

**THE CONNAUGHT GROUP LAUNCHES
“CARLISLE GIVES BACK” PROGRAM TO HONOR
GRADUATES OF THE YOUNG WOMEN’S
LEADERSHIP SCHOOL OF
EAST HARLEM**

*College Graduates to Receive Valuable Networking Insights
As well as a New Carlisle Collection Suit
As They Embark on Promising Careers*

What: The Connaught Group, a leading direct sales fashion company, announces plans to honor Young Women’s Leadership Network (YWLN) alumnae with the launch of “Carlisle Gives Back,” a networking power suit program on March 2. The event will be held at The Connaught Group’s exclusive Carlisle Collection penthouse showroom in NYC. Twenty-five college graduates, each alumnae of the YWLN’s first all-girls public school, The Young Women’s Leadership School of East Harlem, will attend the event. There, they will network with professional women and learn how to dress for success with the help of Carlisle.

“We are so proud of our alumnae who have graduated from college and have used education as a means of breaking the cycle of poverty. ‘Carlisle Gives Back’ is a wonderful program honoring these young women and will help them launch their careers on the right note and dressed for success!” says Ann Tisch, creator and founder of Young Women’s Leadership Network (YWLN). “It is very rewarding to have supportive partnerships with companies like The Connaught Group and 85 Broads.”

“We are a company that is all about empowering women to be all that they can be. As they prepare for their first job interviews, we are thrilled to share our networking insights and connections with these young women, along with the fantastic business suits, which we’ve donated. These graduates have worked hard and have taken a leap of faith in breaking away from the traditional education path. They are stronger, more confident women, thanks to the existence of the YWLN education system,” says Caroline Bowen, President of The Connaught Group and Carlisle Collection. “A ‘power suit’ for each of these young ladies is our way of saying congratulations and wishing them success as they pursue their career paths.”

“This is a perfect example of the power of strategic partnerships and collaboration between networks and great companies like Carlisle,” said Janet Hanson, CEO & Founder, 85 Broads.

Who: At the March 2nd event, the 25 graduates and alumnae from the Young Women’s Leadership School of East Harlem will meet and mingle with many professional women, including board members and executives from YWLN, The Connaught Group, and 85 Broads. The evening will focus on the art of networking. Attendees will hear from experts, including guest speaker and award-winning author Andrea Nierenberg, as well as from select members of the premiere women’s networking organization, 85 Broads.

Where: The Connaught Group’s penthouse **Carlisle Collection Showroom**
16 East 52nd Street, 16th floor
New York, NY

When: March 2, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Why: Young Women’s Leadership Network (YWLN) has paved the way for all-girls’ public education in the United States. Their first school, The Young Women’s Leadership School of East Harlem (TYWLS) was opened in 1996 and has graduated nine classes of students – 100% of all graduating seniors have been accepted to college. TYWLS continues to serve as a national model for single sex public education. The East Harlem School currently serves 430 girls in grades 6-12. It is the flagship school in YWLN’s network of five all-girls’ public schools, all located in NYC and Philadelphia. The East Harlem School has inspired many other schools and programs because of its framework for academic success and track record of yielding tremendous results. At TYWLS, all students are instilled with a sense of community, ethical principles and responsible decision-making skills. Students are expected to work hard, achieve academic goals, and go to college. All girls must apply to enter in the 6th or 9th grades.

YWLN is committed to providing urban public school students with choices and opportunities for a first rate education and a chance to break the cycle of poverty.

The graduates honored at today’s event all graduated from The Young Women’s Leadership School (TYWLS) of Harlem and graduated college in the years 2006-2009. TYWLS alumnae have gone on to graduate from a wide range of colleges

including Connecticut College, Gettysburg, Middlebury, NYU, Skidmore, SUNY, CUNY and many other colleges.

How: This is a closed event. However, reporters interested in speaking to attendees or attending are encouraged to contact Kathleen Lucente at 512 217-6352 or via email at klucente@connaughtgroup.com

About The Connaught Group:

Headquartered in New York City, The Connaught Group, Ltd. is a leader in designing and delivering direct sales high-end fashion combined with a superior personalized shopping experience for stylish, busy women. For over 28 years, Connaught has cultivated a reputation for creating exquisite clothing held to couture-level design standards with the Carlisle Collection, affiliated brand, Etcetera and now the Per Se line. To learn more visit: www.theconnaughtgroup.com

About 85 Broads:

85 Broads is global network community of 20,000 trailblazing women who want to leverage their best personal and professional relationships to create greater success for themselves and each other. For more information, visit www.85broads.com

About Young Women's Leadership Network:

Young Women's Leadership Network (YWLN) is a 501(c)3 organization that supports two programs to help low-income urban youth to break the cycle of poverty: The Young Women's Leadership Schools, a network of all-girls' public schools, and CollegeBound Initiative, a school-based college guidance program for coed and single-sex public schools. Both are highly successful in helping inner-city youth to reach their potential and to attend college. www.ywlnetwork.org