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### **Elaine E. Bedel Honored with May Wright Sewall Leadership Award for 2015**

Earlier this month, the Indianapolis Propylaeum Historic Foundation presented the 2015 May Wright Sewall Leadership Award to Elaine E. Bedel, CFP<sup>®</sup>, CEO and president of Bedel Financial Consulting, Inc. The award recognizes outstanding women leaders of today who have contributed a significant portion of their lives toward the betterment of the Indianapolis community.

Bedel has served in a leadership role for diverse community organizations, including the Women's Fund of Central Indiana, Central Indiana Community Foundation, John H. Weidner Foundation, Goodwill Industries Foundation, Butler University School of Business, Rotary Club of Indianapolis, WFYI Foundation, Community Hospitals Foundation, Dress for Success and the Indiana University School of Nursing.

"I'm pleased to have been involved with local organizations that offer a broad scope of services to our community," Bedel said. "And I'm both honored and delighted to follow in the footsteps of other winners of the May Wright Sewall Leadership Award."

Colleagues, past and present, acknowledged Bedel's contributions to the community. Ralph Taylor, past president of the Rotary Club of Indianapolis; Joyce Irwin, president and CEO, Community Health Network Foundation; Kent Kramer, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana and others shared stories of how Bedel made a difference for their organizations.

The award's namesake, May Wright Sewall, a former one-room schoolhouse teacher, was a prominent leader in Indianapolis in the late 1800s. Her legacy spans education, the arts and civic responsibility. May founded, or was instrumental in the organization of, many local organizations and institutions for women (the Girl's Classical School of Indianapolis, the Propylaeum, The Indianapolis Council of Women, Inc. the Indianapolis Woman's Club) and helped launch the Art Association of Indianapolis, the forerunner of the Herron School of Art and the Indianapolis Museum of Art. She also founded the International Council of Women and worked closely with the National Woman Suffrage Association.

The Propylaeum Historic Foundation created the award in 2005 to call attention to the legacy of May Wright Sewall and the outstanding women who follow in her footsteps. Past recipients include Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, Rose Marie Pennington and Phyllis Geeslin.

Bedel Financial Consulting is a wealth management firm providing fee-only financial planning and investment management services for individuals, consulting services for corporate retirement plans and investment advisory for institutions and endowments. Bedel founded the firm, which has since grown to 18 employees, in 1989. Bedel Financial actively manages nearly \$1 billion in client investments.

For more information, visit [www.BedelFinancial.com](http://www.BedelFinancial.com).

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