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**NEWS FROM WICT GLOBAL**



## A Look Back as WICT Celebrates 40 Years at the 2019 WICT Signature Luncheon

The 2019 Signature Luncheon, a key platform for WICT's gender diversity and inclusion efforts, took place at The Plaza Hotel in New York City on Thursday, May 2, 2019. Industry leaders from across the country and abroad filled the hotel's Grand Ballroom to celebrate WICT's 40th anniversary during a very special luncheon designed to honor the past, celebrate the present, and imagine the future of WICT and the industry we represent.



*Above: WICT's co-founders, Lucille Larkin (left) and Gail Sermersheim (right).*

In a poignant opening segment that began with **Lucille Larkin** and **Gail Sermersheim**, WICT's first Executive Director and Board Chair, respectively, a collective of WICT's founders, foremothers and friends, each shared a brief statement defining what WICT means to them.



*Above: WICT President & CEO, Maria E. Brennan, CAE.*

**Maria E. Brennan, CAE**, WICT President & CEO, addressed the group of opening speakers by saying, "You demonstrate that WICT is many things to many people. Though one common thread connects us — our commitment to equality." While the event was a

celebration of WICT's indelible impact on the industry, Maria added, "By no means is our work here done. Far from it. In a new era of 'Time's Up,' the value of an organization like ours – one that supports gender diversity and inclusion – remains increasingly relevant and paramount to member companies. Because we know that by investing in women, we are creating a pipeline of leaders that will help innovate, inform and influence the industry for the next 40 years to come!"

Maria then invited members of the WICT Global Board of Directors to join her onstage in recognition of their work on behalf of the organization.



*Above: Members of the WICT Board of Directors join President & CEO, Maria E. Brennan, on stage during the Signature Luncheon.*

The program included return visits from three of our favorite *Pearls of Wisdom* speakers, **Abbe Raven, Kimberly Brooks** and **Egypt Sherrod**.



*Above (l-r): Pearls of Wisdom speakers Egypt Sherrod, Abbe Raven and Kimberly Brooks.*



*Above: WICT Board Vice Chair, Sandy Howe (left) and Chair, Marva Johnson (right).*

Other special guest speakers included WICT Board member **Karen Buchholz**, SVP, Administration, Comcast; **David L. Cohen**, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer, Comcast; **Pat Esser**, President, Cox Communications; WICT Vice Chair, **Sandy Howe**, EVP & President, Americas, Technetix; WICT Chair, **Marva Johnson**, VP, State Government Affairs – South Region, Charter Communications, **Tom Rutledge**, President & CEO, Charter Communications; **Martha Soehren**, Chief Talent Development Officer, Comcast/SVP, Comcast University; and **Leigh Woisard**, WICT Executive Committee Member and SVP, Corporate Public Affairs, Cox Communications.

[Visit our website](#) to view more photos and take a tour through 40 years of WICT history.

**WICT gratefully acknowledges the sponsors of the  
2019 Signature Luncheon**

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EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

THE 2019 WICT  
**LEADERSHIP  
CONFERENCE**



**Register Now for the 2019 WICT Leadership Conference**

September 16-17, 2019 | Marriott Marquis | New York, NY

The [WICT Leadership Conference](#) is the preeminent leadership and professional development opportunity for media professionals at all career levels. Through inspiring keynote speakers and innovative concurrent sessions covering a variety of topics, as well as connecting with industry colleagues, each attendee is immersed in leadership activities designed to help impact their career and their company's bottom line.

Registration includes attendance at the **WICT Touchstones Luncheon** on Monday, September 16. During the luncheon, WICT will recognize our 2019 *Women of the Year* and *Women to Watch* honorees.

**Accommodations**

The Diversity Week room block is now open.

All sessions will take place at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square, 1535 Broadway, New York, NY 10036. The Diversity Week room rates, starting at \$430/night, plus applicable taxes, are available while supplies last.

Reserve your room directly [online](#) or by calling 877-303-0104 and asking for the Diversity Week room block.

**[Register now for the 2019 WICT Leadership Conference](#)**

**WICT gratefully acknowledges the sponsors of the  
2019 WICT Leadership Conference**

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## Ignite Your Creative Spark at 2019 BMGI

November 21-22, 2019 | JW Marriott Buckhead | Atlanta, GA



*Above: Photos of participants taken during the 2018 BMGI program in Philadelphia.*

This year's [Betsy Magness Graduate Institute](#) (BMGI) offers a compelling platform for everyone, whether you're a first-time attendee or a returning alumna. Expert facilitators from the Center for Creative Leadership will use the latest in cutting-edge research to ignite your creative spark.

Creative thinking isn't just a buzz term. Creativity leads to innovation and innovation sustains growth. During the program, you will acquire the mindset and tools you need to recognize opportunities, generate possibilities, develop solutions and implement them.

It all starts with the question: What kind of thinker are you? Using up-to-the-minute assessment techniques, you will determine whether you prefer to *clarify*, *ideate*, *develop* or *implement*, and put that information to use as you learn to leverage your strengths to their highest potential.

You will also hear from some of the industry's most successful BMLI alumnae as we honor the past 25 years of BMLI and look to the future.

BMGI will take place at the JW Marriott in beautiful Buckhead, 18 miles from the Atlanta airport.

Join us to expand your creative potential, cultivate your storytelling skills and celebrate 25 years of the Betsy Magness Leadership Institute and its collective 1000 graduates!

*This program is open to all graduates of BMLI.*

[Register today & save \\$100 with the early-bird registration rate!](#)

**WICT gratefully acknowledges the sponsors of the  
Betsy Magness Graduate Institute**

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**Executive**  
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S E R I E S

### **Reserve Your Seat for Fall Sessions of the Executive Development Series**

The [Executive Development Series \(EDS\)](#) is designed to help mid-career professionals build skills that are critical to effectively delivering results within their organizations, with a focus on mastering competencies vital to success at the director and VP level. The two seminars of the series, **Leading with Power and Authenticity** and **Executive Leadership Presence**, are independent of each other and may be taken in any order.

Seating is limited in both programs and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Class size is kept small to allow for a more collegial experience. [Visit our website](#) for more details and reserve your seat for this fall's sessions.

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**Leading with Power and Authenticity**

November 13-15, 2019

Rancho Santa Fe, CA

[Register now](#)

As leaders take on roles of greater influence within their organizations, authenticity and the ability to inspire trust among colleagues is critical to success. Over this two-and-a-half day program, participants learn and practice strategies to build relationships in business, manage differences among peers, and tap into their power so they can lead with vision and clarity. Through lecture, group exercises, peer feedback, and deeply personal reflection, participants increase self-awareness of their priorities and unique abilities.

*Here's what past attendees took away from Leading with Power and Authenticity:*

- "This is a deeply personal seminar that brings out every emotion and teaches you how to harness them."
- "This is amazing. No idea how 2.5 days could make such an impact on my personal and professional life."

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## **Executive Leadership Presence**

November 13-14, 2019

Rancho Santa Fe, CA

[Register now](#)

Executive Leadership Presence is designed to develop Leadership Presence as a means to inspire confidence, engage and influence others, and maintain productivity while increasing visibility and career mobility. This two-day program will introduce participants to a unique framework and toolkit of 21 specific skills, attributes and thought processes that work together to help them build knowledge and expertise.

*Here's what past attendees said about their experiences at Executive Leadership Presence:*

- "It is amazing what 2 days of being surrounded by accomplished woman can do, not only for your career growth, but also for your SOUL."
- "Absolutely valuable information presented with passion and practiced with other women hungry to learn. Must-have training for aspiring women leaders."

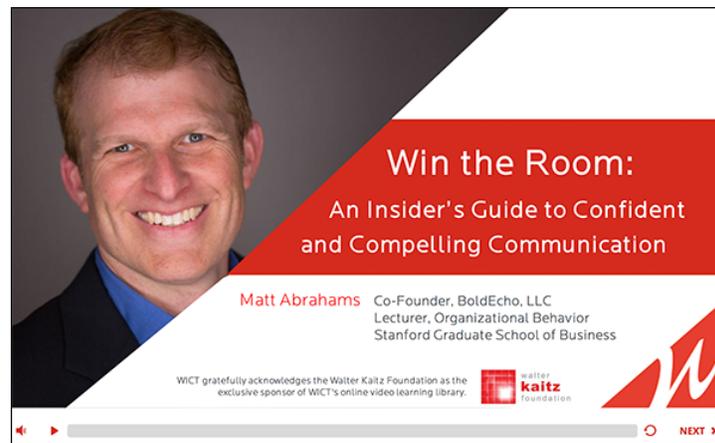
*Note: If you attended the Executive Development Seminar prior to 2012, you attended Leading with Power and Authenticity.*



**WICT SHINES ONLINE**

**Learn at Your Desk with WICT's Online Content**

## Win the Room: An Insider's Guide to Confident & Compelling Communication



Audiences crave authentic, bold communication. All too often, however, public speakers come across as rigid and canned, failing to keep their audiences engaged. We've all been on the receiving end of a presentation gone awry and can spot the telltale signs of a disconnected audience: reduced eye contact, fidgeting, checking cell phones.

In this dynamic session, **Matt Abrahams** shared a number of proven concepts and practical tactics to help reduce anxiety and bolster your confidence, keeping your audience focused squarely on you and your message.

SPEAKER:

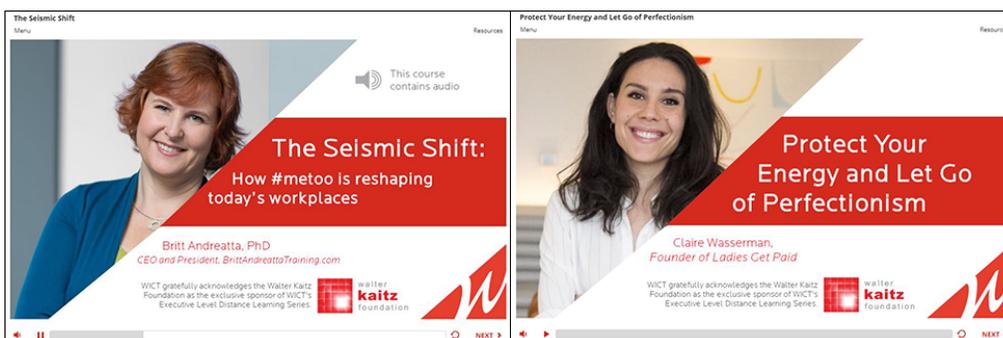
- **Matt Abrahams**, Lecturer, Organizational Behavior, Stanford Graduate School of Business; Co-Founder, BoldEcho LLC

WICT members can access these online courses, as well as a number of learning modules from previous conferences, by logging into the [WICT Connects](#) member community.

As a special bonus, we have also posted video recordings of the *Profiles of Champions* and *Pearls of Wisdom* sessions, both taped live during the 2018 WICT Leadership Conference.

### Exclusively for Executive Members

Access re-mastered, interactive recordings of **The Seismic Shift** and **Protect Your Energy**, now complete with additional resources and transcripts. Log into the Executive Members group on [WICT Connects](#) to tune into these new versions.



WICT gratefully acknowledges the Walter Kaitz Foundation  
as the Exclusive Sponsor of the Online Video Learning Library



AWARDS, ADVOCACY & INDUSTRY RELATIONS

## Nominate Outstanding Leaders for WICT's 2019 *Woman of the Year* and *Woman to Watch* Awards

*Nominations due by Friday, June 14*

Nominations are now being accepted for this year's *Woman of the Year* and *Woman to Watch* awards. The esteemed awards will be presented at the [Touchstones Luncheon](#) on Monday, September 16 in New York during the [WICT Leadership Conference](#), held in conjunction with the industry's Diversity Week. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, June 14, 2019**, at 5:00 pm (Eastern).

The *Woman of the Year* Award is bestowed on a woman who has made significant contributions throughout her career to her company and the overall cable telecommunications industry. She is a proven leader and asset who shows great resolve to help others along their path. WICT will select one honoree each from a programmer and an operator.

The *Woman to Watch* Award honors a woman who shows tremendous promise for transforming the industry through her professional accomplishments. She has already demonstrated exemplary leadership skills in her company and a strong dedication to the industry. WICT will select one honoree each from a programmer, an operator and an industry supplier.

A complete list of past honorees, award criteria, tips for writing a strong nominations and links to the nomination forms are available on the [WICT website](#).



## WICT's #LeadWithMore PSA Campaign Continues Through June 4

To commemorate WICT's 40th Anniversary, we recently launched our first-ever Public Service Announcement (PSA), which encourages women to consider our industry as a

strong career path. WICT's PSA is not just about WICT celebrating its 40th birthday—it is about demonstrating that women and girls should aspire to fulfill their dreams and realize their full potential in an industry that:

- Measures its diversity.
- Disseminates best practices.
- And ultimately works together to move the needle closer and closer to equality.

As WICT President & CEO **Maria E. Brennan, CAE**, stated during the press conference announcing the campaign last month, "There are not many companies - or even industries - that can make that claim. But we're not like most. That's why, for 40 years, WICT and the industry we serve has thrived. Because we LEAD WITH MORE."

In addition to a social media effort supported by WICT chapters, stakeholders and partner organizations, the PSA sponsors **Comcast NBCUniversal, Cox, Discovery, Spectrum** and **WarnerMedia**, committed a combined \$6.2 million in airplay prior to the launch of the PSA.

The current PSA campaign will run through June 4.

You can view the 30-second PSA and photos from the press conference, along with various facts and statistics supporting the business case for gender diversity and inclusion, on our website's [Diversity Facts](#) page.



### **Nominations Now Being Accepted for 2019 *Women in Technology* Award**

Created in 1995 to recognize and honor leading women technology professionals, the annual *Women in Technology* Award acknowledges the achievements of one woman who has demonstrated outstanding professional growth while contributing to the advancement of the cable telecommunications industry. The *Women in Technology* Award is presented in partnership with the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers (SCTE) and its global arm, the International Society of Broadband Experts (ISBE), Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT) and *Cablefax*.

Nominee criteria:

- Exhibits a high level of knowledge, skill and professionalism regarding technology in the cable telecommunications industry.
- Exhibits continued investment in their own professional, technical and personal growth.
- Exhibits commitment to the industry's professional activities through community activity, professional society involvement, company affinity groups, etc.
- Encourages and invests in mentoring others in the cable industry.
- Demonstrates a proven track record of success in contributing to their company and the cable telecommunications industry.
- Holds a current membership in both WICT and SCTE•ISBE.

All nominations must be submitted by **Friday, June 21, 2019**.

The review panel will select one honoree who will be celebrated at the annual awards luncheon during the [SCTE•ISBE Cable-Tec Expo®](#) on Wednesday, October 2 in New Orleans.

[Click here](#) for more details and to submit a nomination online.

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