

An elegant WNBA Award Ceremony

by Nancy Kelly

Best-selling author Amy Tan was the featured speaker at the Women's National Book Association's 2008 WNBA Award ceremony honoring Kathi Kamen Goldmark, held on November 8 at San Francisco's Century Club.

The biennial WNBA Award recognizes an American woman who has made extraordinary contributions to promoting literacy, freedom of expression, a love of reading, or women's careers in the world of books. Goldmark was honored for founding the Rock Bottom Remainers, a band of literary superstars who belt out "Wild Thing" and other rock staples to raise money for book-related causes. The Remainers have raised more than \$2 million, and Tan and Goldmark have shared a microphone as "Remainderettes" since the band's founding. Tan is better known as the author of such much-loved novels as *The Joy Luck Club* and *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. Other band members include Stephen King, Dave Barry, and Matt Groening.

Other featured speakers at the ceremony included Marcia Schroeder from the San Francisco Public Library; Effie Lee Morris, 1984 WNBA Award winner and founding president of the San Francisco chapter of WNBA; Joan Gelfand, national president of WNBA; and Mary Knippel, co-president of the San Francisco chapter. Laurie Beckelman, immediate past president of WNBA, presented the award citation to Kathi.

Special thanks to Vicki Weiland, hospitality chairperson, WNBA-SF, and her committee for their tireless efforts in helping to make the 2008 ceremony such a festive, elegant, and memorable occasion for all of us.



Mary Knippel, San Francisco chapter co-president, welcomes Kathi Kamen Goldmark with a corsage.



From left to right: Former WNBA National President Laurie Beckelman, novelist Amy Tan, WNBA Award winner Kathi Kamen Goldmark, WNBA Award Chair Nancy Kelly, and WNBA National President Joan Gelfand.

WNBA is a national organization of women and men who work with and value books. WNBA exists to promote reading and to support the role of women in the community of the book. *The Bookwoman* is the publication of the Women's National Book Association.



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*From L to R:
Mary Knippel
with Amy Tan
and Kathi Kamen
Goldmark.*

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