

STARLIGHT AWARD

HARRY AND MAXINE RISKIN



For more than five decades, Harry and Maxine Riskin have shared a deep commitment to education, community service, philanthropy, and the arts. Married since 1972, they have built a life rooted in family, service, and a belief in the transformative power of education and the arts. They are the proud parents of their son, David, who is a partner in the law firm of Williams and Connelly in Washington, D.C.

Harry is a distinguished New Jersey attorney whose legal career spans more than 60 years. A graduate of Rutgers

College and Boston University School of Law, he co-founded McKirdy, Riskin, Olson & DellaPelle, P.C. in 1967 and has dedicated his practice to representing New Jersey property owners in eminent domain and real property tax matters. His distinguished public service includes serving as Deputy Attorney General for the State of New Jersey, Special Counsel to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and Trustee of the Morris County Bar Association.

An accomplished author and lecturer, Harry co-authored *New Jersey Condemnation Practice*, the standard New Jersey treatise on eminent domain. He has been recognized as a New Jersey Monthly Top Lawyer and Super Lawyer and has served Rutgers University in leadership roles on the President's Council Executive Committee and Dean's Advisory Council.

With a passion for Morristown equal to Passaic where he grew up, Harry's dedication to MPAC has been profound. He served for 12 years on MPAC's Board of Trustees and continues to serve on the Building Committee where he has been instrumental in shaping the organization's vision for expansion and development.

Maxine (Max) has devoted her professional life to education, student development, and community service. After earning her degree in education, she spent many years as a classroom teacher before creating and leading an innovative student volunteer program that empowered young people to engage in meaningful service throughout the community. Her work forged lasting partnerships between schools and local organizations while encouraging students to embrace leadership, empathy, and civic responsibility.

Together, Harry and Max have been steadfast supporters of MPAC as donors and Starlight Members, sharing a belief in the importance of ensuring that arts and cultural experiences remain accessible to the community.