



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MINNEAPOLIS

Women building better communities®

For immediate release

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The Junior League of Minneapolis (JLM) proudly announces its 2011 Katharine Phelps Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient Marilyn Tickle Bryant

MINNEAPOLIS (December 5, 2011) – The Junior League of Minneapolis proudly congratulates the 2011 Katharine Phelps Lifetime Achievement Award Winner: Marilyn Tickle Bryant.

Marilyn Tickle Bryant is the retired owner and vice president of Adjustable Joist Company, a construction company that has been specializing in concrete formwork in the Midwest for more than 75 years. As a woman working in what's traditionally considered a 'man's' field, Bryant has been a champion for gender equity at the workplace. At her family business, Bryant developed the company's equal opportunity programs and served as the company's representative to the industry-lobbying group, Associated General Contractors of Minnesota.

In the community, Bryant has been a dynamic advocate for the advancement of women. She served as the first Republican chair of the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus, one of the first chairs of the U of M Women's Athletics Advisory Board, chair of the Board of Trustees for Metropolitan State University and as an executive committee member of the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Since the 1970s, she has been involved in helping women raise money to run for political office. She was a founder of the Minnesota Women's Campaign Fund, which became Women Winning, that continues to raise thousands of dollars each year for female political candidates.

Bryant's family says her primary business has always been voluntarism. Her involvement as a longtime volunteer with the University of Minnesota Hospitals led her to create a three-day national symposium on health issues called "Health Alert." She founded and served as the first chair of the U of M Hospitals Volunteer Association (UHVA). Bryant is still active with the University of Minnesota by serving on the board of the Masonic Cancer Center and has also served on the University of Minnesota Foundation. Just this September, Bryant served on the steering committee of a fundraising event for the Masonic Cancer Center that raised more than \$100,000.

Bryant has served the community through the JLM for more than twenty years. She served on the JLM committee that evolved into the Children's Theatre Company now located at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. Bryant helped the JLM become a League with a national view by organizing a voluntarism conference called "People Power" that attracted more than 600 delegates from 50 national organizations.

"Marilyn is the living embodiment of the mission of the Junior League of Minneapolis; she actively promotes the importance of voluntarism, from her work to create and execute one of the nation's largest events focused on the power of volunteers to passionately advocating for important civic issues," said Suzie Wilmot, President of the

Junior League of Minneapolis. “Her commitment to improving the Minneapolis community and empowering herself and those around her to be civic and community leaders is why she has been honored with the Katharine Phelps Lifetime Achievement Award for 2011.”

The Katharine Phelps award stems from the founding member of the Junior League of Minneapolis and its first president in 1923, Katharine Phelps. The Katharine Phelps Lifetime Achievement Award celebrates an outstanding leader in the Junior League of Minneapolis who throughout her lifetime has used her talents and resources to improve the social and economic conditions of others. Through advocacy, collaboration, philanthropy, direct service or community education, the award recipient embraces her community and makes a unique and significant difference as a leader. She shares the founder’s sense of social responsibility and giving spirit, as well as her ability to empower others to be effective volunteers.

Previous Katharine Phelps Lifetime Achievement Award winners include: Nancy Lindahl (2006); Sue Hodder (2007); Carol Truesdell (2008); Emily Anne Staples Tuttle (2009) and Marilyn Carlson Nelson (2010). Nominations for the 2012 Katharine Phelps Lifetime Achievement Award will be sought in August, 2012.

To RSVP for the December 13 gathering celebrating Marilyn, go to www.jlminneapolis.org. JLM Sustainers will speak about Marilyn’s vast accomplishments and share stories from their past. In addition, the night will conclude with the announcement of the incoming JLM Board of Directors.

About the Junior League of Minneapolis

The Junior League of Minneapolis (JLM) is a nonprofit organization made up of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Established in 1923, the JLM continues to develop projects to fill needs within the Minneapolis community. Past projects include helping to found the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, Free Arts MN and the Jeremiah Program. Current projects address issues from hunger to nutrition to literacy. The Junior League of Minneapolis reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. For more information please visit www.jlminneapolis.org.

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