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CELEBRATING ST. LOUIS' EXTRAORDINARY VOLUNTEERS

2023 St. Louis Women of Achievement Announced

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

ST. LOUIS, MO (February 22, 2023) – Women of Achievement is pleased to announce the **2023 Women of Achievement** – a selection of 10 outstanding volunteers from across the St. Louis metropolitan region. The 10 honorees will be recognized at the **2023 Women of Achievement Luncheon** on Tuesday, **May 9, 2023** at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis.

The 2023 Women of Achievement:

Katherine Glynn Anderson — Impactful Leadership
Velma Bailey — Youth Enrichment
Beth Boggs — Feeding Our Community
Rolanda Finch — Caring & Compassion
Judith Garfinkel — Arts & Education
Linda Hunter — Humanitarian Concerns
Erin Kramer — Spirit of Giving
Kristina Le — Multicultural Advocacy
Christine Pennell — Human Welfare
Gabriela Ramirez-Arellano — Social Enterprise

The St. Louis Women of Achievement Award, which was founded in 1955 and celebrates its 68th anniversary this year, is the oldest, **ongoing program in the area** whose sole mission is to honor and recognize the volunteer service and volunteer leadership of women. Each year, Women of Achievement selects 10 honorees from an extensive process beginning with nominations submitted by the public. The honorees are volunteers who have demonstrated **outstanding commitment to the betterment of the St. Louis region** through uncompensated voluntary contributions, volunteer leadership and a significant breadth of a volunteer career.

The Class of 2023 honorees will be recognized at the **2023 Women of Achievement Luncheon** on Tuesday, **May 9, 2023** at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis. Doors open at 11:15 a.m. The luncheon ends at 1:30 p.m. A 30-minute video about the honorees and their extensive service to the St. Louis region will be shown during the luncheon. This year's luncheon chair is **Joni Karandjeff** (Class of 2008) and the luncheon vice chair is **Susie Knopf** (Class of 2009). **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 beginning in March at woastl.org/event or by contacting Women of Achievement at 314.896.4962 or woastlouis@gmail.com.

“We are shining a spotlight on a selection of remarkable women who are committed to improving and supporting the St. Louis community through volunteerism,” said **Women of Achievement President Pam Toder**. “For 68 years Women of Achievement has been proud to honor the extraordinary volunteer efforts of women from across the region. These are women who are motivated to give back and find a way to do so as volunteers. Their work is vital to nonprofits and causes across the region, and we want to draw attention to them and say thank you for their tremendous commitment and impact.”

“These women are an inspiration to others,” said **Women of Achievement Luncheon Chair Joni Karandjeff**. “This year's 10 honorees have gone above and beyond to make St. Louis a better place to live and work, and we're excited to celebrate them at the Women of Achievement annual luncheon in May.”

Women of Achievement honorees are selected from nominations from the St. Louis metropolitan area, including Metro East Illinois. 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.

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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.

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