

International Women's Forum-Connecticut Members Lend Their Skills and Expertise to Community, Government and Business Forums

It's been a busy spring for the Connecticut members of the International Women's Forum! Forum members have been recognized by business and community groups, governmental bodies, and other organizations for their amazing talents and contributions.

IWF-CT President Valarie Gelb (CEO, TheBarnYardGroup), held office hours for a select number of startups on April 24th to offer one-on-one mentorship as part of Launching with the Stars - CTNext. Ms. Gelb is the former Chief Sales Development Officer of MasterCard Worldwide and former interim Chief Executive Officer for the Global Fund for Women, the world's largest grant-making foundation devoted to women. Ms. Gelb also has been honored by the YWCA Yonkers for the 2013 Spirit of a Woman Award. As the Keynote Speaker and Inspiration Honoree at the April 25th awards ceremony, Ms. Gelb was recognized for her extensive contributions and accomplishments promoting and empowering women.

IWF-CT Vice President Mary Barneby (Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts of Connecticut) was the March guest speaker at The Breakfast Club meeting on March 27, 2013. The Breakfast Club is an informal women's networking group in the Hartford and New Haven areas that provides distinguished business professionals with speakers on a wide range of important and timely topics.

Maura Carley (President and CEO, Healthcare Navigation LLC) was recently appointed to the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange Board created by the Affordable Care Act, a fourteen member board chaired by Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman. The Board is charged with helping achieve the goals of the Exchange to expand access to health insurance coverage in Connecticut. Ms. Carley is the author of *Health Insurance: Navigating Traps and Gaps*, currently the #1 listed "health insurance" book on Amazon.com.

Nancy May (President and CEO, BoardBench Companies LLC) addressed the Baltic Corporate Governance Institute, Association for Corporate Growth, Financial Executives International, and numerous universities. Ms. May has also worked with global Fortune corporations, public, private and activist investors.

Virginia P'an (Founder and CEO, Yumi EcoSolutions) is a featured panelist at Moffley Media's 6th Annual Women in Business event, "Building and Sustaining Your Business Through Innovation," which will be held May 15th at the Hilton Stamford.

Roberta Prescott (President, The Prescott Group) will moderate the *Hartford Business Journal's* "Women in Business" luncheon at the Connecticut Convention Center on May 2nd. The event honors this year's "Eight Remarkable Women in Business". A prior honoree, Ms Prescott will moderate a panel of four previous winners who will share their paths to success.

Pamela Trotman Reid (President, University of St. Joseph) served as the Keynote Speaker at the 9th Annual Women of Innovation Awards Dinner on March 19th. Honorees at the event included women in the workforce who are leaders and innovators in technology, science and engineering as well as high school and college students recognized for their research and academic accomplishments.

These innovative women are leading the International Women's Forum-Connecticut into the new global marketplace through their leadership, community involvement, and willingness to support and encourage women in Connecticut.



Pictured (left to right): Valarie Gelb, Mary Barneby, Maura Carley, Nancy May, Virginia P'an, Roberta Prescott and Pamela Reid