



EXPONENTS

Annual Gala



Vision

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025

E-JOURNAL

GREETINGS

FRIENDS OF EXPONENTS,

Tonight it is our profound honor to welcome you to Exponents' Annual Gala. For over 35 years, our organization has stood as a beacon of hope and transformation in the New York area, dedicated to the belief that everyone deserves a chance at wellness, recovery, and dignity. It is because of supporters, sponsors and friends like you that we have not only survived the challenges of the past, but we are ready to meet the uncertain headwinds of the future. As we gather in this beautiful space, we celebrate not only these achievements but also the extraordinary resilience of those we serve and the unwavering commitment of those who make our work possible. Your presence here is not merely attendance at an event; it is a powerful statement of solidarity with our mission and a testament to what we can accomplish when we join together in service of our most vulnerable neighbors. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being part of the Exponents family.

Samantha, Joe & Regina



HONORING



OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

DEBBIE PANTIN

This award recognizes a tireless leader who has made exceptional contributions to the field while demonstrating an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of others within the field of substance use and addictions.

For more than three decades, Debbie has worked in the substance and mental health treatment, housing & homeless, and healthcare fields. She began her career as a social worker and rose to executive positions. Leveraging her leadership skills, she instituted organizational changes that redefined agencies. She strategically expanded services, adding substance use treatment facilities (residential, outpatient, ambulatory detoxification & mental health), housing and special projects. She has held senior leadership positions, including CEO of Outreach and VIP Community Services. We are proud to present Debbie with her award.



HONORING

INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD

MAIA SZALAVITZ

This Award celebrates a trailblazing thought leader for their career of service to the underserved communities of New York City. This year, we are honored to recognize literary science journalist, Maia Szalavitz.

Maia is the author, most recently, of *Undoing Drugs: How Harm Reduction is Changing the Future of Drugs and Addiction*, which is the first history of harm reduction in drug policy. Her New York Times bestseller, *Unbroken Brain: A Revolutionary New Way of Understanding Addiction* wove together neuroscience and social science with her personal experience of addiction. It won the 2018 media award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. She is a contributing opinion writer for the New York Times and has written for numerous publications including TIME, Wired, the Nation, Vice and Scientific American. We are thrilled to present Maia with her award.



Vision

*We envision a New York City
where all individuals and communities have
access to the resources needed to obtain
optimal health and achieve economic security.*

*"We meet them where they're at, but
we don't leave them there!"*

EXPONENTS

Improving health. Igniting hope.

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Special Thank You

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**Congratulations Exponents
on 35 years of supporting
New Yorkers in need.**

Moinian Group is Proud to Support
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We Congratulate Debbie Pantin and Maia
Szalavitz for their inspiring efforts and
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Exponents' Annual Gala: Vision

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Debbie Pantin, President & CEO, Outreach

INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD

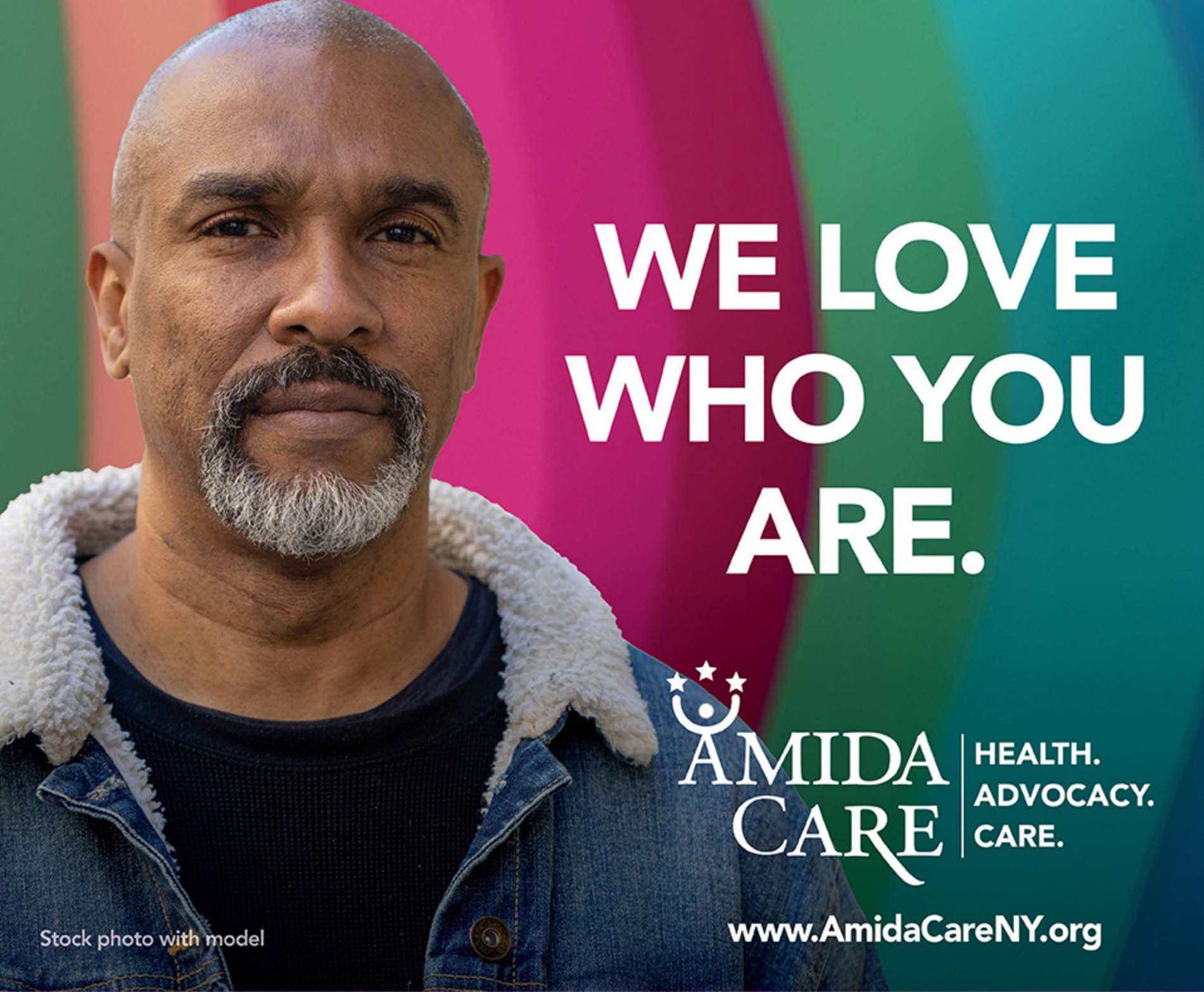
Maia Szalavitz, Bestselling Author &
Contributing Opinion Writer,
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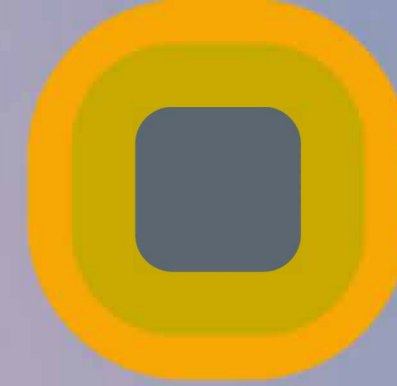
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thanks you for making this
evening extra special!*



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