

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Great Lakes Women's Business Council Honors Outstanding Business Award Winners at 2024 Women's Business Conference

[Novi, Michigan] – September 2024: The Great Lakes Women's Business Council is thrilled to announce the winners of its prestigious Business Awards, which recognize outstanding individuals and women-owned businesses that have gone above and beyond in their dedication, leadership, and support of the GLWBC and its mission. These awards, presented during the 2024 Women's Business Conference, celebrating the exceptional contributions of corporate members and WBEs who exemplify leadership, commitment, and mentorship within the organization and the broader business community.

The GLWBC Awards are a cornerstone of our women's conference, showcasing our long-standing commitment to excellence and leadership. These award winners inspire all members, partners, and friends through their dedication to supporting women entrepreneurs and their leadership in championing women-owned businesses. Please view Program Book.

2024 Corporate Volunteers of the Year Shannon Ellison – Flex-N-Gate Michelle Morin – Corteva

Shannon Ellison and Michelle Morin have demonstrated remarkable involvement in Great Lakes WBC programs and projects, serving on various committees and encouraging others to engage with WBENC and the Great Lakes WBC. Their commitment to fostering a vibrant community of women-owned businesses makes them true volunteer leaders.

2024 Corporate Advocates of the Year Jamie Samuels – Eli Lilly and Company Barbara Morgan – Lear Corporation

Jamie Samuels and Barbara Morgan have been tireless advocates for women business owners. They have worked to ensure their representation in the procurement process and identified new opportunities for women entrepreneurs. Their advocacy efforts have significantly impacted women-owned businesses, both individually and collectively.

2024 Corporate/Government Champions of the Year Sherry Diccion – Adient Laketa Henderson – SBA Michigan District Mark Sebree – Franklin Energy

Sherry Diccion, Laketa Henderson and Mark Sebree are exemplary champions for women's business owners. Through their leadership, they have encouraged corporate and government involvement with Great Lakes WBC and supported the growth of women-owned businesses. Their extraordinary leadership and commitment to advancing women entrepreneurs make them true champions.



# 2024 WBE of the Year Julie Callaway – BDN Industrial Hygiene Consulting Cathy Langham – Langham Logistics

Julie Callaway and Cathy Langham earned the WBE of the Year award for their exemplary customer service, proactive approach to client needs, and strong business skills, including financial stability and innovation. Their dedication to conducting business with fellow women entrepreneurs further showcases their commitment to the WBE community.

2024 WBE Role Models/Mentors of the Year Jami M. Moore – JEM Tech Group Michelle Wainwright – Cute As A Cupcake

Jami M. Moore and Michelle Wainwright are recognized for their extraordinary leadership. They serve as role models and mentors to other women business owners. They continually share their knowledge and experience, encouraging and empowering the next generation of women entrepreneurs.

## 2024 Breakout Influencer of the Year: Iris Humes - iBlossom Organics

Iris Humes is celebrated as the Breakout Influencer of the Year for her efforts in promoting WBENC certification and advocating for Great Lakes WBC events among her peers. Her mentorship and active championship of women business owners have made a significant impact.

## 2024 Significant Contribution: Jill Gleba – Gleba & Associates

Jill Gleba has substantially contributed to the Great Lakes WBC, going above and beyond to support women-owned businesses. Her dedication of time and resources has had a lasting effect on the network's efforts, encouraging others to participate and fostering a stronger community.

### **About Great Lakes Women's Business Council:**

Since its founding in 1984, the Great Lakes WBC has been committed to empowering women-owned businesses through certification, access to capital, and capacity-building programs. The organization continues to champion the advancement of women entrepreneurs, fostering economic growth and business success.

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