



Maine Women's Policy Center

THE VOICE OF MAINE WOMEN

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: October 8, 2009

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Strategies for Economic Success Championed at Women's Breakfast

Local Business, Portland Color, Lauded for Workplace Practices

(Portland) The Maine Women's Policy Center culminated the annual Breakfast of Champions event series at the Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland on Thursday, with remarks by two national experts on women in the economy. Participants in this year's event, ***As Women Succeed, Maine Prospers: Women in Business and the Economy***, discussed opportunities for increasing Maine women's economic prosperity.

Said speaker Beth Shulman, co-chair of the Fairness Initiative on Low-Wage Work, Senior Fellow at Demos, and author of *The Betrayal of Work: How Low-Wage Jobs Fail 30 Million Americans*, "For generations, Americans shared the belief that if you work hard, you could take care of yourself and your family. In today's economic recession, it's clear that that promise has been broken. It's time to start talking about the new policies and practices that will support the success of women in the workplace and contribute to our shared economic success."

Lisa Maatz, AAUW Director of Public Policy and Governmental Relations, emphasized the federal initiatives aimed at improving the well-being of women and girls, "Achieving full economic opportunity for women will require everyone's participation. That's why AAUW members in Maine are working for pay equity, access to education and training, and programs that promote work life balance in the 111th Congress. We have a tremendous opportunity, right now, to further these goals for women in Maine and across the United States."

The Maine Women's Policy Center also awarded the Portland grand format printing company, Portland Color, with the 2009 ACTION AWARD. The award recognizes an individual policy or set of employment practices that serve to advance women in the workplace and which demonstrates a commitment to women workers.

Said Sarah Standiford, Executive Director of the Maine Women's Policy Center, "Portland Color, under the leadership of founder Andy Graham, is taking a proactive and positive approach to workplace policies

that benefit women and their families—and that contribute to the success of the economy overall. Congratulations to Andy and the entire Portland Color team for setting a great standard of success.”

The Portland event is the last of three events spanning the state in Presque Isle, Bangor and Portland. The events are made possible by the lead sponsorship support of KeyBank and Atkins Printing.

The Maine Women’s Policy Center, founded in 1990, is a private nonprofit, non-partisan organization whose purpose is to improve the lives of Maine women and girls through public policy and leadership development.

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