



PRESS RELEASE

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THE HUNTS POINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION HONORED NEW YORK WOMEN'S FOUNDATION® AT CELEBRATING BRONX WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS EVENT

New York, NY—On March 31, 2009, The New York Women's Foundation® (NYWF®) was honored by Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation, during its Celebrating Bronx Women Entrepreneurs event. The award ceremony took place at the New York Botanical Garden, located at 2900 Southern Blvd, Bronx, NY.

NYWF® was presented the Visionary Award for its significant contributions in fostering the efforts of women entrepreneurs and of nonprofit organizations by providing vital social and economic empowerment services to the women of New York.

The Keynote Speaker **Shirley Rodriguez-Remeneski**, a statewide recognized figure for Latina Leadership development, presented NYWF® with the award. Ms. Remeneski is the President of 100 Hispanic Women, Inc. (www.100hispanicwomen.org). The organization started the Latina Leadership Institute in 2002, offering scholarships and support to help young Latinas become the leaders of tomorrow. Ms. Remeneski also headed New York State's entrepreneurial development efforts as Vice President at the Empire State Development Corporation.

“The work of the Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation truly makes a difference in New York State. They embody what is possible when each of us invests in making our communities a better place for everyone to live and work.” said **Ana Oliveira**, President and CEO, NYWF® “This is an important moment,” Ms. Oliveira continued, “as a whole, more women have become poor in the last twenty years. Positively, the number of women business owners has increased. This is not a time for shyness. We must seize the moment and shape it – and offer solutions.”

Celebrating Bronx Women Entrepreneurs was sponsored by US Small Business Administration, Citibank, Monroe College and others, and also featured booths by graduates of the Women's Business Resource Center. The event concluded with a special musical performance featuring The Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls 1st Grade Violinist, who delighted guests and received a standing ovation.

The Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation (HPEDC) was established in 1988 as a not-for-profit economic development corporation with the aim of improving and enhancing the diverse and

challenging Hunts Point business environment. Included in the mission of HPEDC is service provision for local businesses, the cultivation of entrepreneurship and the empowerment of local residents to participate in the local economy.

Since 2001, HPEDC has been administering the U.S. Small Business Administration-sponsored Hunts Point Women's Resource Center, the first-ever women's business center in the Bronx. The Center provides technical, educational and financial assistance to entrepreneurs and small businesses of the Bronx, as well as bilingual English/Spanish entrepreneurial training. Since 2001, more than 700 micro-entrepreneurs have been assisted by the Center.

***The New York Women's Foundation (NYWF)** was established in 1987 as a public philanthropy to be a voice for women and a force for change. We are a cross-cultural alliance of women helping low-income women and girls in the five boroughs to achieve sustained economic security through expanded opportunities. We work together to transform the conditions of poverty and to create an equal and just future for low-income women and girls. For more information go to www.nywf.org*