

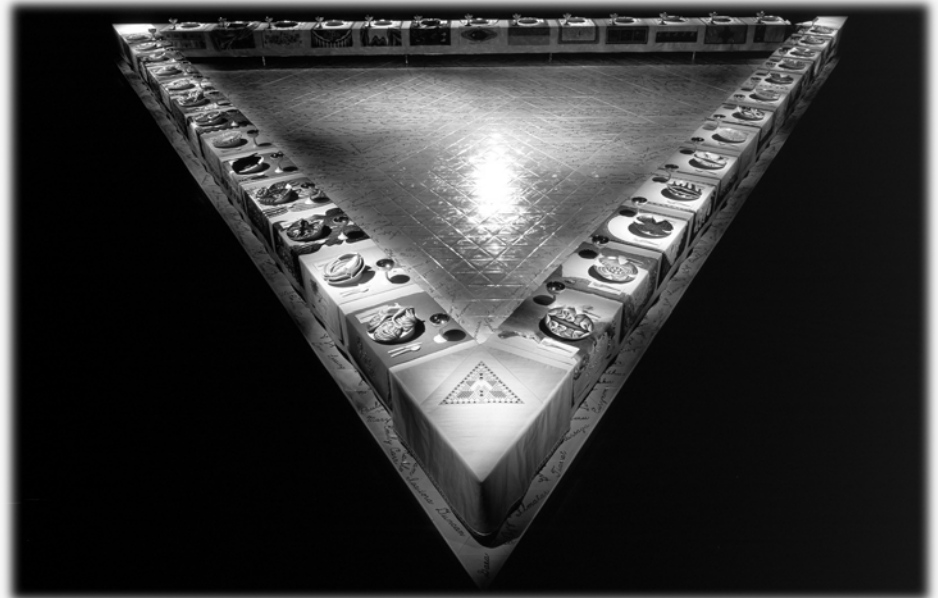
Fifteenth Annual Gala Celebrates Six Visionaries

With the arrival of spring comes our celebration of Michigan women in the form of **our annual dinner party** known as the Annual Women of Achievement and Courage Gala.

This year we want to add to our celebration the artwork of Judy Chicago, an extraordinary artist, who through her work *The Dinner Party* graphically depicts the beauty, courage, vision and achievement of women. On the table rests 39 place settings, each forming a kind of "portrait" of a woman of great historical significance, either actual or mythical, ranging in date from prehistory to the modern era.

At our dinner table this year, we are honoring six extraordinary Michigan women who have made and continue to make a difference in our lives. Our 2004 Women of Achievement and Courage are: Beth Chappell, United States Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Eileen DeVries, Diane Madsen, Jay Roberts-Eveland and Mary Ellen Sheets.

Chappell is the first woman to be named the Detroit Economics Club president. United States Representative Kilpatrick is responsible for Detroit's 13 District in the United States House of Representatives. DeVries, of Grand Rapids, is a senior vice president with Merrill Lynch. Madsen and Roberts-Eveland, of Grand Rapids, are co-founders of Communities for Equity. Sheets is the founder and CEO of Two Men and a Truck International, headquartered in Lansing.



The Dinner Party was created between 1974 and 1979 with the participation of hundreds of volunteers. This monumental multimedia project is a symbolic history of women in Western Civilization.

Gala Details

Western Michigan

Wednesday, April 28, 2004
Pinnacle Center (Grand Rapids)
5:30 p.m. Cocktails/Strolling Dinner
7:00-8:00 p.m. Program
Reservations due by April 19

Southeastern Michigan

Wednesday, May 5, 2004
Ritz Carlton Hotel (Dearborn)
5:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception
6:00 p.m. Dinner
6:30-7:30 p.m. Program
Reservations due by April 26

\$150/Individual Tickets - \$1,500/ Table for 10

For tickets and information call 1-800-404-4372

Corporate sponsors should contact Barbara A. Hill, Michigan Women's Foundation president/CEO at 1-800-404-4372

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A Message from Barbara A. Hill

President/CEO



I want to begin my column by expressing my gratitude for being selected by the board of trustees to serve as this organization's president and CEO.

There are no words that can appropriately describe how humbled and honored I feel about being selected to serve in this key leadership position. Thank you!

The groundwork for the Foundation's growth was laid by the two extraordinary CEOs before me. Now, I intend to build on their strengths along with the volunteers and staff, to forge partnerships with organizations creating economic self-sufficiency and to remove institutional barriers to opportunity.

This issue of *Trillium* focuses on achievement, courage and vision. It is more than appropriate that in this edition, we celebrate the 2004 Women of Achievement and Courage. While from different cities within our great state and representative of different career fields, I believe that each of these six women have demonstrated exemplary vision, great courage and have

made outstanding achievements, both personally and professionally.

This year's honorees are: Beth Chappell, U. S. Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Eileen DeVries, Diane Madsen, Jay Roberts-Eveland and Mary Ellen Sheets. Congratulations to each of them.

The Michigan Women's Foundation celebrates those threads in the quilt of life that binds women together. Following that same line of thought, I'm pleased to introduce to many of you the artwork of Judy Chicago, an artist, author, feminist, educator and intellectual whose career spans four decades. Her work (*The Dinner Party*), featured on the cover of this newsletter, honors (as do we) the women of western civilization. Chicago's work and ideas helped to initiate a worldwide Feminist Art movement.

Earlier, in this column I mentioned the organization's growth. In concert with the board of trustees over the next few months, we will begin our strategic planning process. Our new plan will create an even stronger voice and advocacy direction for women and girls throughout Michigan. As a result of our new strategic direction, we will inspire more donor activism and philanthropy through education and partnerships with individuals and institutions to ensure greater impact in all aspects of our work. This document is vitally important for our organization's growth.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Women of Achievement and Courage Dinner, our annual dinner party, on April 28 in western Michigan at The Pinnacle Center and on May 5 in southeast Michigan at the Ritz Carlton.





Beth Chappell, of Detroit, is the first woman to hold the office of President of the Detroit Economics Club (DEC), which is listed as the sixth-best forum for speakers nationwide. Chappell has made it her mission to ensure that Detroit's movers and shakers stay informed. Under Chappell's leadership, the DEC has focused on getting top-notch speakers for her organization.

No stranger to business, Chappell spent 16 years at AT&T, where she was the Global Services Vice President. She then owned and operated her own consulting firm, The Chappell Group, which specialized in strategic planning, organizational development, and sales and marketing strategies.

Chappell also commits her time and talents to her community. She is the chairperson of the Hospice of Michigan Board of Trustees. She also has actively participated with the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. Chappell is a former chairwoman of the Detroit Regional Chamber and serves on the boards of both Compuware and Handleman Corporations.

Chappell is a devoted mother of three children, including twins, and she continues to mentor and support women throughout the state of Michigan.



Eileen DeVries, of Grand Rapids, has demonstrated leadership in a variety of ways. Twenty-three years ago, DeVries was one of few woman trainees at Merrill Lynch.

To accommodate a young family and her personal interests, DeVries decided to form a team of junior brokers and sales assistants. DeVries's philosophy is that "you can have it all, but you can't do it all," showing her ability to lead and be a part of a team.

She rapidly became a million-dollar sales producer, and today, as a senior vice president with Merrill Lynch, DeVries manages over \$800 million in more than 1,000 accounts around the world.

This impressive record puts her in the top half of one percent of all of Merrill Lynch's financial consultants. She is one of only five women in the nation to achieve such stature.

DeVries is currently a member of the Davenport University Board of Trustees, as well as the Frederick Meijer Botanical Gardens' board.

DeVries has built a prosperous, growing career while raising five children with her husband, Brian.



The Honorable Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick represents the Detroit area's 13th District in the United States House of Representatives. She is currently serving her fourth elected term.

Congresswoman Kilpatrick's determination and political style has earned her the confidence and respect of her peers. She was appointed to the House Appropriations Committee. She is the only Michigan Democrat on this committee, which authorizes spending for all levels of the federal government.

U. S. Representative Kilpatrick has taken a special interest in creating competitive equality for minority-owned and minority-targeted media outlets and advertising firms that face discrimination from major advertisers. She was a driving force in the effort to secure a Presidential Executive Order compelling all federal agencies to increase their contractual opportunities with minority businesses.

Congresswoman Kilpatrick is the mother of two children: daughter Ayanna and son Kwame, who, in 2001, was elected Mayor of the city of Detroit. She also is the proud grandmother to five grandsons.

Commitment and Courage Honorees



Diane Madsen (along with Jay Roberts-Eveland) of Grand Rapids, are co-founders of the grassroots organization, Communities for Equity (CFE), a multi-issue, volunteer-driven, advocacy organization that serves as a voice for female athletes.

Madsen, who teaches chemistry at East Kentwood High School, takes her position as a role model seriously. She has coordinated Rocket basketball and has coached Rocket softball for Northview Community Education. She is a member of the Northview Education Foundation. Madsen was chosen by the Michigan Education Association to receive the 1999 Women's Cultural Award, primarily due to her work on Title IX and gender equity in athletics.

Madsen's vision for gender equity in athletics came as a result of taking her daughter into the Northview High School gymnasium years ago. She wanted her daughter's experience to be equal to that of any male counterpart -- not second to it. Through her selfless commitment to CFE and to fighting the violation of Title IX, Madsen has lived out her vision of a better world for all female athletes in Michigan.



Jay Roberts-Eveland's fight for gender equity started at a young age. The Saginaw native has the distinction of being her high school's first female student body president. As a high school freshman, she staged a walkout to protest the state's dress code, which at that time banned girls from wearing pants to school.

Roberts-Eveland has been a public servant her entire adult life, so her role with CFE seems to come naturally. She has served as a counselor for countless residents throughout Kent County and for Kentwood Public Schools. She has been recognized for her work, winning a Jaycees Award for her work in the prisons, and she has served on the Police Community Relations Commission.

Under Madsen and Roberts-Eveland's leadership in filing a lawsuit, the U. S. District Court found the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) in violation of Title IX, the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, and of the Elliot- Larsen Michigan Civil Rights Act. While this ruling is in appeal, the MHSAA, in the meantime, must begin the process of switching the girls' basketball and volleyball seasons to match those of the other 49 states.



Mary Ellen Sheets is the founder and CEO of Two Men and a Truck International, headquartered in Lansing, Michigan.

Sheets built a company from an idea her two sons, Brig and Jon Sorber, had in the early 1980's to earn spending money while in high school. They started a small moving business, using an old pick-up truck and advertising in a local newspaper with an ad that began, "Two Men and a Truck."

After her sons left for college, Sheets continued to get calls for their services, so she purchased an old moving truck for \$350 and hired two movers. The business grew steadily and she became well known in the Lansing area. Today, there are more than 119 Two Men and a Truck locations throughout the country, making her company the fifth largest moving company in the United States.

Sheets's business model includes giving back to the community. At the end of her first year in business, Sheets made \$1,000 and decided to donate that money, giving \$100 to 10 different charities.



Charitable Giving Alternatives in a Soft Economy

In the world of charitable giving, there is truly something for everyone -- from loose change to gift annuities to everything in between. When properly planned, even a bequest of a future interest in a charitable trust can have a meaningful impact on an organization's programs or campaign, not to mention greater tax benefits for the donor.

Here are a few options for donors to consider:

- The charitable lead trust (CLT) is established for a set term to benefit a charity and family members or friends. Charities receive distributions during the term and, at term's end, the balance passes to the heirs.
- A charitable remainder trust (CRT) is created for a term not to exceed 20 years or for

the recipient's lifetime. The donor or other recipient receives annual distributions during the term, with the balance passing to charity at term's end. A CRT, like a CLT, provides both income and estate tax benefits.

- Offered by charities, gift annuities typically provide a higher tax-free income payment to the owners than CDs and a charitable deduction.
- Bequests of cash, property, retirement accounts (IRAs) and insurance do not require large dollars, and are 100 percent deductible from estate and inheritance taxes at death.
- A Private Family Foundation is a valuable tool for families who want to instill charitable values

in their children and future generations. It transforms charitable giving from a passive transaction into an ongoing activity that permits and encourages participation by members who serve as either trustees or directors.

- A review of your personal and family foundation assets (real estate, artwork, insurance, stock) with your tax and financial advisor or attorney may uncover charitable giving strategies that reach far beyond the check writing exercise and greatly improve the situation for those we care about -- our families and our community.



By Sandra Kirtley Campbell (sandra.campbell@plantemoran.com) is Senior Vice President of Plante Moran Trust and is a Certified Trust and Financial Advisor (CTFA).

The Clemency Project

Through the Michigan Battered Women's Clemency Project a rally was held on the front steps of the Capitol Building in October. The rally was a part of the social impact grant that the Project received last August.

Twenty petitions for clemency were presented to Governor Granholm during the rally. The petitions represented women who are serving life or long-term sentences in Michigan prisons for killing abusers or committing a crime to save their own lives and all deserve their freedom.

The Clemency Project works to serve these 20 women, and others in the prison system, who were not allowed to present issues of abuse at trial or to testify in their



Amy Miller with a Michigan Battered Women's Clemency Project volunteer spoke to the crowd at the rally supporting clemency for women in prison for crimes.

own defense. It was not until 1992 that Michigan courts ruled to allow expert testimony on battered women's syndrome to be presented at trial (*People v. Wilson*, 487. NW 2d 822 (1992)); however, this did not help women already in prison.

The Clemency Project, the prisoners, and their families, are currently waiting to hear the result of the petitions filed for clemency at the October rally.



Friends and families of women prisoners gather in front of the Capitol in Lansing to Rally with the Michigan Battered Women's Clemency Project.



Announcing 2004 Mini Grantees

Child and Family Services of NW Michigan, Traverse City -- \$4,900

Girls' Practicum

This program presents a series of "field" experiences in career and higher education exploration, arts and cultural activities and civic/volunteer opportunities with professional women.

First Step, Plymouth -- \$5,000

Aftercare Supportive Services Project

This project provides transportation services and other resources to emergency shelter residents. While in the shelter, case management services are offered through the Aftercare Advocacy Program. This program is designed to link shelter residents to community resources.

Franklin Street Community Housing Corp., Lansing -- \$5,000

"Access to Assets" IDA Program

The Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Program allows individuals at 80 percent of area median income and below to save money toward their chosen asset goal of home ownership, business development, or post-secondary education. Each savings goal must be met within a three-year period in order to secure the match. Participants are required to attend eight weeks of basic money management training.

Habitat for Humanity -- Alpena Area, Inc., Alpena -- \$5,000

Women Build 2004

Habitat for Humanity will conduct a program which empowers women of all backgrounds and ages to build a home and positively impact the community in which they live. Participants will get involved in all aspects of the program, including fundraising, advertising, volunteer efforts, basic first aid and property

management preparation, as well as construction of the home.

Inner City Christian Federation (ICCF), Grand Rapids -- \$5,000

Supportive Housing Program

The goal of this program is to prevent repeat homelessness by enabling families to become stable and self-sufficient. ICCF partners with Family Haven, an emergency shelter, to have a housing specialist works provide six months of follow-up support.

Liberty Children's Art Project, Negaunee -- \$5,000

First Lego League - Lego Robotics for Girls

This project creates a Lego League for young Negaunee-area girls. The girls will compete in the First Lego League competition at the Michigan Technological University after working as a team to complete the challenge set forth by the competition.

Making It To The Finish Line, Southfield -- \$5,000.00

"A New You" Employment Readiness Program

This program makes women in metropolitan Detroit more marketable in the workplace so they can become economically self-sufficient. The curriculum for the workshops is designed to meet several objectives including: (1) building a strong foundation of employment skills and (2) helping participants explore and their determine interest in further study of computer technology or office administration.

Planned Parenthood Center of West Michigan, Grand Rapids -- \$5,000

Student Advocacy Project

Planned Parenthood works with student organizations on college campuses to promote women's health issues and encourage healthy behaviors.

Young people will learn about issues impacting women's health, plan and implement media campaigns and gain advocacy skills.

St. Patrick Senior Center, Detroit -- \$1,500

Continuing Self-Sufficiency and Independence of Senior Women

Through this project, senior-aged women in the greater Detroit community will be offered a series of workshops including self-defense and crime prevention, employment/volunteer opportunities, resources and services available to elderly women and the importance of preventative health measures.

The Women's Center of America, Ann Arbor -- \$4,500

Many Happy Returns Tax Assistance Program

This program allows low and moderate income women in the Ann Arbor area to prepare their own taxes with the support of a volunteer tax consultant. Many Happy Returns builds women's confidence and skills in managing their finances, using computers and accessing the internet.

Women's Resource Center (WRC), Grand Rapids -- \$4,500

Creating a New Tradition: Nontraditional

WRC believes that nontraditional employment is a strategy that can lead to economic independence. It is also a career area where women have not yet attained a level of workplace equality. WRC is increasing women's awareness of nontraditional occupations as a high-wage option.



Young Women For Change®: Program Applications Available

Young Women for Change® (YWFC) is a philanthropy program for 20 high school-aged girls who distribute \$20,000 to projects for girls in their community. Membership in YWFC is for two years. During the two years, committee members receive training to be a decision-maker in awarding funding annually to local nonprofit organizations that are making a difference for girls.

The goals of the program include actively involving young women in philanthropy, serving their needs and improving the future of girls and young women in Michigan, promoting collaboration skills and leadership in young women, as

well as helping the Michigan Women's Foundation learn how to more effectively meet the needs of girls and young women through grantmaking.

Young women graduate from the program with leadership, grantmaking, and community experience that will benefit them as they continue to develop into tomorrow's leaders.

Young Women for Change® applications are now available for the following communities: Dearborn/Downriver, Kalamazoo County, Kent County, Metro Detroit, Traverse City and

Washtenaw County. With thanks to a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Ford Motor Company Fund, MWF will now have six YWFC sites during the 2004-2005 school year.

Young women, in grades 9-12 in the 2004-2005 school year and who live in one of the above communities are eligible to apply. For a copy of the application, or for more information, please call Diane Leonard at 1-800-404-4372, or visit our website at www.miwf.org.



Young Women for Change®: Fall 2003 Retreat



Young Women for Change co-chairs from the five program sites spent time talking about the different community projects and activities that they take part in their committees.

Over 70 Young Women for Change® (YWFC) participants from all five program sites (Kalamazoo County, Kent County, Metro Detroit, Traverse City and Washtenaw County) recently traveled to Grand Rapids for a weekend in November for a statewide YWFC retreat.

The weekend included grantwriting exercises, team building, an Ethics Bowl about grantmaking and lots of networking between the different program sites. It was a fantastic weekend and we can hardly wait for next year's annual fall retreat!



Barbara Hill, MWF President and CEO, lead the young women in a discussion about what a nonprofit board does, and what are some questions to ask about the board as grantmakers.



Three young women from Washtenaw County and Kent County work on a teambuilding exercise during small breakout sessions.

Roadmap

We are pleased to announce the return of *Roadmap*, previously a technical assistance newsletter for nonprofits, now in the form of a column in our quarterly newsletter, *Trillium*.

If you have a topic that you would like to see addressed in the column, please contact Diane Leonard at 1-800-404-4372.

Top Survivor Tips

Working in a crisis economy?
Now what do we do?

Look Inside -- Look Outside

1. Go back to basics -- review and reinforce your personal convictions and passion for your organization's mission

2. Have a plan -- be honest, realistic and conservative about the future

3. Engage your board -- work with a select guiding coalition

4. Recognize a good thing -- strategically focus your decision-making to the strengths of your organization

5. Remember, there are no sacred cows -- evaluate all internal operations and don't personalize your decisions

6. Keep your friends close -- build and protect your existing relationships and keep in touch with your funders

7. Don't be anonymous -- network and expand your reach

8. Go beyond your "usual suspects" -- look for new donors

9. Get more bang for you buck -- collaborate and know the value of your services

10. Keep confidence in your organization, yourself and the future

Feast or famine, these tips are just good business!



These tips were presented by Barbara Kratchman, president of ArtServe Michigan, at the spring, 2003 Council of Michigan Foundations' Conversations Workshops. These tips are reprinted with Ms. Kratchman's permission.



17177 N. Laurel Park Drive
Suite 161
Livonia, MI 48152
Toll-free: 1-800-404-4372
Phone: 734/542-3946
Fax: 734/542-3952

West Michigan Office
118 Commerce SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Phone: 616/742-2389
Fax: 616/459-8460

Web: www.miwf.org
Email: info@miwf.org