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Next Avenue Names Its Top 50 “2016 Influencers in Aging”

Saint Paul, Minn. October 26, 2016 – Next Avenue, public media’s first and only digital publication dedicated to covering issues for people 50 and older, has named its 2016 Influencers in Aging, which includes advocates, researchers, thought leaders, innovators, writers and experts at the forefront of changing how we age and think about aging. The list includes honorees from each of the five areas that Next Avenue covers: [Health & Well-Being](#), [Caregiving](#), [Money & Security](#), [Work & Purpose](#) and [Living & Learning](#).

One honoree, whose impact was especially profound this year, was named Influencer of the Year. That distinction goes to Ashton Applewhite, whose work in fighting against ageism and questioning stereotypes about growing older is showcased in her [blog](#) and book, [This Chair Rocks: A Manifesto Against Ageism](#).

This year’s Influencers in Aging list also includes researchers like MacArthur “Genius Grant” winner Anne Basting, whose improvisational storytelling and creative expression promotes well-being in older adults with cognitive impairment; legendary television producer/writer Norman Lear, who has become an outspoken critic of all forms of ageism in recent years; Sarita Gupta, co-founder of Caring Across Generations and advocate for government policies supporting home care workers; Phyllis Borzi, the person in charge of the Employee Benefits Security Administration for the U.S. Department of Labor and many other honorees whose tireless work and passion change what it means to grow older in America.

“This is a transformative time in which millions of Americans are redefining what it means to grow old. It is a quiet revolution,” said Susan Donley, managing director of Next Avenue. “This year’s list uncovers a range of leaders who have made exceptional contributions to that sea change. Next Avenue is proud to honor and celebrate these men and women, and their remarkable work.”

For a complete list of honorees and further information about Next Avenue’s 2016 Influencers in Aging, please visit: nextavenue.org/influencers.

About Next Avenue

Next Avenue is public media’s first and only national service for America’s booming 50+ population. Our mission is to meet the needs and unleash the potential of older Americans through the power of media. We do this by providing information and advice to help our audience navigate their lives and inviting them to join in an ongoing conversation about the issues and transitions we all face. Twin Cities PBS produces Next Avenue for the PBS system. Over 35 million people have visited nextavenue.org since we launched in 2012. Our content extends far beyond our website to reach over 15 million people monthly through social media and our national network of media partners and government and nonprofit allies. For more information, please visit nextavenue.org.