



Girls Inc of the Island City

1724 Santa Clara Avenue ■ Alameda, CA 94501 ■ Tel: (510) 521-1743 ■ Fax: 510-521-4417 ■ Internet: <http://www.girlsincislandcity.org>



5th Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon 2004

Saturday, May 1, 2004
Spotlight on the Square, Alameda

Emcee: Dana King, Co-Anchor for CBS Channel 5 News (*see bio below*)

Keynote Speaker: Tara Van DerVeer, Stanford Women's Basketball Coach (*see bio below*)

Award Recipients: Lateefah Simon (*see bio below*)
Dr. Alice Challen (*see bio below*)
Amy Liu (Youth Award Recipient)

Honorary Chairs:

- Carol Beaver, Community Development Manager, City of Alameda
- Bernida Reagan, Director of Social Responsibility, Port of Oakland
- Renel Brooks-Moon, Radio/TV Personality, 98.1 KISS FM
- Hon. Fortney "Pete" Stark, U.S. House of Representatives
- Melody Marr, CEO, Alameda Chamber of Commerce
- Dr. Cecilia Cervantes, President, College of Alameda
- Jill Ottaviano, Sergeant, Alameda Police Department
- Margie Sherratt, Principal, Alameda High School
- Kappi Hommert, Owner, Grace Under Pressure
- Hon. Beverly Johnson, Mayor, City of Alameda
- Karen Kenney, Dean of Students, UC Berkeley
- Charlotte Tlachac, Optometrist, Island Eyecare
- Dennis Pagonas, President, Harbor Bay Realty
- Lena Tam, Director, Alameda Hospital Board
- Sara Heaps, Student, Encinal High School
- Janice Lee, Partner, Edward Jones

Event Committee: Diann Castleberry (Chair), Susan Adams, Romy Amos, Juelle-Ann Boyer, Samarial Brown, Rachel Brumit, Kristin Butler, Karen Granados, Dorie Guess Behrstock, Mary Kenney, Melissa Marsh, and Gail Uchida

Emcee: Dana King, Co-Anchor for CBS Channel 5 News

Emmy Award-winning news anchor Dana King co-anchors CBS 5 Eyewitness News at 6:30pm and 11pm.

King has traveled extensively covering news throughout the world. She spent two days aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln in the Persian Gulf and Amman Jordan in November 2002. She was the first Bay Area broadcast journalist at ground zero on September 13, 2001. In January 1999 King traveled to El Salvador to cover the recent earthquake. Her reports provided a look at the country and how the spirit of the people will enable the community to rebuild. In January 2000, King traveled back to Honduras, a year after her trip covering the destruction caused by the flooding after hurricane "Mitch" in November 1998. Her five-part series "Healing a Nation" provided Bay Area viewers a look at the courageous personal survival of the Honduran people. She revisited people she interviewed on her last trip providing an update on their progress.

During 1999, King traveled to Turkey and to Taiwan to report on the devastation left from the two earthquakes. She reported the similarities of the geographic fault lines of Turkey to that of the Bay Area fault lines. King reported on the poor construction in the hardest hit areas of Turkey.

While in Turkey, King met up with two Bay Area doctors who were there to provide medical relief to Kosovo refugees. King filed several reports on the doctors' humanitarian efforts. King said, "I told my children I can't help like a doctor can, but I can tell someone's story to make things better." Later in 1999, a month after the Taiwan earthquake, King joined a delegation from the Bay Area Chapter of the American Red Cross and went to Taiwan to report on the damage and the efforts to rebuild in Taiwan.

November of 1998, King traveled to Honduras following the destruction left by Hurricane Mitch, where she reported for more than a week, calling it one of the most touching stories that she had ever covered. Her efforts immediately led CBS and the Bay Area Chapter of the American Red Cross to open a phone bank that raised close to a million dollars.

King received a local Emmy Award for her reporting in Honduras, as well as three Emmy Awards for local news in Los Angeles, St. Louis, and San Francisco.

King has an extensive background reporting local and national news. She began her broadcasting career in Los Angeles as a general assignment reporter at KABC-TV. From general assignment reporter, she moved to early morning news anchor. In 1989 the Los Angeles Sentinel named her "Woman of the Year." In 1990 she moved to St. Louis to become the evening news anchor at KTVI-TV.

After King left St. Louis, she worked as news anchor on "Good Morning America Sunday," and as a substitute co-anchor and reporter for "Good Morning America." She joined CBS News in December 1993 as co-anchor and reporter for the prime time news magazine "America Tonight." She was co-anchor of the "CBS Morning News," and a frequent contributor to "CBS This Morning," as well as other CBS News programs. In 1995 King anchored a syndicated news and information program called "Day and Date." Her most recent assignment has been as a general assignment reporter for CBS News.

Born in Cleveland, King graduated with a bachelor's degree in marketing from Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan. She is a competitive rower and has competed and medaled in regional and national single sculling events. She is married to Linden King, former linebacker for the Raiders and San Diego Chargers. They have two children.

*Keynote
Speaker:***Tara Van DerVeer, Stanford Women's Basketball Coach**

In a storied 24-year coaching career, Tara VanDerveer has established herself as one of the top coaches in the history of both collegiate and international women's basketball.

VanDerveer's enormous contributions to the sport were recognized in April of 2002 when she was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee.

VanDerveer, who was the 2003 Pac-10 Coach of the Year and a finalist for the Naismith National Coach of the Year honors, has accumulated an impressive 575-161 (.781) record in 24 years of collegiate coaching. She entered the 2003-2004 campaign with the fourth highest career winning percentage among active Division 1 women's basketball coaches, has won two NCAA Championships, and 15 conference titles, in addition to 18 career post-season appearances.

In 17 years as head coach of the Stanford women's basketball program, she is an amazing 423-110 (.794). During her tenure on The Farm, she has led the Cardinal to two NCAA Championships, five NCAA Final Four appearances, 11 Pacific-10 Conference titles and 15 consecutive trips to the NCAA Tournament.

VanDerveer's contributions to the sport of women's basketball reach far outside the collegiate world. She became internationally known in 1996 when she guided the United States Olympic Women's Basketball Team to the gold medal in Atlanta.

The coaching great also put on a series of basketball clinics in the African nation of Botswana in the spring of 2003.

VanDerveer is a 1975 graduate of Indiana University, where she was a Dean's List scholar for three years and majored in sociology. As an athlete at Indiana, VanDerveer held one of the starting guard positions for three years on the women's basketball team. For her efforts at Indiana and her accomplishments after leaving the Hoosiers, VanDerveer was inducted into the Indiana University Hall of Fame in 1995.

In addition to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and Indiana University Hall of Fame, VanDerveer has also been inducted into the Women's Sports Foundation Hall of Fame and the Greater Buffalo Hall of Fame.

VanDerveer, a Boston native who grew up in upstate New York, is also an avid piano player and a published author. Her book "Shooting From the Outside," which chronicled her 1996 Olympic and National Team experience, was released in September of 1997.

*Award
Recipient:***Lateefah Simon, Winner of the MacArthur Foundation's "Genious Award"**

Lateefah Simon, the executive director of the Center for Young Women's Development (CYWD) in San Francisco, leads a distinctive and bold program to guide troubled girls from delinquency and poverty to healthy and productive adulthoods.

The Center is where Simon herself, at age 17, had found an escape from poverty and a failed education. Two years later, having given birth at age 19, Simon impressed the board of directors enough to be promoted to executive director.

In the service of impoverished teens and young women with histories of drug addiction, prostitution, or abuse, many living on the streets and some with criminal records, the Center offers a path towards improved self-esteem and economic stability.

Simon hires young women who have faced similar challenges to serve as mentors, providing them job training, health insurance, and a living wage. By tapping into the talent and experiences of street-smart young women, she instills a sense of community that young women use to help themselves and each other out of difficult circumstances.

Her strategy recognizes several elements to successful transition. To turn their lives around, young women in trouble need guidance navigating the criminal justice system and emotional support from people they can trust. To give themselves a chance for a better life, these women also need to maintain their health, learn employable skills, and develop leadership potential. Simon and her colleagues at the Center have developed peer-mentoring programs to address each.

Beyond the specific projects of her organization, though, Simon demonstrates the immense potential of leadership, diligence, resourcefulness, and vision for effectively addressing seemingly intractable social challenges.

Lateefah Simon began working at the Center for Young Women's Development in San Francisco in the Street Survival Outreach Program in 1993. Three and a half years later, in 1997, she became the Center's Executive Director. She is a frequent speaker at national conferences and serves on numerous advisory panels devoted to juvenile justice, including the San Francisco Youth Commission and the Juvenile Justice Commission. Simon has also been an organizer and spokesperson for Rock the Vote.

*Award
Recipient:***Dr. Alice Challen**

Medicine was an unusual career choice for a young woman born in Buffalo, New York, in the early 1900's, but for Alice Austin Challen, it was the only career she ever wanted. "I wasn't interested in teaching, library studies or any of the more popular women's studies of the time," said Challen. Upon graduation from University of Buffalo, she applied to, and was accepted at University of Buffalo Medical School, becoming one of only six women in the entire school. When the dean of the school asked, "Why do you want to go to medical school? You'll probably just get married and have a family."

Challen replied, "I want to be a doctor. I probably will get married and have a family, but I'll still practice medicine."

Alice Challen graduated from medical school in 1937. Originally intending to specialize in obstetrics and gynecology, Challen changed course after contracting tuberculosis during her senior year of medical school. Upon return to medical school, Challen specialized in diseases of the lung. After completion of her post-graduate work, Dr. Challen joined a medical practice in Alameda and was licensed to practice medicine in California in 1944, joining the staff of Alameda Hospital in 1945. She was an active member of the Alameda Hospital Medical Staff until retirement in 1975. She specialized in chest medicine, particularly the treatment of tuberculosis, and was a Fellow in the American College of Chest Physicians.

Alice Challen ran a thriving general practice in Alameda from 1944 until 1975, seeing an average of 50 to 60 patients a day in her office. Dr. Challen delivered 4 to 5 babies a week during that time, for a career total of more than a thousand babies, including several generations of families.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, Dr. Challen's practice also included many elderly, housebound patients. Dr. Alan Mitchell, a retired Alameda pediatrician recalls that Challen always carried a large key ring with the keys to these patients' homes so she could make house calls. According to Dr. Mitchell, Challen's homebound patients looked forward to her visits and the care and compassion she dispensed in a "warm, no nonsense manner."

As a medical consultant to the Alameda Unified School District, Dr. Challen performed the physical exams required for athletes on all the sports teams in the district. But Dr. Challen contributed more than medical care to Alameda. Since her arrival in Alameda in 1944, Alice Challen has been an active member of the American Association of University Women, the Republican Women and the Historic Alameda High School Foundation. She is a charter member of the Soroptimist International of Alameda, served on the Board of Girls Incorporated of the Island City as well as volunteering her time to the Alameda Welfare Council, the Humane Society and many other civic organizations. She was named Alameda's Citizen of the Year in 1984.