



spokane

May 1, 2015

Media Contact: Regina Malveaux, Chief Executive Officer  
Email: ReginaM@ywcaspokane.org  
Phone: (509) 789-9303

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NOMINATE GREAT WOMEN IN SPOKANE FOR PRESTIGIOUS YWCA RECOGNITION**  
YWCA Calls for Woman of Achievement Nominations

**Spokane, WA.** –YWCA of Spokane is calling for nominations for its **2015 Woman of Achievement Awards**. The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2015. See below for details.

For 33 years, YWCA of Spokane has celebrated high achieving women in the community at this annual luncheon. This year, the event will be held at the Spokane Convention Center on October 1, 2015, and will feature award-winning author of *Wild*, Cheryl Strayed. Established with the goal of increasing community awareness and appreciation for the diverse contributions of women leaders in Spokane, this luncheon has honored over 200 women in the region.

“Spokane is home to amazing women who create positive change in our community,” says **Regina Malveaux**, Chief Executive Officer of YWCA of Spokane. “This event is an opportunity to recognize these women and thank them for the work they have done to further the YWCA mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.”

**Nomination Requirements**

Winners of a YWCA Woman of Achievement award must embody the mission of the YWCA by giving generously of themselves to make Spokane a better place for all citizens to live. They must also demonstrate leadership through their professional work or service to the community.

The YWCA encourages nominations for YWCA Woman of Achievement awards in the following areas:

- Arts & Culture
- Business & Industry
- Carl J. Maxey Racial & Social Justice Award
- Community Enhancement
- Education
- Science, Technology & Environment

**Nomination forms** may be found online at [www.ywcaspokane.org](http://www.ywcaspokane.org) and may be completed and submitted via email to [development@ywcaspokane.org](mailto:development@ywcaspokane.org) or by mail to 930 N. Monroe St., Spokane, WA 99201, Attention: Woman of Achievement Awards. The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2015.

### **Raising Awareness**

“This luncheon is not only about gratitude, but about inspiration—to show, by example, what is possible,” says **Susan Ashe**, YWCA of Spokane Women of Achievement Luncheon Chair and YWCA of Spokane board member. “The luncheon is also a confirmation to the women present that Spokane has a community here to support them.”

Last month, the YWCA of Spokane announced the keynote speaker for the October 1 event, Cheryl Strayed, author of the #1 New York Times bestselling memoir *Wild*. The story tells the amateur hiker’s tale as she struggles to find inner peace during her 1,000-mile journey along the Pacific Crest Trail. Her story was featured as Oprah Winfrey’s first selection for Oprah’s Book Club 2.0, and inspired the 2014 release of the movie adaptation of *Wild*.

One of the main goals of the luncheon is to raise awareness of domestic abuse in the community. In 2014, 44 people died in Washington State as a result of domestic violence, and one in three women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.

### **Providing Services**

The Women of Achievement luncheon has evolved into YWCA of Spokane’s largest fundraising event, sponsored by over 25 companies and organizations each year, and is one of the area’s most prestigious award recognition events for women.

“All proceeds raised by this important event directly benefit the YWCA’s services for domestic violence victims and their children, including emergency shelter, counseling, legal services, job readiness, child care, and Pre-K programs for low income children,” says Malveaux.

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### **About YWCA**

The YWCA of Spokane is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. In 2014, YWCA of Spokane provided counseling, legal services, safe shelter, outreach, job readiness training, and early childhood education to more than 15,861 women and children. The YWCA of Spokane is the go-to place in the region for support for victims of domestic violence and services that empower women and children. The organization is a key resource for issues of racial and social justice in the community.