

August 29, 2013

I would like to express how The Women's Summit® at Bryant University ensures its own sustainability as well as helping women in Southeastern New England to achieve professional, personal and economic empowerment which will lead to sustainability for themselves, their families, and their communities.

On Friday, March 14, 2014, Bryant University will present the 17th Women's Summit®, **Be the CEO of Your Life**. The mission of the Women's Summit is to educate and empower women so that they can advance professionally and develop personally while achieving economic stability. Women make up 47 percent of the U.S. labor force. Recently a Pew Research Center study showed that mothers are the primary or only breadwinners in 40 percent of the households with children under the age of 18 in the U.S. With these dramatic statistics it is even more important for The Women's Summit at Bryant University to provide educational opportunities to help women support themselves and their families.

Over the past 16 years, dozens of nationally recognized keynote speakers, who personify leadership, character and success, have spoken at this largest and longest-running conference for women in Rhode Island. Thousands have attended enriching educational breakout sessions led by experts. Networking opportunities are also plentiful throughout the day, and lead to future connections that help in business and careers.

In our online conference evaluation, attendees were asked how the 2013 Women's Summit provided solutions for the challenges they faced. They responded as follows:

"The keynote speakers were all fantastic. They all brought up relevant topics and inspiring stories that made me look internally at my goals and what I can do to continue my success to be just as inspiring."

"I thought the entire day of interacting with a wide variety of women made the experience exceptional."

"This event always stimulates ideas for improving my work and life. Especially it gives me a perspective on how to stay authentic but still be successful."

"The Women's Summit provides motivation. The speakers sharing their own experiences really drives home that ordinary individuals can become extraordinary when aligned with focus and inspiration."

As you can see from the above quotes the Women's Summit is impacting the 1000 women and some men who attend each year. This is our 17th Women's Summit at Bryant University, and each year we sell out quickly. As a matter of fact last January when registration began, The Women's Summit was sold out in just 32 hours.

Thanks to our Sponsors and through the utilization of our Bryant University facilities, The Women's Summit is self sustaining and has been a tremendous resource for those who attend. These working women and future working women are all learning how to achieve success in their chosen profession in order to provide for themselves and their families. Bryant University is proud to play such an important role in providing such important educational programs for all who attend. It is our hope that they will not only sustain themselves and their families, but go on to assist their communities to do the same. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.
Sincerely,

Kati Machtley
Director, The Women's Summit
Bryant University