

Ernst & Young Entrepreneurial Winning Women™

Calling women entrepreneurs with big plans

In collaboration with:



THE
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Women's Business Enterprise
National Council



WOMEN PRESIDENTS'
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Quality In Everything We Do

Are you a woman entrepreneur with big plans?

Do you know a woman with the vision and passion for growing her company?

Could your company be a multimillion-dollar or billion-dollar enterprise?

As part of our long-standing commitment to the advancement of women, Ernst & Young invites outstanding women entrepreneurs to accelerate the growth of their businesses and realize the potential they envision for their companies.

The second annual Ernst & Young Entrepreneurial Winning Women program is seeking a select group of women entrepreneurs to join an elite network of the country's best entrepreneurs, high-growth companies and the advisors who can guide and support them.

In becoming part of the Entrepreneurial Winning Women program, each entrepreneur:

- ▶ Receives ongoing personalized, one-to-one business advice and insights from both Ernst & Young professionals and the firm's extensive network of established entrepreneurs, executives and advisors
- ▶ Meets potential role models, coaches and mentors who know what it takes to build and lead high-growth companies
- ▶ Connects with prospective investors, partners, strategic alliances, customers and suppliers
- ▶ Participates in formal and informal educational sessions with Ernst & Young to gain hands-on knowledge of leading business and industry practices

Join the country's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies

Entrepreneurial Winning Women will also receive an all-expense paid trip to the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum 2009, named by Forbes.com as one of its seven "get-ahead executive retreats." By invitation only and held November 11 through 15 in Palm Springs, California, the Forum convenes more than 1,300 leaders of the nation's most successful high-growth companies, their investors and advisors to share growth strategies. The Forum presents a one-of-a-kind platform for Entrepreneurial Winning Women to introduce their companies and develop their corporate and personal brands within this community of established entrepreneurs, executives, advisors and investors who can guide their decision-making and invest in their success. All 2009 Entrepreneurial Winning Women will be recognized at a special celebratory event during the Forum.

The Strategic Growth Forum concludes with the 23rd Annual US Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] Awards, where more than 230 regional award winners selected from among 1,500 nominations will compete for national recognition Saturday night during the gala awards ceremony hosted by Jay Leno.

Did you know?

Women-owned firms account for 40 percent of all privately held firms in the US.

Source: Center for Women's Business Research, 2008

“With Entrepreneurial Winning Women, Ernst & Young couples our long-standing commitment to entrepreneurship with our firm’s values of diversity and inclusiveness. We are dedicated to championing and celebrating the success of women-owned businesses through our firm’s vast resources and convening power as the leading advisors to high-growth companies. We believe that helping women entrepreneurs to expand and cultivate their professional relationships will be the key to accelerating the growth of their promising enterprises.”

Maria Pinelli
Ernst & Young
Americas Director
Strategic Growth Markets

Eligibility

To take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity, Ernst & Young invites nominations from women business owners who are the founders or founding partners of any privately held company in the US. The company must be less than five years old and have reported at least \$1 million in sales during the past two years.

If selected, winners must participate in an intensive orientation and coaching session to ensure they are fully prepared to participate in and take full advantage of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum in November. This one-day session will be scheduled in early/mid-October and held at Ernst & Young’s Americas headquarters in New York City.

Nominations

To obtain an application form, or to nominate a deserving woman entrepreneur, visit: www.ey.com/us/entrepreneurialwinningwomen. Self-nominations are encouraged.

Criteria and selection

Nominees will be expected to demonstrate qualities needed to take the fullest advantage of this opportunity, including ambitious company growth goals, energy, creativity, entrepreneurial purpose and passion. Entrepreneurial Winning Women must have the confidence and conviction to drive toward market leadership, as well as the maturity and level of business sophistication needed to interact effectively with potential investors and high-level business advisors. Applicants are also required to have a viable, detailed business growth plan. The 2009 Ernst & Young Entrepreneurial Winning Women panel of independent judges – representing successful entrepreneurs, investors and business leaders – will name up to 10 Entrepreneurial Winning Women by September 30.

Ernst & Young also extends a special thanks to Babson College and its Arthur M. Blank Center for Entrepreneurship – the first entrepreneurship center established at an academic institution – for supporting the Ernst & Young Entrepreneurial Winning Women program since its inception. Through its Center for Women’s Leadership, Babson remains at the forefront of fostering women’s entrepreneurial leadership through educational excellence, innovative professional development, outreach and research.



“Entrepreneurial Winning Women is about investing in my growth as an entrepreneur and not just my current business. Being surrounded by the most elite echelon of entrepreneurs at the Strategic Growth Forum was profound and motivating. I realized I needed to set higher goals and came away asking myself whether I’m thinking big enough for my company.”

Janet Chien
Founder and Principal, Dyad Systems
2008 Ernst & Young
Entrepreneurial Winning Women participant



“Entrepreneurial Winning Women has been a springboard for taking my company to the next level. It’s given me the opportunity to stretch myself and focus on growth and expansion. From introducing me to networks who can help me, to providing encouragement and key contacts, Ernst & Young’s enthusiasm, excitement and personal commitment to my success are inspiring.”

Jill Cartwright
Founder, Go GaGa
2008 Ernst & Young
Entrepreneurial Winning Women participant

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About Ernst & Young

Ernst & Young is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. Worldwide, our 135,000 people are united by our shared values and an unwavering commitment to quality. We make a difference by helping our people, our clients and our wider communities achieve their potential.

For more information, please visit www.ey.com.

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About Ernst & Young's Strategic Growth Markets Practice

The Strategic Growth Markets (SGM) practice guides the best, high-growth companies to market leadership worldwide. Our multidisciplinary teams of dedicated professionals provide perspective, advice, and insights to help our clients accelerate their growth. Ernst & Young is the undisputed leader in guiding Russell 3000 companies, IPO-bound companies and Forbes' largest private companies. SGM delivers assurance and advisory, tax, and transaction advisory services to thousands of companies in numerous, selected industries.

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