

## **ARMENIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY CONGRATULATES DR. VICKEN SEPILIAN FOR RECEIVING THE ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR**



The Armenian American Medical Society would like to congratulate former president and current board member Dr. Vicken Sepilian for being selected to receive the 2018 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. This prestigious award "recognizes individuals who have made it their mission to share with those less fortunate their wealth of knowledge, indomitable courage, boundless compassion, unique talents and selfless generosity; all while maintaining the traditions of their ethnic heritage as they uphold the ideals and spirit of America. The Ellis Island Medal of Honor embody the spirit of America in their celebration of patriotism, tolerance, brotherhood and diversity".

Previous recipients of this honor include seven Presidents of the United States such as Bill Clinton, George H. Bush, and Jimmy Carter, as well as other notable dignitaries including but not limited to Vice-President Joe Biden, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Nobel laureates Elie Wiesel and Malala Yousafzai, Muhammad Ali, Frank Sinatra and Rosa Parks. AAMS member Salpy Akaragian, AAMS friends and supporters Ara Tekian, Mike Sarian and Harut Sassounian have also been recipients of this prestigious award in the past. The Medal has been officially recognized by both Houses of Congress as one of our nation's most prestigious awards and is annually memorialized in the Congressional Record.

Moreover, long time AAMS friend and the recipient of the 2006 AAMS' Lifetime Achievement Award Dr. John Bilezikian will also be a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor this year. The medals will be bestowed upon the honorees on May 12, 2018, at an official ceremony to be held on Ellis Island, under the welcoming arms of Lady Liberty. This well deserved recognition comes as no surprise for the decades of unwavering dedication through compassionate service these individuals have selflessly and generously given to our community.

