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HONORING WOMEN WHO STAND UP, STAND OUT

CONTRIBUTED BY NANCY SPIVEY, YWCA OF GREATER CINCINNATI

PHOTO/IMAGES PROVIDED

Eight Cincinnati-area women have been selected as 2017 YWCA Greater Cincinnati Career Women of Achievement for their outstanding leadership, vision, exceptional community contributions and renowned professional success.

The 38th Annual YWCA Career Women of Achievement Luncheon will be held 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, in the grand ballroom of the Duke Energy Convention Center in downtown Cincinnati. This event is the single largest fundraiser for YWCA Greater Cincinnati, founded in 1868. Proceeds from the event, which attracts over 2,100 attendees each year, directly support the YWCA community-wide programs serving more than 34,000 women, men and families such as domestic violence shelters, youth services, racial justice programming, job training and literacy education.

The 2017 recipients were announced by event co-chairs Mary Miller, CEO and co-founder of JANCOA Janitorial Services, a 2013 honoree, and Liza D. Smitherman, vice president of professional development for Jostin Construction, Inc. and partner in Brewster Pumping, Inc., a 2015 honoree.

Robin Givens, television, film and stage actress, and long-time advocate for those facing the challenges of domestic violence, is the keynote speaker. Givens began her career with an appearance on the "Cosby

YWCA of Greater Cincinnati Career Women of Achievement 2017



Show." The following year she landed her breakthrough role as Darlene Merriam on the hit ABC TV series "Head of the Class." During that time, she co-starred with Oprah Winfrey in the mini-series "The Women of Brewster Place" followed by several back-to-back films such as "Boomerang" and "A Rage in Harlem." She has also worked extensively on stage, including a successful stint on Broadway in the leading role of

Roxie Hart in the Broadway production of "Chicago." She is the author of *Grace Will Lead Me Home*.

Luncheon tickets are \$85; corporate sponsorships are also available. For information, call (513) 241-7090 or visit

www.ywcacincinnati.org.

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