

## 2010 Out & Equal Workplace Summit

October 5–8 in Los Angeles



### Women's Leadership Luncheon

Wednesday, October 6

1:00 – 2:30pm



### Ilene Chaiken

Ilene Chaiken has accomplished extraordinary range and versatility throughout her career as a writer and producer working in film and television. With a penchant for storytelling and a passion for her community, Chaiken has been a pioneer in the portrayal of lesbians on television. She has worked openly as a lesbian in Hollywood for over 25 years and is internationally known for her creation of the groundbreaking series, “The L Word.”

Frustrated that her own community was starved for visual representation, Chaiken came up with the idea for “The L Word,” about a tight-knit group of lesbian friends living in Los Angeles. The show debuted January 18, 2004, and with six seasons on the air, “The L Word” grew into a cultural phenomenon. Chaiken made her directorial debut in the Season 2 finale episode, “Lacuna,” and has continued to direct episodes of the series. Since the creation and subsequent success of “The L Word,” Chaiken has been recognized as one of Power Up’s Top 10 Lesbians in Hollywood and as one of OUT magazine’s 100 most powerful gay people in Hollywood. In March 2006, *The L Word: Welcome to Our Planet* was published by Simon & Schuster, with excerpts throughout the book by Chaiken.

In January 2007, Chaiken and a small group of prominent women from the entertainment and technology worlds launched OurChart.com, a full-featured social network on the Web for lesbians and their friends. The site continues to grow, with traffic being over half-million strong and new initiatives underway.