

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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JERSEY CITY CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH WITH 11TH ANNUAL "WOMEN OF ACTION" AWARDS

Mayor Healy, Council to Recognize Twenty-Seven Outstanding Women

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the Municipal Council, and the Department of Health and Human Services/Division of Cultural Affairs will honor 27 outstanding women during the 11th Annual “Women of Action” Awards Ceremony, in celebration of Women’s History Month. The event will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 27, 2009 in the Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 280 Grove Street.

“During Women's History Month, we honor the generations of women who have taken the lead throughout our history,” said Mayor Healy. “This is a great occasion for us to honor the contributions of women in our community and those who have made an impact in our lives.”

The twenty-seven Women of Action were chosen by each of the nine members of Jersey City’s Municipal Council. The following are the award recipients.

Council President Mariano Vega, Jr.:	Paula Rodriguez, Rita Gonzalez, and Anna Marie Bethea
Councilman-At-Large Peter Brennan:	Barbara Wise, Linda DeGise, and Barbara Pontes
Councilwoman-At-Large Willie Flood:	Lourdes Corrales, Rose Washington, and Yvette Bell
Councilman Mike Sottolano, Ward A:	Vivian Denice Hemingway, Elizabeth McCarthy, and Linda DeAngeles
Councilwoman Mary Spinello, Ward B:	Carol Albanese, Patricia McFadden, and Theresa Gordon
Councilman Steve Lipski, Ward C:	Nellie Gonzalez Wallace, Irina Zaki, and Jacqueline Matthews
Councilman Bill Gaughan, Ward D:	Donna DeSomma, Carolyn O’Keefe Wolfe, and Jennifer Lambert
Councilman Steve Fulop, Ward E:	Pam Andes, Marilyn Consulmagno, and Lydia Perez
Councilwoman Viola Richardson, Ward F:	Inez Frye, Rozani Pelc-Penteado, and Virginia Miller

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(2)

Honorable Catherine Cummings Macchi, from the Hudson County Office on Aging is the event's keynote speaker. Mrs. Macchi is also a "Woman of Action," who continually assists others especially with regards to programs and services that are available not only to seniors but people of all ages who are disabled.

"Every woman deserves recognition for their contributions every day," continued Mayor Healy. "Regardless of their line of work, they make an impact in our lives, in the community and to this Nation. For that we take a moment to not only acknowledge, but to honor their great strides with which each passing moment only adds to their legacy of making our community great and prosperous."

In 1911 in Europe, March 8 was first celebrated as International Women's Day. Interest in International Women's Day was pretty low until the 1960s at the height of the Women's Movement. In 1978, a California school district started Women's History Week to promote the teaching of women's history. In 1981, Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women's History Week. In 1987, at the request of the National Women's History Project, Congress expanded the week to a month, and the U.S. Congress has issued a resolution every year since then, with wide support, for Women's History Month. The U.S. President issues each year a proclamation of Women's History Month.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///