



**100 women in
hedge funds®**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SONIA GARDNER, PRESIDENT, MANAGING PARTNER AND CO-FOUNDER OF AVENUE CAPITAL GROUP,
SELECTED TO RECEIVE THE 100 WOMEN IN HEDGE FUNDS' INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP AWARD AT THE 2008
NEW YORK GALA**

New York, NY – June 5, 2008 – 100 Women in Hedge Funds' Board of Directors has named Sonia Gardner, President and Co-Founder of Avenue Capital Group, to receive its 2008 Industry Leadership Award at its New York Gala on November 19, 2008.

The Industry Leadership Award recognizes an individual whose professional talent, ethics and passion help define and advance the hedge fund industry's standard of excellence. Past recipients include Jane Mendillo, Wellesley College (now Harvard Management Company); Gay Huey-Evans, Barclays Capital; Anne Dinning, D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P.; Ellen Schubert, UBS Investment Bank; Brenda Earl de Paola, formerly Zweig DiMenna; Elaine Crocker, Moore Capital; and Sandra Manzke, founder of Tremont Partners.

Announcing the decision, Mimi Drake, a Director of the Board of 100 Women in Hedge Funds, said, "We are so pleased to be honoring Sonia Gardner, whose combined achievements as a founder, partner and leader of a pioneering, pre-eminent alternative asset management firm are unique."

The award will be presented by Marc Lasry, Chairman, CEO and Co-Founder of Avenue Capital Group, who said, "Sonia is an incredibly smart, hardworking and dedicated person. She consistently adheres to the highest ethical standards and has required the same from those with whom we have worked in building Avenue over the years. As the firm's Managing Partner, she is known for being tough, but always fair, which is why the firm works as well as it does. She is a tremendous role model for women in our industry, and I am proud that she has been my partner for over 20 years."

Ms. Gardner is the President and Managing Partner of Avenue Capital Group where she oversees the management of the firm. Avenue Capital Group, which Ms. Gardner co-founded with her brother Marc Lasry in 1995, is a global investment management firm with approximately \$20 billion in assets under management. Avenue specializes in distressed debt investments, and has 12 offices worldwide. She is also a Co-Founder of Amroc Investments, LLC where she was a Senior Portfolio Manager responsible for investing the partners' capital. There she was active in the review and trading of the debt of hundreds of bankruptcies. Prior to operating Amroc as an independent entity, Ms. Gardner was a Senior Managing Director and General Counsel of Amroc Investments, L.P., the predecessor firm associated with the Robert Bass Group, Inc. Ms. Gardner received a B.A. with Honors in Philosophy from Clark University (1983) and a J.D. from the Cardozo School of Law (1986).

Ms. Gardner will accept the award at the 100 Women in Hedge Funds Gala in New York City on Wednesday, November 19, 2008. This year's theme for philanthropic activities is women's health and all the proceeds from the event will be given to The Harold P. Freeman Patient Navigation Institute at the Ralph Lauren Center for Cancer Care and Prevention. 100 Women in Hedge Funds' support will help the Ralph Lauren Center augment its existing Screening and Patient Navigation Programs in the areas of breast, cervical and colon cancer, and leverage its expertise to establish two Satellite Patient Navigation Programs in medically underserved communities in Chicago, IL, and in San Francisco/Oakland, CA.

To purchase tables, inquire about sponsorship opportunities or to make an auction donation for the **100 Women in Hedge Funds' Annual New York Gala** on November 19, 2008, contact:

Kristin Mott
NY Gala Chair
100 Women in Hedge Funds
E-mail: gala@100womeninhedgefunds.org

About 100 Women in Hedge Funds (www.100womeninhedgefunds.org)

100 Women in Hedge Funds serves over 8,000 alternative investment management investors and practitioners through unique educational, professional leverage and philanthropic initiatives. Since its first session in 2002, 100 Women in Hedge Funds has hosted more than 150 events globally, connected more than 150 senior women through Peer Advisory Councils and raised in excess of \$13 million for philanthropic causes in the areas of women's health, education and mentoring.

About The Ralph Lauren Center (www.ralphlaurencenter.org)

In May 2003, the Ralph Lauren Center opened its doors in the heart of Harlem to provide state-of-the-art cancer screening, diagnostic, and treatment programs. Made possible by a generous leadership gift from the Polo Ralph Lauren Corporation, the Center is a unique joint-venture between Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, one of the preeminent cancer centers in the country, and North General Hospital, a community hospital in Harlem. 100 Women in Hedge Funds' support will help the Ralph Lauren Center augment its existing Screening and Patient Navigation Programs in the areas of breast, cervical and colon cancer, and leverage its expertise to establish two Satellite Patient Navigation Programs in medically underserved communities in Chicago, IL, and in San Francisco/Oakland, CA.

100 Women in Hedge Funds Foundation

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