

Jan Jones Blackhurst

Jan Jones Blackhurst is Executive Vice President of Communications and Government Relations and Corporate Responsibility (environmental, social, and economic impact) for Caesars Entertainment, Corp. In that capacity, she oversees all worldwide government affairs, corporate communications, community relations and corporate-social responsibility programs for the \$9 billion corporation. Those programs include Caesars industry-leading responsible-gaming systems and its various initiatives aimed at enhancing diversity and promoting environmental stewardship companywide.

Prior to joining Caesars in November 1999, Jones Blackhurst served two terms as Mayor of the City of Las Vegas. She was the city's first woman chief executive, and among the most popular mayors in its history, having won reelection in 1995 by a 72 percent margin. While in office, Jones Blackhurst presided over an unprecedented period of economic, social and cultural expansion, one in which the city's population increased 66 percent, making Las Vegas the fastest-growing major metropolitan area in America throughout much of the 1990s.

As mayor, Jones Blackhurst spearheaded a massive growth and redevelopment effort in the city's once-neglected downtown neighborhood. She played a pivotal role in conceiving, and promoting investment in, the \$70 million Fremont Street Experience; she also worked to secure a new County and Government Center, a \$170 million regional Justice Center, a \$90 million Federal Courthouse, and numerous other capital projects. Her focus on building cooperative, mutually beneficial public/private sector partnerships led *Inc.* magazine to name Las Vegas the No. 1 city in the country for entrepreneurs, while *Fortune* ranked the city second in the nation on its list of Best Places in America in which to do business.

Jones Blackhurst is the former Chairwoman of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, and former Nevada State National Committeewoman for the Democratic National Committee. She has also served on the board of directors or board of trustees of several prominent businesses, civic and charitable organizations, including the Nevada Resorts Association, the National Conference for Community and Justice, and the National Judicial College.

Today, she is a member of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Women's Leadership Board at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She sits on the board of directors of Nevada Public Radio, the Women's Campaign Fund in Washington, D.C., and is a member of the Gaming Law Advisory Board at the UNLV Boyd School of Law. She is also a member of the Human Rights Campaign's Federal Club and of Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood. In 2012 she was appointed the Vice-Chair of the Clark County Public Education Foundation.

In 2011, Jones Blackhurst was the first woman to be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award in Gaming Communications by the American Gaming Association. She was also honored by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada as a mentor and leader in Las Vegas and honored by the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Nevada for the ATHENA International Award for leadership. In 2012 Jones Blackhurst received the Americanism Award from the Anti-Defamation League in recognition of her outstanding leadership, dedication to diversity, and commitment to her community. In 2013, Jan was awarded the Free Enterprise Award by the Nevada Taxpayers Association, Employers Association of Southern Nevada, and the Metro

Chamber as a distinguished community leader who has made a significant and lasting impact on the Southern Nevada economy. She also received the William Andrews Clark – Lifetime Achievement Award honoring her extraordinary distinction in lifetime success and a tribute to Jan's years of commitment, dedication, and service to the Southern Nevada community. In 2014 Jan was inducted into the American Gaming Association's Gaming Hall of Fame, an honor held by only a few women and in 2015 Jan received the highly regarded National Award from PR News as the CSR Professional of the Year.

Jones Blackhurst graduated from Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in English.