upon its long history as a strong, independent voice and coalition builder helping to shape public debates around social policies that affect New Yorkers. Kate has spent her career analyzing and advocating in support of thoughtful policy solutions that improve the lives of low-income and disenfranchised people in the US and abroad.

Kate started her career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Sierra Leone, West Africa. She earned Masters Degrees from the University of California at Berkeley and a BS from Northwestern University.

Paul J. Kaye, M.D.

Paul J. Kaye, Schuyler Center Board of Trustees Chair, is a pediatrician and served as the Chief Medical Officer of Hudson River HealthCare for over 20 years. He continues to work extensively with Medicaid recipients, migrant workers, and medically underserved populations. He is active in the National Association of Community Health Centers and frequently represents Community Health Centers on national health care quality issues. He is a former president of the Haldane School Board.
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Kate Breslin, President and CEO
Schuyler Center: Service Over Three Centuries

In 1872, nearly 20,000 people, the vast majority immigrants to America, lived in 56 county poorhouses in New York State. Louisa Lee Schuyler, a pioneering social reformer and the great-granddaughter of both General Phillip Schuyler and Alexander Hamilton, found the living conditions deplorable in these institutions. That same year she founded the State Charities Aid Association. Together with William Cullen Bryant, Frederick Law Olmstead, and other well-known figures, Schuyler led fellow New Yorkers in advocating for improved conditions at the State’s health and welfare institutions. In subsequent decades, Theodore Roosevelt, Al Smith, Elihu Root, Winthrop Aldrich and Henry Morgenthau worked side-by-side with SCAA leadership, infusing the organization with the passionate spirit and optimism that continues to propel it today.

Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy continues to be known as an independent leading voice for those who often do not have a voice in Albany on issues of health, welfare and human services.

Schuyler Center is a 501©3 charitable organization that relies on a modest endowment and the generosity and commitment of private donors and foundations to carry out its extensive agenda.
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