

# THE SOCIETY PAGES

Bi-Monthly Newsletter for Supporters of The Society of Professional Women



On Thursday, June 10, The Society of Professional Women featured Author and Serial Entrepreneur Sherry Stewart Deutchmann who provided a path to success through making conscious choices to delegate work and collaborate with colleagues.

**“Having more women in company boards, in senior management, supervisory positions and workers in the formal sector is not only the right thing to do, but the smart thing to do. It’s good for the bottom line.” ~ Michelle Bachelet**



As calls for diversity in all aspects of business have increased in recent years, boards of directors are no exception. Many professionals navigate their way into nonprofit board service roles that enhance their professional development and leadership skills. Those with the right experience can secure paid board of directors’ roles with private and public companies that are increasingly being measured for gender and racial diversity. But who gets these coveted seats and how?

The Society of Professional Women is teaming up with the Forum of Executive Women and Drexel University Directors’ Academy for a panel discussion that will enhance knowledge about effective nonprofit board service while lifting the veil on the lucrative world of compensated board opportunities on Wednesday, July 21st.

According to the [PWC Annual Corporate Directors Survey](#) findings, “More than four out of five directors (84%) agree that companies should be doing more to promote gender and racial diversity in the workplace. But while incentive plans can be an effective way to encourage action, only 39% of directors support including diversity and inclusion goals in company pay plans.”

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## Connect With Us



## Director MESSAGE

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SPW's vision aligns with the Forum in seeking to create greater balance in leadership by increasing the number of women in power throughout business, non-profit and government sectors. This includes their contributions as board directors. We are looking forward to bringing this program to our members with the help of an esteemed panel and encourage you to join us for our next live virtual event on Wednesday, July 21st, "Journey to the Boardroom." Register today at [spwmainline.com](http://spwmainline.com).

If you'd like to become more involved with the Society of Professional Women or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [nstephenson@mlcc.org](mailto:nstephenson@mlcc.org).

Sincerely,



Nicole Stephenson  
Director, Society of Professional Women (SPW)  
The Main Line Chamber of Commerce  
[nstephenson@mlcc.org](mailto:nstephenson@mlcc.org)

## Featured EVENT

### Trademark

#### The Power of NO: Why Saying Yes is Keeping You From Being More Successful Thursday, June 10, 2021



Sherry Stewart Deutchmann also covered the topic of how to delegate tasks once they have already been taken on in a way that does not diminish credibility.



Family Support Line Executive Director Sarah Gibbons, MSS, MLSP spoke of the nonprofits mission and how its community has been impacted by the pandemic.



Brinker Simpson Founder and Managing Partner Bob Simpson introduced Family Support Line and expressed his gratitude at being able to work with the nonprofit.

### Featured Nonprofit: Family Support Line

[View this event recording](#) 

## Recent EVENT

### Live Virtual Conversation

#### Ready, Set BLAZE! Reigniting Your Passion During Times of Uncertainty Thursday, May 20, 2021



Professional "Fire Starter" and Entrepreneur Mazda T. Miles asked attendees what motivates them and shared how to inspire individuals to do the work.



Saint Joseph's Senior Director of Marketing Colleen Sabatino provided a few words about the university and introduced the event's speaker.



Each virtual SPW event features a breakout room after the keynote presentation where guests have the opportunity to network and go over key learnings from the speaker.

[View this event recording](#) 

## Fun FACTS

### Striking 2021 Entrepreneurship Stats and Facts Capital Counselor

- There are over 31.7 million small businesses in the US.
- Small businesses have a much higher employee turnover rate than larger companies.
- \$69,357 is the average annual salary for small business owners.
- 12% of business owners have only a high school diploma.
- 20% of small businesses fail during their first year.
- The best place to start a business in the US is Austin, Texas.
- 44% of business owners belong to Generation X.
- 40% of all businesses in the US are women-owned.
- The COVID-19 pandemic closed the door to a staggering 31% of small businesses.
- Online retailers have experienced a real renaissance during the pandemic.

[Learn more](#) 

## Fidelity Investments Employees Support the Community During the Pandemic

The pandemic has impacted how we all give back to the communities around us, but it certainly didn't stop Fidelity Investment's Investor Center network of branches! Fidelity associates donated nearly \$10,000 in food items for families across the country during the first quarter of the year. This was orchestrated by Aspire, the black and Latino employee resource group at Fidelity. The teams created a virtual food drive that was deemed "The Food Fight" as 3 regions competed to raise the most food possible. This amounted to over 35,000 food items (totalling 32,000 pounds of food) bringing more than 26,000 meals to hungry families in Fidelity's regions in partnership with YouGiveGoods.

Here in the Greater Philadelphia area, this initiative raised close to 2,000 items averaging 1,800 meals for local families. All six of Fidelity's Investor Center teams participated: Wilmington, DE; Marlton, NJ; King of Prussia; Warminster; Center Valley; and Philadelphia, PA.

**Fidelity Investments**  
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 FINANCIAL SERVICES



## MCCC Named One of the 'Most Promising Places to Work in Community Colleges' in the Nation for Sixth Consecutive Year

For the sixth year in a row, Montgomery County Community College (MCCC) is recognized nationally for its exceptional commitment to cultivating a diverse, inclusive and supportive workplace and learning environment.

"Diverse: Issues In Higher Education" and the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) have again named MCCC as one of the Most Promising Places to Work in Community Colleges across the country.

With a focus on workplace diversity, staffing practices and work environment, the Diverse and NISOD research team uses a web-based survey approach to examine categories such as family friendliness, salary/benefits and professional development opportunities, to name a few, in its selection process.

MCCC shares this award with only 15 other community/technical colleges in the United States and is the only community college to earn this recognition for six consecutive years.

"This national award recognizes the College's longstanding commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion," said Dr. Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, MCCC President. "I'm proud of the steadfast, collective efforts of our Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and administrators and the work they have done to make everyone feel welcomed, respected, valued, and heard on our campuses."

Because of its strong commitment, MCCC was one of 10 colleges in the country selected to participate in the Achieving the Dream and the University of Southern California Race and Equity Center Racial Equity Leadership Academy for 2021.

Representatives from each college are actively participating in a year-long program to develop a strategic racial equity plan to implement actionable solutions at their respective institutions.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

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**JOURNEY TO THE BOARDROOM**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FORUM OF EXECUTIVE WOMEN**

**Wednesday, July 21, 2021**



**MODERATOR**  
PWC  
Office Managing  
Partner and Forum  
Member, Deanna Byrne



Drexel University  
Gupta Governance  
Institute  
Interim Director,  
Alyssa Abbott



The Forum of Executive  
Women Member,  
Vice Chair, Women in  
Leadership,  
Melissa Ludwig



Children's Scholarship  
Fund Philadelphia  
Executive Director and  
Forum Member,  
Keisha Jordan

As calls for diversity in all aspects of business have increased in recent years, Boards of Directors are no exception. Many professionals navigate their way into nonprofit board service roles that enhance their professional development and leadership skills. The Society of Professional Women is teaming up with the Forum of Executive Women and Drexel University Directors' Academy for a panel discussion that will enlighten attendees on the value of nonprofit board service at the highest levels while lifting the veil on the lucrative world of compensated board opportunities.

10am - 11:30am | Zoom Video Conferencing



**INCLUSIVITY IN ACTION: HOW TO BECOME A CHAMPION FOR EQUITY IN THE WORKPLACE**

**Wednesday, September 22, 2021**

**Dr. Brandi M. Baldwin, PhD** *CEO, Millennial Ventures Holdings*

Dr. Brandi Baldwin, author of the book, *Authentic Ally: A Guilt-Free Guide to Becoming an Ally for Racial Equity*, and founder of the Calling All Allies Project; will share insights on how professionals can elevate their impact by adopting an "allyship" mindset and a cultural competency approach to their leadership style. Attendees will walk away with a deeper understanding around cultural and generational differences and how to show up as inclusivity champions in the workplace.

12pm - 1:30pm | Zoom Video Conferencing | Featured Nonprofit: Girls With Grit

**Saint Joseph's University**

**Saint Joseph's and USciences Expand Opportunities for Students With Historic Merger**

By offering a liberal arts core and degrees, along with comprehensive in-demand professional programs, the combined University will prepare today's students for tomorrow's world..

[Link to full article here](#)



**PECO**

**PECO and The Precisionists, Inc. Celebrate Neurodiverse Employment Partnership**

PECO, an energy utility company and part of the Exelon family of operating companies is set to complete its first pilot program with The Precisionists (TPI), a Wilmington, DE-based organization focused on employment for adults with disabilities.

[Link to full article here](#)



**Vertex, Inc.**

**Vertex Strengthens Partnership with Alfa for Indirect Tax Compliance**

Alfa Start, built exclusively for auto leasing operations of all sizes, is the preconfigured edition of the cloud-based Alfa Systems, the market leader in asset finance software worldwide. This extends Vertex's partnership with Alfa, a best-in-class technology provider that powers some of the world's biggest names in automotive finance.

[Link to full article here](#)

*Celebration of* **BUSINESS LEADERSHIP**  
**2021**

**JUNE 24, 2021**  
10:30AM-12PM  
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VILLANOVA, PA

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The Main Line Chamber of Commerce™

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