



Arizona's most intriguing women

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FROM A BULLFIGHTER TO A MUNICIPAL JUDGE, ARIZONA'S 48 MOST INTRIGUING WOMEN AID INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES AND UNDERSERVED

- Centennial Project Announces 48 Honorees Working Hard to Enhance the Lives of Others -

Scottsdale, Ariz. (January 20, 2012) – As Arizona approaches its centennial marking 100 years since becoming the 48th state, the Arizona Centennial Legacy Project: Arizona's 48 Most Intriguing Women announces the selected honorees hailing from all walks of life, from a jail minister and a bullfighter to a municipal judge.

Partnering with the Arizona Historical Society and the Arizona Community Foundation, the 48 Women project was created to honor women from diverse backgrounds whose leadership and commitment contribute in a positive way to the future of Arizona during its centennial year.

Honorees include:

Bullhead City: Olivia Brusso McCormick

Chandler: Nadine Basha

Glendale: Elaine M. Scruggs

Globe/San Carlos: Delphine Rodriguez

Laveen: Isola Jones, Leah Landrum Taylor

Mesa: Diana Yazzie Devine

Nogales: Anna Maria Coppola

Paradise Valley: Lonnie Ali, Barbara Barrett, Jacquie Dorrance, Diane Halle, Jeanne Herberger, Susan Levine, Barbara Mundell, Cheryl Najafi, Coral Quiet M.D. and Mary Schroeder

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Phoenix: Mary Black, Virginia Counts, Diane Humetewa, Cindy McCain, Rose Mofford, Ioanna Morfessis, Margaret Mullen, Roxanne Song Ong, Andrea Pursley, Judy Schubert, Diana Taurasi, Mary Rose Wilcox, Jeri Williams, Nicola Winkel and Kimberly Yee.

Pinetop/Lakeside: Jane Dee Hull

Salt River-Pima-Maricopa Indian Community: Diane Enos

Scottsdale: Gladys Johnston, Gerda Weissmann Klein, Carole Machiz, Virgilia Singh, Julie Sullivan

Sedona: Constance Stratton Coble, Martha Mertz

Sun City: Pat Mathiesen

Tempe: Christine Kajikawa Wilkinson

Tucson: Carmen Bermudez, Susan Claassen, Ann Day, Cindy Parseghian

A special Legacy Legends category recognizing four honorees for their significant national influence and global impact includes Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D-Ariz.), Tucson; Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, Washington, D.C.; Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (Ret.), Phoenix; and Grammy-winning recording artist Linda Ronstadt, Tucson.

The Sisters of Mercy Arizona are the honorees in the institutional category. This religious institute of Catholic women is dedicated to a more merciful life and a just world.

"Individually, the 48 Women governing board knew there were many Arizona women who are working hard every day to enhance the lives of others and to make Arizona the best state it can be," said Connie Robinson, chairperson of the 48 Women project. "The level of statewide involvement and the number and quality of the nominations confirmed that. In fact, the scope of their work and commitment is remarkable."

She added that hundreds of nominations came in to 48 Women's Scottsdale office from the website, by email, fax and even snail mail from all parts of Arizona.

A luncheon to honor Arizona's 48 Most Intriguing Women will be held from noon-2 p.m. Monday, March 26 at The Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale. Guest speakers will pay tribute to the honorees and those attending will have an opportunity to meet them.

A coffee table book titled "Arizona's 48 Most Intriguing Women," which tells the women's stories in words and photos, will be launched and can be purchased during the luncheon for \$65. The books will then be available at select book stores and locations throughout the state. To pre-order, call 602-896-9000 or email cbrobinson@cox.net.

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Table sponsorships for the luncheon range from \$5,000-\$25,000 and can be purchased by calling 602-896-9000. Tickets to the luncheon are \$500 per person. Checks should be made payable to Arizona Community Foundation/48 Women and can be mailed to: 48 Women of Arizona, 7904 E. Chaparral Rd., PMB 196, Scottsdale, AZ 85250. Deadline to purchase tickets is 5 p.m. March 25.

48 Most Intriguing Women of Arizona Sponsors include:

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About Arizona Centennial Legacy Projects

Centennial Legacy Projects are projects generated by community members and sanctioned by the Arizona Historical Advisory Commission. These projects strive to leave a lasting legacy in honor of the Centennial and range from public art, to restoration of historic properties, to musical compositions. Learn more about Legacy Projects on the website at www.az100years.org.

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