



For Immediate Release

Contact: Sylvia Claase, 516 396-9857 Email: sclaase@lifwg.org
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Long Island Fund for Women & Girls Announces its 2008 Annual Breakfast

On Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury, the Long Island Fund for Women & Girls (LIFWG) will mark its fourteenth annual *Women Achievers Against the Odds* Breakfast. For seventeen consecutive years, the fund has promoted women's philanthropy to benefit Long Island non-profits that enhance the welfare of women and girls. As in the past, this year's Breakfast will draw over 700 prominent members of Long Island's business, not-for-profit, education, entrepreneurial, civic, government, and philanthropic communities. The twin purposes of this event are to recognize the accomplishments of women who have realized their goals despite sometimes daunting odds and to award grants to not-for-profit organizations that benefit women, girls and their families. Since its inception in 1991, the Fund has awarded seed money to grassroots organizations to encourage the creation of initiatives that advance advocacy, equity and opportunity for women and girls on Long Island. These grants support programs that include healthcare, childcare/parenting, student and adult education.

This year's event will honor three women who exemplify achievement in the face of obstacles and one young woman student achiever who has distinguished herself for her work in the visual arts. Our honorees are:

- **Angela S. Anton**- Publisher/CEO Anton Media Group
- **Lillian McCormick, MSW, CSW**- Co-Founder of Women on the Job
- **Helena Williams** - President of MTA Long Island Railroad
- **Janet Sung**, Senior, Roslyn High School, Young Woman Achiever for Excellence in the Visual Arts

Patricia Kitchen, Newsday Columnist will join us as this year's Presenter.

LIFWG is proud to announce **The Roslyn Savings Foundation** as its Presenting Sponsor. The Fund is greatly indebted to our sponsors for their continuing support. Tickets are \$75. Breakfast sponsorship and LIFWG Signature Calendar Journal Ad opportunities are still available. For information about sponsorships, placing a LIFWG Calendar Journal Tribute, breakfast tickets and to learn more about the Long Island Fund for Women and Girls, please visit the Fund's website at www.lifwg.org or call (516) 396-9857.

Additional information about the Fund and the 2008 honorees follows:

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About LIFWG

Founded in 1991 by a network of women from business, the professions, not-for-profit and philanthropic communities, the Long Island Fund for Women & Girls encourages women to act as philanthropists and provides seed money to initiatives that benefit women and girls. Hundreds of programs across Long Island have been nurtured by this support, ranging from programs designed to promote equal opportunity in education, to advocacy that addresses gender-related issues and civil liberties and those that advance women's health and safety. In turn, the LIFWG enjoys sustaining support from many Long Island individuals and corporations.

Our 2008 Honorees

Lillian McCormick, MSW, CSW

Lillian McCormick, Co-Founder and recently retired Executive Director of Women on the Job, has been an advocate for the civil rights of women and children for over 50 years. Lillian's intelligence, persistence and commitment to her vision has resulted in numerous institutional innovations, including the first group residence for children who could not remain at home; the first shelter for battered women on Long Island; a home for abused boys; and the renovation of the Landmark on Main Street in Port Washington, which has become a model for community centers and affordable senior housing. Lillian is best described as a "woman of unusual courage and conviction" exemplified by her dedicated efforts and achievements on behalf of the disenfranchised and the promotion of justice. In 1982, she co-founded Women on the Job, a premier not-for-profit whose mission focuses on the education and advocacy for women's rights in the workplace. Among Lillian's many prestigious honors, the H. Barksdale Brown Volunteer Community Service Award was presented to Ms. McCormick for her work on improving the quality of life for children and families on a local, regional and national level. She was also recognized as Newsday's Long Islander of the Century; received the Long Island Achiever's Award; the David K. Kadane Leadership Award; and the Congressional Achievement Award. Lillian's impact on children, families and the communities in which we live has been profound. Lillian has a strong record of demonstrating that community opposition, myths and stereotypes can be overcome. One of her greatest strengths is her collaborative spirit, which has led her to reach out to strong leaders rooted in the community to join the cause and strengthen the mission. As a result, Lillian has left in her wake positive results in many communities nationwide. Ms. McCormick continues to inspire us by tirelessly serving on the Boards of Family & Children's Association, Landmark on Main Street in Port Washington and the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence.

Helena Williams

Long time Nassau County resident, **Helena Williams** President of MTA Long Island Railroad (LIRR) has just completed a little over a year of service as the first woman to lead the nation's busiest railroad. Helena's career is marked by top-level experience in transportation management and Long Island public service; including terms as President of MTA Long Island Bus and Nassau County Deputy County Executive to Tom Suozzi. A Lawyer by training, Helena began her career in Manhattan working for the Mayor's Office of Municipal labor Relations. After a brief time in private practice, Helena began a fruitful 13- year career at the MTA in 1985, where she rose from labor counsel to chief of staff of Long Island Bus before assuming the presidency of Long Island Bus in 1993. During her five years at the helm of the bus company, Williams oversaw an array of innovations and improvements to a customer service. These included implementation of metrocard, transition to a fleet of clean, eco-friendly buses, initiation of a new paratransit service and development of an employee availability program that dramatically cut costs. In 1999 Helena was inducted into the New York Public Transit Association's Hall of Fame. As Nassau's Deputy County Executive, Helena was a key member of the team that helped turn around Nassau's nearly bankrupt finances, earning 11 bond upgrades and helping to restore the County to sound financial footing and efficient management. Helena's initial priorities for the LIRR include a focus on customer safety, security and service reliability while laying the groundwork for meeting future transportation demand. Under her tenure, the LIRR recently reached an all-time record for on time performance and has won marks for improving customer communication. Last year the LIRR served a record 86.1 million customers, the most since 1949.

Angela S. Anton

Angela Susan Anton was born and raised on Long Island's Gold Coast where she attended school and eventually raised her three children. As most of you are aware, Angela is the publisher and CEO of Anton Community Newspapers, one of Long Island's largest publishers, including Healthy Living, Dining Guide and The Boulevard Magazine. Angela worked alongside her husband in the business and continued his tradition of excellence after his passing in 2000. Angela emphasizes the importance of giving voice to the local communities. Anton Community Newspapers' goal is to make sure that the culture of Long Island is readily available to its readership. They accomplish this by publishing 18 weekly newspapers, focusing on local events such as school board meetings, sports games, art shows and legal notices, as these events often overlooked in other New York papers. Angela is responsible for re-launching The Boulevard Magazine. Under Angela's guidance, what was once an insert in the community newspapers, has grown into a bi-monthly glossy magazine including charity events, celebrity profiles, fashion, design and much more. The re-building of the magazine came from her desire to create a publication that was both universally interesting and readable. In addition to the immense support she provides for the community through publishing, Angela is extensively involved with many area charities and events. She is on the Board of Directors of Channel 13 and WLIW 21 and Abilities, Inc. Angela has been honored by many. She received the Long Island Volunteer Merit Award in 2007 from the Junior League; was honored by the School of Language and Communication Development (SLDC) in 2007 and was named one of Long Island's Top 50 Women by the Long Island Business News in 2005.

Janet Sung

Our young woman achiever, **Janet Sung** is a devoted artist and President of the Roslyn High School Art Club. A talented senior, Janet contributes her artistic ability as the graphic artist for the Roslyn High School yearbook and as the cartoonist for the Hilltop Beacon, her school newspaper. This year as President of the Art Club, she plans on heading projects to paint murals for the new science research center and the cafeteria. In addition to her artistic abilities and achievements, Janet has a keen sense of giving back to her community. In 2005, Janet participated in "Room to Grow" an endeavor that supplies single, young mothers with clothes, toys and food for their babies. Janet was also an active participant in the Young Women's Christian Academy Bazaar which raised money for education. We are proud to see our Young Woman Achiever use her talents to not only beautify but also benefit her community.