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## ATHENA finalists announced

Pittsburgh Business Times - 11:23 AM EDT Monday, July 30, 2007

The Allegheny Conference on Community Development announced six finalists Monday for the 17th annual ATHENA Award.

The finalists include: Barbara Baker, president and CEO, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium; Cynthia Baldwin, Pennsylvania Supreme Court justice; R. Yvonne Campos, president and CEO, Campos Inc.; Kate Dewey, principal, McCrory & McDowell LLC; Wendelynne Newton, shareholder, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; and Marilyn Sullivan, executive director, Bethlehem Haven.

The women were chosen from more than 40 nominations received by the 12-member ATHENA Award selection committee, based on their professional excellence, contributions to the community and mentorship of other women.

Finalists will be recognized and a winner announced at a luncheon presented by the Allegheny Conference on Sept. 10. More information is available at [www.ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com](http://www.ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com).

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**Pittsburgh ATHENA Award Finalists Announced**

*Recipient to be honored Monday, September 10*

(Pittsburgh, PA – Monday, July 30, 2007) The results are in – six of the Pittsburgh region’s prominent women leaders have been named 2007 ATHENA Award finalists. These women will be recognized for their professional excellence, contributions to the community and mentorship of other women at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual ATHENA Award Luncheon, presented by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development on September 10. There, one of the finalists will receive the 2007 ATHENA Award.

Last year’s luncheon drew 800 attendees – making the Greater Pittsburgh ATHENA Award Luncheon one of the largest stand-alone events of its kind in the world, among more than 500 communities across the globe that present the award each year.

The 2007 finalists are a varied and distinguished group – from successful entrepreneurs, to a Supreme Court Justice to an advocate for the homeless. Chosen from among 40 nominees, these women are using their leadership to truly make a difference. They are:

- Dr. Barbara Baker, President & CEO, Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium;
- The Honorable Cynthia Baldwin, Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania;
- R. Yvonne Campos, President & CEO, Campos, Inc.;
- Kate Dewey, Principal, McCrory & McDowell LLC;
- Wendelyne Newton, Shareholder, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; and
- Marilyn Sullivan, Executive Director, Bethlehem Haven.

“What makes this award unique is its recognition of mentorship as a crucial component of exceptional leadership; the importance of nurturing the next generation of our region’s women leaders can not be overestimated,” said Barbara McNees, president of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of the Conference.

“As usual, this year’s nomination pool was extremely competitive. Now that we have done the difficult job of selecting the finalists, I look forward to the energy and inspiration of the Award Luncheon, where hundreds of women and men gather to recognize some of our region’s most extraordinary changemakers,” said Judie Donaldson, executive director of Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania, chair of the ATHENA Award Selection Committee and 2005 ATHENA Award Recipient.

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The 2007 Recipient – chosen by a 12-member Selection Committee based on criteria developed by ATHENA International ([www.athenainternational.org](http://www.athenainternational.org)) – will receive a 14-inch, hand-cast bronze sculpture; a diamond ATHENA pendant; and a trip to next year's ATHENA International Conference in Chicago. The award is named after the Greek goddess of strength and wisdom, traits considered when reviewing the nominations.

Tickets for the luncheon can be purchased online ([www.ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com](http://www.ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com)) or by calling 412-392-4555, ext. 3560.

The Pittsburgh ATHENA Award is presented with the support from the Eden Hall Foundation, UPMC Health Plan, National City, FedEx Ground, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, McCrory & McDowell LLC, Schneider Downs & Company, Inc., *Pittsburgh Business Times*, WTAE-TV Pittsburgh and WDUQ-FM 90.5.

**The Allegheny Conference on Community Development and Affiliates** – the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, the Pennsylvania Economy League of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance – work in collaboration with public and private sector partners to stimulate economic growth and improve the quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania.

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