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## PRESS RELEASE

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# Three HERA Award Winners Named for 2013



2013 HERA Award Winners

Pictured from the left: Ophelia Nicholson; Virginia P. Lee; Sylvia Newman; Lois Scheib

Three more names have been added to the list of women honored for their community service by the Shreveport Mayor's Women's Commission.

The winners received their awards last night at a reception at the Randle T. Moore Center. The recognition is designed for "unsung heroines" whose visions and voices have improved the quality of life through their effective advocacy and leadership.

The honorees for 2013 are:

### **Lois Scheib – Advocacy**

The nomination letter described Scheib as "involved and passionate." She has been applauded for her community efforts ranging from registering people to vote to raising funds to provide meals for senior citizens. She spearheaded the League of Women's Voters: Conversation about Race," initiative and also devotes substantial time to supporting changes to improve early childhood education programs.



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### **Sylvia Newman – Education**

Newman has made numerous contributions to the PHP Heart and Hands Hope Program which provides reading, art and computer classes for single mothers. She also is involved in the Volunteers for Youth Justice Power of Choice program and the missions of her church, having founded the Brighter Beginning Program to inspire and educate 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Virginia P. Lee – Quality of Life**

Lee is committed to mentoring young, professional women and seeks to have a positive impact on the community by encouraging donations to non-profits such as Susan G. Komen, Dress for Success, Salvation Army and the Red Cross. As a certified administrative professional, she engages and motivates professional women to hold themselves to higher standards and step outside of their comfort zones to enhance their success.

Commissioners also elected new officers for the upcoming year. They are: MeGail D. Parsons, president; Marie Vazquez Morgan, vice president; Jackie Dozier, secretary; and Carolyn Spikes, treasurer.

The HERA Awards were instituted in 2008 under the leadership of Mayor Cedric Glover. Hera was the Greek goddess of women. HERA stands for Helpful, Responsible, Effective, Advocates.

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