



hartford region

For Immediate Release

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***IN THE COMPANY OF WOMEN LUNCHEON INSPIRES YOUNG WOMEN***  
**YWCA CREATING OPPORTUNITIES YOUTH SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**

Young women from the Hartford community will be attending YWCA Hartford Region's annual *In the Company of Women* luncheon as part of the Creating Opportunities, a youth sponsorship program. This unique opportunity exposes a diverse group of young women to the dynamics of women and philanthropy while fostering community involvement. The attendees will also be inspired by Keynote Speaker Michele Norris, award-winning broadcast journalist and host of NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Among the young women attending the event are participants from YWCA Hartford Region's Young Women's Leadership Corps (YWLC), an after-school program that gives young women the power to persevere both personally and academically. Participants will enjoy a special program, and will have their own guest speaker from the broadcast journalism field. In addition, a select group will tour The Courant/ Fox 61 studio prior to the event for an interactive broadcast journalism experience.

"The goal is to create a multi-strand experience that will create relevance around the featured speaker, Michele Norris, and her profession," said Deborah Ullman, CEO YWCA Hartford Region.

YWCA Hartford Region is dedicated to empowering women and provides programs and services to improve the lives of women and girls in the community. In its ninth year, YWLC provides participants with leadership skills so they can become productive leaders in their communities, schools and workplaces. Topics explored in the YWLC program include leadership, goal-setting, financial literacy, sexual decision making, college planning, and effective communication.

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Established in 1867, YWCA Hartford Region is the third oldest affiliate YWCA USA, a women's membership movement dedicated to **eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all**. YWCA Hartford Region provides programs and services in the greater Hartford area including child care, supportive housing, teen leadership development, racial justice awareness, financial literacy, and economic empowerment. For more information, visit [www.ywcahartford.org](http://www.ywcahartford.org).