



CAREER MASTERED

ICONIC. PRESENCE. POWER.

March 7, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leading Women's History Month Awards Reception & Gala in North Carolina Garners Sell-Out Attendance

- **Special Achievement Awards**
- **Women Achievers in Competitive, Diverse Fields**
- **Local Colleges Participate; Scholarships for Youth**

Charlotte – (March 7, 2016) - Dignitaries, Honorees, Sponsors, Partners and Host walked the Career Mastered Awards' Pink Carpet while being photographed and interviewed during the Inaugural event. A standing-room only event, the networking VIP Gallery Cocktail Reception was festive while the Awards Ceremony was the highlight of the evening saluting women's leadership achievement. Some of the most iconic, powerful women in business were present in one room. Young rising professionals from the University of North Carolina Charlotte (UNCC) and Johnson C. Smith University were recognized and were present to network with role models who have blazed trails and made a compelling mark on business. Two youth received the LaVerne Gardner Lindsay Stewart Scholarship for their commitment to excellence.

The backdrop was the Charlotte City Club where the Inaugural Women's History Month Career Mastered Leadership in Action Awards were presented on March 1 to a sell-out crowd. The celebration in Charlotte, North Carolina honored over 25 amazing women who have demonstrated the art of mastering their careers in diverse fields such as retail, health, banking, education, media, entertainment, government, and many more. This special night is set aside during Women's History Month to recognize and celebrate today's women leaders. Women who take charge of their careers and their futures, who have mastered their work and have learned the necessary steps to build a successful career. These women are exceptionally strong role models for women and men everywhere.

Annually in March, Linwick & Associates, LLC. And its sponsors presents and celebrates the victories, challenges and stories of the women who have made our country what it is today. It was not so long ago that having a woman in the board room was a novelty. In today's competitive marketplace women are making a compelling mark on business and the economy. Women who have mastered their careers reveal exceptional stories and provide an expansive vision about women's success.

The 2016 Special Achievement Awards included:

Living Legend Award Honoree:

- Honorable Congresswoman Alma Adams, North Carolina

Trail Blazer Achievement Award Honoree:

- Linda Hudson, Chairman & CEO, The Cardea Group

Game-Changer Achievement Award Honoree:

- Honorable Mayor Jennifer Roberts, City of Charlotte

Distinguished Career Achievement Award Honoree:

- Joan Higginbotham, Former Astronaut, NASA Engineer

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About The Career Mastered Leadership Awards:

The Career Mastered Awards is the leading Women's History Month Award in North Carolina honoring today's women leaders who are Game Changers who take charge of their careers and their futures. The Award honors amazing women who have made a compelling mark on business and are exceptionally strong role models of what a woman can do. Established and presented in 2015 by Linwick & Associates, LLC. Career Mastered Awards celebrates and acknowledges the victories, challenges, and stories of the women who have helped to make our country what it is today.

The Awards Ceremony is not just an event for women. The event celebrates the joint effort of women and men collaboratively working together to improve the communities in which we live. Proceeds from this program are donated to Excel Village non-profit organization whose mission is to work with youth to create winning futures through career planning. Held in both Charlotte North Carolina and Detroit, Michigan, 2016 Sponsors and Partners include: Fifth Third Bank, Macy's, Charlotte Observer, South Park Magazine, Lake Norman Magazine, Uptown Professional Magazine, dbusiness, Stopit Pro for the Workplace, Woodhouse Day Spa, Clark Hill PLC, Wayne State University, Detroit Historical Society, Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame and Beasley Media Group WBAV, V101.9 and WKQC, K104.7.

About Linwick & Associates, LLC

Linwick & Associates, LLC is a global human resources consultant firm with offices in Metropolitan Detroit and Charlotte, NC. The mission of the company is to create organizational value through people. Its Founder, Dr. Lisa J. Wicker is internationally recognized as a leader in human resources management with more than 30 years' experience in organizational dynamics and change management across Fortune 500 Companies and Industries. She has been recognized by the Detroit News as one of the most successful women in Detroit. Corp! Magazine recognized her as top Diversity Leader in Michigan, Black Enterprise recognized her as a leading Diversity Champion in America, The Michigan Chronicle dubbed her a Trailblazer and Uptown Professional Magazine named her one of America's top executives.

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