

ABOUT

THE WOMEN'S FORUM OF NEW YORK

The Women's Forum of New York is the city's premier organization of women leaders. The invitation only membership of more than 500 women represents the highest levels of achievement across all professional sectors from finance to fine arts.

Started in 1974, the Women's Forum of New York is the founding flagship of the International Women's Forum, a global organization of nearly 6,000 outstanding women leaders in over 74 Forums around the world.

The Women's Forum of New York is dedicated to the advancement of women's leadership through programs which enrich members lives personally and professionally, through the Education Fund which enables talented women whose potential has been derailed by extreme adversity to resume their education and through the Corporate Board Initiative which extends and expands the contribution of women leaders through board participation.

OUR PROGRAMS

The Women's Forum of New York has been proud to host a wide range of industry and government leaders in intimate sessions to address issues of interest to our members. Recent speakers include Supreme Court Justices **Ruth Bader Ginsberg** and **Sonia Sotomayor**, SEC Commissioner **Mary Jo White**, NYC Police Commissioner **Bill Bratton**, **Carly Fiorina**, **Arianna Huffington** and author **Anna Quindlen**. The Women's Forum supports no political party or point of view. In addition to programs with headliner speakers, the Forum provides a continuous calendar of networking opportunities including small dinners in member's homes, informal Drinks & Dish gatherings across the city, holiday celebrations, receptions for new members and one general membership meeting per year. New York Forum members also attend conferences created by the International Women's Forum, which includes one domestic conference and one international Cornerstone Conference each year that address topics of global interest.

THE EDUCATION FUND

The Women's Forum of New York proudly "gives back" through our Education Fund. Since 1987, the Fund has provided grants to women over 35 who have both demonstrated high potential and faced extreme adversity, which has disrupted their education and derailed their futures. These women fall outside the scope of most traditional scholarship programs and our grants help them complete their education and get their careers and lives back on track. Funding is provided by member donation and an annual fundraising event, The Elly Awards that honors outstanding women leaders.



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THE CORPORATE BOARD INITIATIVE

The Women's Forum of New York recognizes corporate board participation as the next leadership frontier. To help accelerate gender balance on corporate boards, the Women's Forum launched the Corporate Board Initiative in 2011 with two key platforms: an outreach to the senior game changers at leading companies and a database of uniquely vetted qualified women for board positions.

The Breakfast of Corporate Champions

The Breakfast of Corporate Champions was launched by the Women's Forum in 2011 at the New York Stock Exchange in the belief that change is inspired by successful example. The Breakfast is a biennial salute to F1000 and S&P 500 companies where tangible progress is being made on gender diversity evidenced by more than 20% of board seats held by women. Headliner CEO Champions provide insight on why gender balance in the boardroom is a strategic business imperative and how to make it happen.

The Women's Forum Database of CEO Sponsored Board Ready Women The 2013 Pricewaterhousecoopers annual Corporate Directors Survey stated that 90% of new Board Directors come from the "board's network". That's why the Women's Forum of New York is calling upon CEOs in particular to not only bring women onto their own boards, but to promote qualified women to other board positions. To facilitate this, the Women's Forum is hosting a unique database of board-qualified women who meet top search firm criteria and have been sponsored by a CEO. This database is available free of charge to Nom/Gov. committees and search firms. To sponsor a woman or access the database visit womensforumny.org.



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