



hartford region

Contact:

Kristy Lee Downer
YWCA Hartford Region
135 Broad Street
Hartford, CT 061
kristyleed@ywcahartford.org
(P) 860-525-1163, ext. 292
(F) 860-543-8919

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YWCA FUNDRAISING EVENT GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND WITH SELL OUT CROWD AND SPONSORSHIPS



Michele Norris, award-winning broadcast journalist and host of NPR's *All Things Considered*, speaking at the YWCA Hartford Region's 15th Annual *In the Company of Women* Luncheon to over 1,500 attendees.

Hartford, CT--YWCA Hartford Region held the 15th Annual *In The Company of Women* Luncheon on April 7, 2010 at the Connecticut Convention Center to a sell out crowd of over 1,500 guests including corporate and community leaders. The event benefited from \$226,000 in sponsorships. The *In the Company of Women* Luncheon, a fundraiser for YWCA program and services, featured Keynote Speaker Michele Norris from NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Governor M. Jodi Rell, Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz, and State Comptroller Nancy Wyman attended the event to support YWCA. Event Co-Chairs were Christine Marcks, President, Prudential Retirement, and Libby

Soong, Retirement Services Head of Financial Management, ING.

A special Creating Opportunities program was held in the morning for young women in the Greater Hartford area. This program introduces young women to the dynamics of women and philanthropy while fostering community involvement. Among the women attending the event were participants from YWCA's Young Women's Leadership Corps (YWLC), an after-school program that gives young women the power to persevere both personally and academically, and students from Hall High School. Sarah French, The Courant/Fox 61 News Anchor, was the guest speaker who led the young women in a journalism activity and discussion. In addition, a select

group toured The Courant/ Fox 61 studio prior to the event for an interactive broadcast journalism experience.

In its fifteenth year, the *In The Company of Women* Luncheon highlights the role of YWCA as a provider of valuable services to women and girls in the Greater Hartford region. YWCA provides services to more than 2,000 individuals a year through programs including childcare, supportive housing, child abuse prevention, young women's leadership, and financial literacy.

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