

# *Eleventh Annual Women's Hall of Fame*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 4, 2004

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **An Astronaut, HIV Fighter and Television Station Founder are Among the Women Chosen for County's Hall of Fame**

(Oakland, CA) – A woman who runs an emergency shelter, one who started a television station, a park ranger, a university educator, one who fights HIV around the world, one who is an astronaut, one who champions girls' golf, the founder of a music school, an Assistant District Attorney and a high school student from Danville who maintains an A average while building homes in Mexico are among the women chosen for induction into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame for 2004. **The women will be formally honored at the program's awards ceremony, which is set for Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Marriot Hotel in downtown Oakland. The public is invited and should call 510-535-7414 to make reservation.** Cost is \$55 per person.

"We have an incredible group of women, once again," says co-chair of the Hall of Fame Planning Committee County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi. "We have an unbelievable number of very bright, accomplished women who are working in many ways to better our community – and the world."

The event will feature a special segment honoring Channel 2 broadcast news reporter Faith Fancher, who died late last year of breast cancer, and Dr. Erlinda Ursua who worked at a County Medical Center facility until her death last year.

#### **2004 Hall of Fame Inductees**

The inductees for the 2004 Women's Hall of Fame are:

#### **Nancy Schluntz**

##### **Business and Professions**

Nancy Schluntz of Hayward is Executive Director of the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO), a comprehensive agency serving homeless families. FESCO not only provides emergency shelter and meals, but also works to help families understand the causes of their situation so that they can then move to a more self-sufficient life.

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## **Page 2/WHOF Winners**

### **Darla Stevens**

#### **Community Service**

Darla Stevens is founder and until her retirement this year, was executive director of Community Television (CTV), Pleasanton. Ms. Stevens worked for 27 years to create community access television as a community resource for the South County area.

### **Susan Muscarella**

#### **Culture and Art**

Susan Muscarella of Berkeley is the founder and director of the Jazzschool, an innovative music school dedicated to the study and performance of America's indigenous music, jazz and related styles of music.

### **Sonjia Parker Redmond**

#### **Education**

Dr. Redmond, of Hayward, has served over 25 years in higher education, championing access and equity issues for all students. She is Vice President of Student Affairs at California State University, Hayward.

### **Sandy Ferreira**

#### **Environment**

Sandy Ferreira, of Fremont, has been Senior Park Ranger for the City of Fremont for the last 15 years. She is also District Manager for Alameda County, California Wood Duck Program and has worked with volunteers to create the Tree Swallow Nest Box Program at Fremont's Central Park. Additionally, she works with the area's Eagle Scout Projects.

### **Rebecca Denison**

#### **Health**

Rebecca Denison, of Berkeley, is the founder of WORLD (Women Organized to Respond to Life-Threatening Diseases), an organization that began modestly in Rebecca's living room 13 years ago, and which has grown to have a profound impact on the health and well being of women in Alameda County and around the world who are infected with HIV.

### **Nancy E. O'Malley**

#### **Justice**

Nancy E. O'Malley, of Oakland, is Chief Assistant District Attorney for the County of Alameda. Previously, she was head of the Sexual Assault Unit. Ms. O'Malley has worked tirelessly for justice for victims of violence against women. She has produced numerous training programs, coordinated conferences and written articles about issues related to violence against women.

### **Tammy Jernigan**

#### **Science**

Tammy Jernigan, of Pleasanton, is Principal Deputy Associate Director, Physics and Advanced Technologies at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Ms. Jernigan is an astronaut – she is a veteran of five Space Shuttle missions, in which she supervised the pre-flight and in-flight execution of critical activities.

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## Page 3/WHOF Winners

### **June A. Cook**

#### **Sports and Athletics**

June A. Cook, of Oakland, is the Golf and Business Director of LPGA-USGA Girls Golf Club. Ms. Cook works to provide opportunities to participate in golf for the Oakland Military Institute and other young people in the county through Upward Bound program.

### **Erin Nikole Gums**

#### **Youth**

Erin Nikole Gums lives in Oakland and is a high school senior at the Athenian School, Danville. Erin maintains a 4.7 GPA taking advanced and honors classes and also contributes 200 hours of community service per academic year. Ms. Gums works with the American Cancer Society Art Benefit, the Adopt-a-Spot Campaign for the City of Oakland, is a summer camp counselor for Camp Elmwood in Berkeley, and in the summer of 2003, spent five weeks in Tepic, Mexico, building a home for a low-income family.

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