

THE
YWCA
SALUTES
WOMEN

TRIBUTE 1992

PROGRAM

November 18, 1992

Noon - 1:30 pm

Ambassador Ballroom

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel

WELCOME

Catherine Behrendt

WZZM TV 13

LUNCHEON

PRESENTATION OF TRIBUTE AWARDS

Antionette Turner, YWCA President

Susan Shannon, Executive Director

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Beverly Drake

Executive Director

Grand Rapids Area Training

and Employment Council

"Liberty and Justice for All"

AWARDS
LUNCHEON
NOVEMBER 18, 1992
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

TRIBUTE!

TRIBUTE!

It is with great pride that the YWCA presents the TRIBUTE Awards Luncheon, an opportunity to come together to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of the women of Grand Rapids.

Each year the pool of TRIBUTE candidates grows – a reflection of the expanding scope of women's involvement in all aspects of community life. From Arts to Professions, each winner has demonstrated outstanding performance in her chosen field and remarkable skill at managing multiple roles.

The YWCA also salutes the businesses and organizations who support TRIBUTE. For many years they have benefited from the special talents of all the women we honor today. Sponsorship of this event is a public acknowledgment that the talents and contributions of these women are greatly valued.

ADVOCACY



JAN LUNQUIST
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
PLANNED PARENTHOOD CENTERS
OF WEST MICHIGAN

Jan Lunquist believes people will make the correct choices for their lives if they are given adequate and thorough information.

As Director of Education for Planned Parenthood Centers of West Michigan, Jan has made it her mission to provide such information on reproductive health. School administrators across Michigan seek her out to give lectures and training on sexuality education to teachers and counselors. In addition, Jan has written sexuality curriculum for churches, co-authored a peer education manual, and is regularly awarded grants to provide training and education for adolescents. Jan serves as chairperson of the Kent County Community AIDS Council and has served as chairperson of the Kent County Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. She is a board member of the Butterworth Center for Women and Children.

Jan possesses a vision of equality she shares with the community by speaking out sympathetically and boldly on many issues affecting all women.



STELLA ROYCE
COMMUNITY ARTS ADVOCATE

Stella Royce, active for decades in many organizations in West Michigan, is perhaps best recognized for her substantial contributions to the arts. For many years she has served as a board member of Opera Grand Rapids, Saint Cecilia Music Society, and the President's Club of Interlochen Arts Academy.

Stella currently serves on the board of directors of the Grand Rapids Symphony and the Grand Rapids Ballet. She is a founder of the successful Summerfest School program. Stella has co-chaired scholarship fund-raising drives for the music department of Grand Valley State University. In 1986, the Saint Cecilia Music Society recognized the enormous contributions Stella and her husband Charles have made to the organization by dedicating an auditorium in their name – Royce Auditorium.

Stella's leadership qualities quietly inspire all those who have worked with her. Her integrity and strength of purpose help achieve the goals of the organizations to which she is so committed.



BIRTHALE LAMBERT
PRESIDENT & CEO
PROFESSIONAL NURSING FORCE, INC.

Birthale Lambert took the advice of her mother and grandparents to heart: You can be anything you want to be – the sky's the limit.

Originally from Houlka, Mississippi, Birthale came to Grand Rapids in the late 1960s. She received her B.S. in biology from Aquinas College, and her master's in nursing administration and community health from Wayne State University. Shortly after graduation, Grand Valley State University offered her a teaching fellowship. Though she enjoyed teaching, Birthale missed contact with patients, and in 1985 she initiated a market survey to see if the area could support an additional health care service agency. She started Professional Nursing Force, a home health care agency, with a staff of two people and a strategic plan for growth. Today the company employs 100 part- and full-time individuals.

Eager to encourage others, Birthale has spent countless hours as a mentor, advising women interested in starting their own businesses.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



MATTIE MAE HOLLIMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Mattie Mae Holliman believes in empowering the disenfranchised – people who, in Mattie's words, "just need someone to follow through for them in order to get what they need."

To this end, Mattie founded and serves as executive director of the Community Volunteer Project, an organization which offers information referral, and counseling services to individuals and families. She also organized the Community Volunteer Gardens Project to improve community involvement, increase food production, provide meaningful leisure activity, and encourage social interaction. Mattie has personally distributed food and clothes to thousands of children and elderly persons in Grand Rapids and worldwide. For all her work in these community projects, Mattie receives no funding.

Mattie is convinced that "if a person is determined to succeed, she will." That success comes a little easier for the many people who benefit from Mattie Mae Holliman's support and encouragement.

PROFESSIONS



MARILYN LANKFER
PARTNER
VARNUM, RIDDERING, SCHMIDT
& HOWLETT

A partner in the law firm of Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett, Marilyn Lankfer recently became the first woman elected by the partners to its Management Committee. Marilyn's legal expertise and professionalism are known not only among her clients and co-workers, but also throughout the community.

Marilyn is an advocate for the rights of hospital patients. She is a leader in the development of living wills and durable powers of attorney. She has brought clarity, professional expertise, and thoughtful consideration to these highly complex issues.

As a patient advocate, Marilyn serves as a member of the Ethics Committees of Butterworth and Metropolitan Hospitals, and is a member of the Hospice Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Heartside Ministry Board of Directors and is past president of the Planned Parenthood Board of Directors.



CRESSA HEARD
SENIOR
EAST KENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Making it through adolescence can be difficult, even for the privileged youngster who has a loving and supportive family. Our student winner comes from a family in which support was limited and supervision light. From an early age, Cressa has been responsible for herself.

Family turmoil displaced Cressa from her home when she was 16. With the help of Homeless Youth Services, a program of the Advisory Center for Teens, she began to set personal goals and to work steadfastly toward them.

Cressa is a student at East Kentwood High School, where she is a cheerleader and plays on the school's softball team. In addition, she works three part-time jobs and has never been late with a rent payment.

The YWCA is proud to salute its first TRIBUTE student winner, who has overcome adversity while developing a sense of self-worth and potential.