

**Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund
Award Recipients**

**Belle Zeller Leadership Award
Leadership in Education Award
Lifetime Achievement Award**

2020

Lifetime Achievement Award

Irwin Yellowitz. Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, City College
Founding Member and Treasurer
Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund

[NYSUT](#)

Belle Zeller Leadership Award

Timothy Hunter
Chair, University Student Senate
Student Member, CUNY Board of Trustees

[LinkedIn](#)

Keynote Speaker

Myriam Sarachik, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor, City College/CUNY

[Wikipedia](#)

2021

Lifetime Achievement Award

Joanne Waldstreicher, M.D.
1980 Belle Zeller Scholar
Chief Medical Officer, Johnson & Johnson

[LinkedIn](#)

Distinguished Leadership in Education Award

Russell K. Hotzler, PhD
President New York City College of Technology

[Wikipedia](#)

Belle Zeller Leadership Award

Barbara Bowen, PhD.
Former President of the Professional Staff Congress
[PSC CUNY](#)

2023

Distinguished Leadership in Education Award

Randi Weingarten
President, American Federation of Teachers
[Wikipedia](#)

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Raymond Paretzky, Esq.
1981 Belle Zeller Scholar
Partner at McDermott Will and Emery
[LinkedIn](#)

Matthew Sapienza
Chief Financial Officer American Council of Learned Societies
Former Senior Vice Chancellor, CUNY
[LinkedIn](#)

Belle Zeller Leadership Award

Robert Cermele, PhD
Treasurer PSC-CUNY Welfare Fund, Professor, City Tech (Retired)
The Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund Advisory Committee Member
[LinkedIn](#)

Susan DiRaimo
Lecturer, Lehman College and
City College of New York
Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund Trustee
[LinkedIn](#)

2024

Lifetime Achievement Award

Chinweike Ukomadu, MD, PhD
1984 Belle Zeller Scholar
Head of GI Therapeutic Area Unit
Takeda Pharmaceutical Company
[Discover Brigham](#)

Belle Zeller Leadership Award

Sharon Persinger, PhD

Associate Professor of Mathematics
and Computer Science at Bronx Community College
Secretary, The Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund

[LinkedIn](#)

2025

Lifetime Achievement Award

Hon. Carmen R. Velasquez

1982 Belle Zeller Scholar

Justice, Supreme Court of the State of New York

[Wikipedia](#)

Belle Zeller Leadership Award

Manfred Philipp, Ph.D.

Managing Director, The Belle Zeller Scholarship Trust Fund
Professor Emeritus, Lehman College and The CUNY Graduate Center
Co-Ombuds at the CUNY Graduate Center
Former President, The Fulbright Association

[LinkedIn](#)