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For Immediate Release

March 07, 2008

WPEO Recognizes Outstanding Women Business Owners and Corporations
Women Presidents' Educational Organization Celebrates 10th Anniversary with Awards Breakfast

New York, NY – The Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO) recognized women business owners, corporations, and women's business advocates at the seventh Annual Awards Breakfast this morning at the Mandarin Oriental. The breakfast was sponsored by Freddie Mac, Merrill Lynch and Pfizer (WPEO corporate sponsors) as well as JMH Education and Superior Staff Resources (WPEO/WBENC-certified Women Business Enterprises – WBEs).

This morning, WPEO honored:

- Exxon Mobil Corporation as the Outstanding Corporation from the DC region;
- Prudential as the Outstanding Corporation from the NY region;
- Common Denominator's President and managing director Dr. Alma Abdul Hadi-Jadallah, as the Outstanding WBE from the Washington, DC region;
- Nukk-Freeman & Cerra, P.C., directors Katherin Nukk-Freeman and Suzanne Cerra as the Outstanding WBE from the New York Region;
- Aaron Blumenthal, Lehman Brothers, as the Outstanding Women's Business Advocate;
- Colleen Molter, President & Founder, QED National with the WPEO President's Award in the New York region;
- Rhoda Arzt, President, Trilogly Technical Services, LLC, as the WPEO Presidents' Award recipient in the DC Region.

Criteria for the winners of the Outstanding Corporation and WBE awards include efforts in support of women business owners and the women's business community, creative problem solving and/or innovation, Done Deal™ participation, and overall commitment to the mission of the WPEO; "opening doors for women business owners." The Advocate is selected by WBEs based on the following criteria: involvement with WPEO, significant contributions to WPEO, contributions to women owned businesses. The Presidents' Award winners have gone above and beyond in their service to the WPEO, and are selected by the President and Founder, Marsha Firestone, Ph.D.

"It's an honor and a pleasure to recognize our Outstanding WBEs, Corporations and Advocates each year," said Marsha Firestone Ph.D., president of the WPEO. "The success of these businesses validates the mutually beneficial experience of working together to support the growth of WBEs. The Advocate and Presidents' awards are our way of thanking individuals who have worked exceptionally hard to help accelerate the growth of women's business enterprises.

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The **Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO)** is a regional affiliate of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation's premier third party certification organization for women owned businesses. The mission of the WPEO is to create increased access to business opportunities for WBEs. Our programs develop skills and knowledge for WBEs, advocate in the public and private sectors, foster relationships between WBEs, corporations and the government, and provide certification services. WPEO provides full service third party certification to women entrepreneurs in the New York, Northern New Jersey (including Princeton and points North), Southern Connecticut and the Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia areas. WPEO is incorporated in the state of New York and is recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization. For more information see the website at www.wpeo.us or call (212) 688-4114.