



**Association for Retarded Citizens/Massachusetts (MARC)**

217 South Street, Waltham, MA 02154

Phone (617) 891-6270

*Theodore R. Treadwell, President*

*Mary Lou Maloney, Executive Director*

November 8, 1983

Ms. Janet Kamien  
Museum Special Needs  
Program Developer  
Boston Children's Museum  
Museum Wharf  
300 Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02210

Dear Ms. Kamien:

I am honored to inform you the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association for Retarded Citizens has voted you the 1983 Distinguished Citizen Award for your contribution to the mentally retarded in Massachusetts.

You were chosen from nominations received from other leaders in the world of medicine, education, social work, and human services.

The awards will be presented in a ceremony at the State House, Boston, MA on December 1 at 10:30 a.m. I hope you will be able to attend and to receive in person the citation and the thanks of the 180,000 mentally retarded in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Theodore R. Treadwell  
President

TRT:lam

cc: Michael Spock, Director

617-891-2372



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*Theodore R. Treadwell, President  
Mary Lou Maloney, Executive Director*

The Board of Directors  
of the  
Massachusetts Association for Retarded Citizens  
requests  
the honor  
of your presence  
at the  
1983 Award Ceremony  
December 1, 1983  
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
Nurses Hall  
State House  
Boston, MA

I will attend on December 1 \_\_\_\_\_

I will not attend on December 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

MARC  
217 South Street  
Waltham, MA 02154

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature

Local ARC Affiliates: Attleboro Area • Berkshire County • Brockton Area • Cape Cod • Central Middlesex • Charles River • Paul A. Dever  
East Middlesex • Franklin County • Greater Boston • Greater Fall River • Greater Lawrence • Greater Lowell • Greater New Bedford  
Greater Plymouth • Hampshire County • Hogan Regional • Minute Man • North Shore • North Worcester County • Northern Essex County  
South Middlesex • South Norfolk County • South Shore • Southern Worcester County • Worcester Area • Wrentham

Member of the Association for Retarded Citizens/United States

MASSACHUSETTS PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Janet Kamien

June 1, 1985

Perhaps the greatest challenge facing our profession is finding a way to share important aspects of psychology with the public in a context which is both accessible and useful. This award recipient has demonstrated a remarkable talent at this difficult task.

Janet Kamien earned her bachelor's degree in fine arts from Boston University in 1972, and completed a Master of Education degree from Lesley College in 1978. Since 1973 she has worked in various capacities at Boston's Children's Museum, teaching at Tufts College and Lesley College along the way. She is a skilled professional and consultant in the craft of museum exhibit development, with an extra special talent for developing exhibits aimed at children.

In honoring her today the Massachusetts Psychological Association wishes to single out two of her most unique achievements. She was primarily responsible for development of "What if you couldn't....? An Exhibit about Special Needs," and "Endings: An Exhibit about Death and Loss." Her work on these projects required a high degree of creativity, sensitivity, and courage. Both involved intellectually complex and emotionally stressful topics, not to mention significant skepticism among many people regarding whether or not these were proper topics for exhibits aimed at children.

Using her own creative talents and high energy, tapping the skills of professionals in the community, and with sheer persistence Ms. Kamien pulled together two exhibits which have won national acclaim for her and the Children's Museum. She did not, however, stop with the exhibits. The "What if you couldn't" exhibit was converted to a traveling exhibit format, a curriculum kit for school use, and a book about special needs. Her skills at communicating with children about death and loss have also been expressed in written form through the 1985 Health Annual of Encyclopedia Britanica. In recognition of her work toward helping normal children to experience the world of the handicapped Massachusetts Association for Retarded Citizens presented Janet Kamien with its Distinguished Citizen Award in 1983.

In honoring her today the Massachusetts Psychological Association recognizes her unique creative skills and acknowledges her outstanding accomplishments in bringing important psychological knowledge to our youngest citizens.