



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Sarah Thompson, 314-884-8306
PR | Communications
sarahtproductions@gmail.com

2022 St. Louis Women of Achievement Announced

10 extraordinary St. Louis area women to be honored for their outstanding volunteer service and leadership

ST. LOUIS, MO (March 2022) – Women of Achievement is pleased to announce the **2022 Women of Achievement** – a selection of 10 extraordinary volunteers from the St. Louis metropolitan region. The St. Louis Women of Achievement Award, which was founded in 1955, is the oldest, ongoing program in the area whose sole mission is to honor and recognize the volunteer service and volunteer leadership of women.

The 2022 Class of Honorees includes:

Judith R. Arnold — Community Betterment
Cynthia R. Bennett — Women's Advocacy
Vicki M. Friedman — Arts & Health
Peggy Holly — Volunteer Leadership
Rene Howitt — Youth & Family Welfare
Cheryl E. Orange — Social Responsibility
Wilma Schmitz — Health Advocacy
Sunitha Thanjavuru, M.D. — Multicultural Leadership
Julie J. Williams — Educational Enrichment
Nancy Wolff — Spirit of Giving

The 10 honorees will be recognized at the **2022 Women of Achievement Luncheon** on Tuesday, **May 10, 2022** at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis. Doors open at 11:15 a.m. The luncheon ends at 1:30 p.m. A video about the honorees and their service to the St. Louis region, which will be shown during the luncheon, will also air on Nine PBS on Monday, **May 16, 2022**, at 7:30 p.m. This year's luncheon chair is Lynn Friedman Hamilton (Class of 2016) and vice chair is Joni Karandjeff (Class of 2008). Pam Toder (Class of 2011) is the president of Women of Achievement and Kathie Winter (Class of 2016) is the vice

president. Luncheon reservations are \$60 per person and can be made online at www.woastl.org/luncheon-reservations or by contacting Women of Achievement at 314.896.4962 or woastlouis@gmail.com.

“The announcement of the 2022 Women of Achievement is very special for us this year,” said **Women of Achievement President Pam Toder**. “We’re humbled by the honorees’ extensive volunteer efforts. Whether it’s starting a nonprofit organization to help domestic and sexual abuse survivors or providing free art lessons and artistic activities to promote healing among cancer patients and their caregivers, these volunteers have made a tremendous impact in the St. Louis community. On top of that, this year’s celebration at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis marks the return to our in-person luncheon—something we have been unable to do for the past two years of the pandemic. May 10 is going to be a major celebration for this year’s honorees and Women of Achievement as a whole.”

“The annual luncheon is a positive and enjoyable event that fully celebrates and highlights the honorees’ distinguished contributions and stories of volunteerism,” said **Women of Achievement Luncheon Chair Lynn Friedman Hamilton**. “The 2022 Class of Honorees are beautiful both inside and out. Their resourcefulness in identifying an often-untouched need and the energy they exert to tackle the community’s problem is nothing short of amazing. My hat is off to them, their creative problem solving and ultimately their successes.”

Women of Achievement honorees are selected from nominations from the St. Louis metropolitan area, including Metro East Illinois, who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the betterment of the St. Louis region through voluntary contributions, volunteer leadership and a significant breadth of a volunteer career. Women of Achievement considers nominees with significant volunteer impact in areas such as, but not limited to, education, arts, health and human services, youth and family, philanthropy, social justice and advocacy.

For additional information about the awards, luncheon and honorees, please visit www.woastl.org.

Women of Achievement Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors: KMOX Radio, Ladue News, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, and Nine PBS

Platinum Sponsors: Elizabeth & Jim Berges, Centene Charitable Foundation, Steward Family Foundation

Gold Sponsors: Drs. Nanci & James Bobrow, Neiman Marcus, Nestle Purina, The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis, Simon Foundation, Thompson Coburn LLP, Washington University in St. Louis, and Webster University

Silver Sponsors: Claire & Dr. Thomas Applewhite, Clark-Fox Family Foundation, The Gatesworth, Nancy & Ken Kranzberg, Marian Nunn & Tom Wendel, On the Run by Wallis Companies, St. Louis Children’s Hospital, Pam & Craig Toder, and Kathie & Richard Winter

Bronze Sponsors: Ballpark Village, Kimmy & Steve Brauer, The Delmar Gardens Family, Ida H. & Gerald Early, Ed & H Pillsbury Foundation, First Bank, The Gellman Team, Lynn Friedman Hamilton, Alice Handelman, Jewish Federation of St. Louis, Joni & Drew Karandjeff, Sandra Murdock, NISA Investment Advisors, LLC, Parkcrest Plastic Surgery, Sam and Marilyn Fox Foundation, Stinson LLP, Julie Thomas Sward of Moneta Group, Technology Partners, and Carol & Tom Voss

About Women of Achievement

In 1955, the St. Louis-Globe Democrat newspaper created an awards program that became known as the Women of Achievement Award, to recognize and honor the achievements of women who, through their volunteer efforts, have demonstrated their dedication and commitment to improving the quality of life in the St. Louis community. The St. Louis Women of Achievement organization, a 501c3, not-for-profit organization, was established in 1993 by former Women of Achievement who wanted to ensure the longevity of the award for future generations of St. Louis area women. The organization's Board of Directors, comprised of past recipients of the award, continue to plan and implement the nomination, selection and award presentation process ensuring that this award will continue to enhance and honor the women volunteers in the St. Louis metropolitan region who positively impact the community, for many years to come. For more information visit the Women of Achievement website at www.woastl.org.

###