



WBE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Celebrating 25 years of empowering women leaders and encouraging networking locally, nationally, and globally. Women's Business Exchange (WBE) was founded in 1979. WBE encourages business and personal growth through networking, professional education, leadership training, mentoring and exposure to community issues, business trends and vital business concerns. Participants learn to network with heart, lead others with clarity and intention, and apply practical business skills in a warm and supportive environment. For more information visit www.wbex.org, or call 206.382.1234.

WBE leads the integration of business and spirit by creating dynamic opportunities for leadership, learning, community and business development.

WBE's Objectives include:

- To provide a forum for women seeking to be more powerful in business; opening the opportunity for the exchange of leads, referrals and information.
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- To redefine networking as the exchange of information about each participant's business – whether employer or employee – and to promote interaction on all levels.
- To increase the visibility and recognition of outstanding women in the business community.
- To provide training for women interested in leadership development and to teach them to become role models.
- To provide a safe, nurturing environment for women to seek personal, economic and spiritual growth.
- To challenge participants to be the best they can be on civic, personal and business levels.
- To educate and challenge participants through well-known breakfast speakers sharing their insights about interesting and timely topics.

WBE's Programs

Programs like these thrive with the continued generosity of community members and organizations that want to see a vibrant economy based on equity and cooperation. Women's Business Exchange, a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. With the support of donations Women's Business Exchange (WBE) increases access to timely and relevant educational programming by offering reasonably priced or by donation only events. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

WBE features a variety of groups and committees with which members can become involved, from participation to volunteering. Lasting business and personal relationships are formed through WBE.

Breakfast Forum

The 2nd Thursday each month, 7am – 9am at the Washington Athletic Club. Open to the public. Men and women are encouraged to attend. Breakfast programs feature dynamic speakers, who are business and community leaders. They focus on timely and interesting topics that are important to women and the success in business. Roundtable discussions encourage sharing information and networking.

Marketing tables are available at no charge. Members and non-members may display their product or share business and service information. Space is available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Lessons in Leadership

Each fall and spring, WBE offers its members a series of leadership classes. The workshops emphasize integrity, balance, the concept of abundance, and leading edge skills.

Participants learn leadership with integrity and purpose. The courses cultivate the ability to meet conflict with openness and approach differences with curiosity and appreciation. Participants are encouraged to listen to their internal guidance and trust their intuition. Skills for setting clear, motivating goals and communicating practical project plans are sharpened. The courses emphasize leadership with honor and respect. Participants are encouraged to express their talents and gifts through their businesses.

Evening Networking

WINGS (Women in Neighborhood Groups) is an evening of networking on a smaller scale. WINGS gives members time to interact intimately and at a leisurely pace in a face-to-face dinner setting at a local, reasonably-priced restaurant. Meeting dates and times vary.

NOW (Networking of Women) Groups are designed to support and encourage women, particularly small business owners, in their marketing and business growth efforts. The group meets once a month, at a member's home, and usually features a speaker or presentation designed to educate and inspire.

Networker of the Year

The Networker of the Year award is the highest recognition given by WBE each year to one individual who makes personal connections, recognizes opportunities and links people together. Through their leadership and example, they serve as role models for us, actively networking for themselves and others, in WBE, the community and beyond.

Women's Network for Entrepreneurial Training (WNET)

WBE is a 2004 partner with the Small Business Administration WNET - "A Management Series for Women". WBE members receive a \$5 discount. Visit the WNET website for more information at www.sba.gov/wa/seattle/seawnet.html.

WBE Women in Focus

WBE Women in Focus is an opportunity to showcase a woman in our community for her accomplishments. This recognition is quarterly and started in the 2nd Quarter of 2004.

Community Outreach Events

WBE participates in a number of community events such as the NW Women's Show, BIZ Fair, and others making it possible for WBE members to participate representing their businesses as well.

Featured Member

Each month, at the WBE Breakfast, a Member is chosen from a drawing to be the next month's Featured Member. The member is featured in the WBE website and at the head table the following month.

Across Cultures

Women's Business Exchange is hosting a business and cultural exchange with businesswomen from the Baltic States in Seattle, Washington October 11-26, 2004. A delegation will be returning to Estonia in 2005.