Jan L. Jones

Jan L. Jones is Senior Vice President of Communications and Government Relations for Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. 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 Harrah’s industry-leading responsible-gaming systems and its various initiatives aimed at enhancing diversity and promoting environmental stewardship companywide.

Prior to joining Harrah’s in November 1999, Jones 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 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 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 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 business, civic and charitable organizations, including the Nevada Resorts Association, the National Conference for Community and Justice, and the National Judicial College.

Today, she is Regional Vice Chair of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Executive Committee 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 the Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund. She is also a member of the Human Rights Campaign’s Federal Club and of Nevada Advocates for Planned Parenthood.

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