

Judges Kearney and Simmons honored at the Women's Plaza of Honor

The Southern Arizona Chapter of the Arizona Women Lawyers Association (AWLA), April, honored 20 women whose names are inscribed in the Women Lawyers-Women Leaders Arch at the Women's Plaza of Honor located on the campus of the University of Arizona.

These trailblazing women were honored for being "firsts" in a category relating to the field of law in Arizona or for being women leaders in the legal field in Arizona. One side of the arch contains the names of judges and the other side contains the names of women attorneys.

Presiding Judge Jan Kearney and Judge Sally Simmons were among those honored and their names now are inscribed in the Women Lawyers-Women Leaders arch. Judge Kearney was honored for being the first female presiding judge of the Arizona Superior Court in Pima County. Judge Simmons was honored for being the first Pima County female lawyer to head the State Bar of Arizona. One of the superior court's former judges, Alice Truman, was also honored for being the first female elected justice of the peace in Pima County and the Arizona Superior Court in Pima County.

Honorees Judge Violet Lui-Frank and Patricia Green were also present at the reception. Judge Lui-Frank is the first female chief judge of the San Carlos Apache Tribal Court. Pat Green is the first female African-American from Southern Arizona on the State Bar of Arizona's board of governors.

Other women whose names appear on the arch include: retired U.S Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Gov. Janet Napolitano, a former U.S. Attorney for Arizona and state attorney general, Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Ruth McGregor, Arizona Supreme Court Vice Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch, 9th Circuit Presiding Appeals Court Judge



Hon. Jan Kearney and Hon. Sally Simmons pose by their names on the arch.

Mary Schroeder, Sarah Sorin, the first female admitted Arizona Bar and the Arizona female Arizona attorney admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, and Ambassador Hattie Babbitt.

Those honorees in attendance were presented with certificates recognizing each of them as an outstanding leader in law. The certificates included a beautiful color drawing of the Women's Plaza of Honor. Over a dozen law students have completed or are working on biographies of each of the women honored in the Women Lawyers-Women Leaders Arch. In the future, a kiosk in the plaza will be available to visitors to view these biographies. Information about AWLA will also be available at the kiosk and this information is presently available on the plaza's website at <http://www.Womensplaza.arizona.edu>.

Submitted by Jury Commissioner Kathy Brauer