

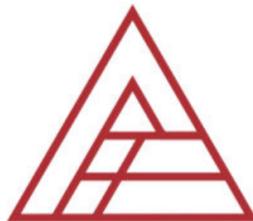


JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**WILMINGTON, DE**

Welcome to the 7th Annual  
**WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**

*Renew. Restore. Innovate. Together.*

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**Women's Leadership Summit**

# WELCOME

Thank you for joining us at the 7th annual Women's Leadership Summit. A fantastic day of training, personal growth, and connecting with similarly passionate women lies ahead of you. The Junior League of Wilmington, DE, has been empowering women to serve as leaders and make transformational change in our community for more than 100 years. We develop women leaders who use their collective talents, strengths, and voices to improve our community, and we are thrilled to share a little piece of our mission with you today.

This year's theme, **Renew. Restore. Innovate. Together.**, focuses on our commitment as women to do more than just renewing or restoring, but rather to innovatively rebuild together a system that enables women and girls to thrive. We're turning the page to a new chapter in our society, and women should be at the forefront of writing this new story – one that uplifts and values all voices. We've convened a robust collection of innovative and visionary voices of female leaders at the frontlines of progress within their organizations and communities, rising to tackle unprecedented challenges.

This year's Summit is sure to ignite a flame within your soul! Enjoy immersing yourself in the presentations and discussions, as well as networking with your peers. I hope you come away from today with fresh ideas, new perspectives, a deeper understanding of yourself and your community, and new connections to join and support you as you embark on your next great journey. Our collective society will be made better by the vision and dedication of women like yourself.

To our speakers, partners, and sponsors, I want to extend a huge "thank you" for sharing our vision of empowering women and being a part of such an incredible and important event. I would also like to express my immense gratitude to Giftie Umo, Summit chair, and the entire Women's Leadership Summit Committee for their dedication to making this year's Summit an unforgettable event.

If today's Summit inspires you to be a catalyst for change in the Wilmington community, I invite you to consider membership in the Junior League of Wilmington. You can learn more about our work and how to get involved on our website: [jlwilmington.org](http://jlwilmington.org).

All the best,

**Melissa Marlin**

President

Junior League of Wilmington, DE



# EVENT AGENDA

**9:00 a.m.**

## **Welcome Remarks**

Melissa Marlin, JLW President

**9:10 a.m.**

## **Keynote Address**

Amanda Steinberg, Founder, DailyWorth

**9:55 a.m.**

## **Breakout Session #1**

- Suzanne Eder: Finding the Balance and Prioritizing Self-Care
- Jeannine Cook: The Audacious Woman: Dealing with Fears and Building Confidence for the Future
- Bett Williams: Building a Personal Brand and Carving a Niche

**10:35 a.m.**

## **Speed Networking**

**10:45 a.m.**

## **Break**

**10:55 a.m.**

## **Keynote Address**

Fayette Blake, Founder & Executive Director, Pathways to Success, Inc.

**11:40 a.m.**

## **Breakout Session #2**

- Lynn Evans: Influencing People and Building a Network
- Stephanie Gorris: Building Leadership Skills for Board Membership
- Carla Stone: Leading from Behind the Scenes

**12:20 p.m.**

## **Speed Networking**

**12:30 p.m.**

## **Closing Remarks**

Taylor Drainer, JLW President-Elect

# SUMMIT MODERATOR

## Jessica Wescott



Jessica Wescott is the Founder and Executive Director of Planting to Feed Inc., a nonprofit on a mission to provide healthy meals to those that are hungry or may be suffering from homelessness. Founded in 2018, Planting to Feed Inc. now operates two urban garden properties, which all produce go directly to feeding the city of Wilmington.

Jessica was born and raised in Philadelphia and surrounding suburbs, after living in Delaware for 10+ years, she considers herself a dedicated Delawarean. She has a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Wesley College and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Wilmington University, both in Delaware.

Jessica found her passion for volunteerism and philanthropy while in college and has carried this spirit in her everyday life, and work. In addition to running Planting to Feed Inc. Jessica works for a large global technology company where she manages a team of early career talent.

Jessica prides herself in wearing multiple hats as a philanthropist, community activist, corporate professional, gardener, sorority woman, and wife. She is a member of the Wesley College Alumni Association Board of Directors, sister of Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, and member of the Junior League of Wilmington. She lives with her husband Lloyd and their dog Logan in the Wilmington suburbs.

Jessica's ultimate goal for Planting to Feed is to provide access to quality foods to her community and empower them with the knowledge to grow on their own. She believes that access to quality foods should not be a privilege, it should be a right.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## Amanda Steinberg



Amanda Steinberg is a personal finance expert with a career that spans finance, digital, and social activism. In 2009, she founded DailyWorth, a startup focused on women's financial prosperity. As CEO of DailyWorth, she published financial advice daily to an audience of over 1 million women. She won multiple awards for DailyWorth including Oprah Winfrey's inaugural Super Soul 100 and Forbes' 21 New American Money Masters. Her journey and experience are documented in her critically acclaimed book "Worth It: Your Life, Your Money, Your Terms". DailyWorth was acquired by HerMoney Media in 2017.

Since 2017, Amanda has focused on digital fundraising for political campaigns and non-profits. In 2019, Steinberg led digital fundraising for Marianne Williamson for President. She's a graduate of Columbia University with a degree in Urban Studies. In her free time, she and her husband, author Jordan Shapiro, are raising 4 teenagers.



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WEDDING DRESS SALE  
MARCH 12 ~ 2:00-4:00 P.M  
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
WILMINGTON, DE

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## Fayette Blake



Fayette M. Blake is the founder and Executive Director of Pathways to Success, Inc. She is also an entrepreneur with several businesses throughout Delaware and Maryland. Fay started her career about 40 years ago in the Lending industry with Security Pacific National Bank where she worked as a loan officer for five years. She then enjoyed a 20-year banking career at All First Financial. Fay held various positions of increasing authority at All First Financial. In 1995, she was appointed as Sr. Vice-President of Operations and was the first African American to be appointed to that level in the bank's 200-year history. During that time, she had global oversight of all Operations units in the Mid-Atlantic region. In 1998, Fay was recognized by this banking institution for Quality Assurance, as well as being recognized in the industry by Visa USA for Quality Service and Outstanding Customer Service.

Pathways to Success, Inc. was established in 2006. The work that Fay does as the Executive Director is indeed her calling and passion. It embodies her need to give back to the community.

In 2014 Fay was recognized as one of Delmarva Broadcasting's "Delmarvelous Women." In 2015 she was recognized for her efforts to aid and assist the underserved communities throughout Sussex County with the Jefferson Award, and in 2018 she was one of Delaware Today's top Women in Business. In 2020, Fay was inducted into the Delaware Women's Hall of Fame and the Indian River Hall of Fame. In 2021, she became an appointed member of the Public/Private Partnership Board of Directors to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. She is a board member for Habitat for Humanity, Lewes Historical Society, a member of the Southern Delaware Alliance for Racial Justice and the DTCC Development Council. She is also a Chairperson of the DANA Public Policy Board as well as a Fund for Women Founder. Recently, she was asked to join the MD/DE/DC ACT council that helps to shape the education and workforce landscape at local and state levels.

She holds a BS degree in Behavioral Science proudly from Wilmington University where she is a member of Phi Gamma Mu, International Honor Society for Social Sciences.



# ChristianaCare®

## Congratulations to the Junior League of Wilmington on your seventh annual Women's Leadership Summit!

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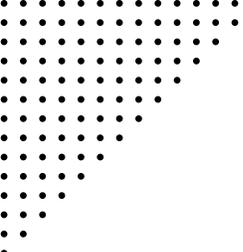
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# BREAKOUT SESSION #1

## **Finding the Balance and Prioritizing Self-Care**

### **Speaker: Suzanne Eder**

Women often find themselves giving and giving to others all day long, at work and home, and wonder how they can fit in time for themselves into that full daily schedule. Being maxed out continuously and keeping busy has become society's standard for being successful. As women, this constant drive to do more negatively impacts our ability to find the balance in our lives and prioritize self-care. Studies have shown that women process burnout differently than men. Our busyness results are a lack of time and exhaustion, stress, anxiety, guilt, fear, social comparison, inauthenticity, and physical illness. This session will provide participants with tips to avoid burnout and specific strategies to live with intention, find more time in their day, and determine what they can do.

## **The Audacious Woman: Dealing with Fears and Building Confidence for the Future**

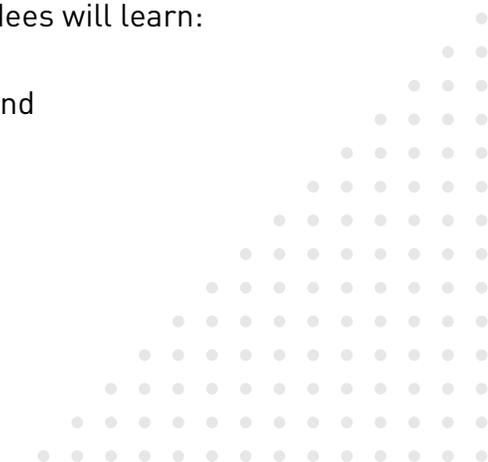
### **Speaker: Jeannine Cook**

Audaciousness could be challenging to define, especially when it has to do with women. However, women tend to limit themselves and their ambitions because they tend to adhere to existing social structures and rigid gender norms. Many women feel the pressure to conform to these standards, resulting in fewer women filling leadership roles than they should be. Using first-hand experiences, the session speaker will highlight how participants can redefine their power and lead themselves with intention. Attendees will leave with practical steps on overcoming their fears, taking risks, successfully taking the plunge, and making a transition personally or professionally.

## **Building A Personal Brand and Carving a Niche**

### **Speaker: Bett Williams**

Creating a personal brand can be a daunting, mythical task. And one of the easiest ways to get lost in the process is not knowing where to start. No matter how skilled or experienced one is, if you do not have a commanding presence and can successfully communicate your story, it is more likely for you to remain under-recognized and you will labor to attract recognition. This can be even more challenging for women who have taken a non-linear career path or have taken a pause and now want to re-enter. The competition is fierce, and whether you like it or not, you are part of it. The ability to speak and communicate with confidence and charisma is critical and will eliminate these obstacles allowing you to take your career or business to the next level. In this session, attendees will learn:

1. How to stand out and be taken seriously without alienating others?
  2. Overcome bias and internal fears that prevent you from stepping up; and
  3. Assert your presence using solid verbal skills and body language.
- 

# BREAKOUT SESSION #2

## **Influencing People and Building a Network**

### **Speaker: Lynn Evans**

Business leaders will generally agree that building a network is key to continued career growth. But, leaders often find that there is more to simply “networking”. As the layers get pulled away, a “network” begins to reveal that there are network segments which play a key role in career development. This session will focus on three network pillars: operational, personal, and strategic as identified in HBR’s article, “How Leaders Create and Use Networks” ([Ibarra and Hunger, 2007](#)). Attendees will learn:

1. Why each segment is key to career development and success.
2. How to get out of their comfort zone and push themselves to network in each segment.
3. Why strategic networking should be a focal point for any emerging leader.

## **Building Leadership Skills for Board Membership**

### **Speaker: Stephanie Gorris**

Do you have “time, talent, and treasure” to share with a nonprofit organization whose mission resonates with you? Before you commit to joining a board or assuming an officer role, prepare yourself for what is entailed. This session will cover board roles and responsibilities and help you identify what skills you can offer and which you can strengthen. Learn how to find an organization and board that are a fit for you and how to be the high-performing board member or officer every nonprofit executive director seeks.

## **Leading from Behind the Scenes**

### **Speaker: Carla Stone**

Leading often means acting as the “Wizard of Oz” by anonymously pulling the strings and pressing the buttons to make things fall into place. Many leaders find themselves transitioning into this role after serving as the face or front runner of an organization in management or as an executive director. In this session, attendees will learn:

1. Tips for transitioning into a role that requires leadership from behind
2. Key components to an effective leadership style
3. Adjusting your leadership style for various stakeholders to achieve the overall objective

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# SPEAKER BIOS



**Suzanne Eder**

Suzanne Eder is an award-winning writer, transformational teacher and personal mentor, helping people create awake and inspired lives through what she calls the Alchemy of Self Love. She is a graduate of the 4-year program in mind-body-spirit healing at the Barbara Brennan School of Healing. Suzanne was a featured speaker at the 2015 TEDx Wilmington conference and her popular talk is available on YouTube. Suzanne is known among her clients as a deeply wise, loving and intuitive mentor. She lives what she teaches and is, in the words of best-selling author Tama Kieves, “the real deal.”



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# SPEAKER BIOS



**Jeannine Cook**

For the last 10 years Jeannine A. Cook has worked as a trusted writer for several startups, corporations, non-profits, influencers, and most recently herself. In addition to her holding a master's degree from The University of the Arts, Jeannine is also a Leeway Art & Transformation grantee and winner of the South Philly Review Difference Maker Award, Philadelphia Magazine's Best of Philly, Women Leading the 175th, the PACDC Equitable Entrepreneur Award, and the Metro's Power Women Award.

Jeannine's work has been recognized by several national and international news outlets including Vogue Magazine, Forbes, Inc., Washington Post, Oprah's Magazine, MSNBC, and the Today Show. She is a proud educator and mother with 8 years of teaching creative storytelling in alternative schools and on city blocks. She recently returned from Nairobi, Kenya and Birmingham, UK where she facilitated art and social change workshops with youth from 15 countries around the world.

Jeannine writes about the complex intersections of motherhood, activism, and the arts. Her pieces are featured in several publications including a column in Philadelphia Stories and articles/short stories in Princeton University Press, Philadelphia Inquirer, Mothering Magazine, Girl God, Mahogany Baby, Good Mother Project, Printworks, Adelaide Magazine and midnight & indigo.

In February 2020, Jeannine completed her first book of short stories, *Conversations With Harriett* and became the proud owner of Harriett's Bookshop in the Fishtown section of North Philadelphia. *Ida's Bookshop* in Collingswood, NJ was opened this past summer.

# SPEAKER BIOS



**Bett Williams**

Bett Williams is President for the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. and is a passionate and tireless advocate for The Junior League as it sets the standard for women's leadership. She is a Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Columbia, where she has served as a council Vice President and President. Bett previously served on the AJLI Board of Directors and chaired the AJLI Governance Committee. In her professional work, she leads strategic communications, branding, and media relations as the Chief Communications Officer for Children's Trust of South Carolina, the state's organization working to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. She also serves as the Vice-Chair of the Communications Committee for the Children's Trust Fund Alliance, the national organization for state Children's Trust and Prevention Funds. Bett is a graduate of Wake Forest University, earning her B.A. in English and Politics.

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# SPEAKER BIOS



**Lynn Evans**

Lynn Evans brings over 35 years of experience working for top-tier global financial organizations to the Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI) team. Her expertise includes business strategy, client experience, talent management, and institutional sales.

Prior to joining the University of Delaware, Lynn was Managing Director and Head of Americas Institutional and Global Liquidity Client Service for J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Prior to joining J.P. Morgan, she spent 20 years with BlackRock. As a Managing Director and member of BlackRock's Global Liquidity Management Team, Lynn served in senior roles including Head of U.S. Sales and Product Strategy and Chief Operating Officer. She also spent many years as both a portfolio manager and client strategist for short fixed income strategies.

Lynn is a graduate of the University of Delaware and holds a B.A. in Economics and Political Science. She is currently Treasurer on the Board of Trustees for the Fund for Women, Co-chair of 2020 Women on Boards (Wilmington), and a member of the investment committee for the Delaware Community Foundation.

The Junior League is an organization committed to developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

**We'd love to have you to join us!**

Our next Provisional class starts in Fall 2022  
Visit <https://www.jlwilmington.org/membership>

# SPEAKER BIOS



**Stephanie Gorris**

Stephanie Cory Gorris has dedicated her career to the nonprofit sector since 2003 in a variety of roles from program manager to development director to executive director. She is the principal of Stephanie Cory Consulting where she helps nonprofit organizations strengthen their governance, leadership, and fundraising. Stephanie is also adjunct faculty for Villanova University where she teaches a variety of nonprofit topics. Demonstrating her commitment to education and model practices, she is a Certified Governance Consultant through BoardSource and Licensed Standards® for Excellence Consultant. Stephanie earned her designation as Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP®) from the American College of Financial Services and is a Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE). A dedicated member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), she has served on its global board of directors, earned the designation of AFP Master Trainer, and currently serves as president of the Brandywine Chapter.

Stephanie is a past president of the Junior League of Wilmington among other board roles. She has additional experience as a board member for other community, professional, and membership organizations for a total of 30 cumulative years of board service. Stephanie is a frequent writer and speaker on a variety of nonprofit topics. She authored a chapter on boards and fundraising for the second edition of *The Handbook of Board Governance*, which was published by Wiley in 2020. Stephanie earned a BS and MS from the University of Southern California as well as an MEd from Temple University. She was honored as one of Delaware's top 40 female business leaders of 2021 by Delaware Today.

# SPEAKER BIOS



**Carla Stone**

Carla Sydney Stone is the President of the World Trade Center Delaware (WTC Delaware) where she leads the WTC Delaware and serves members and companies from all sectors in Delaware and the surrounding region to numerous international organizations and government agencies, as well as regional and state and non-government organizations and the Delaware Legislature.

She is a World Bank Group Private Sector Liaison Officer. A member of and signatory to the World Trade Centers Association Agriculture Member Advisory Committee, she is also active as representative to the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM); the United States Overseas Private Investment Corporation Partners Program (OPIC); United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA); Making Global Local Partnership; the US Department of Commerce US Commercial Service Strategic Partnership.

Prior to joining WTC Delaware, Ms. Stone was an organizer of the NATO Science for Peace and Security Program “Benchmarking Telemedicine: Improving Health Security in the Balkans,” and is editor of the book by same name, published by NATO, IOS Press, in October 2017.

Her international career spans over 30 years in every content except Antarctica, primarily at the intersection of engineering, public health, education, and the environment. She began her career in the minerals industry as an underground mining engineer in Appalachia.

She has been honored by the University of Agronomical Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest, Romania, with an Honorary Doctor Degree, its Gold Medal of Honor, and a Special Commendation for her work in that country. Ms. Stone also has been honored by the US Small Business Administration with the “Exporter of the Year Award,” and, by Cankiri Karatekin University, Turkey, and People to People International.

The author or editor of more than 40 books and technical papers, Ms. Stone is a graduate of Columbia University’s (New York) Henry Krumb School of Mines, with a B.S. degree in Mining Engineering, Geophysics Option, and M.S. degree in Mining Engineering and Mineral Economics. She has additional certifications in Project Management for Development, wastewater and water operations, and OSHA.



# WILMINGTON

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# UNIVERSITY™



# ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WILMINGTON

The Junior League of Wilmington (JLW) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The JLW welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

The JLW empowers women to be high-impact volunteers and to serve in leadership roles in the nonprofit community. We provide our Members with an array of formal training and experiential learning opportunities in our efforts to prepare them to serve the community beyond our organization. Some examples of the training through experiences are the opportunity to lead committees, run major fundraisers, present life skills workshops in the community, cultivate fund development activities, and manage, recruit, retain, and train new Members.

The JLW's current initiative Stand Up. Period. addresses period equity. Period equity refers to removing the barriers that prevent people, particularly those living in poverty, from being able to manage their menstrual cycles and participate fully in their lives. Those who lack adequate period supplies experience school and work absences, opportunity losses, and emotional distress.



Our focus area shifts as pressing priorities are identified, but our commitment to building a better community and training our Members to lead and serve never wavers. For over 100 years, Members of the JLW have dedicated their time, energy and resources to impact our community.

**Interested in joining us or want to learn more? Visit [jlwilmington.org](http://jlwilmington.org)**

**Want to support Stand Up. Period.? Donate here: [amzn.to/2ZP0tJJ](https://amzn.to/2ZP0tJJ)**

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Thank you to the 7th annual Women's Leadership Summit Committee and Communication Council for all their hard work making the Summit an empowering virtual event.

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Giftie Umo

**VP of Community Programs**

Jill Confer

**WLS Committee Members**

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Janice Viamontie  
Jennifer Pipinos  
Susan Hansen  
Susan Cicala  
Jessica Wescott  
Jessica Atwood

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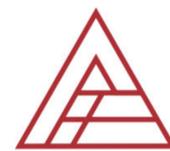
**EVENT HASHTAGS**

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**Thank you for joining us!**



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**Women's Leadership Summit**