



WOMEN OF POWER & INFLUENCE AWARDS

About The Women Of Power & Influence Awards

The National Organization for Women in New York City (NOW-NYC) established the Women of Power & Influence Awards in 1988 to celebrate the achievements of extraordinary women in business, finance, entrepreneurship, technology, law and government.

Many of our awardees have boldly forged their way to the top of their industries breaking barriers along the way and have made their mark as pioneers and role models.

Held at a premier New York City venue, the event is attended by 400 to 500 business leaders from the worlds of finance, business, and law, and supported by many Fortune 500 companies.

Our awardee alumnae join a network of over 100 exemplary business leaders, financiers, entrepreneurs, and innovators. NOW-NYC provides further networking opportunities for Women of Power & Influence alumnae with yearly events that focus on current issues affecting women in business.

Women of Power & Influence honorees share a commitment to advancing women's opportunities, so that individual women can fulfill their potential and women collectively can advance professionally, economically and socially.

The proceeds from this annual dinner gala support NOW-NYC and Women's Justice NOW in the critical work of advocating for and improving the lives of New York women and girls.





NOW-NYC advocates for the women and girls of New York.

We defend reproductive rights, fight economic inequality, and end to aim discrimination and violence against women.



We have a fifty-year legacy of being on the frontlines—working to build a culture of equal opportunity and justice. At a time when we face the most dire threats to women’s reproductive rights, safety, and economic freedom, our leadership is needed—NOW more than ever

WE CHANGE POLICY & SET A PRECEDENT

We led the fight for landmark legislation in New York to repeal the statute of limitations on rape and secure laws, funding and policies to tackle human trafficking. We ushered in no-fault divorce; expanded sexual harassment protection to cover all working women; secured a new law banning marriage for minors under the age of 17— ending the practice of adult men wedding underage girls and succeeded in securing a law that mandates the repossession of firearms from convicted batterers.

WE POWER ACTIVISM

We are building a force of advocates to resist a national agenda that is targeting women’s hard-won rights. Since November 2016, we have trained more than 2,000 women on how to hold their elected leaders accountable and how to advocate for their own rights. We provide weekly updates and actions and hold regular volunteer-led meetings to amplify women’s voices and defend equality and justice.

WE ADVOCATE FOR PRO-WOMEN RIGHTS LEADERS

We are a non-partisan organization that proactively supports Democrat, Republican, and Independent women’s rights candidates to ensure that the needs of women and their families are represented at all levels of government. We endorse strong, diverse, and qualified pro-choice women and men who represent the populations they serve and who have a consistent track-record of standing up for the real needs of women and working families.

WE HOLD LEADERS ACCOUNTABLE

We act to ensure that the issues that matter to women and girls are front and center, by advocating for comprehensive policy change. We launched Take Rape Seriously NOW, a campaign to defend the threatened Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and we are organizing Women’s Town Halls across New York to provide a platform for women to speak out. We have collected powerful testimony from over 50 organizations and survivors of violence to make the undeniable case for preserving VAWA.



WE SEEK JUSTICE

We provide one-on-one expert support for survivors of sexual assault, helping them navigate a criminal justice system that too often fails to adequately meet their needs. We hold the criminal justice system accountable to rape victims, educating prosecutors and police on best practices and pushing for policies that will competently address the crime of rape. We also build survivor leadership, by working alongside and empowering survivors to engage in advocacy on their own terms.

WE BUILD MOVEMENTS

We train a forceful, diverse, volunteer-led community of feminist activists who—through our programs—gain the tools, knowledge, and skills needed to enact real change for women and girls. We also work with key allies to launch effective coalitions centered on ending sexual violence, including our national coalition to end human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation—WorldWE—and a coalition of anti-rape advocates in San Francisco that are working to improve their city's response to sexual assault.

WE PROTECT WOMEN'S RIGHTS

We help women take control of their lives by providing critical resources that give them the support, protections, and guidance they need. We serve thousands of women annually seeking legal referrals for divorce, child custody, sexual assault and harassment through our HELPLINE resources. We have also trained hundreds of volunteers to provide a force of pro-choice advocates to support women accessing reproductive healthcare in Queens. Volunteers collect vital documentation on protester activity to advance lasting policy change that will help to protect clinics serving low-income women.

Women's Justice NOW, NOW-NYC's charitable sister organization, mobilizes communities, develops new activist and survivor leadership, and provides direct help to women in need.



"I can't say it enough. A friend told me there was power in fighting back, and she was right—and this is part of the reason I am starting to feel better again. Thank you for helping me fight."

– V., Sexual Assault Survivor



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BESS WEATHERMAN

is Partner and Head of the Healthcare Group at Warburg Pincus, a global private equity firm with more than \$40 billion in current assets. Ms. Weatherman is one of the key architects of the firms' approach to healthcare investing and has built more than 25 companies during her tenure. She is also a founding donor to support the creation of "Women, War & Peace," a PBS documentary series chronicling women's roles in brokering peace in conflict zones.

BETH LEVINE

is Senior Vice President, Associate General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biotechnology pioneer that is advancing innovative medicines for serious diseases including cancer, heart disease and eye disease. As part of the executive leadership, Beth has helped grow Regeneron into a \$40B industry leader with over 6,000 employees operating in six locations in the US and Europe.



CAROLYN EDGAR

is Managing Counsel – Technology, Intellectual Property and Social Media at BNY Mellon. Before joining BNY Mellon, she was Vice President and Legal Counsel for The Estée Lauder Companies, and in 2002, was a partner in the intellectual property practice of Kirkland & Ellis. A published author, Ms. Edgar is a pop culture contributor to Salon.com, and also writes a self-titled blog which she writes about her life as a New York City lawyer, writer, and single mother.



CHERYL MILLS

served as the Chief of Staff under Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at the State Department. Ms. Mills managed the foreign policy and operational priorities of the \$55 billion agency and supervised the Obama Administration's \$3.5 billion global hunger and food security initiative. She is currently the founder and CEO of the Blacklvy Group.





DESIREE RALLS-MORRISON

is Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Boston Scientific. As a member of the executive committee, Ms. Ralls Morrison provides legal counsel across the company's global businesses and oversees the company's global compliance function. She formerly served as the Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary for Boehringer Ingelheim USA, Inc. where she led the company's US legal operations. She was also the General Counsel of the Global Consumer Sector at Johnson & Johnson where she was instrumental in securing the successful Rx-to-OTC switch of Zyrtec.

ELINOR L. HOOVER

is Vice Chairman of Capital Markets Origination and Global Co-Head of the Financial Strategy & Solutions Group at Citi. She advises corporations globally on capital structure, valuation, capital deployment and enterprise risk management. Elinor began her career in finance in 1989 at CS First Boston in New York and then joined The Blackstone Group in Tokyo where she worked for two years specializing in cross-border mergers and acquisitions, before joining Morgan Stanley in 1994 in the Fixed Income Division.



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GERALDINE BUCKINGHAM

Senior Managing Director, is Global Head of Corporate Strategy at BlackRock and a member of the firm's Global Executive Committee. She is responsible for helping BlackRock develop and implement long-term goals and respond to the competitive financial services landscape. She previously served as Head of Americas Corporate Strategy. Prior to joining BlackRock in 2014, Dr. Buckingham was a partner with McKinsey & Company focused on global asset management, wealth management and private equity, as well as strategy and organization.

GLORIA STEINEM

feminist icon, helped ignite the Second Wave women's movement, and inspired millions of American women to join the women's movement in the 1970s. Fifty years later, she continues to travel the world championing women's rights and equality. Ms. Steinem co-founded Ms. Magazine, New York Magazine, the National Women's Political Caucus, Emily's List and the Women's Media Center. Her most recent published work is a memoir: My Life on the Road.



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GRETCHEN CARLSON

named one of TIME Magazine's 100 most influential people in the world, is a 20-year veteran of television news. She is credited with ushering in a new era of workplace sexual harassment accountability and has traveled the country empowering women to be the change makers to lead our culture forward. She has focused her efforts on combatting workplace inequality and exposing the dangers of forced arbitration clauses in employment contracts.

HEIDI LEVINE

is a litigation partner at Sidley Austin LLP. Her national practice focuses on product liability and mass torts, with an emphasis on pharmaceutical and medical device litigation. She is currently a member of Sidley's Committee on Retention and Promotion of Women and was co-founder and co-chair of her prior firm's global women's initiative from 2006–2016. She has been recognized as a recognized practitioner in nationwide Product Liability & Mass Torts by Chambers USA and a recommended lawyer by The Legal 500 US.



JANE GLADSTONE

is the Senior Managing Director leading Evercore's financial services corporate advisory business with over twenty four years of investment banking experience. Ms. Gladstone has been named one of the Top 50 rainmakers on Wall Street by DealMaker magazine and been a delegate to the World Economic Forum. She is a member of the Committee of 200, an invitation-only membership organization of the world's most successful women business leaders and The Economic Club of New York.



JANET YELLEN

is an American economist and the immediate past Chair of the US Federal Reserve, appointed by President Obama in 2014. She is the first and only woman to assume this rank in US history. Previously serving as Vice Chair of the Federal Reserve from 2010 to 2014, Dr. Yellen was also President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco; and Chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers under President Bill Clinton.





JOAN SOLOTAR

heads Blackstone's Multi-Asset Investing business as Senior Managing Director in Public Markets and co-founded the firm's Women's Network. She leads their External Relations, Global Corporate Services, and their Charitable Foundation. Ms. Solotar is board chair of the East Harlem Tutorial Program and the East Harlem Scholars Academy, and has authored a Harvard Business Review article entitled "Truths for our Daughters".

KAREN HALBY

is Senior Vice President and Head of the Global Tax Office at Sony Corporation – one of the most iconic Japanese multinational conglomerates. As a member of Sony's executive leadership, and the first woman in this global executive role, she has helped form the company's first centralized tax department and oversees all tax matters for Sony and its various divisions around the world.



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KIMBERLEY D. HARRIS

former Deputy White House Counsel for the Obama Administration, is Executive Vice President and General Counsel at NBCUniversal, the one of the largest multinational media conglomerates with more than \$28 Billion in assets. Previously, she was a partner at Davis Polk & Wardwell and served as Senior Counsel at the Department of Justice. Ms. Harris is a member of the National Women's Law Center Leadership 35 Committee.

LAUREN HOCHFELDER SILVERMAN

is a Head of the Americas Morgan Stanley Real Estate Investing, one of the world's largest real estate investment managers with approximately \$35 billion of real estate assets under management. Ms. Silverman has sourced, structured and executed principal investments across all real estate asset classes and structures, including investing in over \$3 billion of commercial and residential properties in New York City.



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LINDA FINDLEY KOZLOWSKI

is Chief Operating Officer of Etsy, the online global marketplace for unique and creative goods and the leader in this e-commerce market. She brings more than twenty years of experience in operations, international marketing, business development, and public relations. Kozlowski oversees all revenue-generating and customer facing operations for the global marketplace for unique and creative goods. Under her leadership, Etsy's teams have built a best-in-class e-commerce experience that is changing the face of entrepreneurship.

LIZ ELTING

founder and CEO of the Elizabeth Elting Foundation, is a New York-based philanthropist and businesswoman, recognized for her outstanding entrepreneurship and focus on developing women business leaders. An accomplished business leader, Elting co-founded TransPerfect, the world's largest provider of language and business solutions. Headquartered in New York City, the company has over \$600 million in revenues and more than 4,000 employees in over 90 cities around the globe.



MARINELA TUDORAN

is a Managing Director in Credit Suisse's Global Markets Technology division, based in New York. She is the Global Head of Electronic Trading and Cash Equities Technology. Under Ms. Tudoran's leadership, Credit Suisse has built and sustained one of Wall Street's most competitive electronic trading platforms, including the leading Advanced Execution Services suite and CrossFinder, one of the world's largest Alternative Trading Systems.

MARY JO WHITE

is Chair of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). She was the US Attorney of the Southern District of New York, serving from 1993 – 2002, and oversaw the prosecutions of John Gotti and the terrorists responsible for the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. Ms. White served as a Director of The NASDAQ Stock Exchange and was a partner at Debevoise & Plimpton.





MICHELLE H. BROWDY

is IBM's General Counsel and Senior Vice President of Legal and Regulatory Affairs. She leads IBM's global legal, security, privacy, compliance, environmental, government and regulatory affairs functions. Previously, she served as Secretary to IBM's Board of Directors and headed IBM's worldwide litigation, overseeing IBM's intellectual property, antitrust/ competition, employment, class action, securities and commercial litigation globally.

MICHELLE MCCLOSKEY

is President of Man Americas, President of Man FRM, and serves on Man Group's Executive Committee. Man Group was founded in 1783 and is the largest publicly traded hedge fund company in the world. Ms. McCloskey oversees key strategic relationships and leads the Managed Account Lifecycle team, one of the largest hedge fund managed account platforms globally. Previously, she served as Head of Manager Research at FRM and Head of the Commodities and New Alternatives at Man Group's multi-manager business.



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NICOLE MILLER

has been a leader in American fashion design for over twenty-five years. The Nicole Miller brand has grown to 20 boutiques in major cities across the United States, and is sold in Nieman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Bloomingdale's, and Nordstrom. Ms. Miller also designs an extensive collection for J.C. Penny and a home furnishing collection for Bed, Bath, and Beyond.

NITHYA DAS

is Vice President, General Counsel, and member of the Executive Team at AppNexus, a global technology platform providing trading solutions, internet advertising, and the biggest advertising reach after Google. Ms. Das manages their global corporate, commercial and regulatory legal affairs; serves as the co-chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Steering Committee; and leads the AppNexus Women's Network. She also writes a popular cooking blog, HungryDesi.com.



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PAULA HOWELL ANDERSON

a Litigation partner at Shearman & Sterling LLP, represents clients across the globe in Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA") investigations, cross-border litigation, bankruptcy litigation, antitrust litigation, M&A-related litigation, and international arbitration. She devotes countless pro-bono hours representing indigent criminal defendants, individuals seeking political asylum in the U.S. from persecution in their home countries, and victims of human trafficking. Ms. Anderson also works with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, assisting on genocide prosecutions, and advises the International Criminal Court on prosecutions for crimes against humanity.

PREETA BANSAL

is a senior global executive and lawyer whose career has been at the intersection of law, public policy, government, academia and global business. Ms. Bansal served as General Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor to the federal Office of Management and Budget in the Obama White House. She is also recognized for her service as the Solicitor General of the State of New York, Chair of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), and her work as a US diplomat advocating for human rights and religious freedom abroad, where she advised on the drafting of the Afghan and Iraqi constitutions.



RACHEL MADDOW

hosts the Emmy Award-winning and top-rated The Rachel Maddow Show on MSNBC, and is the first openly gay journalist to anchor a major U.S. news program. Ms. Maddow is also the author of DRIFT: The Unmooring of American Military Power, which debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestsellers list.

DR. ROBIN L. SMITH

is a global thought leader, medical expert, and entrepreneur in stem cell research. A former founder and CEO of NeoStem and a leading developer of cell therapy, she is currently the founder, Chairman of the Board, and President of the Stem for Life Foundation. Her work has led to a historic partnership with the Vatican, which has raised millions to educate the world on the progress of regenerative medicine and catalyze the development and distribution of cell therapies.



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