



**DRESS FOR SUCCESS**<sup>®</sup>  
*Suits to Self-Sufficiency*

32 East 31<sup>st</sup> Street 7<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10016  
Tel 212.532.1922 Fax 212.684.9563  
[www.dressforsuccess.org](http://www.dressforsuccess.org)

**Media Contacts:**  
Erin Moran  
646-233-4954  
[erin@dressforsuccess.org](mailto:erin@dressforsuccess.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DRESS FOR SUCCESS ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS AT ANNUAL BREAKFAST**  
*Not-For-Profit Helps Disadvantaged Women Achieve Educational Goals with Support from AXA Equitable*

**NEW YORK – (October 13, 2010)** – Dress for Success Worldwide, an international not-for-profit organization that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women, today announced scholarship winners at its annual *Women in Business: Making Change* fundraising breakfast. Eight recipients will receive a total of \$15,000 through AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company's *Pursuit Beyond the Suit* scholarship program. The AXA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the company, funded the scholarships in support of "The AXA Equitable Connection: *Women, Wealth and Wisdom,*" a financial education and empowerment program for women.

"We are overjoyed at the generosity of AXA Equitable and the scholarship program," said Joi Gordon, CEO of Dress for Success Worldwide. *Pursuit Beyond the Suit* will provide much needed support to these worthy women who are dedicated to enriching their lives and, by extension, the lives of their families."

Dress for Success clients who completed the organization's Financial Literacy Program were eligible for the scholarships, which will provide funding to help them achieve their education and life enrichment goals. The scholarship winners are:

- Patricia Bethel, Cleveland
- Doris Chandler, Cleveland
- Sau Ling Chau, New York
- Benjoir Days, New York
- Gloria Lazzaro, Hudson County, NJ
- Veron Morgan, New York
- Jennifer Reese, Cleveland
- Jeanette Smith, Cleveland

Through the AXA Foundation and its national philanthropic program, AXA Achievement<sup>sm</sup>, AXA Equitable is one of the largest corporate sponsors of college scholarships. The company views the *Pursuit Beyond the Suit* scholarship as an extension of its commitment to helping people reach their goals.

*Suits to Self-Sufficiency*

“Through The AXA Equitable Connection, our company strives to provide women with the knowledge, tools and resources they need to help them take control of their finances and work toward a more financially secure future,” said Faith Frank, president of The AXA Foundation. “We partnered with Dress for Success to create the *Pursuit Beyond the Suit* scholarship because of our shared passion for women's financial education and empowerment.”

More than 200 leaders of various industries celebrated Dress for Success and the graduates of the Financial Literacy Program at *Women in Business: Making Change*. The annual breakfast recognizes the success of professional women and the programs of Dress for Success. BNY Mellon was honored for its contributions to Dress for Success. RBS was the Presenting Sponsor of the event.

#### About Dress for Success

Dress for Success is an international not-for-profit organization that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Since starting operations in 1997, Dress for Success has expanded to more than 100 cities in the U.S., Australia, Canada, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, the UK and the West Indies. To date, Dress for Success has helped more than 550,000 women work towards self-sufficiency. Visit [www.dressforsuccess.org](http://www.dressforsuccess.org) to learn more.

#### About AXA Equitable and The AXA Foundation

In business since 1859, AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company (NY, NY) is a leading financial protection company and one of the nation's premier providers of life insurance and annuity products, as well as investment products and services through its affiliates. The AXA Foundation directs AXA Equitable's philanthropic and volunteer activities, working to improve the quality of life in communities across the country where AXA has a presence. Since 2003, the AXA Foundation has awarded close to \$20 million in college scholarships through its multi-faceted flagship program, AXA Achievement<sup>sm</sup>, which provides resources that help make college possible: access and advice. Nearly 4,000 students, known as AXA Achievers, have received scholarships.

AXA Equitable, a subsidiary of AXA Financial, Inc., is part of the global AXA Group, a worldwide leader in financial protection strategies and wealth management. “AXA Group” refers to AXA, a French holding company for an international group of insurance and financial services companies together with its direct and indirect consolidated subsidiaries. For more information, visit [www.axa-equitable.com](http://www.axa-equitable.com).

# # #