



**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

MICHAEL J. MADIGAN
SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROOM 300
STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

September 22, 2011

GREETINGS

As the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives, it is my great pleasure to welcome those who have gathered at the Niagara Foundation's 2011 Niagara Peace and Dialogue Awards in the spirit of community and to honor this year's recipients.

Since 1997, the Niagara Foundation has stood for peace and unity and building stronger relations between Turks and Americans. But the mission of the Niagara Foundation runs much deeper. It seeks to bridge differences and create better understanding among all people. Since its incorporation nearly 175 years ago, Chicago has become a global, multicultural city of integrity and honor. In Chicago, the Niagara Foundation finds an outstanding home from which to continue to break down barriers across the world and bring people together.

Breaking down these barriers is not easy. It takes true commitment and passion from those who fight diligently every day to make our community, our state, our country and our world a better place, now and for future generations. The recipients of the Niagara Peace and Dialogue Awards are indeed heroes of Chicago who reflect the mission of the Niagara Foundation, giving of themselves and giving back to the community.

I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to this year's Niagara Peace and Dialogue Award recipients – Lisa Madigan, Daniel Walker, Anne Eleanor Roosevelt and Dirk Ficca. Thank you for all your selfless efforts and outstanding achievements in helping to fulfill the mission of the Niagara Foundation.

Best wishes for a wonderful event.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Madigan

MICHAEL J. MADIGAN
Speaker of the House