



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
DATE: March 30, 2016

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**MINER ANNOUNCES 2016 SYRACUSE WOMAN  
OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENT**

*Karen DeJarnette Serves as Chair of the Women’s Fund of Central New  
York*

*Miner: Karen Has Spent Her Life Empowering Women and Girls in the  
Syracuse Community*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner announced today the recipient of the 2016 Syracuse Woman of the Year will be Karen DeJarnette, Chair of the Women’s Fund of Central New York. Ms. DeJarnette will be presented the award during a ceremony on March 31 in the Atrium at City Hall Commons.

“Karen has spent her life empowering women in the Syracuse community and we are proud to recognize her efforts,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “From Chairing the Women’s Fund of Central New York to her work with the Junior Achievement of Central New York advisory board, she has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of women in our community. I thank her for her service and I am proud to present Karen with the 2016 Syracuse Woman of the Year Award.”

“Every day women in Syracuse see opportunities for change. Rather than sit back and wonder ‘what if’, they reach out to help others move forward. It is truly an honor to be among those empowered women who make an impact,” said **Karen DeJarnette**, the 2016 Syracuse Woman of the Year Award winner.

Karen DeJarnette has been a long-time advocate and activist in the community. She has served as a volunteer and member of the Women’s Fund of Central New York since 2010, and was elected to serve as the Chair in 2015. DeJarnette is a member of the Junior Achievement of Central New York Advisory Board. Karen also serves on the board of directors for the Partners for Education and Business, where she helps foster programs in STEM education for students and dislocated workers. In 2015, she welcomed National Women’s Hall of Fame CEO and author Jill Tietjen to



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Syracuse and toured various sites, bringing women to hear her speak at Hendricks Chapel, Clear Path for Veterans, and the WISE Women's Business Center. An advocate for the local workforce, Karen sits on Hope for Syracuse's Anti-Poverty Sub Committee for Economic Strategy.

Karen DeJarnette, Director of the Talent and Education Development Center at University College of Syracuse University, has been a long-time advocate and activist in the community both professionally and personally. Most recently at SU, DeJarnette has worked to develop multiple educational pathways for individuals to attain the skills they need to advance their careers.

The 2016 Syracuse Woman of the Year award ceremony will take place on Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Atrium at City Hall Commons. The public is welcome to attend.

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