

WEL CONNECTED

WOMEN EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

4th QUARTER 2024

"Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."

-Maya Angelou

OUR MISSION: WOMEN EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP PROMOTES AND ENABLES INCREASING GENDER DIVERSITY ON CORPORATE BOARDS AND IN THE EXECUTIVE SUITE THROUGH ADVOCATING, EDUCATING, AND CONNECTING ACCOMPLISHED LEADERS.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

-Cindy Kushner, *WEL Board President*



As WEL wraps up another fantastic year, I want to personally thank our amazing WEL Community for their support, including our Members and Partners/Sponsors, without whom we could not execute on our Mission. I'd also like to thank our hard working, passionate volunteer board members for

their continued commitment in advocating, educating, and connecting women leaders. I am grateful for their investment in our organization, most recently during our November board strategy meeting where we, like many companies, realigned and “reimagined” our mission, vision and value proposition.

We realize there are competing organizations, and that you, our valued Members and Partners/Sponsors, have choices on where to invest your valued time and support. We focused on optimizing our value proposition with local, in-person programs & events, and how we can leverage our partnership with Athena Alliance (national), Leaderboard (national), and Florida Women On Boards. I am very proud of what we accomplished, and even more for our future.

Our partnership with Athena Alliance allows Athena Florida Members and WEL Diamond-level Members to enjoy the combined service offerings of both WEL Diamond and Athena. This collaboration has been transformative, providing Members with support, access, and resources related to executive, board, entrepreneurial, and investment journeys. Members benefit from a powerfully connected community, weekly educational salons, executive and board search opportunities, in-person events around the country, top-tier coaching, board certification programs, and more. Personally, I attended Athena Academy's Board Readiness program to earn my board certification, worked with two coaches, and continue to participate in peer groups. Please refer to the *“Brilliant Wins for Diamond Members”* section of this newsletter for more details, and how you can save \$900 if you become a Diamond Member before the end of the year.

I am thrilled to announce that Amelia Waters recently joined the WEL board and will lead our Sponsorship committee. Amelia’s experience in management consulting, and in helping organizations transform, scale, and grow complements our board composition, and provides a fresh perspective in developing our strategic plan and the rollout of our 2025 goals.

I hope we will see you at our January 30, 2025 event where we kickoff the year with Laurie Jennings (www.welflorida.org/events). We are putting together a powerful calendar of events so please stay tuned.

Wishing everyone happy holidays and a very happy and healthy new year!

STATUS ON GENDER DIVERSITY IN THE C-SUITE

KEY FINDINGS

THE GOOD: 29% OF C-SUITE ROLES ARE FILLED BY WOMEN, A 70.6% INCREASE FROM THE 17% IN 2015.

THE NOT SO GOOD: IT IS PROJECTED TO TAKE ALMOST 50 YEARS TO REACH PARITY FOR WOMEN IN CORPORATE AMERICA.

Source: *leanin.org*

Read WEL's Take on Gender Diversity in the C-Suite and the Boardroom [Here](#).



PLEASE JOIN US IN
WELCOMING THE
FOLLOWING
MEMBERS TO THE
WEL COMMUNITY!

NEWEST CHARTER MEMBERS:

*Cristina Martinez, Marketing Executive,
Humana*

*Naomi Kent, Chief Executive Officer, The
Boardroom Company*

NEWEST DIAMOND MEMBERS:

*Dorothy Eisenberg, Partner, Gerson,
Preston, Klein, Lips, Eisenberg, Gelber P.A.*

*Ilene Nelson, Chief Human Resources
Officer*

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

RAVE REVIEWS!

**South Florida November 14th Event:
CHEERS TO WOMEN LEADERS -
A TOAST TO CONNECTION AND EMPOWERMENT**



On November 14th, Women Executive Leadership (WEL) hosted an unforgettable evening at the *"Cheers to Women Leaders: Executive Wine Tasting"* event. This exclusive gathering brought together WEL members and their guests for an evening of celebration, networking, and sophisticated flavors.

We are incredibly grateful to Berger Singerman for their generous hospitality and support, which helped create such an inviting environment. The atmosphere for this event buzzed with warmth and camaraderie as members mingled, shared stories, and made meaningful connections. The event featured a wine tasting experience, which introduced attendees to a selection of fine wines paired thoughtfully with light hors d'oeuvres. Guests learned about wine pairings, flavor notes, and enjoyed an evening as educational as it was delightful.

The wine-tasting event was more than just a celebration of taste; it celebrated the collective achievements, resilience, and leadership of the women in attendance. Many attendees remarked on how much they enjoyed the evening and the connections they made.

POWERFUL UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Programs & Events Committee's 2025 calendar promises to be as impactful as the 2024 calendar! As a preview, we will kick off the New Year with a very special program, "Presenting Your Best Self to Achieve Your Goals in 2025," led by 6x Emmy-winning journalist and newscaster Laurie Jennings!

Following our Laurie Jennings event, our next event in 2025, will feature an

exclusive panel that examines the intricacies of boardroom dynamics, led by an executive search and board advisory specialist. This event will focus on how women leaders can successfully navigate and shape decision-making processes in the boardroom, a crucial skill for executives aiming to make a significant impact in top leadership roles.



South Florida Event:
Present Your Best Self to Achieve
Your 2025 Goals!
Featuring Laurie Jennings

January 30, 2025
5:30pm ET
DCOTA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Visit our Website for Upcoming Athena Alliance Events!

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

BRILLIANT WINS FOR DIAMOND MEMBERS

WEL's collaboration with Athena just got stronger. Starting January 2025, all Athena members that live in Florida, will become WEL Diamond Members.

Now our members have opportunities to connect and collaborate with more executives throughout the state.

Along with complimentary entrance to programs and VIP passes to special events, WEL Diamond Members benefit from the incredible services included in their Membership:

- **Executive and Board Opportunities:** Diamond Members receive exclusive listings
- **Expert Review:** Complimentary bio and LinkedIn profile reviews to ensure branding and messaging reflect who you are and where you want to go
- **Mentoring:** Complimentary One on One Session with WEL Advisory Board Member
- **Focused Salons:** Experts share their knowledge on specific tracks - Path to

choose include: The Boardroom, Advancing to the C-Suite, Navigating Transition, and Business Entrepreneurs

- **Peer Groups:** Connections and collaborations are centered around shared roles, industries or interests to connect, exchange thoughts and ideas
- **Support and Accountability:** Athena Alliance experts guide Diamond Members through resources, provides introductions to other members, and support members with their goals.

For a full list of benefits visit: www.welflorida.org/membership

Thinking about joining? Save \$900 by joining now! WEL Diamond Membership fees increase from \$1,600 to \$2,500 in January. Don't miss out!

Have questions? Contact Shari Roth, WEL Membership Chair at: Membership@WELFlorida.org



PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

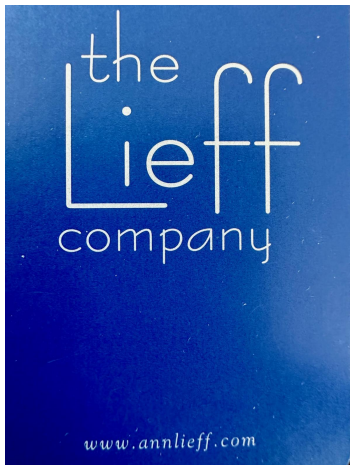
Platinum Partner



Gold Partners



Silver Partners



*Changed email address or having problems logging in? Email our amazing Administrator:
Admin@WELFlorida.org.*

Update Your Membership Profile at WELFlorida.org.

ADVOCATE | EDUCATE | CONNECT



Women Executive Leadership | 985 Marina Drive | Weston, FL 33327 US

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