

FWA 2008 Women of the Year Awards to Evelyn H. Lauder of The Estée Lauder Companies and Christine A. Poon of Johnson & Johnson

NEW YORK (January 24, 2008) -- The Financial Women's Association of New York (FWA) announced today that Evelyn H. Lauder, Senior Corporate Vice President of The Estée Lauder Companies and Founder and Chairman of The Breast Cancer Research Foundation, and Christine A. Poon, Johnson & Johnson Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors and Worldwide Chairman of the Pharmaceuticals Group, will be receiving the FWA 2008 Public/Nonprofit Sector and Private Sector Women of the Year Awards, to be presented at the FWA 2008 Annual Dinner on Wednesday, April 30th, 2008, at the Grand Hyatt New York. The FWA is the premier professional association for high achieving women in every sector of the financial world, with more than 1,000 members worldwide.

"The FWA Women of the Year Awards honor outstanding women from the public and private sectors for their achievements, leadership and professionalism," said Lily Klebanoff Blake, FWA President. "Evelyn Lauder and Christine Poon are each deeply committed to enhancing the lives of women and are role models for professional women across industry and globally."

Since 1985, the awards have been presented at the organization's Annual Dinner, the major fundraising event for the FWA Education Fund's nationally acclaimed scholarship, mentoring and summer training programs. Previous winners include Anne M. Mulcahy, Chairman and CEO, Xerox Corporation (2007), and Sharon Allen, Chairman of the board, Deloitte & Touche USA, LLP (2006), in the private sector; and Kathryn S. Fuller, Chairman of the board, Ford Foundation (2007), and Nancy Barry, President, Women's World Banking (2006), in the public sector.

The following summaries highlight the accomplishments and contributions of this year's honorees:

Public Sector Honoree: Evelyn H. Lauder's career straddles the public and private sectors, as Senior Corporate Vice President of The Estée Lauder Companies, and Founder and Chairman of The Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF). The FWA is honoring Lauder for her tireless work in the battle to defeat breast cancer. Lauder is passionately committed to funding breast cancer research, and to date, BCRF has raised over \$200 million to support clinical and genetic research at medical institutions across the globe. In 1989, Mrs. Lauder started the fundraising drive that established the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, the first ever breast and diagnostic center that has become a model for similar facilities around the world. In October 1992, she and Alexandra Penney, then editor of *Self* magazine, developed the pink ribbon, which has become the worldwide symbol of breast health. To date, The Estée Lauder Companies has distributed more than 75 million ribbons and informational brochures worldwide. In 1993, she turned her attention to helping the world's top medical and scientific researchers, and established The Breast Cancer Research Foundation. A talented and dedicated photographer and author of two photography books and one cookbook, Lauder donates all of her royalties to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation. In addition to her work supporting breast cancer, Lauder remains a vital force at The Estée Lauder Companies, which she joined shortly after her marriage to Leonard Lauder, now Chairman, more than 47 years ago. In 1999 and 2007, she was featured in *Crain's New York Business* magazine as one of New York's *100 Most Influential Women in Business*.

Private Sector Honoree: Christine Poon has always stood out, first as a member of one of the only Asian-American families in Cincinnati, where she grew up, and now as a corporate star, beginning at Bristol-Myers Squibb and, since 2000, at Johnson & Johnson, where she is Vice Chairman and a member of the Office of the Chairman. On the Johnson & Johnson Board of Directors and Executive Committee, she also has direct responsibility for the company's pharmaceuticals group. Poon's name appears – and continues to climb – on "Most Powerful Women" lists in publications such as *Fortune* and *Forbes*, and she was named one of the "80 Most

Inspiring Asian Americans of All Time” by *Gold Sea Asian American*. As a woman and an Asian-American, Poon brings a deep commitment to the value of diversity to her work. In a July 2003 cover story on her in *DiversityInc*, Poon was quoted as saying that “the experience of living in a very non-diverse world and growing up in a world where you are the only one so visibly different from everybody else” was an excellent preparation for the business world.

For more information about the Financial Women’s Association and its programs, please visit www.fwa.org. For more information about the 2008 FWA Annual Dinner, please contact **Jennifer Durst**, FWA Director of Development, 212-533-2141, jdurst@fwa.org. For media inquiries, please contact the FWA office at 212-533-2141 or fwaoffice@fwa.org.

About the FWA

Founded in 1956 by eight women on Wall Street looking to further their knowledge and professional network, the Financial Women’s Association is the premier professional association for high achieving women in every sector of the financial world, with more than 1,000 members worldwide. The FWA is dedicated to developing future leaders, enhancing the role of women in finance, and investing in the community. Each year, the FWA’s Annual Dinner raises money for its Educational Fund, which has funded 20-plus years of mentoring and scholarship programs, financial literacy for teens and economically-disadvantaged adults, and other programming for the business community.

In this vital work, we are fortunate to have the partnership of prestigious institutions, government agencies and talented individuals.