

**For Immediate Release**

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**Greater Pittsburgh ATHENA Awards Finalists Announced**

*Regional women who lead through mentorship to be honored at Sept. 26 luncheon*

**(PITTSBURGH – July 20, 2016)** Eight women – five veteran managers and three emerging leaders – have been selected as finalists for the 2016 ATHENA Awards Program of Greater Pittsburgh. They will be among the many nominees recognized for their professional excellence, contributions to the community and mentorship of other women at the annual ATHENA Awards luncheon on Monday, Sept. 26. The awards are presented by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development at the Westin Convention Center Hotel. One finalist from each category – the traditional ATHENA award and the ATHENA Young Professional Award – will receive her respective award at the event.

The finalists for the traditional ATHENA award compose a varied and distinguished group. Each woman uses her leadership to create professional excellence and positive regional impact. The finalists are:

- Audrey Dunning, CEO, Summa Technologies, Inc.
- Kelly Gray, Senior Vice President, Human Resources, FedEx Ground
- Diana Reid, Executive Vice President, PNC Real Estate
- Tracy Vitale, Superintendent of Schools, Seneca Valley School District
- Yvette Williams, Senior Patient Advocate/Program Manager, Allegheny Health Network/The Open Door, Inc.

The ATHENA Young Professional Award (AYPA) will be presented to a woman 35 years of age or younger who exemplifies the traditional ATHENA qualities, with an emphasis on being a role model. The finalists are:

- Marteen Garay, Director of Entrepreneurship Programming, Urban Innovation21
- Caitlin Green, Vice President, PNC Bank, N.A.
- Katie Kopczynski, Marketing Analyst, Eaton Corporation

A complete list of nominees can be found at [ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com](http://ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com).

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Also at the luncheon, ATHENA officials will announce the recipient of the new Barbara McNees Spirit of ATHENA Scholarship, named for the ATHENA program's founder and retired president of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce (an Allegheny Conference affiliate). The scholarship will be awarded annually to one woman age 35 or younger to attend, tuition-free, the Carnegie Mellon Leadership and Negotiation Academy for Women. The deadline to apply is July 29 for the academy session that begins Sept. 23. Learn more about the scholarship and the academy at [ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com](http://ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com).

Last year's Greater Pittsburgh ATHENA Awards luncheon drew nearly 900 attendees. That makes it among the largest stand-alone events of its kind among the 500-plus communities around the globe that present the award each year.

**Tickets for the luncheon can be purchased online at [ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com](http://ATHENA-Pittsburgh.com).**

The Greater Pittsburgh ATHENA Awards Program is made possible by support from UPMC Health Plan; Citizens Bank; KPMG LLP; FedEx Ground; Pittsburgh Magazine; WTAE –TV; Carnegie Mellon Leadership for Women; Covestro LLC; Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.; Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP; PPG; Pittsburgh Penguins; The Ellis School; TiER1 Performance Solutions; and Williams.

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The Allegheny Conference on Community Development and its affiliates – the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, the Pennsylvania Economy League of Greater Pittsburgh, LLC and the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance – work in collaboration with public and private sector partners to improve the economy and the quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania. Learn more at [AlleghenyConference.org](http://AlleghenyConference.org).