

eliminating racism
empowering women



Academy of Women Achievers Luncheon

June 15th, 2022

11:30am-1:30pm

**The Westin Copley Place
Boston, MA**

www.ywboston.org

#AWA2022 | @YWBoston



2022
*Academy of
Women
Achievers*

***Thank you for joining us for the
27th anniversary of YW Boston’s
Academy of Women Achievers***

YW Boston is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. Your support and generosity help us build more equitable environments in Boston.

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2022 Academy of Women Achievers



Since 1995, as part of our mission to promote and celebrate the achievements of women, YW Boston has held the Academy of Women Achievers celebration. This is an event through which we recognize and honor some of Boston's brightest, boldest, bravest, and most influential women. All proceeds from the Academy of Women Achievers celebration support YW Boston's programs to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 27th Academy of Women Achievers Celebration. It's such a treat to hold a hybrid event. Not only do we get the excitement and energy from being in a room together, but we can also accommodate those who can't be in attendance physically.

The past few weeks, let alone years, have been challenging. And while today is a day of celebration, I would be remiss not to acknowledge all that we've been through. As a national community we continue to face the uncertainties of COVID, have endured a spate of horrific gun violence and find reproductive and health care rights hanging in the balance.

Through all the darkness, it's also a reminder to savor days like today. One of the things that makes YW Boston special is our ability to bring people together, across differences, to recognize each other's commonality and humanity. It's our ability to connect with one another that will sustain us through the challenges ahead.

The belief that everyone needs to be a part of racial and gender equity is the cornerstone of our work at YW Boston and is also embodied in our value of shared leadership. Over the past ten years, our programs have shifted to support this recognition. Ten years ago, we had six programs that generally focused on our mission. Today, we have three that are laser focused on our vision to create more inclusive environments so women, people of color, and especially women of color can thrive at all levels.

At YW Boston, shared leadership means we are all leaders and have a responsibility to exercise our agency in service to our mission and shared goals. Everyone gathered with us today shares the responsibility to help Boston overcome racial and gender inequities. Each of us can and must advocate for change in our spheres of influence and uplift amazing women leaders. The actions you take today may open the door for a future Academy of Women Achiever honoree. If you need assistance with ways to support your organization's DEI journey, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for joining us!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth".

Beth Chandler
YW Boston President and CEO

YW BOSTON OUR HISTORY

On March 3, 1866, thirty women in Boston met at the home of civic reformer Pauline Durant to adopt a constitution for the Boston Young Women's Christian Association. Over 150 years later, YW Boston remains a leader in the cause of advancing equity and opportunity for women, people of color, and in particular women of color.

OUR MISSION

YW Boston is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

As the first YWCA in the country, YW Boston has consistently been a leader in advancing racial and gender equity. In the 1860's YW Boston advanced independence for women by establishing one of the earliest residences for single working women. The facility offered training in domestic service work, creating a path to financial self-sufficiency for young women.

In the 1880's YW Boston's Traveler's Aid program met immigrant women arriving in Boston's port and connected them with resources and services to build their lives in the US.

By the 1920's YW Boston began promoting racial integration through an "Interracial Committee" made up of women attending Boston's colleges.

Today, YW Boston continues working towards its mission through programs that address the most challenging and persistent inequities in the city, particularly those that lie at the intersection of race and gender.



YW BOSTON OUR WORK



YW Boston's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Services—such as InclusionBoston and LeadBoston— as well as our F.Y.R.E. Initiative and advocacy work, help individuals and organizations change policies, practices, attitudes, and behaviors to create more inclusive environments where women, people of color, and especially women of color can succeed.

DEI SERVICES

LEADBOSTON

LeadBoston equips mid-to-senior level professionals with the knowledge, skills, and network they need to become inclusive leaders and influence change in their organizations. Through experiential activities, participants delve into the socioeconomic realities of Boston and explore innovative solutions to inequity.

Applications for the LeadBoston Class of 2023 will open on September 9, 2022. For more information, to apply or refer a colleague, please visit [ywboston.org/leadboston](https://www.ywboston.org/leadboston) or contact Rachael McCoy at rachael@ywboston.org

INCLUSIONBOSTON

InclusionBoston advances diversity, equity, and inclusion by partnering with organizations looking for improved results. We collaborate with organizations to create an action plan and provide them with the resources needed to drive lasting change. Our customized, evidence-based approach creates sustainable cultural change at the organizations we serve.

YW Boston has launched the InclusionBoston **Gender Dialogues**. This model will support organizations in assessment, process design, dialogue-based sessions, action planning, and pre/post evaluation - all through an intersectional lens - with the ultimate goal of helping organizations uncover internal barriers to women's success.

DEI WORKSHOPS

YW Boston also offers one-day workshops led by our expert facilitators. Workshop topics include Understanding Racial Equity, Implicit Bias, Microaggressions, Intersectionality, and Organizational Change to Achieve Equity.

COVID-19 STATEMENT: We are committed to ensuring the safety of our staff, partners, and program participants. YW Boston is able to accommodate groups of varying sizes through virtual facilitation and online delivery. For more information, please contact Sheera Bornstein at sheera@ywboston.org



YW BOSTON OUR WORK



F.Y.R.E. INITIATIVE (FIERCE YOUTH REIGNITING EXCELLENCE)

The F.Y.R.E. Initiative is YW Boston's leadership and empowerment program for middle school girls in the Greater Boston area. The program's curriculum incorporates social justice education, positive identity development, and civic engagement. Each weekly session is designed to promote dialogue and experiential learning to cultivate empathy and increase social-emotional learning.

The F.Y.R.E. Initiative takes place in schools or during Out of School Time programs. F.Y.R.E. is developed to operate in a "girls group" structure rather than a traditional classroom structure. At the end of the program, participants will present a community action project at the F.Y.R.E. Symposium and have the opportunity to engage with other youth leaders from across Greater Boston. Sessions can be facilitated in-person or remotely.

For more information, please visit ywboston.org/fyre or contact Jay Boss at jboss@ywboston.org

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Advocacy Committee supports YW Boston's mission to eliminate racism and empower women by engaging elected officials, organizations, and the public through legislative advocacy, coalition building, education, and action. We work with volunteer community members to develop and implement the organization's advocacy agenda to rectify structural barriers to equity for women, girls, and people of color.

In 2019, YW Boston launched the Parity on Board coalition in support of legislation promoting greater diversity on Massachusetts' public boards and commissions. Learn more and get involved by visiting parityonboard.org Visit ywboston.org/advocacy to learn more about our policy priorities and advocacy work.

EVENT AGENDA

11:30am

Networking

12:00pm

Lunch & Program

Welcome from AWA Host Committee Co-Chairs

Beyazmin Jimenez and Annis Gill-Miller

Opening Remarks

Beth Chandler, YW Boston President & CEO

Program Video

Awards Presentation

Panel with 2022 AWA Awardees

Moderated by Latoyia Edwards

A Message from the Office of Mayor Michelle Wu

Mariangely Solis Cervera, Chief of Equity and Inclusion

Closing

Marguerite Fletcher, YW Boston Board Chair

EVENT HOST

LATOYIA EDWARDS, *Emmy-Award Winning Morning Anchor, NBC10 Boston*



Latoyia Edwards is an Emmy Award-winning anchor on NBC10 Boston and NECN. She joined the NBC Boston and NECN family as a morning reporter in 2005, arriving from WWLP-22 in Springfield, Massachusetts, where she had been a weekday anchor. A native of Boston's Dorchester neighborhood, Latoyia graduated magna cum laude from Emerson College with a degree in Broadcast Journalism. She began her career as a news writer for WBZ 1030-AM radio, and later reported for the Fox affiliate WICZ-TV 40 in Binghamton, New York. She first anchored television for MediaOne cable news network, while also reporting as the morning drive news anchor for WILD 1090 AM. Additionally, Latoyia has instructed courses for the Connecticut School of Broadcasting. In 2002, she was crowned Miss Massachusetts in the USA pageant. She is married, and greatly enjoys volunteering with youth groups.

2022 AWA AWARDEES



EVELYN BARAHONA
Director
Latino Equity Fund

Evelyn Barahona is the director of the Latino Equity Fund, the only philanthropic fund centered on the Latino community in the Commonwealth created in 2013 in partnership with the Boston Foundation and Hispanics in Philanthropy. Evelyn is an active community member and serves on the boards of Conexion as its Chair, Eastern Bank, and Amplify Latinx. Evelyn is a trained negotiator and has facilitated pay equity workshops since its inception for Boston's Mayor Office of Women's Advancement / AAUW.



SASKIA EPSTEIN
Vice President
Client and Community Relations
PNC Bank

Saskia Epstein leads external affairs for PNC Bank in the New England region. She is an experienced strategist and program architect with more than twenty years of experience in nonprofit leadership, philanthropy, and corporate social responsibility. She founded the innovation lab, Power Launch Philanthropy in 2015, facilitating nearly \$2M of investment in compelling ideas, exceptional leaders, and high-impact nonprofits. As a PNC-certified women's business advocate, Saskia is committed to the advancement of women. In 2012, she cofounded a networking group for nonprofit executive women that helped inspire the Women in Nonprofits (WIN) network, an initiative of the Women's Foundation of Boston.

2022 AWA AWARDEES



ALLISON FEASTER
*Vice President of Player Development
& Organizational Growth
The Boston Celtics*

Allison Feaster is Vice President of Player Development & Organizational Growth for the Boston Celtics. She is a former professional basketball player, a global citizen, and a trailblazer in the sports industry who is highly regarded for her leadership and team-building skills. Following her retirement from playing in 2016, Feaster joined the NBA's Basketball Operations Management Development Program. After serving as the lead of Player Personnel & Coach Relations for the NBA G-League, she joined the Boston Celtics organization.



JENEÉ OSTERHELDT
*Culture Columnist
The Boston Globe*

Jeneé Osterheldt is a culture columnist who covers identity and social justice through the lens of culture and the arts. She joined the Boston Globe in 2018. Her work centers Black lives and the lives of people of color. She is also the creator of A Beautiful Resistance, a multimedia series for The Boston Globe that centers on Black voices and celebrates Black Joy.



MICHELLE TAT
Senior Data Analyst
Reify Health
Sylvia Ferrell-Jones Awardee

Michelle Tat is a transfeminine individual of Chinese descent, and has lived in Boston for the past three and a half years. Michelle is a huge nerd, is currently a fellow at Insight Health Data Science, plays too many video games in her free time, and is probably slowly turning into a cat lady. Michelle is involved with grassroots activism associated with transgender rights and LGBTQ prison abolition.



27th Academy of Women Achievers *Host Committee*

CO-CHAIRS
Annis Gill-Miller
Beyazmin Jimenez

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Patricia Hennessy
Christine Letts
Lisa Prior
Jessica Ripton

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Robin Shin
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MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY OF WOMEN ACHIEVERS

- 2021** Betty Francisco, Karen Holmes Ward, Representative Liz Miranda, Deb Taft, Dr. Altaf Saadi (Sylvia Ferrell-Jones Awardee)
- 2020** Geeta Aiyer, Deborah Frieze, Makeeba McCreary, Rachael Rollins, Sheena Collier (Sylvia Ferrell-Jones Awardee)
- 2019** Maureen Alphonse-Charles, Julie Goodridge, Karen Morton, Grace Sterling-Stowell, Irene Li (Sylvia Ferrell-Jones Awardee)
- 2018** Vanessa Calderón-Rosado, Ph.D, Kip Hollister, Wanda McClain, Jeannette M. Mills, Nai Collymore-Henry (Sylvia Ferrell-Jones Awardee)
- 2017** Liz Brunner, Dr. Beverly Edgehill, Sandra L. Fenwick, Rebecca A. Lee, Valerie Mosley
- 2015** Lois Cornell, Helen Drinan, Jackie Glenn, Nancy Stager, Sandra Urie
- 2014** Stephanie Lovell, Smayira Million, Dianne Phillips, Marcy Reed, Helene Solomon, Evelyn Murphy
- 2013** Rosalin Acosta, Fay Donohue, Sheila Marcelo, Diane B. Patrick, Esq, Alison A. Quirk
- 2012** Deborah E. Barnard, Yvonne Garcia, Crystal Johnson, Mary Mazzio, Jean Russell
- 2011** Geri Denterlein, Dr. Carol R. Johnson, Carol I. Sanchez, CPA, Laura Sen, Nancy J. Tarbell, MD
- 2010** Josefina Bonilla, Deborah Enos, Vicary Graham, Pamela Lenehan, Sandra Sims-Williams
- 2009** Mary Lou Botwell, Maryanne Cataldo, Carol McMullen, Purnima Sangal, Bennie Wiley
- 2008** Sarah Abrams, Mary Bonauto, Maureen Curley, Debra Miller, Liz Walker
- 2007** Ruth Ellen Fitch, Barbara Wallace Grossman, Noriko Miyakoda Hall, Rita Kantarowski, Cynthia Mark, Lissy Medvedow, Madge Meyer, Beverly Morgan-Welch, Rebecca de Vives, Eleanor G. White
- 2006** Zamawa Arenas, Robin Chase, Dr. Linda A. Clayton, Arlene Fortunato, Lisa Guscott, Deborah Jackson, Stacey Lucchino, Klare Shaw, Nan Stone, Brigid Sullivan

- 2005** Nancy Altobello, Dr. Alice Chiang, Roberta Herman, M.D., Ambassador Swanee Hunt, Denise Kaigler, Gloria Nemerowicz, Susan Lewis Solomont, Stephanie Sonnabend, Meg Vaillancourt, Kellye Walker
- 2004** (Women of the Decade) Lani Guinier, Kerry Healey, Melinda Marble, Kathleen O'Toole, Charlotte Golar Richie
- 2003** Heather P. Champion, Jean Lau Chin, Martha Sloan Felch, Gloria Fox, Carol Fulp, Jackie Jenkins-Scott, Nancy K. Kaufman, Teresa Heinz Kerry, Myra H. Kraft, Nawal M. Nour, M.D., Rosa A. Smith, Janie Victoria Ward
- 2002** Martha Coakley, Paula Johnson, Karen Kaplan, Florence Ladd, Barbara Lee, Vivien Li, Melissa MacDonnell, Elsa Nuñez, Patricia O'Brien, Regina Pisa, Kip Tiernan, Joan Wallace-Benjamin
- 2001** JudyAnn Bigby, Elyse Cherry, Pam Cross, Dawn Curtis Hanley, Amy Domini, Frieda Garcia, Joanne Jaxtimer, Gloria C. Larson, Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, Joan Parker, Marita Rivero, Atsuko Toko Fish
- 2000** Marjorie Decker, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Marian Heard, Anna Faith Jones, Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Bhavya Lal, Maria I. Lopez, Dani Monroe, Lois Silverman, Beth Terrana, Dessima Williams, Anne Woolf
- 1999** Mara G. Aspinall, Susan S. Bailis, Vicki Donlan, Kathleen Doxer, Augusta Hicks Gale, Meizhu Lui, Bernadine Foster Nash, Raquel Ortiz, Colette Phillips, Shula Reinharz, Helen Bowdoin Spaulding, Elaine Weddington Steward
- 1998** Ruth M. Batson, Maura S. Doyle, Margaret B. Harrison, Sally D. Jackson, Rosabeth Moss Kanter, Jacqueline Weis Liebergott, Yvedt L. Matory, June Rokoff, Agnes Bundy Scanlan, Cheng Imm Tan, Elaine S. Ullian, Joyce Williams-Mitchell
- 1997** Amalia Barreda, Joan L. Bavaria, Carolyn Shaw Bell, Denise M. Coll, Anne Finucane, Judy George, Joanna T. Lau, Irma S. Mann, Sheryl R. Marshall, Patricia McGovern, Glendora M. Putnam, Susan R. Windham-Bannister
- 1996** Margaret A. Burnham, Diane M. Capstaff, J. Elizabeth Harris, Nancy Hawthorne, Vivian Huang, Stacey Kabat, Donna Latson-Gittens, Joan A. Lukey, Cathy E. Minehan, Judy Norsigian, Gail Snowden, Dianne Wilkerson
- 1995** Patricia P. Baillieul, Anne E. Johnson, Gloria Johnson-Powell, Kija Kim, Linnie W. McLean, Evelyn F. Murphy, Fran Sussner Rodgers, Dorothy Terrell, Clara Wainwright, Patricia Wolpert

UPCOMING EVENTS



Elevating Lives October 11th

This year we're hosting a mini-conference about Pacing DEI efforts - Leveraging the tension of urgency to act and the deep, slow work of systemic change and full inclusion. The morning will begin with a panel discussion followed by breakout sessions that dig deeper into key challenges and opportunities.

Annual Meeting November 15th

As YW Boston continues its mission of eliminating racism and empowering women, join us and fellow YW Boston supporters as we reflect on our accomplishments of 2022 and look towards our future goals at our 2022 Annual Meeting.


Visit ywboston.org/events to learn more.



Congratulations

to the 2022 Academy of Women Achievers honorees. You truly represent Boston's brightest, boldest, bravest and most influential women.

Northland is proud to support YW Boston and its mission of eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.



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We celebrate you
for leading the
way, every day.

Congratulations, Saskia, and all of the incredible 2022 Academy of Women Achievers honorees. We celebrate you and the remarkable women leaders of our past and future.

pnc.com/insights



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Eastern Bank is committed to recognizing the good in our communities and celebrating the work of
YW BOSTON

**We proudly support the
27TH ANNUAL ACADEMY OF WOMEN ACHIEVERS**

Congratulations to all the honorees including
Saskia Epstein, Allison Feaster, Jeneé Osterheldt, Michelle Tat, and
Eastern Bank Board of Ambassadors member Evelyn Barahona

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Congratulations to this
year's honorees!

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**Beth Israel Lahey Health proudly
supports this year's celebration
of women advancing justice, freedom
and dignity for everyone in Boston
and beyond.**

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**Congratulations
to this year's
YW Academy of
Women Achievers.**

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We join in celebrating **YW Boston** and the inspirational women supporting, advocating and advancing healthier communities through social justice and systems change.



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EY is pleased to recognize YW Boston and all of the 2022 Academy of Women Achievers. There's no limit to what we can accomplish when we strive to build a better world together.

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FLETCHER CONSULTING

A PROUD SUPPORTER OF YW BOSTON

Fletcher Consulting is pleased to sponsor YW Boston's 27th Academy of Women Achievers Celebration. We are proud supporters of YW Boston - it's mission of "eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all" aligns well with the work we do at Fletcher Consulting.

Foley Hoag is proud to sponsor the **Academy of Women Achievers** celebration and congratulates the 2022 honorees



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You can support YW Boston's mission by becoming an event sponsor.

Sign up for our newsletter to get notified about our upcoming events such as Elevating Lives and our Annual Meeting.



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