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CHAMBER AWARDS REVOLUTIONARY BUSINESS CHAMPIONS OF 2017

MIAMI BEACH, FL (December 15, 2016) --- The Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) will host its annual Champions of Business Awards Luncheon sponsored by City National Bank on January 12, 2017 at 11:00 am at the Loews Miami Beach to recognize pillars of the business community.

At the event, Judith Rodin, former President of the Rockefeller Foundation, will present a keynote address and will receive the Champion of Sustainability Award; Paul Lowenthal, CEO of Southern Audio & Visual, will be receiving the Champion of Business Award; Sherry Kaplan Roberts, from South Beach Boutique Realty, will be honored with the James McDonnell Outstanding Board of Governor Award; Sheila Duffy-Lehrman, CEO of Tropic Survival Marketing & Advertising, will be awarded the Small Business of the Year Award; and there will be a Woman in Business award to be announced in the coming weeks.

Rodin was the president of The Rockefeller Foundation, one of the world's leading philanthropic organizations. She was previously president of the University of Pennsylvania, and provost of Yale University., Rodin recalibrated the Foundation's focus to meet the challenges of the 21st century and today it supports and shapes innovations to expand opportunity worldwide and build greater resilience by helping people, communities and institutions prepare for, withstand and emerge stronger from acute shocks and chronic stresses. The Foundation accomplishes these goals through work that advances health, revalues ecosystems, secures livelihoods, and transforms cities. A widely recognized international leader in academia, science, and development issues, Dr. Rodin has actively participated in influential global forums, including the World Economic Forum, the Council on Foreign Relations, Clinton Global Initiative, and the United Nations General Assembly. D

Southern Audio Visual is an outsourced provider of audio visual equipment and comprehensive support services and technicians, focused primarily on supporting and ensuring successful meetings, conferences, and events in the hospitality sector. Lowenthal has been with the Company since 1987, and it has been in his family since 1947. Before joining the Company, Paul was an auditor and tax consultant for the accounting firm Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand, from July 1983-1987. He is an active member of the Board of Governors for the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Board of Directors for Florida State University's National Board of Directors for the Seminole Boosters, Inc., the national fundraising arm of Florida State University, Camillus House, and Coral Gables Community Foundation.

Duffy- Lehrman is an award winning writer, producer and director for the last 25 years. The recipient of numerous awards including the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award, Emmy, Addy, Telly, her interesting and unique career has taken her from Capitol Hill to TV news and ultimately to advertising and marketing. Since 1995, Duffy-Lehrman has worked to establish Tropic Survival Advertising and

Marketing. From image to branding, retail to online marketing; Tropic is a full service agency with a broad client list and diverse capabilities. On the entrepreneurial front, Tropic Survival has created and launched CometAds, a groundbreaking cloud-based online advertising technology. Described by tech writers as “a genuine opportunity to brand a business that should be seriously considered,” CometAds became profitable within weeks of its Beta testing launch. Now she and her business partner have continued to build additional digital technologies, including YuVie, a patent-pending social media selfie APP.

Tickets are available starting at \$60 for pillar members, \$65 for members, and \$70 for guests who are not members. Presenting sponsors for the event include City National Bank and Atlantic Broadband. For more information, visit www.miamibeachchamber.com.

ABOUT THE MIAMI BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1921 to promote the economic well-being of Miami Beach's citizens, to improve the quality of life for the entire community, and to communicate the view of the business community on major issues of public policy.

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