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## **OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST TO FEATURE "AN INTIMATE CONVERSATION WITH HOLLY RUSH"**

DALLAS, TX – February 9, 2015 – The Optical Women's Association's Champagne Breakfast will feature an Intimate Conversation with Luxottica's Holly Rush, facilitated by Washington Post Live editor, Lois Romano, on Thursday, March 19th, from 7:30 am to 9:00 am at the New York Marriott Marquis, Times Square.

Presented in a talk show format, Romano will engage in a dialogue with Rush on various themes including:

- If everyone is "leaning in," how do you stand out? Exploring authentic leadership
- From Ego Systems to Eco Systems...the world is ready for more women in leadership
- Breaking your own personal glass ceiling...being your own Chief Visionary!
- Women helping women...Why mentoring moves us all forward

Rush was named president of Luxottica Wholesale North America in January 2014. In her current role she oversees all aspects of the distribution network in Luxottica's largest eyewear market and represents some of the most recognizable brands in luxury, fashion and lifestyle such as Ray-Ban, Michael Kors and Chanel.

Holly has cultivated a successful career spanning more than 20 years in the consumer products industry, overseeing the growth and development of household name brands and commercial teams. Described as a passionate, people-focused, results-oriented leader, she is known as someone who balances visionary thinking with operational excellence. She is equally purposeful about creating the right conditions within organizations and teams that allow for true transformation and is committed to empowering and supporting the next generation of leaders, especially women.

Lois Romano is the new editor of Washington Post Live, the media organization's live journalism platform. She was most recently the editorial director of POLITICO's live journalism and was responsible for shaping the content and direction for the organization's 75 events, including its most ambitious national multi-platform series, ***Women Rule*** and ***What Works***. POLITICO took

this sponsored programming to a half dozen cities in 2014, featuring hundreds of newsmakers, hosting thousands of guests and engaging hundreds of thousands more, via live stream.

Before joining POLITICO, Lois was a longtime political reporter for The Washington Post's National staff. During her 25 year tenure, she profiled national leaders, covered politics, policy and business, and wrote a daily column. Her in-depth interviews—for both print and video—have included members of Congress, senior administration officials, presidential candidates and business executives, and have allowed her to develop wide contacts and long-standing relationships with leaders during five administrations. She has covered seven presidential campaigns.

The OWA Champagne Breakfast event honoring women leaders includes our Pleiades honoree, Maureen Cavanagh, President of the Vision Impact Institute, currently supported by Essilor, and our Pyxis honoree Amy Spiezio, Executive Editor of Eyecare Business. Both honorees will make short presentations on mentoring and giving back followed by a champagne toast in their honor.

Seating for this event will be limited and reservations are required. The OWA preferred rate for this event is \$35. The event is being sponsored by OWA Platinum Sponsor, Luxottica. Reserve online at [www.OpticalWomen.com/ChampagneBreakfast](http://www.OpticalWomen.com/ChampagneBreakfast) by Friday February 27th, 2015.

The OWA will also host their traditional Friday night party, the **OWA 2015 Annual Star Award Ceremony and Networking Event** for the award presentations of the 2015 Pleiades Award and Pyxis Award, on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Calvin Klein showroom at 654 Madison Avenue. All are welcome. This complimentary event is presented by OWA Platinum Sponsor, Marchon. RSVP online at [www.OpticalWomen.com/StarAwardCeremony](http://www.OpticalWomen.com/StarAwardCeremony) by Friday March 6th, 2015.

About the Optical Women's Association: The Optical Women's Association is a non-profit organization founded in September of 1997 with the mission of supporting and promoting the professional development of women in the optical industry. Projects and programs include the Connection Series, providing women in the optical industry with personal and professional growth opportunities; networking events at both Vision Expo East and West; and the annual Star Award Ceremony and Networking event, which recognizes and honors individuals who have made a significant difference for women in the optical industry.

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