

PRESS RELEASE

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CWEALF and Day Pitney LLP Present Honorees for “40 Women for the Next 40 Years”

The Connecticut Women’s Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF) and Day Pitney LLP are pleased to announce their honorees for their special project “*40 Women for the Next 40 Years.*”

This project is in celebration of CWEALFs’ 40th anniversary and is honoring the women who will build opportunities for other women in Connecticut in the future. Nominees range in ages 16-40 and have demonstrated exemplary leadership, the potential to excel and a commitment to their community.

All nominees were scored by a selection committee featuring accomplished leaders and partners for both CWEALF and Day Pitney LLP. All nominees will be recognized in a ceremony on May 15th and featured in a publication which will be released the evening of the celebration. The publication will be available online at www.cwealf.org beginning May 16th.

Day Pitney, LLP is the exclusive partner and sponsor of this event. *“As a law firm with over 100 years of history and five offices in Connecticut, Day Pitney is committed to the future of Connecticut’s young women. We understand the role they play in the future of our firm and in the future of the communities in which we live and practice. So we are both proud and excited to support the Connecticut Women’s Education and Legal Fund in recognizing 40 Women for the Next 40 years.”* – Asker Saeed, Director of Diversity, Day Pitney LLP

Honorees are presented in categories aligned with CWEALF’s mission and work.

General Workforce

- Althea Bates, 38, Hartford, WIA Youth Operations Specialist, Capital Workforce Partners
- Kim Burton, 26, Scotland, Community Services Coordinator, John J. Driscoll United Labor Agency
- Elizabeth Contini, 28, North Haven, Senior Biomedical Engineer, Covidien Surgical Solutions
- Alissa DeJonge, 37, Cromwell, Vice President of Research, CT Economic Resource Center
- Katherine Logsdon, 22, Bristol, Community Services Coordinator, John J. Driscoll United Labor Agency
- Danielle Simone, 26, Southington, National Director of Operations, Career TEAM Inc

- Regina Sura, 26, Southington, Financial Consultant for National Accounts Financial Planning & Analysis Team, United Healthcare

Government

- Carmen Chaparro, 37, Windsor, Project Coordinator for the Hartford Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, City of Hartford, Department of Health and Human Services
- Mae Flexer, 34, Danielson, State Representative, CT General Assembly
- Meg Green, 24, Manchester, Policy Fellow, Office of Governor Dannel P. Malloy
- Cara Passaro, 31, Hartford, Policy Analyst, CT General Assembly
- Sarah Perillo, 33, Simsbury, State Budget Analyst, CT General Assembly, & Co-Founder, Runitlikeamom.com

Law

- Danielle Briand, 35, Easton, Founder, Esperanza Center for Law & Advocacy
- Britt-Marie Cole-Johnson, 31, Farmington, Associate, Robinson & Cole, LLP
- Meghan Freed, 38, Hartford, Founding Member, Freed Macroft, LLC
- Jennifer Galiette, 31, Hartford, Associate, Day Pitney, LLP
- Jessica Grossarth, 37, Bridgeport, Partner, Pullman & Comley, LLC
- Amy Markim, 34, Middletown, Associate, Hinckley, Allen & Snyder, LLP
- Roopa Modha, Shelton, Student, UCONN School of Law, Editor-In-Chief, UrbanAsian.com, Marketing, NEQUA Studios, and Pageant Winner, Jewel of India Miss Connecticut 2014
- Sarah Russell, 37, Milford, Associate Professor of Law/Visiting Lecturer, Quinnipiac School of Law/Yale Law School
- Sylvia Rutkowska, 34, Middletown, Associate, Dzialo, Picket & Allen, PC
- Sara Spodick, 37, Simsbury, Staff Attorney, Low-Income Tax Payer Clinic at Quinnipiac School of Law

Nonprofit/Community

- Keshia Ashe, 28, Newington, Co-Founder, ManyMentors and Chemical Engineering Ph.D. Candidate, University of Connecticut
- Setta Mushegian, 30, Stamford, Director of Crisis Counseling & Advocacy, The Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling & Education
- Gina Muslim, 39, West Hartford, Hartford Community Partnerships, Community Solutions & Director at Large, Aurora Foundation & Advisory Council, Boys and Girls Club of Hartford
- Sarah Thrall, 37, Granby, Immediate Past President, Junior League of Hartford

Education

- Meghan Hatch, 34, Hamden, English Teacher, Woodland Regional High School
- Barret Katuna, 31, Glastonbury, 2014 PhD Graduate, University of Connecticut
- Alisha Smith, 34, Bridgeport, Site Coordinator, Yale-Bridgeport Gear Up Partnership
- Rachel Winsor, 20, Stamford, Student, University of Connecticut

Public Policy

- Lindsay Farrell, 33, New Haven, Executive Director, CT Working Families
- Jillian Gilcrest, 32, West Hartford, Director of Communications and Public Policy, CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services
- Lorie McGee, 34, West Hartford, Senior Public Policy Manager, Aetna
- Michelle Noehren, 32, Glastonbury, Events & Special Projects Director, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women & Founder, ctworkingmoms.com
- Gretchen Raffa, 40, New Haven, Director of Public Policy & Advocacy, Planned Parenthood of Southern New England

Teens

- Yahaira Escribano, 17, Hartford, Hartford Public High School Law & Government Academy
- Brianna Fairley, 18, Hartford, Hartford Public High School Nursing Academy
- Odia Kane, 17, New Haven, Engineering and Science University Magnet School
- Jeanette Porcello, 16, South Windsor, South Windsor High School
- Elizabeth Turner, 17, Bloomfield, The Ethel Walker School

Any proceeds raised from the project will go to support CWEALF's scholarship fund program and direct service programming.

CWEALF offers two paid internships for students interested in working with them. These paid internships are reserved for graduate and undergraduate students who would otherwise be unable to participate in our internship program because of their financial needs. The awardees must have a strong commitment to women's social justice issues.

CWEALF's direct service programming is comprised of their Legal Education Program and their Generating Girls Opportunities program. These programs seek to protect economic and legal security of women and their families as well promote opportunities to empower women and girls to achieve their personal and professional goals.

Any inquires regarding the project or CWEALF's programming, should be directed to Krystal Harrison, CWEALF Development Coordinator at kharrison@cwealf.org or 860.247.6090/ext. 103.

CWEALF is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to empowering women, girls, and their families to achieve equal opportunities in their personal and professional lives. www.cwealf.org