# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

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FOCUS ON CHILDREN

ong Women of Achievement.

Improving children's lives is a recurring objective

Dr. Eva Frazer (Community Health) stemed

into her own shoes as a physician to walk in the

footsteps of her father, a general surgeon and family practitioner. She calls volunteerism, especially

when it helps the underserved gain access to health

She sees the fallout from volunteering glow on

"Not only are you helping the community," she

says, "but doing it brings such a wealth of riches

into your own life. It's so important for women to be

GENEROSITY LIGHTS THE WORLD

Artful experience is the aim of Phyllis Langsdorf (Creative Philanthropy). She thinks it is important

"Art instills a feeling of beauty and it allows you to see what other people are expressing. It expands

your horizons and gives you a different perspective,"

The paths of Women of Achievement are not

Diane Braxs (Cultural Enrichment) brought

concern for the Latino community with her from

Argentina; the death of friends suffering from

HIV in Washington, D.C., saddened Diane Levine

(Health and Education) and DiAnne Mueller

(Family Enrichment) experienced social injustice in Mississippi and deploable health conditions in

Each of the three times Teri Griege (Health

would not defeat her spirit. The marathoner has run - literally - throughtreatments and nowpedals

for advocacy as an ambas sador for hope. People identify with her struggle.

Pat Whitaker (Civic Responsibility) extends the

"It's important to give back to the community

that you were able to succeed in," Whitaker notes.

"You have to recognize you wouldn't have this

success, lifestyle and these opportunities in other

Nurturing children short-term moved Linda

Sher (Child Welfare) and her husband to adopt

their 58th foster child, "After having her for four

months, then one, two and three years, I didn't

survivor, continues to advocate for the health

field. Her heart sings when a child with cancer is

comforted. In one of her projects, she leads groups

make children smile." Shaw notes, "If you can make a difference in one person's life, then that's a goodday."

"It's amazing what a little pillowease can do to

The 2014 Women of Achievement president is

Nanci A. Bobrow, Ph.D. Iamcheon chair is Nancy

in making child-friendly pillowcases.

Harris with Karen Castellano vice chair.

think it would be fair to move her." she explains. JoAnn Shaw (Health Advocacy), another cancer

SERVICE BIG AND SMALL

positive influence and example of her architecture and design company throughout her own

ess) had cancer, she decided the illness

care and education, crucial to the community.

the volunteer herself long after she has served.

role models in the community."

to bloom lavishly where planted.

. Langsdorf says.

always direct.

Central America.

community

places," she notes

Ten women, committed volunteers through and through, will be honored as 2014 Women of Achievement on Thursday, May 15, at The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis. Like dozens of others spotlighted in the past 59 years, the diverse women concentrate resourceful ingenuity to improve the lives of other people.

The tradition began when the St. Louis Globe-Democrat newspaper organized and sponsored the award to publicly honor 10 women of various neighborhoods and special interests. Under ment media sponsors KMOX Radio, St. Louis Post-Dispatch and Ladue News, the tradition continues. Last year's honorees will escort the volunteers of 2014 while trumpets welcome honorees, varying each year by profession, culture and accomplishment, into The Ritz' St. Louis

#### 2014 Women of Achievement Luncheon

WHEN: Thursday, May 15 TIME: Doors open at 11:15 a.m. Event starts promptly at 11:45 a.m. Luncheon from 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. WHERE: The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis 100 Carondelet Plaza, Clayton PRICE: \$60 per person RESERVATIONS: Reservations for seating are required: 314-421-2005 INFORMATION: Online www.woastlorg. phone 314-421-2005

not-for-profit organization overseen by previous honorees to perpetuate the selection of volunteers bettering their community. Committees of community leaders, sponsors and past recipients of the award select 10 ho norees each year from dozens of nominees recommended by the community.

#### INCENTIVE TO SOLVE CHALLENGES

The spotlight may fall on needs otherwise overlooked. Other times volunteers forge new solutions to the human dilemma. Previous honorees have worked to better lives through improved health, awareness of racial and ethnic struggles, aids for challenged children and families, even alternates to human trafficking.

Videos that introduce new honorees in their

volunteer roles at the luncheon remain on the website http://www.woastl.org to motivate a

Honorees feel a responsibility to inspire. They know how to cry with those who cry and cheer for those who reach over obstacles to climb past them.

Ida Early (Volunteer Leadership) broadens her service as she discovers outlets to help. She feels volunteer work is fulfilling for her, too, especially when it impacts families and the health and welfare

of children. "The community is only as good as the work people put into it," she says.

THE CLASS OF 2014:

# Women of Achievement



Virginia Braxs



Ida Early



Dr. Eva Frazer



Teri Griege



Phyllis Langsdorf (Creative Hellanthropy)



Diane Levine



DiAnne Mueller



JoAnn Shaw



Linda Sher (Child William)



Pat Whitaker (CivicResponsibility)

#### Virginia Brass (Cultural Errichment)

#### kla Early (Volunt on Leadership)

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#### Dr. Eva France (Corerenatity Health)

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#### Phyllis Langsdorf (Crestine Weller time py)

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#### Diane Levine /Books and Blucation L

#### DiAnne Mueller (Randly Rev idenant)

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## JoAnn Shaw (Health Advocacy)

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### Linda Sher (Child Welfare)

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## Pat Whitaker (Civic Responsibility)

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