

AGE ACTION

2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Leo Laks Live – June 9, 2020



Improving the Lives of 40 Million Older Adults by 2030

Leo Laks
Live
Awards
Welcome



**Leo Laks Virtual Luncheon
Tuesday, June 9, 2020
12:30 - 2p.m.**

Welcome - Elizabeth Bernat, NISC Chair

Thank You Jim Firman! – NISC Exec. Committee

Jim Firman Remarks

NCOA Opening Remarks Josh Hodges, Chief Customer Officer, NCOA

NISC Awards of Excellence in Programming - Malia Fox, Best Practices

NISC Accreditation Presentations - Christine Beatty, NISC Accreditation Chair

Presentation of NISC Founders' Award – Tracy Colagrossi

NISC Founders' Award Honoree – Jill Hall

Presentation of NISC State Leader Award – Maureen O'Leary

NISC State Leader Award – David Stevens, Executive Director, Massachusetts Councils on Aging

Leadership Transition - Thank you Elizabeth – Welcome Tracey Colagrossi

Closing Remarks Maureen O'Leary, NISC Program Manager, VA



Thank You Jim!



Dear Jim,

Congratulations on your retirement! Knowing you, you already have one or more projects to better the lives of older adults in the works. Thank you for your many years of dedicated leadership of NCOA, and your support of the National Institute of Senior Centers. **Your support of NISC, and especially of accreditation, strengthened senior centers and senior center professionals, which in turn improved the lives of countless older adults.** I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with you.

Best wishes always,

Carol Reagan

NISC Chair, 2012-2014

Accreditation Board Member





Thank You Jim!

Thank you for your many years of unwavering support of our nation's senior centers! Your understanding of senior centers as community focal points **enhanced our credibility and ability to implement groundbreaking programs** and services for older adults.

Best of luck in retirement! It's great!

Jill Kranz
Middleton Senior Center Director, 1986-2018
Middleton, Wisconsin



How fortunate the Senior Center community and elder adults across America have been to have Jim Firman at the helm of NCOA!

The staff at the Duxbury Senior Center have had the distinct honor to work with Jim on the Aging Mastery Program—an innovative program to provide older adults with the tools to enjoy the gift of time.

*We so **appreciative** how **accessible Jim was to us** during all phases of the roll-out, implementation and ongoing success of the program.*

Thank you for your energy, innovation, leadership and creativity.

*On behalf of the staff at the Duxbury Senior Center, I want to say **thank you for all you have done to make a difference in the lives of older adults!***

Joanne Moore & Angela Sinnott





Thank You Jim!

From Alaska, wishing you the best in retirement and **thanking you for your leadership all these years**. Now I don't have to ship fish to you, you can come up north and get it yourself.

Pat Branson





Thank you, Jim, for your wisdom, skills, compassion and passion in your career on behalf of older adults. In addition, many thanks for your support of those in the field of aging. Congratulations on a job well done. **Now go reFIRE!**

Malia Fox, Director
Winona Friendship Center
Masters in Aging: knowing & showing you how to age right!



Thank You Jim!

I would like to express my wholehearted thanks for all the great work you have done to benefit older adults. A few memories spring to mind...your creation of AMP was outstanding and **we couldn't have it done it without you**. Your ideas have helped to take NCOA to where it is today. **I wish you and your family all the very best for the future.**

Best wishes, Laura Cisneros, WellMed, Texas





A Vision For the Future

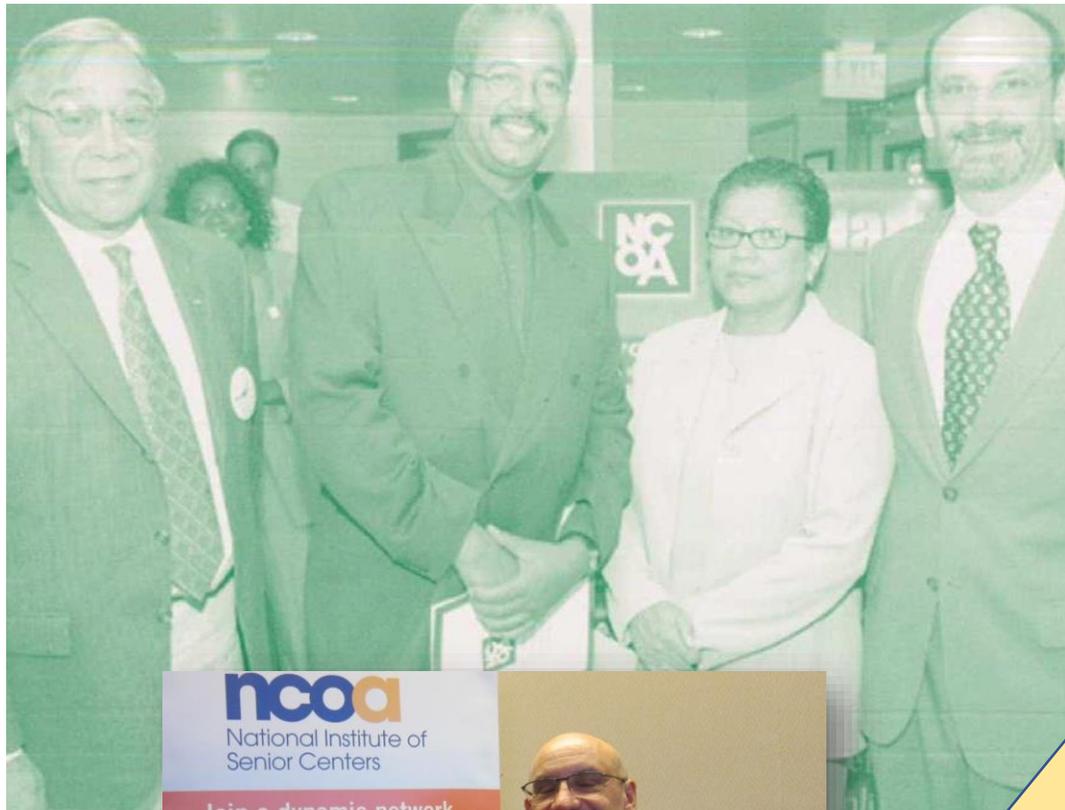
The first NCOA conference I attended was in Philadelphia in 2016. I was new in the field of Aging and was looking forward to meeting professionals in the field and learning from them. The first person I heard speak at the conference was Jim Firman on Seniors Centers as Longevity Centers: A Vision for the Future. I still have my notes from his speech and refer to them often. **His speech is what made me fall in love with this field.**

Following that conference, I was all in. I've attended every conference since; I've attended webinars and trainings to further my education in the field and I have been active with NISC in committees and as a Peer Reviewer.

Jim Firman shaped my career and my future. Since hearing him speak for the first time in 2016, I've gone on to become the manager of our Senior Center. Jim made me realize that what we are doing for the older population MATTERS. And it is vital. In these uncertain times we are currently living in, it has helped me push through the tough days and has reminded me that what we are doing – whether in person or virtually – is important AND necessary.

When I heard that Jim was retiring, I told myself I would make it a point to meet him finally at this year's conference in Dallas. Alas, that won't happen. **He's had a great impact on me professionally.** I thank him for his years of service in the Aging field and for inspiring individuals like me.

Anahita Feltz, Old Bridge Senior Center, New Jersey



I met Jim in 2003 when he came to Center in the Park in Philadelphia to celebrate the milestone of reaching one million people with NCOA's Benefits CheckUp ... I appreciate **Jim's visionary leadership, his capacity to bring workable solutions to scale** that especially benefit vulnerable older adults. I appreciate **Jim's enthusiasm and steadfast commitment to work with senior center leaders** to co-create programs like Aging Mastery; and, to promote the senior center national network. As Jim moves on to the next great thing he will do with and for older Americans, I know that he will continue to contribute great solutions to some of our most difficult challenges. **Thank You, Jim!**

Lynn Fields Harris, MPA, President & Founder
Commonwealth Consultants, Inc.



Twinkling for Jim



NCOA Remarks

Josh Hodges – Chief
Customer Officer, NCOA

Our Vision

A just and caring society
in which each of us,
as we age, lives with dignity,
purpose, and security



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE IN PROGRAMMING

Malia Fox, Best Practices Chair

NISC Programs of Excellence Overview

Presentation of Awards

NISC Programs of Excellence Awards Competition



81 Nominations



8 Categories



12 Peer Judges

Cultural Programs

Programs that showcase performing and visual arts, music, and literature.

Cultural Programs Award Winner

Music and Memory at Kavod Senior Life

Community Development, Leadership and Intergenerational

Award Winner



Minds in Motion from Cultural Programs Award Winner

Submitted by Roberta Lynch for the Center at Medfield, Massachusetts

One session focused on “Big Questions.” and posed these challenges to participants:

- **What ONE question would you ask to discover who a person truly is? -**
- **Are people ethically obligated to improve themselves?**
- **Where does your self-worth come from?**

Community Development, Leadership and Intergenerational

Honorable Mention

Community Summer

Submitted by Nancy Lafauce, Cohasset Elder Affairs, Massachusetts



An intergenerational community dinner to residents and non-residents of our center Willcutt Commons a collaboration between senior center staff, volunteers and high school students.

Cultural Programs Award Winner



Music and Memory at Kavod Senior Life

**Submitted Susan Schoenthal,
Kavod Senior Life, Denver
Colorado**

Music & Memory is a national program that uses music as a tool to unlock memories and spark joy for seniors who suffer from dementia.

Cultural Programs Honorable Mention



Seasoned Imaginations

Submitted Frances Duran

Brea, Town and Country

Senior Center, Tampa Florida

A creative writing group that has published 3 books.

Fundraising Award Winner



Baker's Battle

**Submitted Mary Jo Riley,
Town of Groton Senior
Center, Connecticut**

**A professional and amateur baking
competition**

Fundraising Honorable Mention



See Them Shine

Submitted Nicole Gorman,
Edina Senior Center,
Minnesota

12 professional photographs that highlights the free spirit of Edina's older adult population.

Health and Wellness Award Winner



UPSLIDE (Utilizing and Promoting Social engagement in Loneliness, Isolation, and Depression in the Elderly)

**Submitted Ruth Nickens,
Tallahassee Senior Center, Florida**

The program is designed to help adults 50+ who feel isolated or alone, and want to connect with others in a meaningful way.

Health and Wellness Honorable Mention



The Joslyn Wellness Center Submitted Jack Newby, The Joslyn Center, Palm Desert, California

An integrated, full-service holistic approach to senior wellness issues

Nutrition Award Winner

R.I.S.E. & Shine Breakfast Program

**Tagline: Resources, Information, Support
and Experiences**

**Submitted by Megan McCoy, Center in the
Park, Philadelphia**

**R.I.S.E. and Shine is part of an overarching “one stop shop”
philosophy empowering older adults and community members to
access multiple resources and programs at CIP. Ensuring access
to food and referral and linkage to services and resources**



Nutrition Honorable Mention

From Garden 2 Seniors' Table

Submitted by Lori Radice,
Department of Aging, Tampa Florida

Innovative gardening program encourages seniors of the Hillsborough County congregate and senior centers to get outside and grow their own food.



Special Events Award Winner



Intergenerational Back to School Block Party

Submitted by Cynthia Mingo, Fleming Senior Center, Dundalk, Maryland

A program designed to help the disadvantaged and low income families in and around the communities return to school with the supplies needed and to have a successful school year.

Special Events Honorable Mention



Ageless Style: An Intergenerational Recycable Fashion Show

Submitted by Jasmine Brainerd,
Brandon Senior Center, Florida

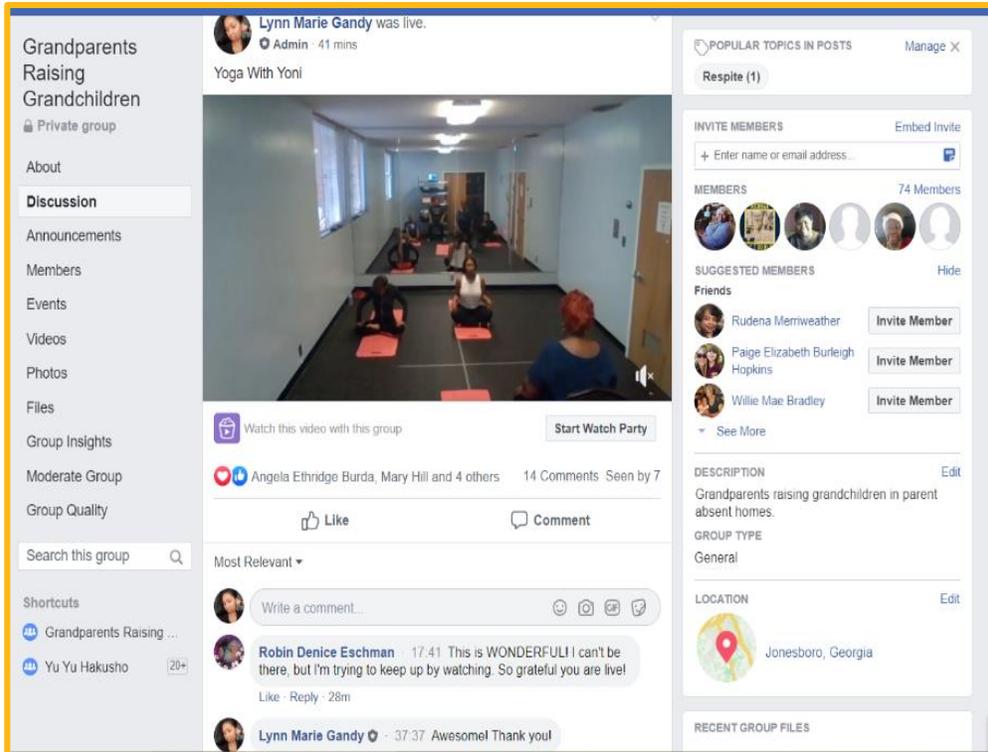
A program designed to help the disadvantaged and low income families in and around the communities return to school with the supplies needed and to have a successful school year.

Technology Award Winner

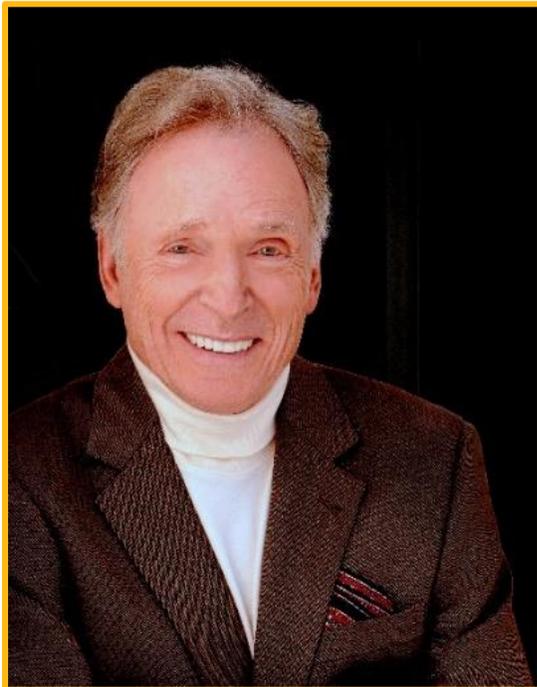
Yoga with Yoni on Facebook Live

Submitted by Angela Burda, Kinship Care Resource Center, Jonesboro, Georgia

Yoga with Yoni on Facebook Live is a weekly program offered at the Kinship Care Resource Center, view in the home or anywhere with an internet connection. A 10 minute session is available in the conference videos for you to relax between sessions.



Technology Honorable Mention



Program Sharing: An Interview with Dick Cavett

Submitted by Chuck Freilich, Mather Lifeways, Evanston, Illinois

We shared a single lifelong learning program, using videoconferencing technology, at all of our various Mather locations.

Arts Program Award Winner

Woodbury Ukulele Band

Submitted by Loryn Ray,
Woodbury Senior Center,
Connecticut



Woodbury Ukulele Band (WUB) was created as a unique intergenerational program sponsored by our senior center to build positive community relationships among town residents of all ages.

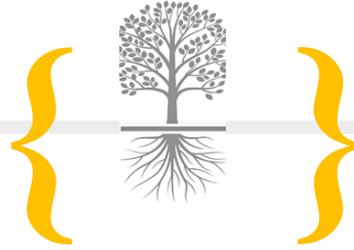
Arts Program Honorable Mention



Masters in Aging

Submitted by Laura Hoberg, Winona Friendship Center, Minnesota

The Masters in Aging program teaches older adults how to film, produce, edit and interview their cohort in order to create a high-quality documentary series.



Like what you heard? Share it!



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Rate the session and speakers on the mobile app



Vote in the conference poll

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