The Delaware Bankers Association and The Delaware Financial Education Alliance present

Women Connect! Engage, Empower, and Network!

April 25, 2024 - Wilmington, DE



Women Connect!

April 25, 2024 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wilmington University Brandywine Campus

Engage, Empower, Network

7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration/Networking Breakfast/Vendor Showcase

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Philanthropy Ages and Stages

Ages and Stages in Philanthropy session is designed to highlight how we can strategically give back to our community at any stage of our lives. Our panelists will show the audience what philanthropy may look like at the beginning of their careers, at the pinnacle of career & family growth and at the transitional stage of careers into retirement.

> Moderator: Rebecca Elzey, Senior Compliance & Operations Officer Delaware Community Foundation Badia Weeks, Founder & CEO, Your Wellness Homegirl Tara Bolinski, Senior Trust Administrator, Santora CPA Group Lynne Howard, Independent Philanthropist



To discuss your client's specific situation, contact our team at cstcd@schwab.com or 1-800-745-7721.

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10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Interactive Networking Break/ Vendor Showcase

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Women in Business

This session will explore the personal stories of local women in business at the top of their game. Learn from this panel of successful entrepreneurs as they discuss their own personal challenges and successes while navigating life stressors and finding joy and happiness through their passions.

Alexis Harris, Founder & Strategist, First State Destinations Kaisha Blackston, Producer & Co-Founder, BASSic Black Entertainment, LLC Elizabeth Sanchez, Founder & Holistic Healer, Magnificent Mamas Collective

12:00 noon Special Remarks from Dr. LaVerne Harmon, President of Wilmington University

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Vendor Showcase

Mary Kay | La Nunery Apothecary | Linked by LaBelle | Loveleigh, Nothing Bundt Cake | The Flower Place | Bloom Planners Fund for Women | American Heart Association | Roofs from the Heart Wilmington University



Philanthropy Speakers



Rebecca Elzey, Senior Compliance & Operations Officer, Delaware Community Foundation

Rebecca Elzey brings more than two decades of non-profit compliance, operations, development and marketing experience to the DCF, where she currently serves as Sr. Compliance and Operations Officer. At DCF she is focused on leading critical thinking, technical and management initiatives to best steward the organization's charitable funds and maximize its knowledge-based tools for the betterment of the community. Rebecca is a lifelong Delawarean and a graduate of Wilmington University. She earned her Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy® designation from The

American College of Financial Services.

Tara Bolinski, Senior Trust Administrator, Santora CPA Group



Tara Bolinski is a Senior Trust Administrator at Santora CPA Group, in Newark, Delaware and has worked in trust administration for the past 9 years. Tara is a Certified Trust and Fiduciary Advisor (CTFA) and is currently working toward obtaining the Accredited Estate Planner (AEP) designation. In her past life, Tara worked for a non-profit in Philadelphia, coordinating services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Since changing careers Tara has been driven to find balance between work, family and giving back to the community. Tara is currently a Brandywine

Valley Hemophilia Foundation board member and recently coordinated a fundraising 5k event that earned over \$30,000 for the all-volunteer run foundation.



Badia Weeks, CEO, Your Wellness Homegirl

Becoming Your Wellness Homegirl has been a lifelong journey for Dia. With a degree in Exercise and Sport Science from Temple University, Badia unlocked her passion for helping others achieve physical wellness. Having been coaching, training, and teaching since 2016, she realized it was impossible to get someone to push themselves physically if they were struggling with other aspects of life. This is when she realized that others needed someone who could holistically approach improving quality of life and Your Wellness Homegirl was born. Badia is also the Director of Aquatics

at Fitness Alive — Philadelphia's premier swim school and fitness-based company. She enjoys giving back to her community in ways such as serving as the youth + young adults leader at her church, mentoring young women, supporting scholarship programs, and supporting others to do the same.



Lynne Howard

Lynne Howard served in a leadership capacity in the government and non-profit sectors in Delaware for over 30 years. A graduate of Spelman College and the George Washington University, her professional career included leadership roles in the administrations of former Governor Tom Carper, former New Castle County Executive Chris Coons and former City Council President Ted Blunt. Lynne retired as CEO of Lynne Howard Consulting, where she focused on promoting educational excellence for underserved populations through managing the expansion of the

Kuumba Academy Charter School, and worked with the Christina Cultural Arts Center in moving toward the vision of creating a world class system of education in the City of Wilmington.

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Women in Business Speakers



Kaisha Blackstone, Producer & Co-Founder, BASSic Black Entertainment, LLC

Kaisha Askins Blackstone has been a touring background singer for Billboard topping artists and is an accomplished businesswomen specializing in music and media publishing, branding, and finance in the music business. In 2009 Blackstone partnered with her husband, to start BASSic Black Entertainment, LLC, a full music service company that provides live music production, connecting artists and musicians, and studio production. Under the same moniker, they launched BBE Records in 2013. In 2020, Kaisha established The Youth Creative Initiative (501c3). She currently

sits on the executive board of the Recording Academy (Grammys) Philadelphia Chapter and has served as an ambassador on their National Diversity, Equality & Inclusion committee.



Alexis Harris, Founder & Strategist, First State Destinations

Alexis Harris, the visionary founder of Simpli Solutions LLC, is a dynamic force in Digital/Social Media Marketing, Business Development & Strategy, and Market Research Services. With a passion for innovation and a steadfast commitment to diversity, Alexis adeptly connects businesses with their target audience, propelling global brands to new heights. As the creative mind behind First State Destinations, Alexis leads a pioneering movement in Delaware-based Travel, Lifestyle, and Entertainment Content, leveraging innovative strategies to cultivate a vibrant online community

that drives both online engagement and meaningful offline interactions. Alexis embodies the entrepreneurial spirit, consistently bridging the gap between brands and audiences while fostering engagement, empowerment, and enduring value.



Elizabeth Sanchez, Founder & Holistic Healer, Magnificent Mamas Collective

Elizabeth Sanchez is a passionate holistic life coach, Reiki Master Teacher, and the driving force behind the transformative Magnificent Mamas Collective. With an extensive career spanning over three decades, Elizabeth has dedicated herself to empowering clients on their journey towards holistic well-being. Her mission is to instill inner peace, confidence, and overall wellness in those she serves. At the Magnificent Mamas Collective, Elizabeth holds the pivotal role of Director of Holistic Health and Wellness. Here, she spearheads collaborative programs designed

to address the entirety of an individual's being, catering to their physical, mental, and spiritual needs. Through this holistic approach, Elizabeth and her team strive to bring about profound healing, health, and vitality to those seeking greater well-being.



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Whether you're looking to protect and grow your assets for future generations, succeed in your business ventures, or prepare for the unexpected, Wilmington Trust is here to help guide you through life's transitions.

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Delaware Bankers Association Upcoming Events

May 9 DBA Annual Meeting & Dinner duPont Country Club

May 14 Breaking Bad Writing Habits with Linda Comferford Online Seminar

> **July 17** ABAs Women Lead Symposium Virtual Event

October 28 -29 Delaware Trust Conference

November 8 Women Connect Sussex Network

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