



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **KAREN CARTER CHOSEN ASPEN-RODEL FELLOW**

State Rep. Karen Carter has been chosen a founding member of the Aspen-Rodel Fellowship in Public Leadership which is a part of the Aspen Institute.

Last January, the Institute launched a major new initiative to identify and bring together a select bipartisan group of the nation's most promising young political leaders – the emerging stars of American politics – to engage in a serious consideration of the common values of western democracy and their relationship to the modern political world. Carter was one of only 24 young political leaders selected to be a member of the prestigious inaugural class.

The Aspen Institute said more than 1,400 business, professional, and political leaders were engaged to help choose the members of this first class of Aspen-Rodel Fellows. An advisory council made up of more than 50 of the nation's most respected and public figures including Mario Cuomo, Ann Richards, Jack Kemp, and John McCain helped single out the most talented and most thoughtful men and women in the new ranks of political leadership.

Upon their selection of Carter, the Institute said, "By every standard, from intellect to temperament, you stand out as among the very best of the best, and thus we are honored to invite you to consider becoming a part of this new program designed to both honor and elevate political leadership in the United States.

**(more)**

## **add one - Karen Carter**

This group will consider and discuss questions of citizenship, leadership, and democracy and will interact with foreign leaders in the Middle East and China in order to consider how developments in those parts of the world will affect the shaping of American policy. These discussions will be led by the Aspen Institute's corps of trained moderators as well as some of the nation's leading scholars.

The mission of this program is to enhance democracy by identifying and bringing together the nation's most promising young political leaders to explore, through study and conversation, the underlying values and principals of western democracy, the relationship between individuals and their community, and the responsibilities of public leadership; to support and inspire political leaders committed to sustaining the vision of a political system based on thoughtful and civil bipartisan dialogue; and to help America's brightest young leaders achieve their fullest potential in public service.

The new Aspen Institute-Rodel program is funded entirely by the Rodel Foundation. For more information about the program, please contact the Aspen Institute at (202)736-5823.

The Aspen Institute, founded in 1950, is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering enlightened leadership and open-minded dialogue.

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