



**POWER YOUR DREAM™**

ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT LUNCHEON



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Huma Gruaz 312-245-9805 Ext. 101**

Huma@alpaytac.com

**Brenna Israel 312-245-9805 Ext. 111**

Brenna@alpaytac.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 2009**

**CHICAGO'S PROFESSIONAL WOMEN GATHER TO BENEFIT THE HOMELESS**

*NAWBO's Holiday Celebration To Raise Funds For Inspiration Café*

**Chicago, Ill. – November, 2009** – The National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) Chicago chapter is proud to announce the charity focus of this year's holiday party, Inspiration Café, a nationally-recognized Chicago-based non-profit organization created to help hundreds of homeless and low-income individuals gain the skills needed to succeed in the workforce and increase self sufficiency.

The event will feature Inspiration Café's founder Lisa Nigro as a key speaker and a portion of the proceeds will go to her organization. Nigro founded Inspiration Café in Chicago in 1989 when she borrowed and filled her nephew's red wagon with coffee and sandwiches and offered it to homeless men and women in Chicago's uptown neighborhood. Over time, Nigro and other early supporters grew the Cafe beyond that red wagon, first turning a van into a kitchen on wheels and then converting a bus into a travelling café.

Today, Inspiration Café has gained national attention and has grown to serve 3,000 individuals a year by providing meals, supportive services, housing, employment preparation, vocational training, and free voice mail to homeless men and women, serving as a catalyst for self-reliance.

“We are honored to have been chosen as the charity focus and are excited to be part of this group of organizations coming together to benefit the world we live in,” said Nigro. “It is awesome to see local organizations helping the community, especially during these hard times, and we cannot thank NAWBO enough for their generosity.”

In addition to Lisa Nigro, *Michigan Avenue* magazine editor-in-chief Susanna Negovan is scheduled to address the group of accomplished women and share her story about running a major magazine as well her many achievements.

This year's NAWBO Rock & Shop the Kasbah Holiday Party will benefit Inspiration Café as well as feature various organizations participating as event vendors including non-profits such as, Purse of Hope (Juxtaposie), The Savvy Host, Stefenea Imports, and Five Accessories. Each of the non-profit vendors will benefit from the event by receiving a portion of proceeds from the wares that are sold.

“NAWBO is proud to support the community we live in,” said Angelika Coghlan, President of National Association of Women Business Owners. “We are always looking for new ways to help and Lisa Nigro's inspirational endeavor was a great cause that we could feel confident backing.”

This year's event will feature a silent auction, raffle prizes, and networking opportunities. Taking place at The Allerton Hotel, 701 North Michigan Avenue on December 3, 2009 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. the Rock & Shop the Kasbah Holiday Party is not an event to be missed. Tickets for the event are \$48.00 each for members and \$80.00 each for non-members, and include appetizers and an open bar. Tickets are available at [www.NAWBOChicago.org](http://www.NAWBOChicago.org) or by calling NAWBO Chicago at 312-609-1300.

**About the National Association of Women Business Owners--Chicago Area Chapter:**

Founded in 1978, the National Association of Women Business Owners--Chicago Area Chapter is dedicated to propelling women entrepreneurs into economic, social, and political spheres of power. With more than 600 members, the chapter is one of the largest National Association of Women Business Owners groups in the country.

###