

The Florida Diversity Council hosts the 4th Annual Women's Conference at Nova Southeastern University



Fort Lauderdale - Davie, FL, - March 14, 2014 —The 4th Annual Florida Women's Conference was held on March 7th at the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business at Nova Southeastern University Fort Lauderdale-Davie Campus. Over 180 exceptional women from across Florida joined forces with the South Florida Diversity Council to honor and inspire each other.

"I believe it behooves organizations, and in particular the leaders of organizations, to look past their limits. The Florida Women's Conferences offers an opportunity to observe, learn, network, and hear different perspectives from a diverse mix of executives who have made the climb up the "corporate ladder" and experts who wish to share insights into the personal and professional challenges faced while successfully rising to the top in their respective organizations," said Dennis Kennedy, Founder & CEO of the National Diversity Council.

Breakout sessions that were designed to inform such as "Shattering the Glass Ceiling: Strategies to Redefine Power and Lead with Intention", "Succeeding at Work and Life, 24/7" and others were essential tools used to provide a successful conference that reflected the caliber of the attendees.

Thirteen Glass Ceiling awards were also presented during the conference to those who climbed to the top in their respective organizations by working diligently and ethically. The Glass Ceiling award is given to those who demonstrate leadership excellence, exhibit positive influence on those under their leadership and display ethical standards.

The 2014 Glass Ceiling Award recipients were:

Amparo Bared - VP, Talent Management, Ryder System, Inc.

Lorrie Candiotti - EVP & COO, Pacific National Bank

Mei-Mei Chan - President & Publisher, The News-Press Media Group; Florida Regional President, Gannett East Group

Valerie Fulbright - VP, Talent & Total Rewards, GTE Financial

Dineen Garcia - VP, Diversity Strategies, Macy's, Inc

Karen Garcia - VP & General Manager, McDonald's Corporation

Mary Lallucci - EVP - Florida/Caribbean, Right Management

Dr. Meredith Newman - Sr. Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Florida

International University

Cheryl Scully - Interim CFO, AutoNation
Jasmin Shirley - VP, Community Health Services, Broward Health

Leslie Stevens - VP, Rewards & Benefits, Citrix
Marla Tichi - VP, HR, Wyndham Vacation Ownership

Jacqueline Travisano - EVP & COO, Nova Southeastern University

"The Women's Conference was an outstanding event with inspirational and knowledgeable speaker," said attendee Agatha Caraballo, Career Development Coordinator for Florida International University. "It was an excellent opportunity to network with empowered women and enlightened men, and engage in meaningful discussions on important gender-related topics."

Diana Thomas delivered the Keynote address. Ms. Thomas currently serves as the U.S. Vice President of Training, Learning and Development for McDonald's USA, LLC. Ms. Thomas has been with the company for more than 30 years, beginning her career in 1979 as a crew member. This conference allowed her to share insights and wisdom that inspired the audience and made for an exceptional 4th Annual Women's Conference.

A special thank you goes to the following sponsors who made this conference possible:

- Wyndham Vacation Ownership
- Nova Southeastern University
- JM Family Enterprises
- Tech Data
- Pacific National Bank
- Right Management
- Wal-Mart
- DiGi Integrated Press