

PRESS RELEASE

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The Women's Y Foundation unveils the names of the 25th Women of Distinction Awards laureates

Montreal, May 22, 2018 – The Women's Y Foundation is proud to announce the recipients of the 2018 Women of Distinction Award, which will be presented on Tuesday, September 25th at *Le Windsor*. The 25th Women of Distinction Award event is under the honorary co-chairs of Mrs. Louise Champoux-Paillé, Certified Corporate Director, Anne-Marie Hubert, Managing Partner, Quebec at EY and Paula Keays, President of McKesson Canada.

The Women of Distinction Award aims to highlight women who, through their commitment and achievements in their respective fields, have had a positive and lasting impact on society. Through its added social value, it also aims to financially support the Women's Y Foundation in its mission to help build a better future for women, girls and their families.

Seven (7) awards and two (2) special awards will be given to women selected by an independent jury from various sectors of activity. The ability to inspire and innovate, the impact of actions taken, the influence and effect on society, as well as the volunteer contribution are all criteria that the jury considers in the evaluation of candidacies.

Here are the names of the 25th Women of Distinction Awards laureates, who are inspiring role models for present and future generations:

- **Business and Entrepreneurship** : **Natalie Voland**, President of Quo Vadis Property Management;
- **Arts, Culture and Design** : **Kim Thùy**, Author and speaker;
- **Arts, Culture and Design** : **Nadine St-Louis**, Founder and Executive Director, Sacred Fire Productions;
- **Social and Environmental Engagement** : **Chantale Arseneau**, Professor in dietetic techniques, Collège de Maisonneuve;
- **Information and Education** : **Mélanie Loisel**, Author, speaker and engagement specialist;
- **Research and Innovation** : **Heidi McBride**, Canada Research Chair in Mitochondrial Cell Biology, professor, Montreal Neurological Institute, McGill University;
- **Public Services** : **Sonia Lupien**, Professor and Director, Université de Montréal, Centre for studies on human stress, Institut universitaire en santé mentale de Montréal;
- **Sports, Health and Wellness** : **Karine Champagne**, Coach, speaker and Founder, Karine et ses Mères-Veilleuses.

The special awards

- **Coup de cœur YWCA Montreal** : **Strong girls, Strong World** comprise of Kathryn Beaudoin, Séréna Byrnes, Yixin Cao, Aisha Chaudhry, Mirona Maria Ciungara, Marine Coeurdassier, Léa Dubray, Margot François, Nejma Hamadi, Salma Jahdiel, Maya Khati, Ysé Lavergne, Léa Normandin, Maria Sadikov, Maya Warwick-Brunelle;
- **Coup de cœur YWCA Montreal** : **Sandra Misérez**, Former participant of the Women's Work Integration program;
- **Inspiration** : **Michèle Audette**, Commissioner, National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and girls.

A new concept for the 25th anniversary of the Women of Distinction Award

The Women's Y Foundation is proud to unveil a brand new concept. This concept will translate into a series of workshops and conferences offered in the afternoon, where guests will witness inspiring, moving and enriching speeches. In short, a new formula that seeks to stimulate interactions between guests and panelists from various sectors. This event will close with a cocktail-dinner where the Women of Distinction Awards laureates will receive their awards.

About

The Women's Y Foundation was created in 1995 and supports the mission of the YWCA Montreal to build a better future for women, girls and their families. It is an indispensable ally in terms of financial support and outreach to the organization and contributes to making it an essential reference for women and girls to contribute to society to the extent of their abilities.

Since 1875, the YWCA Montreal, through its innovative and tailor-made programs has accompanied thousands of women and girls by focusing its efforts to reduce gender and social inequalities and exclusion as well as all forms of violence against women and girls. Thus, it contributes to building a better future for women, girls and their families in the perspective of an egalitarian society where they have the power and opportunity to realize their full potential.

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Source and tickets reservation:

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