



OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES  
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## Fact Sheet – Women and Children First Award

### History

On the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day on March 8, 2011, U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein Donald S. Beyer, Jr. inaugurated the Clara Mortensen Beyer "Women and Children First" Award which honors women leaders making a difference for women and girls.

The award is named after the Ambassador's grandmother, Clara Mortensen Beyer, who worked as the right hand of America's first woman Cabinet member, U.S. Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins. In later years, Beyer's grandmother traveled the world reviewing child labor conditions and helped write the child labor laws enacted in the United States.

### Previous recipients of the award:

2011 – Betty King, U.S. Ambassador to the UN

2012 – Ruth-Gaby Vermot-Mangold, co-chair 1000 PeaceWomen Across the Globe

### Award Ceremony:

The award ceremony takes place at a dinner marking the opening of the U.S. Embassy's bilateral women leaders conference, "Sister Republics: Building Bridges – *Committing to a Stronger Economy with Women's Leadership*" at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence on April 22, 2013.