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JAMAICA PLAIN

Community development group to celebrate 36th anniversary

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

A community development organization that serves Jamaica Plain and Roxbury will celebrate its 36th anniversary Tuesday evening during an annual gala event from 6 to 9 p.m.

Bill McKibben, environmental activist and author of the recently released “[Eearth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet](#),” will be the keynote speaker at the event hosted by the Roxbury-based nonprofit [Urban Edge](#), said a press release about the anniversary.

The following awards will be presented Tuesday at the organization’s headquarters at 1542 Columbus Ave:

Lifetime of Civic Achievement Award to veteran Boston educator and community activist Alfreda Harris; to Boston Local Initiatives Support Corporation for leadership in green affordable-housing development; to MassHousing for its support of youth employment; and to Action for Boston Community Development for its partnership on energy and youth programs.

Special awards will also be given to one adult and three young people who have contributed significantly to the development of the community’s youth, said the release.

The event will feature a social hour with appetizers and drinks, followed by a dinner catered by The Fireplace Restaurant of Brookline. Music will be played by Cornell “Sugarfoot” Coley’s Latin Jazz Quartet.

Guests will include residents from Urban Edge housing and from the neighborhoods the group serves, public officials, collaborating organizations, funders and community development professionals.

For more information on the event and to register for tickets, [click here](#).

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