

For Immediate Release
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32nd Annual San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame

[Redwood City, CA] This year, the Commission on the Status of Women is proud to announce three women will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame on March 24th, 4:00 PM at Cañada College – 4200 Farm Hill Boulevard in Redwood City immediately following the Women's Leadership Conference.

A mayor & long-time city council member, a founder of two farmers markets, and a school board member will be inducted into the 2018 San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, the county's premier showcase for women who make a difference every day in our community.

"It is an honor and privilege of the Commission on the Status of Women to recognize the contributions and achievements of these exceptional women," said Linda Koelling, President of the Commission. "The Women's Hall of Fame is a reminder of the wealth and depth of talent and generosity women bring to our county communities every day of the year."

This year's event is proud to recognize our Sponsors – the County of San Mateo, Skyline College, and Kaiser Permanente. Please email cswinfo@smcgov.org for more information about sponsorship or program advertising.

For information about the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, please email the Commission on the Status of Women at cswinfo@smcgov.org. Information about the Women's Leadership Conference is at <http://smcwomenlead.org>. A list of past inductees is also available on the website csw.smcgov.org/honorees. Tickets may be purchased at www.eventbrite.com/e/womens-leadership-conference-womens-hall-of-fame-registration-36214443375

About the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame

In 1984, the Commission on the Status of Women established a permanent Women's Hall of Fame to recognize outstanding women for their contributions to the well-being of San Mateo County. Impartial judges selected from outside our county read the numerous nominations with names redacted to ensure a fair and unbiased process, before selecting the finalists. The women are honored for their outstanding contributions to their profession, their generous work as volunteers, or both.

In 1992, a second category, "Young Women of Excellence" was added to the Women's Hall of Fame. To be nominated, "young women" must be high school juniors or seniors or the equivalent. The award aims to give visibility to young women's accomplishments in community service, academic achievement, and acts of courage in their daily lives.

About the 2018 Women's Hall of Fame Inductees

The information below briefly summarizes highlights of their achievements; additional information about their many contributions and photos are readily available.

Naomi Patridge of Half Moon Bay became the first Asian American elected to public office in San Mateo County, serving a record seven times as Mayor for Half Moon Bay as well as serving in City Council for 25 years. As a child, she and her family lost their family farm when they were interned during WWII; first in San Bruno and then in Topaz, Utah. They came back to the Coastsides to rebuild their life and Naomi grew up and had her first experience in government serving on the Parks and Recreation Board in 1973. She established a Girls Softball Program that has endured for 47 years, coached a Championship High School Team and mentored a vast number of young women. She has a trail named after her on the Coastsides and has established preservation of land for future generations.

Erin Tormey of Half Moon Bay founded the Coastsides Farmers' Market in Half Moon Bay in 2002. Healthy and sustainable and socially equitable food systems are Erin's passion, so her vision went beyond providing locally produced food for the community and economic opportunity for the many small family farms in the county, to seeking out programs that support lower income residents such as the Senior and WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program and CalFresh and bringing them to her markets. She was a pilot partner in MarketMatch, now a state-wide program that doubles participants produce purchasing power, and created LocalMatch, a unique program offered to residents who do not qualify for any form of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs. She's a founder of the HEAL Project, a Coastsides-grown curriculum rooted in agriculture that is delivered to all students in the 2nd and 3rd grades on the Coastsides. Designed to teach students where their food comes from and why that matters, The HEAL Project also provides access to more than 2,500 students throughout San Mateo County to the 2.5 acre School Farm they established in Moss Beach. She is a founding member of the San Mateo County Food System Alliance, was appointed to CDFA's Specialty Crop Block Grant Review Committee for a 5 year term, and was named San Mateo County Farmer of the Year in 2017.

Kalimah Salahuddin of Daly City currently serves as a Trustee for the Jefferson Union High School District Board of Education and is in the second year of her second term. In April 2014 Kalimah was elected as a member of the California School Boards Association's (CSBA) Delegate Assembly to represent her board and region. She also was recently appointed to the Board of Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco where she has been a regular volunteer for the past ten years.

Kalimah was the Campaign Manager for Yes on L, the successful renewal of the local funding measure for the Pacifica School District, and Yes on Y and Yes on E, two successful local funding measures for the Jefferson Union High School District. She also served on the Board of Educate Our State and as President of Saving Pacifica Schools in advocacy of public school systems at the local and state levels. Kalimah is employed as an Executive Assistant at Exelixis and is a mother to three wonderful young adults.

About the Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women is a non-partisan advisory body to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors that seeks to improve the quality of life for women of all ages in San Mateo County. Through strategic partnerships and collaboration, the commission identifies women's needs, advises the board of supervisors, and educates the community on matters concerning women. More information about the Commission is available at csw.smcgov.org.