



For Immediate Release:
May 5, 2010

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36th Annual YWCA TWIN Awards Honors 28 Professional Women

BERGEN COUNTY— The YWCA Bergen County honored 28 women and 21 businesses at its 36th Annual Tribute to Women and INdustry (TWIN) awards gala on Thursday, April 29th at the Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe in Teaneck, NJ.

TWIN honors women for their significant contribution to their company and the organizations that have supported their advancement. Since it was founded in 1974, TWIN has become the largest awards program of its kind in northern New Jersey, honoring 1,804 women and 213 companies and organizations in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Passaic Counties in NJ and Rockland County in NY.

This year's honorees, all of whom received TWIN's signature diamond award, were nominated by companies whose progressive policies enable women to advance to positions of leadership. The winners and their firms are: Marlene Golde Lynn, BAE Systems; Heather Kilminster, Bergen Regional Medical Center; Laura Carabello, CPR Strategic Marketing Communications; Carol Van Rensalier, Cytec Industries Inc.; Deborah Bischak and Amy D'Alessandro, EK Success Brands; Joan Krieger, Flackman, Goodman & Potter, P.A.; Kelly Briggs and Paulette Wright, Hackensack University Medical Center; Donna Vaglio and Sheryl Ann Syby, Holy Name Medical Center; Sally Hanna, ITT; Ann Cohen, KPMG LLP; Gail Slaughter, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC; Lynne Vreeland, Neiman Marcus; Emily Swenson, Pearson Education; Christine Gailey and Michelle Di Iorio, PSEG; Leann Fieldstad and Mary Graves, Roche Pharmaceuticals; Erica Calise, Sharp Electronics Corporation; Stephanie Fitts, Stryker Orthopaedics; Sarina Mazza and Halina Pasmonde, TD Bank; Nancy Librera, The Valley Hospital; Kelly Downey and Kim Drosos, Unilever; and Laurie Duenas-Raji, Van Dyk Health Care, Inc.

The TWIN Alumnae Association's Corporate Recognition Award was presented to Holy Name Medical Center for its ongoing support of women's initiatives and diversity. Nezabravka Dzhogleva received the Evelyn L. Atwater Scholarship, given annually to an outstanding Ramapo College student pursuing a business-related degree. And the second annual Heart of a Woman

Award went to YWCA Special Events Manager Barbara Giarmo in recognition of her longstanding commitment to TWIN and women's empowerment.

Proceeds from the event will help fund scholarships for financially underserved youngsters in the YWCA's child care programs and summer camps as well as the organization's Rape Crisis Center, Bergen County's only provider of a 24/7 hotline for victims of sexual violence.

(Photos taken 4-30-10. Courtesy of YWCA Bergen County Public Relations Department)



PHOTO #1: (L to R): Guest Speaker Pat Yankus, Former Board President, YWCA Bergen County and Former Board Member, YWCA USA; Monica Roers, Chief Executive Officer of YWCA Bergen County; and Mary Jo Kurtz, TWIN Chairwoman and Chief Operating Officer of Van Dyk Health Care, Inc.



PHOTO #2: (L to R): Lisa Kender (right), President of the YWCA Board of Directors, congratulates Sheryl Slonim, Senior Vice President, Patient Care Services, Holy Name Medical Center, winner of the TWIN Alumnae Association's 2010 Corporate Recognition Award.



PHOTO #3: (L to R): Monica Roers, YWCA CEO; Stephanie Fitts, 2010 TWIN Honoree, Stryker Orthopaedics; and Stryker President Mike Mogul.

About TWIN

The **Tribute to Women and INdustry (TWIN)** awards program was founded in Bergen County in 1974 under the inspiration and leadership of Evelyn L. Atwater, a former president of the board of directors of the YWCA of Bergen County. Atwater believed that celebrating the accomplishments of women, rather than focusing on disparities in professional opportunity and income with men, is essential to empowering women's business success and leadership. Today YWCAs across New Jersey and the United States have adopted the TWIN program in their communities.

About YWCA Bergen County

The YWCA Bergen County is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. We are the area's largest provider of child care services, a recognized leader in health and fitness programs, and operator of the county's only Rape Crisis Center. Celebrating nearly a century of commitment to our community, today we improve the lives of thousands of women, girls, and their families. For more information, visit www.ywcabergencounty.org.

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