



CITY OF
JERSEY CITY
Department of Health & Human Services
Division of Cultural Affairs



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Mayor Healy & Council to Honor ‘Women of Action’
Annual ceremony recognizes accomplishments of women throughout Jersey City***

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy and the Jersey City Municipal Council will celebrate Women’s History Month by honoring 27 outstanding women at this year’s ***Women of Action Awards Ceremony*** from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at City Hall, 280 Grove Street.**

This year’s recipients have distinguished themselves in such fields as engineering, education, nursing, and business. The recipients have devoted themselves to their families and their communities and have made a positive imprint on the lives of many.

“Throughout our nation’s history, women of all backgrounds have helped shape our communities,” **Mayor Healy** said. “Jersey City is stronger due in part to some very strong women who have nurtured our City through the years. Women have made history in Jersey City by serving on our City Council, by holding the Office of Mayor, and by serving on our Police and Fire Departments.”

“They have built businesses, educated and molded our children and have made our City the great place it is,” **Mayor Healy** added. “Today is their day to shine and accept our gratitude for all they do every day.”

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Each council member chooses three women who have made an impact in the lives of others through volunteerism, by extending themselves in their careers and/or by breaking down barriers for women in government, business or civic involvement.

This year's Emcee for the evening will be Deputy Mayor Leona M. Beldini, herself a past **Women of Action Award** recipient. Leona, a successful businesswoman, is owner, CEO, and the Broker of Record of Charles B. Swensen, Inc. Throughout her career in government and business, Leona has worked to create access for women in business and government.

The invocation will be delivered by Sr. Maureen Kelly, F.S.P., the Guidance Department Chairwoman of Saint Dominic Academy, who through her nearly 30 years of service in the Guidance Department at an all-women's high school has mentored and counseled young women in Jersey City.

The guest speaker for the evening, the Hon. Joan M. Quigley, Assemblywoman for the 32nd Legislative District of New Jersey and a Woman of action in her own right, has been a pioneer for women in government and is currently serving her seventh term in Trenton.

The closing benediction will be delivered by Rabbi Kenneth Brickman of Temple Beth-El, who counsels families and women in his congregation. Rabbi Brickman is active in the Jersey City community and has served two terms as a Commissioner on the Hudson County Commission on Human Relations.

Entertainment will be provided by members of the Alan Quinn Orchestra of Jersey City.

The honorees will each receive a proclamation and a plaque from the Mayor and the Municipal Council. First Lady Maureen Healy will present each honoree with a bouquet.

The 2007 **Women of Action** are as follows:

Ward A (Michael Sottolano): Tracey Thomas, Joan Y. Eccleston, Sister Patricia Cashman, SSJ

Ward B (Mary Spinello): Henrietta Johnson, Blanca Cortes, Gloria Moore

Ward C (Steve Lipski): Renee Tirella-Cassidy, Marianne Costello, Myeong Seu

Ward D (Bill Gaughan): Eleanor Bufano, Andrea Carroll, Elizabeth "Betty" Pellagatti

Ward E (Steve Fulop): Ethel Jones, Mia Scanga, Rosalie Nicodemo

Ward F (Viola Richardson): Ruth Moore, Michel Massey, Dania Caballero

Council President Mariano Vega: Sonia Mate-Babinsky, Gladys Rodriguez, Stephanie R. Cummings

Councilwoman Willie Flood: Ruthie Rice, Patricia Waiters, Michelle Daniel

Councilman Peter Brennan: Sister Maureen Killough, Gladys Rosado, LaVern Webb-Washington

For more information on the Women of Actions Award Ceremony, contact **the Division of Cultural Affairs at (201) 547-6921.////**