

ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN EVENTS ANNOUNCES FOUNDING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Association of Women in Events, a new organization launched in March 2015, has announced its founding board of directors. The association received over 65 applications for membership on the inaugural board, and founders spent several weeks vetting candidates for these important leadership roles. The Board of Directors is expected to guide the vision of the association throughout the first formative years and shape the community surrounding the organization.

The Association of Women in Events was founded by Carrie Abernathy, Tamela Blalock, Mas Tadesse Harris, Mary Higham, and Kiki Janssens. The mission of the organization is to provide women professionals in the meetings and events industry a place for sharing best practices, networking, professional development, career advancement and recognition. By the end of the 2015 year, AWE initiatives such as membership and education plan to be launched with the guidance and leadership of the board members.

"This specific group of board members are leaders in the events industry, and we feel each of them will truly encompass the mission of the organization and bring the association to life", said co-founder Carrie Abernathy CMP, CEM, CSEP, "We are excited to start working on the future and building a community".

The Founding Board of Directors will have one- and two-year roles. Board members were chosen from an array of fields to include media, government, corporate, and association markets. The board members represent several regions of the United States, with members hailing from Washington, D.C., Chicago, Las Vegas, Dallas, Los Angeles, Orlando and Denver. The founding board of director's first in-person meeting will take place at the Hilton Washington, D.C., on July 23, 2015. The official Founding Board of Directors roster is attached.

For more information visit www.womeninevents.org or email admin@womeninevents.org.

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Board Member	Career Title	Company/Organization
A. Cedric Calhoun, CAE, FASAE	Executive Director	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals, Inc.
Alisa Peters, CMP, CMM	Global Account Manager	Experient - A Maritz Travel Company
Andrea Peterson, CMP, MTA	Faculty	Metropolitan State University of Denver
Anna Gebert, MBA	Account Director	Tourism Toronto
Barbra Gustis, CMP	Senior Director, Meetings and Business Partnerships	American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
Cattleya Wongkongkatap, CMP	Associate Director, University Events	The George Washington University
Dan Traver, CEM	Business Development Vice President	Freeman
Dana Freker Doody	Vice President, Corporate Communications	The Expo Group
Dionne Maniotes Hulseay	Principle	Evolution Business Development
Doreen Biela, CEM	Vice President, Engagement and Events	LightSpeed
Eris Sims, LES	Senior Director of Events Planning	NAACP
Johnnie White, CMP	Senior Director, Education and Meetings	American Academy of Otolaryngology
Julie Sullivan, CMP, CEM	Manager, Exhibit Sales	International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions
Marissa Maybee, MBA	Director, Insights and Analytics	Bear Analytics
Melinda Kendall, MA	Senior Vice President, Marketing; Freeman Expositions	Freeman
Nicole Unger, CMP	Director of Sales	Alliance Exposition Services
Rachel Wimberly	President and Editor in Chief	Trade Show News Network
Richelle Wilkins, CMP	Chief Executive Officer	FitLife Events
Stephanie Selesnick, CEM	President	International Trade Information, Inc.
Terri Toennies, CMP	Executive Vice President and General Manager	Los Angeles Auto Show