

BRIDGE BUILDERS



Sentinel Voice photos by Isadore Washington

Geraldine Starkey, (right) a former CBS Recording Co. employee and seniors' volunteer, won the 1999 Rose Award. Pictured above, are some of the members of the Professional Black Women's Alliance, which gives out the awards.



14th Rose Awards honors women of color

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The Professional Black Women's 14 Annual Rose Awards, aptly themed "A Tribute to the Bridge Builders to the New Millenium" was an overwhelming success.

The mistress of ceremonies for the evening was Judge Johnnie Rawlinson.

Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson-Gates and Rose McKinney James introduced the 19 Role Models recognized for their contributions.

Sen. Richard Bryan, Congresswoman Shelly Berkeley and Judge Michael Douglas greeted each one.

President and founder Faye Duncan Daniel said, "The Professional Black Women's Alliance's mission is to honor women in our community that are achievers in all areas of life. These 'community-based' women are mothers, grandmothers, caretakers, church workers, volunteers, nursery school

teachers, and professional women in the business community; all are role models for our young people."

This year, 30 finalists were identified, and 19 were honored by PBWA on Saturday evening at Alexis Park as Rose Award Role Models.

Six Southern Nevada black women received the Rose Award. They were: Deborah Willis (Academic achievement), Barbara Jones (Economic/Business), Willie Mae Smith (Community), Ida Mae Gaines (Humanitarian), Jillian Williams (Outstanding Student), and Geraldine Starkey (Rose Award).



Western High junior Jillian Williams (middle) earned the Outstanding Student award. At right, Deborah Willis, principal at John F. Mendoza Elementary, earned honors in the Academic achievements category. Far right, standing between Sen. Richard Bryan and Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, D-Nev., is Ida Gaines, regional representative for Sen. Harry Reid and winner of the Community achievement award.



Pictured: Left, Willie Mae Smith, winner of Humanitarian Award (charity/social/family). Above, Barbara "Sugar Babe" Jones won the Economic Award.

