



WOMEN IN BUSINESS EVENT AGENDA:

8:30 – 9:00 AM Registration

Attendees arrive, check in and receive event materials. Light breakfast refreshments and coffee will be available. This is an opportunity for early networking—to connect with fellow women leaders, entrepreneurs and corporate professionals before the formal program begins.

8:40 AM Pre-Conference Breath Session

Led by Amelia Mei – Founder, Always.

Join Amelia for a revitalising 20-minute breathwork and meditation experience designed to center your energy and mindset ahead of a full day of inspiration and connection. As the founder of “always.”, Amelia brings her expertise in guided breathwork, mindful movement and intention-setting to this session — helping participants transition from arrival mode into full presence, focus and readiness.

9:00 AM Welcome

Opening remarks and setting the tone for the day including the purpose, agenda overview, sponsor acknowledgment, and a brief introduction of key themes.

9:00 – 9:45 AM Morning Keynote

A high-impact, thought-leadership presentation focused on the current state of women in business—from corporate boardrooms to startup founder ecosystems—and how today’s women professionals can shape the next decade.

9:45 – 10:30 AM Powerhouse Panel: Navigating the Corporate Ladder

This in-depth panel brings together senior women leaders to explore how women climb (and thrive on) the corporate ladder. Key topics:

- How to identify and secure mentorship and the often-undervalued but critical role of sponsorship in career advancement
- Concrete ways to overcome systemic barriers
- Building influence: transitioning from subject matter expert to influential leader, navigating board opportunities, and shaping strategy
- Real-life inside stories: how panelists negotiated promotions, built their visibility and managed career pivots



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

10:30 – 10:45 AM Networking & Booth Break

A short but vital interlude for attendees to visit sponsor booths, chat with industry peers, recharge with a coffee/tea, and reflect on the morning's content. Encourage snack station placement, a quick interactive floor-activity (e.g., "meet someone new and get their business card") and highlight booth specials/giveaways that will run throughout the day.

11:00 – 11:45 AM Breakout Panels

Breakout Panel #1: Scaling Your Business: From Start-Up to Growth

This session is tailored for women entrepreneurs and business-owners who are ready to move beyond the "founder" phase into structured growth. Topics include:

- *Establishing systems and processes (financial controls, operations, HR, tech stack)*
- *Authentic growth: scaling without losing your culture, your mission or your unique voice*
- *Metrics that matter: determining what success looks like at each growth stage and how to track it*

Breakout Panel #2: Community Engagement: How to Get Started and Why it Matters

For the leader who wants her business to give back, this panel explores how corporate/community engagement and civic involvement drive not only social impact but measurable business benefit. Discussion topics:

- *Serving on boards, philanthropy, community investment: ways to engage realistically and effectively*
- *How community involvement enhances your personal brand, team morale and customer loyalty*
- *Aligning community initiatives with business goals (CSR strategies that make sense)*
- *Scaling volunteer culture internally: how to mobilize your team around giving back without it being a burden*

11:45 – Noon Lunch Buffet & Booth Break

Networking continues over a full buffet lunch.

Noon – 1:00 PM Lunch Keynote

A powerful midday address focused on navigating the evolving landscape of women in business today. We're climbing corporate ladders, raising families, involved in our communities-and simultaneously overwhelmed and underwhelmed. This masterclass offers the eight secrets to success at work and home-from defining what it means to win to making our yeses count.



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1:00 – 1:15 PM 2026 Women in Business Awards Ceremony

Celebrate trail-blazing women, and community-driven leaders. The ceremony will spotlight three awards: “C-Suite Award,” “Lifetime Achievement Award,” and “Community Builder Award.”

1:15 – 1:30 PM Networking & Booth Break

Another opportunity to mingle, absorb sponsor messages, put in your name for raffle giveaway items and prepare for the afternoon powerhouse sessions.

1:30 – 2:15 PM Powerhouse Panel: How to Prioritize Your Physical & Mental Health

A dynamic and interactive session designed for women leaders who are managing high performance—often at high personal cost. This panel will address:

- Recognizing and responding to burnout: how high achievers can spot it early and take preventative action
- Integrating wellness into your leadership practice: daily routines (exercise, sleep, mindfulness), boundary management, and resilience building
- Building a culture of health: as a leader, how you model and embed wellness in your team/organization

2:15 – 3:00 PM Powerhouse Panel: How to Curate Your Personal & Professional Brand

In today’s world—where online presence, personal storytelling and intentional network-building are essential—this session helps women leaders craft their brand with clarity and purpose. Topics include:

- The power of your story: identifying your unique leadership narrative, aligning values and voice, creating authenticity
- Online presence: how to engage LinkedIn, Instagram, and professional networks without burning out or being disingenuous
- Intentional networking: moving beyond business cards to building meaningful relationships, mentoring circles and coalition partnerships
- Reputation & impact: how your brand helps with career transitions, board appointments, speaking engagements and leadership visibility

3:00 PM Wrap Up and Raffle Giveaway – Must Be Present to Win

Closing remarks and next-steps for participants and a final call to action. Then draw the raffle winners (must be present to win).