

***YWCA Career Women of Achievement***  
***Media Fact Sheet***

This year marks the 41<sup>st</sup> annual recognition of outstanding businesswomen in Cincinnati through the ***YWCA Career Women of Achievement*** award program. The event has grown to be the largest luncheon event at Duke Energy Convention Center and throughout the Midwest, featuring nationally recognized speakers and drawing an average of 2,000 attendees, using the full capacity of the center. However, due to the Corona Virus, this year’s event will be aired on Local 12.

When is this year’s YWCA Career Women of Achievement event?	Thursday, June 18, 2020 7 -8 pm Broadcast on Local 12
Who is the Guest Speaker?	Patty Brisben, founder & chair of direct-sales powerhouse Pure Romance, and a long-time voice for women’s sexual health education and empowerment.
Who are the co-chairs for the event?	Former Career Women of Achievement Honorees Debbie Hayes, Vice President & Chief Compliance Officer, The Christ Hospital Network and Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco, Coroner, Hamilton County.
What is special about this year’s event?	<p>YWCA Greater Cincinnati has been serving the neediest populations of our community for 152 years. As one of our three pillars, Empowerment &amp; Economic Advancement of Women &amp; Girls, the YWCA launched the Career Women of Achievement in 1980 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• showcase role models for women in the workplace.</li> <li>• challenge local companies to ensure that they were acknowledging the contributions made by their female employees and promoting them accordingly</li> <li>• raise money for YWCA programs that would aid, inspire and empower other women.</li> </ul> <p>The inaugural 1980 Career Women of Achievement banquet attracted 400 attendees, honored eight outstanding career women and raised a respectable \$20,000.</p> <p>This year marks the 41<sup>st</sup> time that we will celebrate women and the individual and collective contributions they make to the modern workplace. This world-class event attracts an average of 2,000 individuals each year, features a dynamic keynote speaker, raises critical funds that directly support local programs, and with this year’s class, has honored 330 outstanding women.</p>

<p>Who are the 2020 Honorees?</p>	<p>Iris Simpson Bush, President, CEO, Pig Works</p> <p>Deborah Gentry Davis, Vice President of Human Resources, Hard Rock Casino Cincinnati</p> <p>Brandi N. H. Elliott, EdD, Director, Office of Ethnic Programs &amp; Services, University of Cincinnati</p> <p>Jennifer Loeb Goodin, Executive Director, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Cincinnati</p> <p>Roni Luckenbill, Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of Western Ohio</p> <p>Jeanne Rehling-Golliher, President &amp; CEO, Cincinnati Development Fund</p> <p>Verna L. Williams, Dean &amp; Nippert Professor of Law, University of Cincinnati College of Law</p> <p>Mary Zalla, Global President Consumer Brands &amp; Managing Director Cincinnati, Landor</p>
<p>How are the Career Women of Achievement chosen?</p>	<p>Each year an independent panel of community leaders selects eight women who exemplify personal career success, dynamic leadership qualities, and the unique ability to serve as role models.</p> <p>2020 Judges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bob Castellini, Jr., Senior Vice President &amp; Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley</li> <li>• Michele Hawkins, Managing Director &amp; Chief Compliance Officer, Fort Washington Investment Advisors, Inc.</li> <li>• Heidi Jark, Senior Vice President &amp; Managing Director, Foundation Office, Fifth Third Bank</li> <li>• Mitch Livingston, PhD, Retired, University of Cincinnati</li> </ul>
<p>What does the Career Women of Achievement Award recognize?</p>	<p>The area's most long-standing local women's business award, the YWCA Career Women of Achievement Award was established in 1980 by the YWCA to increase community awareness and appreciation of the diverse contributions of women in the work force and in the community. The annual award and luncheon honors eight Cincinnati businesswomen who exemplify personal career success, dynamic leadership qualities and the unique ability to serve as role models. Each of these women has benefited from strong mentors and each</p>

	embraces her role as a mentor for women and young girls coming after them.
How many women has the YWCA recognized since starting the Career Women of Achievement luncheon?	Overall, 322 women have been honored over the last 40 years, including corporate executives, financial advisors, entrepreneurs, human resource specialists, healthcare experts, artists and compliance and government affairs professionals.
What does the YWCA do to encourage young women new to their careers?	Guided by its motto "to lift as we climb", the YWCA Academy of the Career Women of Achievement created the YWCA Rising Star program to honor and support women ages 25-45 who are outstanding performers and demonstrate a potential to attain marked achievement in their careers. Since 2002, over 800 dynamic professional women have been identified as rising stars. These women learn from and network with members of the Academy and with each other through roundtables, panels and book discussions, social events and nonprofit board service.
What does the YWCA do to encourage teenage girls to identify a career path and seek continuing education?	<p>The Mamie Earl Sells Scholarship has positively impacted more than 170 young women for the past 27 years in their pursuit of higher education. These scholarships are awarded to female African American senior high school students for their ability to overcome hardship, academic achievements and qualities of leadership, extracurricular activities and community service.</p> <p>The scholarship upholds the vision and leadership Mamie Earl Sells provided to the community and the YWCA. She was continually involved with young people and promoted programs that encouraged them to improve their personal lives and career opportunities.</p> <p>In addition, the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Scholarship Fund also recognizes women for their involvement in YWCA programs that will allow them to complete their education. The Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, Fifth Third Bank as Trustee, was created to enable, empower and uplift young girls and women. This support is critical for YWCA clients to secure employment and financial stability necessary for independence and self-sufficiency.</p>
More Information	Please visit <a href="http://www.ywcacincinnati.org">www.ywcacincinnati.org</a> for more details or our Facebook page YWCA Greater Cincinnati