CELEBRATING WOMEN IN BUSINESS

Each year, the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) presents Celebrating Women in Business, a professional-development event hosted by DBPR Secretary Jonathan Zachem. The event, DBPR’s way of highlighting Women’s History Month, includes networking opportunities and a panel discussion featuring entrepreneurial and career advice from some of Florida’s top women business leaders.

Celebrating Women in Business is a forum for the many talented women professionals throughout the state to gather and exchange ideas, information and best practices with their peers.

7th Annual Celebrating Women in Business Panel Discussion

Friday, March 30, 2018
1 – 5 p.m.
Florida State University Conference Center
555 W. Pensacola St, Tallahassee, FL 32306
Free admission, open to public
Free parking available at the FSU St. Augustine Garage

Meet the Panel

MODOERATOR
RUTH DILLARD
Director of Admin & Financial Management at DBPR

NATASHA HARTSFIELD
VP of Programs at the Tallahassee Museum

CASSANDRA PASLEY
Director of Children’s Medical Services at the FL Department of Health

DR. TIFFANY HALL
Associate Veterinarian at Novey Animal Hospital

ALLISON HARRELL
Shareholder, Assurance Services at Thomas Howell Ferguson

MERCEDES ANGELL
Commercial Realtor at Cushman & Wakefield
Annual Presidential Proclamations have designated March as Women’s History Month since 1987, according to the U.S. Library of Congress. The observance celebrates the contributions and accomplishments of women throughout American history and their vital influence on industry, the economy and society.

The Florida Women’s Hall of Fame was established in 1982. It was created, as stated in Chapter 92-48 of the Laws of Florida, with “the intent of the Legislator to recognize and honor those women who, through their works and lives, have made significant improvement of the life of women and for citizens of Florida.” Every year, three women are inducted into the Hall of Fame. The annual nomination season begins April 1 and ends July 15. The Florida Commission on the Status of Women reviews nominees and sends the Governor a list of 10 by October 1, from which the three are chosen by November 1.

Here are a few members of the Florida Women’s Hall of Fame.

1984
JULIA DEFOREST TUTTLE
Businesswoman, land owner of what became Miami, Florida

1984
ZORA NEALE HURSTON
Folklorist, anthropologist and author

1986
FLORENCE BARBARA SEIBERT
Biochemist, inventor of the standard tuberculosis test

1992
RUTH BRYAN OWEN
First female in the U.S. Congress

1994
BETTY MAE TIGER JUMPER
First female chief of the Seminole Tribe of Florida

1995
JOANN HARDIN MORGAN
First female engineer at NASA, first woman senior executive at Kennedy Space Center

2002
TONI JENNINGS
First Female Lieutenant Governor of Florida

2003
GLORIA ESTEFAN
Entertainer

2007
JUSTICE PEGGY A. QUINCE
First black female Justice of the Florida Supreme Court and the third female Justice

2016
CAROL JENKINS BARNETT
President of Publix Super Markets Charities Inc.
FLORIDA LEADS THE NATION IN WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS GROWTH

Women-owned businesses spring up in the United States at higher rates than the national average for all businesses, according to a study by American Open Express. Between 2007 and 2017, the percentage of the country’s women majority-owned businesses increased from 29% to 39%.

Findings of The State of Women-Owned Businesses Report, 2017:

• As of January 2017, there were an estimated 11.6 million women-owned businesses in the United States. They employ nearly 9 million people and generate more than $1.7 trillion in revenue.

• The employment-growth rate over the past 20 years was stronger for women-owned businesses than for all business: 27% vs. 13%.

Of the five states leading the nation in the number of women-owned firms, Florida ranks first in growth – citing an increase of 67% between 2007 and 2016.

Our News Room Serves You!

View a list of upcoming events

Stay up to date with press releases

Access newsletters, brochures and annual reports

Subscribe to The Bottom Line

"I’m excited to host some of the area’s leading women professionals and those venturing into the world of business. This event will offer valuable entrepreneurial advice and will be an excellent venue for networking and mentorship."

— DBPR Secretary Jonathan Zachem