



For Immediate Release: 11/2/2023

Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance

Contact: Emma Godfrey

(859) 219-3532

www.afwa.org

AFWA Presents the 2023 Women Who Count Conference & Signature Event in Reno, NV

Lexington, KY (October 25-27,2023): The Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA) hosted the 2023 Annual Women Who Count Conference & Signature Awards Event which was held at the Peppermill Resort Spa & Casino in Reno, NV from October 25-27. The event is an opportunity to unite and celebrate the women in the accounting and financial professional fields on a national level. The professionals had the opportunity to receive up to 21-25 CPE credits while attending 33 educational sessions. With over 40 speakers, 3 keynote sessions and 21 exhibiting companies the professionals received a wide range of educational knowledge and impressive networking options.

“I encourage you to be part of this transformative experience. Embrace the inspiration, the camaraderie, and the unwavering belief in your capabilities. The Annual AFWA Women Who Count Conference is not just an event; it's a declaration of our commitment to excellence, our unity, and the unshakable belief that together, as women who count, we can achieve anything.” Says Grace Staten, President of AFWA.

AFWA presented a Panel Discussion Session with DEI (Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion) on “DEI is Not Dead- How to Transform the Narrative, Galvanize Commitment & Communicate Benefits for All.” The DEI Panel Discussion was lead by Moderator, Bonnie Buol Ruszczyk, The MOVE Project and joined by panelists Melinda Colaizzi, Founder of Women Who Rock, Micheal Annichine, CEO of Magee Women's Health Research Institute, and Twana Howard with Georgia Pacific.

The 2023 Women Who Count Conference also hosted the second Annual Signature Event and Awards. The Signature Event is a formal dinner to honor Women Who Count Award recipients, Chapter Achievement recipients, and other leaders within our organization. The categories of the evening included:

Emerging Leader Award; Kimberly Pace

Excellent Student Award; Natalie Starkey

Industry Professional Award; Olivia Brinker

Public Practice Award; Kelly Salter

Small Business Award; Wendi Hall, Foundation Chair of AFWA

Academic Award; Liesel Mitchell

AFWA Leadership Award; Christie Jordan

Membership – Chicago Chapter

Communications – Chattanooga Chapter

Programming –Illinois State University Chapter

Scholarship – Denver Chapter

Public Services – Philadelphia Chapter

President’s Award; Grace Staten, current National President of AFWA

AFWA released the MOVE Project Names of best firms for women equity leadership for 2023. AFWA released its two annual lists of CPA firms that distinguished themselves in their commitment to the advancement of women, based on the results of the Accounting MOVE Project. The Best Firms for Women list celebrates employers who have an equitable number of women at most or all levels of management, while the Best Firms for Equity Leadership list recognizes firms with at least 30% women as partners and principals.

###

About AFWA and AFWA Foundation, the mission of the Accounting & Financial Women’s Alliance is to enable women in all accounting and finance fields to achieve their full potential and to contribute to their profession. Founded in 1938 to increase the opportunities for women in all fields of accounting and finance, members of the Accounting & Financial Women’s Alliance and their companies benefit from resources that accelerate their professional growth. The industry has evolved enormously for women in the past 83 years, with our organization smartly and passionately evolving with it, ahead of the curve, so that all women in accounting and finance can excel. The foundation mission, through stewardship, The Foundation promotes and advances women in accounting and finance by cultivating relationships, securing contributions, and providing scholarships for education and career development.

www.afwa.org

AFWA & AFWA Foundation

2365 Harrodsburg Rd., Suite A325, Lexington, KY 40504