



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE FOR A SECURE RETIREMENT

WISER Hero Honorees - 2003

Teresa Heinz

Chairman of the Heinz Family Philanthropies and Founder of WISER

The New York Times has called Teresa Heinz "one of the nation's leading philanthropists". She is a nationally recognized environmental leader and longtime champion of women's health and economic security. She established the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement to help educate women on the vital importance of savings and pensions. She directed development of the Heinz Plan to Overcome Prescription Drug Expenses (HOPE) in Massachusetts, the only program in the nation to make prescription drugs affordable for everyone over 65. She created the annual Heinz Awards to recognize excellence in the arts, the environment, technology, and public policy. She is married to U.S. Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts.

Ellen Levine

Editor-in-chief of Good Housekeeping

In 1994, Ellen Levine made history in the historically male-dominated publishing industry by becoming the first women editor-in-chief of Good Housekeeping magazine. The author of numerous books and a frequent guest on national news and talk programs, Levine has served as editor-in-chief of both Woman's Day and Redbook and twice as president of the American Society of Magazine Editors. She has received the Writer's Hall of Fame Award, the Matrix Award, and the American Society of Journalists and Authors award for courage in the pursuit of truth. Levine serves on the boards of directors for the Christopher Reeves Foundation, Lifetime Television, the New York Women in Communications, and the New York Restoration Project.

Merble Reagon

Executive Director of New York City's Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement

Merble Harrington Reagon has championed greater opportunities for working women for more than 25 years. A graduate of Smith College and the New York University School of Law, she serves on the boards of directors for the New York City Work Alliance, Wider Opportunities for Women, the New York State Defenders Association, RESIST, the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York, and the Lucius and Eva Eastman Fund. Her current work includes introduction and promotion of the Self-Sufficiency Calculator for the city. She has won the Ellen Lurie Award and the Woman of Color Award from the NY chapter of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Alma Morales Riojas

President and CEO of MANA, A National Latina Organization

As the head of MANA, A National Latina Organization, Alma Morales Riojas has become a dynamic and inspiring leader for empowering Hispanic teens and adults to improve their lives and communities. Her distinguished and diverse career in the public and private sectors has included national director of Federally Employed Women Inc., executive director of the National Alliance of Veterans and Family Service Organizations, and director of equal opportunity for the the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The recipient of numerous national awards, Riojas serves as an advisor for the PBS "To the Contrary" program and as a member of the boards of directors for Catholic Charities, the Lifetime Television Network, and the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda.

Pamela Thomas-Graham

President and CEO of CNBC

Since taking over CNBC's helm in 2001, Pamela Thomas-Graham has launched eight new shows and led the TV network to higher ratings and profits. A graduate of Harvard Business School and Harvard Law School, Thomas-Graham became the first black woman partner in 1995 of the global management consulting firm McKinsey & Company. Global Finance magazine named her as one of its "Top Twenty Women in Finance" and Crain's New York Business selected her for its "Forty Under Forty" list of rising young business leaders. In 2001, New York Women in Communications presented her with its Matrix Award. She is also the author of two novels, "A Darker Shade of Crimson" and "Blue Blood", published by Simon & Schuster.

Elizabeth A. Vale

Executive Director of Morgan Stanley/Miller Anderson & Sherrerd

Elizabeth A. Vale is one of the country's most respected leaders in the investments industry. A graduate of Harvard University and the London School of Economics, and a former legislative assistant for the late U.S. Senator John Heinz, Vale served as an analyst and assistant vice-president of the Philadelphia National Bank and later as vice-president of Corestates Investment Advisers. Today, she is portfolio strategists for Morgan Stanley and Van Kampen Funds. A recipient of the Philadelphia Business Journal's Women of Distinction Award, Vale serves on the Girls Inc. national economic literacy board and as a marketer commentator for the CBS affiliate KYW-TV.

Marna C. Whittington

President and CEO of Nicholas-Applegate Capital Management and CEO of Allianz Dresdner Asser Management

Marna Whittington is one of America's most distinguished women in the world of finance. After receiving her Ph.D. in quantitative methods from the University of Pittsburgh, Whittington served as budget director and secretary of finance for the State of Delaware, executive vice president and CFO of the University of Pennsylvania, and managing director and chief operating office of Morgan Stanley Asset Management. Today she oversees all business and investment functions at Nicholas-Applegate as well as operations at the firm's parent company, Allianz Dresdner Asset Management. In addition, Whittington is a trustee for Middlebury College and member of the boards of directors for Rohm& Haas Co. and Federated Department Stores, Inc.