YWCA to honor 29 who promote diversity

Staff reports

Twenty-nine people will be honored with diversity achievers awards at the 12th annual YWCA Day of Commitment to Eliminate Racism and Promote Diversity Luncheon at noon April 21 at the Oncenter.

The keynote speaker will be Tara Ross, a history professor at Onondaga Community College.

Each year the YWCA invites corporations and organizations to nominate individuals in their organizations or communities for the awards.

Prior to the luncheon, diversity training workshops will be offered from 8:30 to 11:15 a.m. The cost is $50 for the workshops and luncheon, $40 for the luncheon only and $20 for the workshop only.

The award recipients are:

- **Dr. Keith A. Alford**, Syracuse University
- **Maxine Boney**, Sidney Johnson Vocational Center
- **Mia Burse**, Lockheed Martin Corp.
- **The Rev. Mary Cappa**, Abundant Life Christian Center
- **Nancy Connery**, Onondaga Community College
- **Dennis J. Connors**, Onondaga Historical Association Museum and Research Center
- **Derrick Dorsey**, InterFaith Works of Central New York
- **Rebecca Fuentes**, American Red Cross of Central New York
- **Diana Gerrish**, Lockheed Martin
- **Esther Gray**, Syracuse University
- **Dr. Eva Gregory**, Upstate Medical University
- **Geralyn Hall**, Upstate Medical University
- **Thomas H. Hunter**, Onondaga Historical Association Museum and Research Center
- **Gretchen Kinnell**, Child Care Solutions
- **Mark Muhammad**, Onondaga Community College
- **Duane Owens**, Anheuser-Busch
- **April Palozzola**, Onondaga Community College
- **Janet Park**, Onondaga County Public Library Mundy Branch
- **Louise Poindexter**, Partnership for Onondaga Creek/ Southwest Community Center
- **Kelly Robbins**, Lockheed Martin
- **Charles Simpson**, Upstate Medical University
- **Dr. David Smith**, Upstate Medical University
- **JoAnne Spoto Decker**, Onondaga County Department of Aging and Youth
- **Marilyn Spunar**, Carrier Corp.
- **Joanne Stevens**, Syracuse United Neighbors
- **Gregg Tripoli**, Onondaga Historical Association Museum and Research Center
- **Tanya Lin Hicks**, Upstate Medical University
- **Mary Wiles**, Anheuser-Busch
- **Deborah Willis**, American Red Cross of Central New York.