

**THE NEW YORK WOMEN'S FOUNDATION HONORS
Me Too Founder Tarana Burke, Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw
and The New York Community Trust and its President Lorie A. Slutsky
At The 31st ANNUAL CELEBRATING WOMEN® BREAKFAST**

New Fund Supporting Me Too Movement and Allies Announced

New York (May 10, 2018) - More than 2,000 of New York's most prominent and promising women joined [The New York Women's Foundation](#) (The Foundation) for its 31st Celebrating Women® Breakfast on May 10, 2018. The annual event honors extraordinary women who, through their careers, activism and philanthropy, are at the forefront of the fight for social justice and women's rights.

This year's honorees, **Tarana Burke, Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw** and **The New York Community Trust** and its president, **Lorie A. Slutsky**, stand out as advocates for ending sexual violence, protecting civil liberties, furthering gender equality and supporting nonprofit organizations that are the backbones of communities.

President and CEO of The Foundation **Ana L. Oliveira** said, "The call for women's leadership has grown louder and the honorees at this year's Celebrating Women® Breakfast, Tarana Burke, Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw and The New York Community Trust and its president, Lorie A. Slutsky, have answered that call with gusto. Each has excelled in her vocation, demonstrating the remarkable power of women's leadership at a time when it's never been needed more. It was an honor to celebrate them at this year's breakfast."

'**Me too.**' movement founder and leader, **Tarana Burke** was honored for her success in giving women who have experienced sexual abuse a voice. Ms. Burke, one of TIME magazine's most influential people of 2018, started her organization over a decade ago in response to the pervasiveness of sexual abuse and assault in society and how women, particularly of color, are treated when they report abuse. Today, the 'me too.' movement is recognized around the world as a way for women and all sexual abuse victims to find empowerment through empathy. She was introduced by **Girls for Gender Equity** Founder and Executive Director, **Joanne Smith**.

Co-founder and executive director of **The African American Policy Forum**, **Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw** was honored for her legal work in race and gender equality. A Professor of Law at UCLA and Columbia Law School, Dr. Crenshaw is a leading authority in civil rights, black feminist legal theory, and race, racism and the law. Her work has been foundational, appearing in the *Harvard Law Review*, *National Black Law Journal*, *Stanford Law Review* and the *Southern California Law Review*, in two fields of study known by terms she coined: critical race theory and Intersectionality. She has traveled the world facilitating workshops with human rights activists and constitutional judges. She was introduced by **Say Her Name** mother and activist **Rhanda Dormeus**, whose daughter was killed by police, and author of *The Vagina Monologues*, **Eve Ensler**.

The New York Community Trust, one of the nation's first and largest community foundations, and its president since 1990, **Lorie A. Slutsky**, were honored for their commitment to the nonprofit community. For nearly a century, The Trust has helped make donors' charitable dreams come true by funding nonprofits that make our city a vital and secure place. Ms. Slutsky

is responsible for the management of its nearly 2,500 charitable funds, overseeing an operation that distributed about \$225 million in grants from an endowment of more than \$2.8 billion. She was introduced by philanthropist, activist and artist **Anne Delaney**.

Also honored were The Foundation's grantee partners. **Brenda Berkman**, first female firefighter in New York City, introduced firefighter **Eniola Brown**, who was helped on her journey by The Foundation's grantee partner, **United Women Firefighters**.

The Foundation announced the launch of a new fund supporting the 'me too.' movement and its allies. The creation of the **Me Too Fund** builds on The Foundation's 31-year history of investing to end gender-based violence. Rooted in New York City, the Fund will have a national focus and will be co-chaired by The Foundation and Ms. Burke. The Foundation has seeded the fund with \$1 million and will work to attract additional significant philanthropic investment to the movement.

The Celebrating Women® Breakfast, held at the Marriott Marquis Hotel, is one of New York's most well-attended fundraisers, where thousands of women leaders in community, philanthropy, corporate and government community gather to celebrate their peers and support The New York Women's Foundation's work promoting long-term economic security, sexual health, and safety for women and their families.

[The New York Women's Foundation](#)

Since 1987, The New York Women's Foundation has advanced a dynamic philanthropic strategy based on the fundamental reality that, when women thrive, their families and communities also thrive. The Foundation is the largest women-led grantmaking organization in the United States, and one of the top two in the world. We invest in women-led, community-based solutions that promote the economic security, safety, and health of the most vulnerable women in New York City. We foster women's leadership, create partnerships that spark catalytic change, exchange insights with experts across sectors, and empower women by training them in activism and philanthropy to accelerate and sustain forward progress. Visit www.nywf.org to learn more about our work to transform lives, families, and communities – and create a better New York City for all.

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