

1998 Inductees



Bridgitte S. Barrell, 1920-2002:

Brigitte “Brix” Barrell combined family, career and community service in an era when women were not supposed to. Chosen to head Manpower’s Buffalo office in the early 1950s, the third office in a company that would grow into the world’s largest temporary help organization, she worked her way up to regional manager. At the same time, this mother and homemaker was serving on the boards of dozens of community organizations. Colleagues were moved by her vision, her business acumen and her ability to unite people for a common cause. A native of Dresden, Germany, she also was for many years the honorary consul for the Federal Republic of Germany in Western New York.

Marian de Forest, 1864-1935:

Marian de Forest, often called a trailblazer, was a journalist, playwright and civic leader who championed business and professional women. She founded the world’s first Zonta Club in Buffalo in 1919, launching what became an international network of 1,300 clubs in 69 countries with more than 35,000 members. An internationally-acclaimed author of several plays, a globe trotter, and a visionary, she was a woman enough ahead of



her times to imagine ours.



Carmen M. del Valle, 1949-1995:

Carmen M. del Valle, founder of the Hispanic Woman’s League and the Hispanic Network of Health and Human Services, believed women united could advance their academic and professional aspirations, end the cycle of poverty and break the shackles of a male-dominated society— things she had already done all by herself. A single mother of two, she earned her degrees at University of Buffalo, with many honors, in night school and between jobs. She was the first Hispanic woman in Western New York to obtain certification as a social worker, her proudest achievement, and she was the first director of the Child and Family Services West Side, where her innovative programs still are in use.

Constance B. Eve:

Constance B. Eve is an engine that never stops running, a source of power for an entire community; a physical and spiritual force that drives others to serve and gives aid and comfort to those in need. The founder of Women for Human Rights and Dignity seeks to empower women to make more of their lives than they dreamed possible. One of ten children and the mother of five, she thinks much has been given to her and thus much is required. Her



beneficiaries are the women, homeless or on hard times, who find refuge in the shelters she has created. She has received the National Alexis de Tocqueville Award, given by the United Way of America.

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The Honorable Ann T. Mikoll:

Ann T. Mikoll has been described as an “energetic and articulate carrier of the torch for women’s rights.” Now on New York State’s Supreme Court, the Appellate Division, she has been the first woman in a progression of judicial jobs, starting with Buffalo’s City Court in 1957. Away from the bench, her name is legendary in academic, women’s charitable and social organizations that have been enriched with her dynamic personality, expertise, graciousness and generosity. She was the recipient of the Edwin F. Jaekle Award.

Anne Rogovin, 1919-2003:

Anne Rogovin has been helping children learn for 30 years, ever since she took her master’s degree in special education from Buffalo State College in 1963 and began working with disabled children. She has influenced two generations of parents and children with her own irrepressible curiosity and intellect. In between raising three children and traveling around the world with her photographer husband, Mrs. Rogovin wrote six books acclaimed by national experts on education and child development, and has developed 270 self-learning workbooks, housed in Buffalo State’s Butler Library.



Pat Swift MacClennan:

Pat Swift started writing the Buffalo News’ Womanscope column at a time when much of the media either ignored the issues being raised by the women’s movement or heaped scorn and ridicule on those who espoused them. Through two decades, during which women’s issues blended into everyone’s agenda, the column kept equal rights, equal pay, and equal opportunity on the front burner. The status of women remains a concern to a writer who thinks journalists owe the world not just a reflection of itself, but a vision of a better self.

Esther Sans Takeuchi, Ph.D.:

Dr. Esther Sans Takeuchi knows about power. She helped develop a defibrillator battery that keeps hearts beating around the world, demonstrating again the vitality of science and technology and women’s contribution to these exacting disciplines. The director of research at Wilson Greatbatch has been recognized by professional colleagues, who gave her the coveted American Chemical Society Schoellkopf Medal, only one of her many accolades. To those must be added the unheard applause of more than 200,000 bearers of cardiac implants powered by Greatbatch’s tiny batteries.

