



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

July 10, 2021

Lila Miller, DVM
710 Riverside Drive, Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10031

Dear Dr. Miller:

It is a pleasure to congratulate you on being honored at the 2021 ASPCA Cornell Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Conference. You can be justifiably proud of this tribute recognizing your many achievements as a staunch advocate for companion animal welfare and the value of every animal, not predicated on its ownership.

Today, as you meet virtually for this annual conference in a field that you essentially founded, you are recognized as a pioneer in the compassionate care of shelter animals and a leading voice and trailblazer for veterinary shelter medicine. You created the standards of practice and guidelines for shelter animal care, co-founded the Association of Shelter Veterinarians, and spent over 40 years in veterinary outreach. In a field where there were few women of color, you were one of the first Black American woman to graduate from Cornell University College of Veterinarian Medicine. You have been of great service to the State of New York as a member and chairperson of the New York State Board for Veterinary Medicine and are credited with furthering the humane treatment of all animals, through legislation and especially through the no-kill movement.

You have been a teacher and a counsel to many who will carry on the thoughtful, compassionate treatment of companion animals. Your expertise is well-known and respected and, on behalf of all New Yorkers, I commend you as the recipient of the 2021 Avanzino Leadership Award.

With warmest regards, and best wishes for much continued success.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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