

2016 National Conference Update
Submitted by Terry O'Neill, President

This year, NOW celebrates its 50th Anniversary, and we are planning a gala celebration in addition to our regular annual conference.

The 50th Anniversary Gala will take place at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill, on Thursday June 23. Our celebration will recognize NOW's history of cutting-edge activism on behalf of women, which include some of the most significant victories of the 20th century, but also the important work ahead as our organization pushes forward with its cutting-edge, intersectional, multi-issue, multi-tactical advocacy for the 21st century. Maureen Bunyan will serve at MC at the gala.

We will have four plenary sessions, each one featuring a former NOW President who will describe the most important issues NOW dealt with during her tenure as president, and offer her assessment of the present and future of feminism. We will also have 24 workshops on topics including the founding of NOW, gun violence, reproductive justice issues, and storytelling to advance justice.

Three of the workshops will present the three parts of the proposed national strategic action program: (1) Ending the sex abuse to prison pipeline which disproportionately affects girls of color and LGBTQIA students in middle schools and high schools; (2) Achieving full funding for abortion care and birth control; and (3) promoting ratification of the ERA and an intersectional interpretation of constitutional equality for women.

Board election candidate forums will take place on Friday afternoon. Voting (for the three districts with contested elections) will take place on Saturday from 4:15 - 6:15 pm.

The PAC will host a lunch plenary on Saturday, a reception and silent auction on Saturday afternoon, and a poster session where activists will share the strategies and tactics they have used in their communities as part of the MsPresidentNOW campaign to elect Hillary Clinton.

Gala honorees:

- **Christine Brennan**, award-winning national sports columnist for USA Today, commentator for ABC News, CNN and PBS NewsHour, and best-selling author.
- **Elizabeth Shuler** is the secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO, holding the second-highest position in the labor movement. She not only is the first woman elected as the federation's secretary-treasurer, but also holds the distinction of being the youngest officer ever to sit on the federation's Executive Council.
- **Chandra Wilson** is an award-winning actress and director, best known for her portrayal of Dr. Miranda Bailey on "Grey's Anatomy." She has garnered the Screen Actors Guild, People's Choice, Prism, and three NAACP Image Awards, and earned four Emmy Award nominations.
- **AWARE** (Assisting Women through Action, Resources & Education –

www.awarenyc.org) is a grass-roots organization dedicated to promoting awareness and generating funds in order to make meaningful improvements in the lives of women and girls in the New York City and Connecticut communities. Each year, AWARE creates a partnership with one carefully-selected, under-resourced charity. AWARE then organizes a fundraiser, a hands-on volunteer event and an educational symposium based on the needs of the chosen organization and the population they serve. This unique model allows AWARE to shine a focused light on important women's issues.

Conference honorees and speakers:

- **Brittney Cooper - Olga Vives Award**, Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Africana Studies at Rutgers University.
- **Grace E. Franklin and Candace Liger - Women of Action Award**, co-founders of OKC Artists for Justice, created to support the victims of Oklahoma City police officer Daniel Holtzclaw who targeted African American women, sexually assaulting at least 13.
- **Muriel Fox - Woman of Vision Award**, co-founder of NOW and editor of NOW's first national newsletter "Do It Now."
- **Jessica González-Rojas - NOW Foundation's Mastrobuono Award**, Executive Director at the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health.
- **Senator Barbara Mikulski**, the first Democratic woman elected to the Senate in her own right and known as Dean of the women senators.
- **Emma Sulkowicz - Woman of Courage Award**, created a performance work titled *Mattress Performance (Carry That Weight)* to raise awareness of Columbia University's inadequate response to campus sexual assault.
- **Candace Bond-Therriault**, Policy Counsel for Reproductive Rights, Health and Justice at the National LGBTQ Task Force
- **Patricia Hill Collins**, Distinguished University Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park.
- **Kim Gandy**, President and CEO of National Network to End Domestic Violence, and President of NOW from 2001-2009.
- **Judy Goldsmith**, Dean of University of Wisconsin - Fond-du-Lac and president of NOW from 1982-1985.
- **Patricia Ireland**, of counsel to Phillips, Richard & Rind PA and president of NOW from 1991-2001.
- **Jacqueline Kozin**, Director of Intergovernmental and Community Affairs for Comptroller of Connecticut Kevin Lembo and member of the National NOW PAC.
- **Rev. Barry W. Lynn**, Executive Director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.
- **Shireen Mitchell**, founder and director of Digital Sisters/Sistas Inc. providing services and advocacy to close the technology gap for women and girls of color.
- **Terry O'Neill**, President of NOW.
- **Eleanor Smeal**, President of Feminist Majority Foundation and publisher of Ms. Magazine, and president of NOW from 1977-82 and 1985-87.

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 NOW Board meeting June 23, 2016

- **Mini Timmaraju**, Women’s Outreach Director for Hillary for America
- **Jamia Wilson**, Executive Director of Women, Action & the Media
- **Miriam W. Yeung**, Executive Director of the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF).
- **Bonnie Grabenhofer**, Vice President of NOW

Conference revenue to date (June 13, 2016)

Description	Actual	Goal
Sponsorships	\$53,750	\$40,000
Gala tickets	\$24,100	\$30,000
Exhibit tables	\$ 6,725	\$10,000
Program book ads	\$ 5,610	\$ 5,000
Conference registrations	\$21,292	\$20,000
Total	\$111,477	\$110,000

Conference projected out-of-pocket expenditures:

Description	Amount
Delivery fees, supplies, trophies, on-site printing	\$ 1,400
Conf & Gala Program design and printing	\$ 6,000
Speaker / awardees / staff travel, lodging, meals	\$ 13,000
Audio-visual, broadband, videography, photography	\$ 21,000
Hotel event space (F&B min)	\$ 68,000
Conference logistics manager	\$ 45,000
Total	\$ 154,400