

TRIBUTE!

THE YWCA SALUTES WOMEN

TRIBUTE AWARDS LUNCHEON
NOVEMBER 8, 1995
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

YWCA's TRIBUTE! 1995 PROGRAM

November 8, 1995
Noon—1:30 p.m.
Ambassador Ballroom
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel

WELCOME

Jeanne A. Englehart
1995 TRIBUTE! Chairperson

INVOCATION

Reverend Sue E. Sinnamon
Fountain Street Church

LUNCHEON

Jo Anne Powell
WZZM TV 13
Mistress of Ceremonies

PRESENTATION OF TRIBUTE! AWARDS

Deb Bailey, YWCA President
Susan Shannon, Executive Director

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Carmelita Murphy, OP
President, LEAD
"The Art of Living: To Love and To Work"

1995 TRIBUTE WINNER
ADVOCACY



LINDA SAMUELSON

Linda Samuelson, Grand Rapids Commissioner for the last 11 years and Executive Director of the Grand Rapids Area Council for Humanities, has been an advocate and leader for social change. Focusing on judicial reform, she ensured that indigents jailed on minor offenses received an opportunity for release on recognizance in Grand Rapids 61st District Court. She serves on the Kent County Sheriff's Jail Advisory Committee, the Kent County Defender Board and the Ex-Offender Contact Center Board and was Executive Director of the Citizen's Committee for Criminal Justice. In 1978 she received the Liberty Bell Award from the Grand Rapids Bar Association for outstanding work by a lay person in the areas of law and justice.

During state-mandated deinstitutionalization of mental home patients, she served on the South Kent Mental Health Board. As Board President, she made sure released patients found their least restrictive living arrangements and that the community provided systems and services to support them.

She was a lobbyist for the Federation for American Immigration Reform in Washington D.C. and has been a regional representative for U.S. Senator Carl Levin.

As a City Commissioner, Linda provides leadership in establishing policies and budgets and raising tough questions even when an issue may be difficult or controversial. An advocate for ordinance that secure equity for all citizens, she worked for passage of the controversial gender equity ordinance even though she was receiving threatening phone calls and letters. She steadfastly believes that all citizens, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, race, financial status or religion, are entitled to equal treatment and protection.

1995 TRIBUTE WINNER
ARTS & COMMUNICATION



EUGENIA MARVE

Eugenia Marve, an artist, Grand Rapids Public School teacher and visiting assistant professor at Michigan State University, received the 1994 Educator of the Year Award. She has served on the Public School's Education Fund Board of Trustees and the Grand Rapids Art Museum, and directed and coordinated tutorial mentoring programs at Aquinas College, Grand Valley State University and Riverside School. She was appointed to the Municipal Art Advisory Commission and Fluoride Commemorative project.

Eugenia has worked on cultural enrichment and art programs for at-risk youth in Lansing, community service and involvement programs for Project Rehab residents, and alternative programs for Grand Rapids Public School youth. She was Assistant Director of the Minority Artist Development Program funded by the Michigan Council for the Arts. She is currently designing multi-cultural ceramic tile murals for the Urban League, Baxter Community Center and other public places. The series is being purchased by the Grand Rapids Public School District and D & W Foods.

As a visiting artist, workshop leader and lecturer at public schools and colleges, Marve stresses multi-culturalism and racial sensitivity. During art workshops, she motivates at-risk students and encourages emotionally and physically challenged students. Her message is always the same: We must develop diversity and racial sensitivity and find ways to heal ourselves and our community. A contributing artist at Black Educational Excellence Program (BEEP) fundraisers, she believes that age, ethnicity, gender, education and economics should not be excuses for apathy. Her maxim is, "If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem."

1995 TRIBUTE WINNER
BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT & INDUSTRY



DIANA SIEGER

In the eight years Diana Sieger has been President of The Grand Rapids Foundation, she has doubled its assets to more than \$70 million and positioned The Foundation as a catalyst for change in such areas as child abuse and neglect, education reform, and neighborhood and leadership development.

She established Perspective 21! and provided a structure for the community to examine, evaluate and plan for improvement in the way it treats children. Because of her persistence and leadership, problems faced by children and families have been identified, specific recommendations have emerged to address the problems, and changes have already been implemented.

Sieger chairs Leadership Grand Rapids for the Chamber of Commerce and is a new member of Butterworth Hospital's Board and Executive Committee. She is also a board member for the Direction Center, Council of Michigan Foundations and Olivet College.

Diana's responsible observations are influential not only because she can influence funding, but because she has demonstrated a fair, even-handed, serious commitment to bettering this area and its residents. She has the ability to pull disparate groups, interests and disciplines together and to solve problems and work cooperatively.

Her grasp of community issues is fast approaching visionary status. She's not shy about observing problems... and diplomatically pointing out areas where improvement can be pursued. Diana's advocacy for issues drives and permeates her professional and personal life, and those actions and attitudes have galvanized many others into action as well.

1995 TRIBUTE WINNER
COMMUNITY SERVICE



BETH GOEBEL

Beth Goebel, Executive Director of the Dyer-Ives Foundation and President of the Michigan Women's Foundation and the Environmental Initiative Inland Seas Board, has been a community leader since she was a full-time mother/homemaker involved with Butterworth's Mary Riste Guild, Grand Rapids Junior League, West Michigan Society of Mental Health and Spaulding School for Children. She worked on the Public Education Fund, Planned Parenthood's Policy Committee, the Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Donor's Forum, and co-chaired the YWCA's \$1.8 million Capital Campaign. She also has been a mentor and role model for women and girls across the state.

As caseworker and court referee for Kent County Juvenile Court, she developed Pathways to Permanence, a program designed to track children through juvenile court to ensure stability in their lives. It has been adopted as a model in other U.S. cities.

Under her leadership for the past 11 years, Dyer-Ives has encouraged grant requests for new and innovative projects for which other funding is not readily available in the areas of education, culture, human service and the environment. Because of her unique vision, our community has become richer in experience and diversity.

Neither strident nor timid, Beth speaks her message of equality and empowerment for women in level, sincere tones that make friends and calm enemies. She is a voice of encouragement for women and girls. She exemplifies how it is possible to both "get the job done" and to do it through team effort. She does not seek the spotlight, but neither does she avoid the genuine risks and toil of the leadership position when she is passionate about the cause.

1995 TRIBUTE WINNER
PROFESSIONS



CAROL KARR

Carol Karr, a member at Miller, Johnson, Snell & Cummiskey, PLC., is one of only two women in the Grand Rapids Board Association to be named in the 1995 Best Lawyers in America. She recently received one of the profession's highest honors—the AV rating—recognizing her legal abilities, professional ethics and conduct.

Carol is the first woman to lead the State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section. She is also an elected fellow of the American College of Trust & Estate Counsel—one of the most prestigious honors for estate planning. She served on the local Bar's first Gender Bias Committee and was first chair of the state Bar's Taxation Council Gender Bias Committee.

Carol is a role model for women lawyers, demonstrating how to balance personal and professional obligations. She was the first Grand Rapids woman to win the state Quotarian of the Year Award and the first woman President of Indian Trails Camp for the physically challenged. She was Vice President of Black Educational Excellence Program (BEEP) and is active in the Ryerson Library Foundation Endowment Committee, the Hugh Michael Beahan Foundation, Legal Aid of Western Michigan and the Bar's Citizen's Law School. She appears on WGTV's "Ask the Lawyer" and conducts seminars for community organizations and church groups.

Carol knows that the place to improve the world is first within one's family and then to work outward from there. She is paving new roads for a new generation and shares her professional and community activities with her four boys. By involving her sons in what she is doing, Carol is giving them a new perspective for life that will serve them well in the years to come.

1995 TRIBUTE WINNER
STUDENT



BRIDGET LEWAKOWSKI

Bridget Lewakowski, City High School senior and a member of the Senior Honor Society, has maintained a 4 point GPA since 7th grade. She has excellent organizational and leadership skills and is President of the Student Council. She created and co-chaired the "Pat on the Back" committee to recognize students and teachers on their birthdays and for outstanding achievements. She created "Senior Buddies" pairing seniors with 7th graders of similar interests to show them the ropes and help them with homework if needed. Last summer she was an exchange student in Zurich, Switzerland, honing her exceptional French language skills. This year she has an internship at Cornerstone Architects.

For the last five years, Bridget has volunteered at Blandford Nature Center where she was a pioneer at the Harvest Festival and at the Van Andel Museum Center where she gives demonstrations and answers questions. She is active in St. Alphonsus Church Youth Group and Bell Choir, and has been a lifeguard at two pools. She also is a member of the Arts Council in Grand Rapids.

A member of the Grand Rapids Ballet Senior Company for six years, she's appeared in the Nutcracker and other performances. She attends ballet classes for 2-3 hours after school and 3-7 hours during rehearsals. Despite this and her other responsibilities, she has worked hard and kept her integrity, ethics, sanity and 4 point GPA at City High which gives about four hours of homework each day. She is time-efficient and organized and a positive, caring, self-assured, good-humored attribute to the community.



To advocate for equality,
eliminate racism, and
empower women.