



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**League of Women Voters of San Francisco**  
**“Women Who Could Be President” Award Honored Five Sensational Leaders**  
**Gala Reception held on February 12 at the SF City Club**

**San Francisco (February 14, 2008)** – In time for the 2008 presidential election year, the League of Women Voters of San Francisco revived its popular “Women Who Could Be President” award, honoring exceptional women who have demonstrated exemplary leadership and service in the community. Five honorees were celebrated at a gala reception, chaired by Chandra Friese and emceed by past honoree Cheryl Jennings of KGO-TV. The event was held on February 12 from 5:30 to 8 pm at San Francisco’s historic City Club and attended by over 250 League supporters, including several elected officials including State Senator Carol Migden and District Attorney Kamala Harris. The program included beautiful music featuring Bay Area soprano, Liz King. The date fell one week after California’s presidential primary, on President Lincoln’s birthday, and on the League of Women Voters’ 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

“This award champions women working in all aspects of civic life who have the will, drive, and vision to create better communities,” said Karen Clopton, president of the League of Women Voters of San Francisco. “It’s about celebrating the unique wisdom and perspective that women bring to the debate.”

The League of Women Voters of San Francisco selected five honorees for 2008:

- Elmy Bermejo, Deputy Undersecretary for Consumer Affairs and Chair of the California Women’s Foundation
- Kimberly Brandon, President, San Francisco Port Commission and senior VP with Morgan Stanley
- Clothilde Hewlett, Partner, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis
- Adrienne Pon, newly appointed Director of the San Francisco Mayor’s Office for Community Development and former CEO of Zeum

- Dr. Elisa Stephens, President, Academy of Art University

Funds raised by the gala reception benefit the League's voter education programs and other worthy services. The event's sponsors included Wells Fargo Bank, Comerica Bank, Guaranty Bank, ATT, PG&E, Southwest Airlines, the San Francisco Giants, and Morgan Stanley, raising almost \$100,000 for the League's important voter education work. Complete details about the reception and honorees, including biographies, are available at the League's website at [www.lwvsf.org](http://www.lwvsf.org).

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, multi-issue organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. It is an organization of women and men who want to make a difference in the political future of our communities.

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