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UCSF Researcher to Receive Community Breast Cancer Research Award



(San Rafael, Calif.) – On Thursday, May 5, 2011, Dr. Zena Werb, professor and Vice-Chair of the Department of Anatomy, Biomedical Sciences Program and the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, will receive the **Community Breast Cancer Research Award** presented by Zero Breast Cancer at the 12th Annual Honor Thy Healer Awards Celebration. The **Community Breast Cancer Research Award** is presented to distinguished individuals who actively support and participate in community-based participatory research focusing on the causes of breast cancer.

Dr. Werb is recognized internationally for her fundamental discoveries about the molecular and cellular basis for both normal breast development and the role of the extracellular environment in the early stage development of breast cancer. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

As an example of her commitment to the community, she assumed a leadership role in translating the basic science research from the Bay Area Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Center into an educational toolkit called *The Breast Biologues: A biology dialogue about breast cancer and the environment*. The educational toolkit consists of an animated video and a comic book (in English and Spanish) being broadcast nationwide by the University of California Television (UCTV). It can be accessed online from the [Bay Area Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Center](#) and [Zero Breast Cancer](#) websites.

Zero Breast Cancer will honor Dr. Werb for her unique contributions to advancing the understanding of breast cancer and her commitment to educating the community about current scientific advances. These advances may one day explain why women develop breast cancer and how to prevent and control the biological course of this disease. The **Community Breast Cancer Research Award** will be presented to Dr. Werb and her team of collaborators, Mary Helen Barcellos-Hoff, PhD of New York University Langone School of Medicine and Paul Yaswen, PhD of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Other awards presented at the 12th Annual Honor Thy Healer Celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2011 include: Healing Professional Award, Leadership Award, Healing Partner Award, and the Francine Levien Activist Award. The evening begins with a reception at 6 pm, followed by dinner and the awards ceremony at 7 pm at the Mill Valley Community Center, 180 Camino Alto, in Mill Valley, California. The Honorary Chair is Cheryl Jennings, KGO-7 TV Emmy Award-winning newscaster.

Tickets are \$135 per person and may be obtained by calling (415) 507-1949. Proceeds from the event support the research, education and community outreach programs of Zero Breast Cancer.

Zero Breast Cancer is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding the causes of breast cancer through community participation in the research process. We focus on identifying environmental factors and the role they play in breast cancer at all stages of life and across generations. For more information, please visit www.zerobreastcancer.org

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