

ATHENA*PowerLink*[®] Chicago Area



Participant Profiles
June 2007



Index of Participant Profiles

This book includes the available profiles of program participants who were active from July 2006 through June 2007. Category entries are listed in alphabetical order by last name.

Corporate Sponsors

Foley & Lardner, LLP	Page 1
National City Bank	Page 2

Governing Body Members

Laura Bilas	Page 3
Beth Blom	Page 4
Laurel Delaney	Page 5
Claire Caithamer Gregoire, <i>2006 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 6
Catherine Lee	Page 7
Sarah McCann	Page 8
Michelle Michaels	Page 9
Jasmine Moore	Page 10
Maureen Prochenski	Page 11
Melissa Talarico	Page 12
Sylvia Wynn	Page 13

Panel Recipients & Volunteer Advisors

Dorothy Balabanos	Page 14
Christine Cáceres	Page 15
Tom Caprel, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 16
Carol Coletta	Page 17
Lisa Conmy	Page 18
Michael Crowe	Page 19
Matt Dalton	Page 20
Kurt Downham	Page 21
Kali Evans-Raoul	Page 22
Jason Felger	Page 23
Bess Gallanis	Page 24
Jennifer Goodnow	Page 25
Joyce Grenis	Page 26
Dara Griffith	Page 27
Kevin Gross	Page 28
Kristine Gross, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 29
Karen Hale	Page 30
William Hanekamp, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 31
Larry Hayward	Page 32
Michelle Hayward	Page 33
David Houle, <i>2006 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 34
Scott Issen, <i>2006 & 2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 35

Panel Recipients & Volunteer Advisors continued

Cynthia Ivie	Page 36
Stuart Kalman	Page 37
Meghan Kearns	Page 38
Jennifer Kofod, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 39
Jacqueline M. Kuehl	Page 40
Larry Levy	Page 41
Dr. Bernard Liebowitz, PhD CMC	Page 42
Brian Mayhall	Page 43
Kathleen McEntee, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 44
Debora Mehlert	Page 45
Julie Northcutt	Page 46
Nancy Roach	Page 47
Susan Sentell	Page 48
Nancy Stevens	Page 49
Sarah Stopek Hirsch, <i>2007 Business of the Year Honoree</i>	Page 50
Robert Viola	Page 51
Michael A. Waller	Page 52
Mary Lou Wattman	Page 53
Cathy Welsh	Page 54
Karla Williams	Page 55
Daphne Woolfolk	Page 56
Gail Zelitzky	Page 57

Welcome to the Program

Advisory Panel Recipient

Nicki L. Schuh, President, Heartfelt Charity Cards
www.charitycards.com

Advisory Panelists for Heartfelt Charity Cards

Pamela Pound, Pinnacle Success Partners, Inc. (Panel Coordinator)
www.pinnaclesuccesspartners.com

Michael Crowe, National City Bank
www.nationalcity.com

Philippe Lavie, Melcion Chassagne and Co.
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Fred Levitan, Global Strategy
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Susan Silver, Argentum Strategy Group
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Kevin Smith, Administaff
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Foley & Lardner LLP provides the full range of corporate legal counsel. Our attorneys understand today's most complex business issues, including corporate governance, securities enforcement, litigation, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property counseling and litigation, outsourcing and information technology, labor and employment, and tax. The firm offers total solutions in the automotive, emerging technologies, energy, entertainment and media, financial services, food, golf and resort services, insurance, health care, life sciences, nanotechnology, and sports industries. For more information about Foley & Lardner LLP, visit the company's website at www.foley.com.

Commitment to Diversity

We believe that a diversified workforce, where experiences and perspectives are many and varied, is a substantial benefit to our firm, our clients, and our communities. Not only does a strong commitment to diversity expand our talent pool, improve profitability, and respond to clients, it is the right thing to do.

This dedication to increasing diversity in the legal profession has garnered prestigious recognition for Foley, including:

- "Top 100 Law Firms for Diversity," *MultiCultural Law* magazine (2005, 2007)
- "Top 25 Law Firms for Disabled Attorneys" and "Top 25 Law Firms for Gay/Lesbian Attorneys," *MultiCultural Law* magazine (2006)
- Entrepreneurial Star Award from Business Women's Network and Diversity Best Practices for demonstrated and sustained commitment to advancing the role of women and diverse individuals in the workplace as well as in the business and civic communities (2006)
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- Named among Bay Area firms and legal departments having the most women in management and women partners by the Bar Association of the San Francisco's No Glass Ceiling Initiative (2005)

We are proud that our efforts have been recognized but refuse to rest on our laurels; we continue to strive for improvement. Read more about our Commitment to Diversity at www.foley.com/about/diversity.

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Website www.nationalcity.com

National City Corporation (NYSE: NCC), headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive banking network primarily in Ohio, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri and Pennsylvania, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its core businesses include commercial and retail banking, mortgage financing and servicing, consumer finance and asset management. For more information about National City, visit the company's Web site at www.nationalcity.com.

Women's Business Development

National City's Commitment

Our objective at National City is to be the best bank for women in business. That means meeting your needs for the full range of business and personal financial products and services - whether your company generates \$1 million, \$100 million or \$100,000 annually. It also means connecting you with the resources your business requires to flourish.

Women's Business Advocates

Women's Business Advocates at National City are a team of banking professionals who understand the pressures, challenges and opportunities for women in business. While every National City banker is a business advocate, Women's Business Advocates are specialists in providing solutions and resources to women owners and executives. To contact the Women's Business Advocate nearest you, visit www.nationalcity.com/women.

Products and Services

While it's often true that women and men approach the business of running a company differently, women owned and managed businesses require the same financial support as male owned and operated companies. National City offers the full range of financial products and services for companies of all sizes (and gender). We also want to help you preserve and grow your wealth, and plan for your family's financial future.

Women's Economic Development Outreach (WEDO)

In 2002, WEDO[®] was established in Western Pennsylvania with the visionary support of Women's Business Advocates at National City[®] and other organizations in the public and private sector to provide resources for women-owned businesses.

It began with the belief in the incredible power of women business owners to grow the economy and strengthen the future for women in business. Starting as a week-long tour of half-day, rapid-fire informational sessions in five Western Pennsylvania communities, WEDO's expansion to six states has provided thousands of women business owners with access to ideas and information on business financing, market research, sales strategies, certification, e-commerce and other topics designed to fuel business growth. WE-DO.net continues the WEDO[®] tradition, building business by creating connections to resources for women owned and managed companies. For more information on upcoming WEDO[®] events near you, visit www.nationalcity.com/wedo/events.

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Foley & Lardner, LLP	Page 1
National City Bank	Page 2

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Laura Bilas	Page 3
Beth Blom	Page 4
Laurel Delaney	Page 5
Claire Caithamer Gregoire, <i>2006 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 6
Catherine Lee	Page 7
Sarah McCann	Page 8
Michelle Michaels	Page 9
Jasmine Moore	Page 10
Maureen Prochenski	Page 11
Melissa Talarico	Page 12
Sylvia Wynn	Page 13

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Dorothy Balabanos	Page 14
Christine Cáceres	Page 15
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Carol Coletta	Page 17
Lisa Conmy	Page 18
Michael Crowe	Page 19
Matt Dalton	Page 20
Kurt Downham	Page 21
Kali Evans-Raoul	Page 22
Jason Felger	Page 23
Bess Gallanis	Page 24
Jennifer Goodnow	Page 25
Joyce Grenis	Page 26
Dara Griffith	Page 27
Kevin Gross	Page 28
Kristine Gross, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 29
Karen Hale	Page 30
William Hanekamp, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 31
Larry Hayward	Page 32
Michelle Hayward	Page 33
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Scott Issen, <i>2006 & 2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 35

Panel Recipients & Volunteer Advisors continued

Cynthia Ivie	Page 36
Stuart Kalman	Page 37
Meghan Kearns	Page 38
Jennifer Kofod, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 39
Jacqueline M. Kuehl	Page 40
Larry Levy	Page 41
Dr. Bernard Liebowitz, PhD CMC	Page 42
Brian Mayhall	Page 43
Kathleen McEntee, <i>2007 Volunteer Advisor Honoree</i>	Page 44
Debora Mehlert	Page 45
Julie Northcutt	Page 46
Nancy Roach	Page 47
Susan Sentell	Page 48
Nancy Stevens	Page 49
Sarah Stopek Hirsch, <i>2007 Business of the Year Honoree</i>	Page 50
Robert Viola	Page 51
Michael A. Waller	Page 52
Mary Lou Wattman	Page 53
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Laura Bilas

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Program Participation	Governing Body & Selection Committee Member

Laura L. Bilas is a partner with Foley & Lardner and a member of the firm's Finance & Financial Institutions, Health Care Finance & Restructuring, and Public Finance Services Practices. Her practice is concentrated on public finance and structured lending matters. Laura's experience includes serving as bond counsel, borrower's counsel, underwriter's counsel, and credit enhancement provider's counsel for numerous public finance and other structured transactions, including general obligation, special service area, special assessment, tax increment, multi-family housing, health care and industrial development financings.

Laura's practice includes service as bond counsel, borrower's counsel, underwriter's counsel and credit enhancement provider's counsel for 501(c)(3) financings, including financings for cultural, educational, assisted living and health care institutions.

Laura has served as bond counsel, underwriter's counsel and issuer's counsel to the state housing authority and to lending institutions on housing financings, aggregating in excess of \$1 billion. She has also served as credit enhancer's or liquidity provider's counsel for over 100 tax-exempt bond financings for domestic and foreign bank clients.

Laura received her law degree from the University of Minnesota (JD, 1985) and her undergraduate degree from Valparaiso University (BA, 1982). She is a member of the American Bar Association and the National Association of Bond Lawyers, has served on the board of directors of Women In Public Finance and is admitted to the Bar in Illinois.

Sponsor Company Profile

Foley & Lardner LLP provides the full range of corporate legal counsel. Foley's attorneys understand today's most complex business issues, including corporate governance, securities enforcement, litigation, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property counseling and litigation, outsourcing and information technology, labor and employment, and tax. The firm offers total solutions in the automotive, emerging technologies, energy, entertainment and media, financial services, food, golf and resort services, insurance, health care, life sciences, nanotechnology, and sports industries. For more information about Foley & Lardner LLP, visit the company's website at www.foley.com.

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Beth Blom

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member Advisory Panelist for Strada Real Estate

Beth Blom is a Vice President and Small Business Banker for National City. She focuses on owner-managed businesses with a concentration on physicians and medical practices. This enables her to anticipate challenges that medical practices face as they grow and adapt to ever changing industrial trends and to recommend financial tools and strategies that accelerate cash flow, reduce operating costs, finance growth, grow wealth and reduce financial risks.

During her 18 years in banking and financial services, Beth's experience consists of Institutional Trust and Investment Management, Corporate Business Development and Small Business Banking. She has been with National City since 1993 and is a Women's Business Advocate (WBA) representing the bank throughout the Chicagoland region. An active contributor to the Prevent Child Abuse America - Chicago Chapter and to the ATHENAPowerLink® program hosted by the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center, Beth is also a Member of the Auction Committee for the American Heart Association.

Beth received her bachelor's degree in finance from Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio.

Sponsor Company Profile

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Laurel Delaney

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member

Laurel Delaney is a successful entrepreneur, author, speaker and educator with more than 20 years of experience in global business.

Laurel has traveled extensively internationally. Her firm, Global TradeSource, Ltd., offers global marketing and consulting services aimed toward entrepreneurs and small businesses. She is a renowned global small business expert. Her first book, *Start and Run a Profitable Exporting Business* (Self Counsel Press, 1998), was featured in The Wall Street Journal, The Journal of Commerce, and Entrepreneur and Inc. magazines. She is an adjunct Professor of MBA International Marketing at Loyola University of Chicago.

Laurel's articles have appeared in numerous international newspapers and business publications, including The Wall Street Journal, Fortune Small Business, Journal of Japanese Trade & Industry, Dun & Bradstreet, Small Business Administration's Online Women's Business Center, China International Business & Technology, The Conference Board and the offline edition of the Institute of Management & Administration.

Awarded the Small Business Administration's Illinois Exporter of the Year award, Laurel serves on the Illinois Board of Higher Education International Education Industry Advisory Council and on the board of the Illinois Center for International Business Education and Research (IL-CIBER). She also serves on the International Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of International Entrepreneurship, and on the Advisory Board of Women Entrepreneurs Inc. She is the Chicago Chapter facilitator for the Women Presidents' Organization (WPO) and serves on the International Board of Directors for WPO.

Laurel is the founder of Small Business Global Marketing Forum, a moderated discussion list for entrepreneurs and small businesses interested in going global. In addition, she writes and publishes *The Global Small Business Blog* (borderbuster.blogspot.com), and a free monthly, 12-page e-newsletter called *Borderbuster*, which is highly regarded in the big as well as small business community for its excellence in providing important global business information. She is busy at work writing a monthly global business column for Entrepreneur magazine, generating ideas for her next book and establishing a new company: LaurelDelaney.com, a place where her best work lies ahead.

Laurel holds an MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management.

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Claire Caithamer Gregoire

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member Advisory Panelist for The Tercet Group (2006) 2006 Advisory Panel of the Year Award Winner

As President and CEO of KAMD²EN Strategy Group, a management consulting firm formed in 2000 specializing in business strategy and advisory services, Claire Gregoire has successfully combined her various positions in the corporate world with her role of business owner, capitalizing on her more than 25 years experience in the areas of corporate strategy, business development, risk management, human resources, succession planning and profit and loss management.

This translates into a consultant who has real life experience as well as a realistic understanding of the challenges, opportunities and needs of her clients. It is this perspective that creates the platform for success with the business owners and key executives she works with - helping them crystallize their goals and develop strategies that drive the right kind of results.

Clients serviced through her firm include associations, banks, insurance, manufacturing, technology, professional service and civil engineering. She is also serving as Interim CEO of Metropolitan Administrative Services, a for profit subsidiary of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce providing transition management services to facilitate the launch of an innovative health care program for small businesses throughout the State of Illinois.

Claire earned a masters of management degree in finance, marketing and international business from Northwestern University's J. L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, and a bachelor's degree from Ripon College. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of Ripon College, serves on the Executive Committee and chairs the Admissions Committee. She is a former chair of the Audit Committee. Claire serves on the board of Metropolitan Administrative Services, on the Governing Body for the ATHENAPowerLink® - Chicago Area program, and is a founding member of the Ripon College Institute for Ethical Leadership and a past president of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) - Chicago Area Chapter.

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Catherine Lee

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member

Catherine M. Lee is founder and President of CDL & Associates, a consulting firm, which specializes in communications, personal skill development, multi-national team building, and facilitation skills. Catherine has consulted for the last several years with major corporations, including BP Amoco and Motorola. Her facilitation experience began in the political caucus arena and currently includes workshops in Negotiations, Advanced Sales, Executive Leadership programs, Team Building, Customer Satisfaction, and the Partnering program. She has worked for the Federal Government in South America, and has developed and delivered language and cultural training for International Harvester (NAVISTAR) and General Motors. For the past ten years Catherine has worked extensively in Asia, from the industrial zone of Tian Jin, China to the financial center in Hong Kong. She has done training in Europe and in the emerging markets of Latin America.

In addition to her present consulting company, Catherine has been active in community affairs. She was an elected member and President of her community's Board of Education and the community's Strategic Planning Committee. Her political involvement led her to facilitate Business and Public Education partnerships. Catherine serves as Motorola's representative to the Arlington Heights District 25 Learning Leadership Team. She has presented at many national conferences including the AASA (American Association of School Administrators) 1994 National Conference, the ASCD (American Society of Curriculum Development) 1994 National Conference, the 1994 Conference of The National Society of Professional Engineers in Vancouver, and the 1997 DePaul University Business Graduate School's National Conference where she spoke on "Trust Building in Business in China."

Recruited to run for U.S. Congress in 1996, Catherine led the Democratic ticket across six counties without claiming the seat. Emily's List endorsed and supported her candidacy. Prior to her race, Catherine presented at the Fourth World Women's Conference in Beijing on the subject of grassroots organizing. In April 1999 Catherine joined a Women In Management (WIM) delegation to meet with women in business and the professions in China and to explore potential partnerships. In May 1999 Catherine was selected to participate in a summit in Toronto, Canada sponsored by U.S. Secretary of Commerce William Daley, the Small Business Administration and the Canadian Consulate. The purpose was to identify, define and implement policies to support international businesswomen to partner -- U.S. with Canada. CDL & Associates secured three partnerships as a result of the summit.

Catherine has a MA from the University of Michigan and received her degree as an Horace Rackham Fellow. She has completed course work for her PhD at Wayne State University. Her studies include extensive work at Laval University in Quebec, Canada, and Javeriana University in Bogota, Colombia. She was an Assistant Professor at the University of Detroit and at Purdue University.

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Sarah McCann

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Program Participation	Governing Body & Selection Committee Member

Sarah McCann is the President & CEO of Apex Performance Systems, which she co-founded in the 1980s with her partner Chris Lytle, a Certified Speaking Professional of international acclaim and the author of *The Accidental Salesperson* (AMACOM, 2000). With Sarah's extensive experience in leadership, sales training and technology, Sarah has guided Apex Performance Systems to become an industry leader in business-to-business sales training.

Apex has distance learning programs distributed in 36 countries and five languages. Their hallmark programs include MAX, a multi-media training program that is coached and has an internet interface. Apex has trained almost 200,000 sales professionals since 1984. The Automatic Training Machine is the newest addition to the training portfolio with training in "bytes" available 24/7 at an incredibly affordable price. Clients in Chicago include: WGN (media), Crains Chicago Business (business publishing), Holland and Knight (law firm) and a host of other top-line companies with business-to-business sales teams. www.apexperformancesystems.com

Sarah has worked in large corporate cultures like Quaker Oats and managed computer operations at Merrill-Lynch in Chicago. She is a member of MAC, a mastermind group of CEOs similar to Vistage, of which she was a member for six years. She has attended the American Management Association's President's Summit and is a member of The Eagle Summit, where she continues to network with successful CEOs. She is also a member of the Women Presidents' Organization and NAWBO (National Association of Women Business Owners). Apex also carries designation as a WBE (Women's Business Enterprise).

In here spare time...

Sarah has also achieved acclaim as a recognized expert in the art of the dinner party and writes a weekly column for ARCA-MAX newsletters. Her pen name is Zola Gorgon. The column is called Recipes with Zola. Distribution is about 300,000 worldwide. The "fan mail" pours in daily. She also writes a monthly column for a women's magazine in Wisconsin. The magazine is called *Brava* and the column is titled "Zola Knows...". Zola was recently awarded the Silver Medal as Best Columnist in the Madison market. With tips and recipes for entertaining with down-to-earth grandeur, Zola's mission is to take the intimidation out of entertaining. Zola practices what she preaches by holding upwards of 50 dinner parties a year and offers her talents and celebrity chef status to be auctioned off by select charities. Her Zola website is www.dinnerwithzola.com.

Sarah lives in Madison, Wisconsin as well as in the Bucktown neighborhood of Chicago. She and her home in Madison were recently filmed by HGTV for a feature show coming up in the Fall of 2007. This feature will highlight her interior design and gardening talents. There's "rumor and early discussion" of a television pilot for Zola.

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Michelle Michaels

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Website	www.foley.com
Program Participation	Governing Body Member

Michelle Michaels is Director of Diversity at the national law firm of Foley & Lardner LLP, where she has architected and overseen a distinct department focused on the continued development of the firm's Diversity Program. As a Director--the first at Foley in Diversity--Michelle's current scope of responsibilities encompasses a variety of areas including marketing, business development, strategic alliance management, recruiting and human resources. Her primary responsibility is to assist in the refinement of Foley & Lardner's strategic platform as it relates to the recruitment, retention, and professional and career development of the diverse attorneys at the firm. This further entails the tactical implementation of a number of national initiatives and projects which help to position Foley in target market sectors.

While Michelle also has practiced law previously, most of her professional experiences have been in the areas of marketing and business development for professional services organizations. Her career highlights to date include leading or teaming up for projects and initiatives that have significantly impacted organizations either financially or culturally. Since joining Foley, Michelle has led the firm teams which have been recognized with the following marketing and diversity leadership awards:

- Marketing Initiative of the Year award from the Marketing Partners Forum (2003)
- Legal Marketing Award (2003)
- California Minority Corporate Program's (CMCP) Drucilla Stender Ramey Award for strong and ongoing commitment to diversity (2006)
- Listing as one of the top three law firms for women in Chicago, *Presumed Equal: What America's Top Women Lawyers Really Think About Their Firms* (2006)
- Entrepreneurial Star Award from the Business Women's Network and Diversity Best Practices for demonstrated and sustained commitment to advancing the role of women and diverse individuals (2006)
- Scoring of 95 percent out of 100 percent on Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index (2006)
- Listing as one of the "Top 25 Law Firms for Disabled Attorneys and Gay/Lesbian Attorneys" by *Multicultural Law* magazine (2006)
- Listing as one of the "Top 100 Law Firms for Diversity" by *Multicultural Law* magazine (2005, 2007)

Michelle has also found involvement in the ATHENAPowerLink® program through Foley & Lardner both professionally and personally fulfilling on many levels. She is deeply committed to the mission of the program and was highly active in it's "re-launch" and "re-branding" four years ago, having volunteered countless hours to help position the program within the Chicago Area and Florida marketplaces. Michelle has acted as an ambassador for the program within Foley, and was successful at persuading firm management to become more actively involved on both the national and local levels. She is grateful to have had the opportunity to contribute in a small way to the growth and success of several women business owners.

Michelle holds a BA in Telecommunications and Marketing from Indiana University and a JD from DePaul College of Law.

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Foley & Lardner LLP provides the full range of corporate legal counsel. Foley's attorneys understand today's most complex business issues, including corporate governance, securities enforcement, litigation, mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property counseling and litigation, outsourcing and information technology, labor and employment, and tax. The firm offers total solutions in the automotive, emerging technologies, energy, entertainment and media, financial services, food, golf and resort services, insurance, health care, life sciences, nanotechnology, and sports industries. For more information about Foley & Lardner LLP, visit the company's website at www.foley.com.

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Jasmine Moore

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Program Participation	Governing Body & Selection Committee Member Program Director

Jasmine Moore is a Program Director and business advisor for the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center at the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce (CEC).

In this role, she manages the ATHENAPowerLink® and Empresario advisory panel programs for high-growth women and Hispanic-led businesses, including advising select CEC clients on strategic growth opportunities and resources. Jasmine also identifies and actively develops CEC alliances with key complementary corporations and business growth organizations, including chambers of commerce, business owner groups, professional associations and other entrepreneurial centers.

Jasmine has over five years of financial services experience and was most recently an Assistant Treasurer and Financial Analyst at W. P. Carey & Co., LLC, a Wall Street real estate investment and advisory firm. At W. P. Carey, she had a variety of project management responsibilities, including a quarterly financial report targeted to analysts and investors in a \$1.5 billion publicly traded portfolio.

Jasmine is a member of the Advisory Board Committee of the National Association of Women Business Owners - Chicago Area Chapter (NAWBO - Chicago Area), and has recently been selected to serve on NAWBO - Chicago Area's board as the Chicagoland Chamber liaison. She also volunteers for the City Lights high school tutoring program at Chicago's Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Jasmine graduated from Yale University with BA degree in Political Science.

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Maureen Prochenski

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member

Maureen Prochenski is a Senior Vice President and Area Sales Manager for National City Business Banking. Her dedication to high-quality customer service and innovative capabilities in business banking allow her and her team to provide the best solutions for your unique situation. They will take the time to understand your financial needs and then recommend the best fit for your business—not just for today, but for the future.

A native of Chicago, Maureen’s 22 years of banking experience includes expertise in commercial real estate lending, consumer banking, and business banking. In addition to serving on the Governing Body for the ATHENAPowerLink® program at the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center, she is an active participant of the National Association of Women Business Owners - Chicago Area Chapter (NAWBO - Chicago Area), the Small Business Administration (SBA), the Women’s Economic Development Outreach (WE-DO) Tour hosted by National City, and the Women’s Business Development Center (WBDC). She personally has won several awards, including the 2006 SBA Award for Financial Services Champion of the Year and the 2005 NAWBO - Chicago Area Corporate Partner of the Year.

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National City Corporation (NYSE: NCC), headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive banking network primarily in Ohio, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri and Pennsylvania, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its core businesses include commercial and retail banking, mortgage financing and servicing, consumer finance and asset management. For more information about National City, visit the company's website at www.nationalcity.com.

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Melissa Talarico

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member Advisory Panelist for Strada Real Estate (Panel Coordinator)

Melissa Talarico is the Venture Director and a business advisor for the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center at the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce (CEC).

In this role, she advises CEC clients who are raising both debt and equity financing, assists clients through the process of applying for a CEC matching grant, and oversees the expansion of the organization's Venture Forum program. Melissa has over six years of experience as an Electrical Engineer, in the functional areas of Test Engineering, Design Engineering, and Product Development for Delphi Automotive, Omron Electronics, and locally based product development firm, Herbst LaZar Bell.

Recently, Melissa was an Associate for Northwestern University's Center for Women Entrepreneurs in Technology, where she assisted women-led businesses in finding and utilizing investment and other resources needed when launching start-up technology based businesses. She assisted in the planning and executing the Springboard: Midwest 2005 Venture Capital Forum, which is a national series of forums designed to assist high growth women-led businesses in obtaining Venture Capital and Angel financing. Melissa assists the Illinois Venture Capital Association in planning and executing the Angel / Seed Stage track at the annual Midwest Venture Summit, and has prepared select CEC clients to present at the annual Los Angeles Region Technology Association (LARTA) Venture Forum held in San Jose, CA.

Melissa received a BS in Electrical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH, and an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management with major concentrations in Marketing, Entrepreneurship & Innovation, and Finance.

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Sylvia Wynn

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Program Participation	Governing Body Member

Sylvia Wynn is President and Co-Founder of SJW Enterprises, a marketing and marketing research consulting company which was founded in 1987.

Before forming her own company, Sylvia was Vice President of Marketing and Sales at Johnson Products Company, and held product and research management positions at International Playtex, The Gillette Company, Lever Brothers Company, and Avon Products.

In addition to providing focus group moderating, idea generation, and consulting services to a wide range of consumer goods manufacturers, advertising agencies, and the government sector, Sylvia teaches marketing for the City Colleges of Chicago, and is a marketing and management adviser to start-up and established business owners at the Women's Business Development Center in Chicago.

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Christine Cáceres

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for Strada Real Estate

As a Business Development Manager at Foley & Lardner LLP, Christie collaborates with the firm's marketing team to implement business development processes, procedures and plans across all practice groups, among other roles and responsibilities. Christie is also a lead manager of Foley's Annual National Directors Institute, which as it enters its seventh year has become the forum of choice to learn about hot topics and trends affecting boardrooms across America.

Christie attributes much of her professional success to her colleagues at Foley, who have made her career at the firm an incredibly enjoyable experience. She is also proud to contribute to an entrepreneurial team environment where many great accomplishments have arisen from people's willingness to dive into a project with passion for the journey, despite not necessarily knowing the precise endpoint.

Christie is a huge supporter of ATHENAPowerLink®, having served on the Chicago Area program's Governing Body for one year before stepping down to serve as an advisory panelist for Strada Real Estate. Christie cites the experience of being intimately involved in the developments and successes of a growing small business as "wonderful. Hearing the different viewpoints of advisory panelists is a huge asset to women business owners, as each person has something unique to offer."

Christie also volunteers for Chicago Cares and is active in the Legal Sales & Service Organization, Legal Marketing Association, and Business Marketing Association. She is a graduate of the University of Missouri - Columbia with a bachelor's degree in Journalism.

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Tom Caprel

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for Sublime Promotions 2007 Advisory Panel of the Year Award Winner

Tom Caprel makes things happen. He's been a significant contributor and founder of two extraordinarily successful technology firms, including IT Lighthouse, and continually serves as a board member of one. Employees and clients alike have been positively impacted by his unique blend of 'head and heart' which creates environments that are humane and successful.

A top priority of Tom's is to leave the people he has touched in a better place. His 14 years in the world of transformational work has taught him how to successfully create possibilities and results, while catering to the needs of his clients. His irrepressible optimism and thirst for the leading trends in organizational and leadership development, make him easy to work with. Business owners, management teams and employees alike have found his 'steel behind the soft glove' approach generates actions which lead to successful business conclusions.

Do you want to get to the next level? Tom helps people and companies find the intangibles it takes to get there.

Tom has worked with managers of technology, banking, pharmaceutical, marketing/communications, insurance, online retail, and consulting firms, including through his role as a meeting group Chair for the Vistage CEO membership organization. Of note, one of Tom's client's AM Best rating went up from B+ to A- making them \$1,000,000 more than they had expected. Another client's revenue went up 400% in one year. A third worked their way out of a significant debt burden and continues operations successfully, when the future looked bleak. Tom's commitment to complete customer satisfaction is valued by his many repeat and long-standing clients.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Western Illinois University. Golf, reading and living life fully occupies the rest of his time. Tom resides with his wife and two children in Wheaton, Illinois.

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Carol Coletta

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for Bluedog Design

Carol Coletta is President and CEO of CEOs for Cities and host and producer of the nationally syndicated public radio show Smart City. Before moving to Chicago to head CEOs for Cities, she served as president of Coletta & Company in Memphis. In addition, she served as executive director of the Mayors' Institute on City Design, a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, U.S. Conference of Mayors and American Architectural Foundation. Carol is a passionate advocate for cities, and she has devoted her life to answering the question: What makes cities succeed? Through her weekly conversations with urban leaders and thinkers on Smart City, her research and consulting, and now as leader of CEOs for Cities, she continues her ongoing quest for the answers.

Among her accomplishments, Carol hosted The Vine, a three-day gathering of internationally recognized speakers for the Pacific Coast Builders Conference; she created and hosted the Memphis Manifesto Summit with Richard Florida, the first gathering of the creative class to write their call to action for cities; she conceived and wrote the Talent Magnet Report, the first city blueprint aimed at attracting and retaining the creative class; and she co-authored Cultural Development in Creative Communities for Americans for the Arts.

Carol was a Knight Fellow in Community Building for 2003 at the University of Miami School of Architecture. Her paper on the Future of Cities, produced for the University of Houston Clear Lake's Future Studies program, was selected for presentation to the World Future Society annual meeting. She is currently a candidate for a Master of Design Methods at the Institute of Design at IIT. She is frequently interviewed as an expert on urban issues by national media and is an active speaker on the success formula for cities and creative communities.

Before moving to Chicago to head CEOs for Cities, she served as president of Coletta & Company in Memphis. In addition, she served as executive director of the Mayors' Institute on City Design, a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, U.S. Conference of Mayors and American Architectural Foundation.

Carol is a passionate advocate for cities, and she has devoted her life to answering the question: What makes cities succeed? Through her weekly conversations with urban leaders and thinkers on Smart City, her research and consulting, and now as leader of CEOs for Cities, she continues her ongoing quest for the answers.

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Lisa Conmy

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for The Image Studios

Lisa Conmy is an Associate at Foley & Lardner LLP. She is a member of the firm's Finance & Financial Institutions and Transactional & Securities Practices. Her practice focuses on the representation of investors in institutional private placements and also involves general corporate law, financings, mergers and acquisitions and securities matters.

Prior to joining Foley, Lisa was an associate in the Corporate and Securities Department of Gardner Carton & Douglas. She was also an associate in the Silicon Valley office of Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin and Hachigian, LLP where her practice concentrated on mergers and acquisitions and the representation of venture funds and emerging growth companies in private placements.

Lisa earned her JD, cum laude, at Northwestern University School of Law, where she was a member of the Journal of International Law and Business. She obtained her BS in Finance from Indiana University. She is admitted to practice in California and Illinois.

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Michael Crowe

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for Heartfelt Charity Cards

Mike has served in various commercial lending roles over his last six years with National City Bank, where he began his finance career in 2001 as an Analyst with responsibility for performing detailed cash flow, collateral, industry and general risk analyses for the bank's commercial, real estate and not-for-profit lending clients. Mike's current role as a Relationship Manager for National City's Middle Market banking team in Libertyville includes managing a portfolio of over \$30 million in committed funds, while also calling on new commercial clients with revenues between \$5 million and \$50 million. As of June 2007, Mike will join National City's Upper Middle Market banking team in Chicago, and will manage a portfolio of approximately \$200 million in committed funds, while targeting new commercial customers with revenues between \$50 million and \$1 billion.

Much of the macro perspective that Mike brings to his business approach stems from his prior work experience at a nonprofit which operated alcohol and drug rehabilitation centers in South Bend, Indiana and in East Africa. In this role, Mike coordinated the agency's volunteer recruitment and fundraising efforts, networking with several nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) such as the World Bank and the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Of note, he authored a paper on the microeconomic effect of drug and alcohol rehabilitation in Kenya and Uganda.

Mike graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 2001 with a BA in Finance and is currently pursuing his MBA in Finance and Management at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. Beyond his participation in several extracurricular groups at Kellogg, Mike serves as a volunteer advisor for the ATHENAPowerLink® program at the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center and is an active Women's Business Advocate for National City Bank.

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National City Corporation (NYSE: NCC), headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive banking network primarily in Ohio, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri and Pennsylvania, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its core businesses include commercial and retail banking, mortgage financing and servicing, consumer finance and asset management. For more information about National City, visit the company's website at www.nationalcity.com.

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Matthew Dalton

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for Forbes Technical Consulting

Matt is the Marketing Director for Live Out Loud. Live Out Loud is a global educational company committed to revolutionizing the way in which people take responsibility for their financial lives. It advocates wealth building for individuals, couples and business partners through the design, development and sale of innovative financial models and tools. Live Out Loud's intent is to offer the international community a viable, proven choice that promotes financial independence and control utilizing a non-traditional, direct approach and a team orientation to execute the vision. Unlike other companies in this space, they create a wealth building community of like-minded individuals, equipped with a team, a practical, achievable plan and the resources to execute it.

Matt's primary role at Live Out Loud is marketing in the financial seminar industry with an emphasis on increasing lead generation, creating consistent branding, and online promotion through an integrated marketing strategy. Yet he also leverages prior experience in the areas of sales, IT, and business development, which enables him to bring a diverse and knowledgeable perspective to his current position.

Some of Matt's proudest professional accomplishments include:

- Co-Founding BEAN.net, the original storefront internet service provider. Although the initial business planning and customers were signed in a basement in Berwyn, IL with the help of technical guru, Adam Neth, Bean.net opened its first retail location in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood in 1998. Within one year, Bean.net acquired Suba Communications, Inc., which was located in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood and was recognized by *The Wall Street Journal* in 1995 as the first Internet Cafe in North America.
- Being named by the Chicago *Sun-Times* as one of the "100 Most Influential People in Chicago E-Biz" (2001)
- Being invited by Loyola University to guest lecture on Internet Marketing (2000-2001)

Matt cites meeting many great people via networking through the ATHENAPowerLink® program at the Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center. He also considers it a unique outlet for applying his diverse professional skills and passion for entrepreneurship, especially when it comes to helping growing small businesses to work through complex business challenges and to systematize processes.

Matt earned a BSBA with a major in Marketing from John Carroll University in Cleveland, OH. He is currently working on relocating his family from Chicago to a new home in Novato, CA; and he enjoys reading, bicycling, and hiking.

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Kurt Downham

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Program Participation	Advisory Panelist for Forbes Technical Consulting

Kurt Downham is currently a member of National City Bank’s Corporate Banking Group. In his current role, Kurt provides senior debt and other ancillary banking services, such as treasury management, to firms located in the Chicagoland area. Mr. Downham’s clients include manufacturers, wholesalers, retail and service firms that generate from \$5 million to \$100 million in annual revenues.

Kurt has been associated with the ATHENAPowerLink® program for approximately one year in which he has had the opportunity to work with many professional women within the Chicagoland business community.

Kurt’s career has been focused in the areas of the professional services and manufacturing sectors where he has been involved with sales, marketing, audit and finance while holding positions with Arthur Gallagher, Arthur Andersen, United Technologies and Anixter International. Mr. Downham has always provided his clients with valuable consulting advice and innovative ideas for their businesses.

Kurt holds a B.S. in economics and accounting and a Masters degree in finance and marketing from Purdue University.

Sponsor Company Profile

National City Corporation (NYSE: NCC), headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive banking network primarily in Ohio, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri and Pennsylvania, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its core businesses include commercial and retail banking, mortgage financing and servicing, consumer finance and asset management. For more information about National City, visit the company's website at www.nationalcity.com.

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Kali Evans-Raoul

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Program Participation	Advisory Panel Recipient

Kali Evans-Raoul, Founder and President of The Image Studios, epitomizes everything she believes in. Her passion for self-actualization is evident in her own life and in the lives of those whom she touches, whether they are her clients, her friends, or the young men and women she mentors.

With more than 25 years in the beauty products industry, and experience in both creating and running a business, Kali's launch of her successful image consulting business in 2000 was a natural. But it is her commitment to helping others understand, define and present the image they want rather than what someone else thinks they should have which sets The Image Studios apart from the usual narrow definition of image consulting.

Kali has the rare combination of both technical knowledge and marketing savvy. She has a degree in chemical engineering from Carnegie Mellon University, with a minor in Psychology, and has worked in product development, marketing and consumer education for a range of companies, including the boutique haircare and beauty company Dudley Products, Inc., Soft Sheen and Kraft Foods. While in college Kali helped finance her education by setting up and managing for three years an investor-backed hair salon in Pittsburgh, DC Styles High Tech Salon. She also has worked as a consultant in the development of cosmetic lines.

The impetus for creating The Image Studios came from Kali's experience watching talented and competent individuals miss out on promotions and advancement opportunities primarily because they weren't seen as "high potential" individuals. With The Image Studios she has created the business model that provides the tools and process to help individuals move out of the shadows and be seen and heard. The Image Studios works with both companies and individual clients.

Kali remains close to the industry as an active member of the Association of Image Consultants International (AICI), National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), the National Cosmetology Association (NCA), and Look Good Feel Better (LGFB). She also participates in several community mentoring programs and keeps a hands-on feel for the business by serving as The Image Studios' key hair stylist as well as leader of the Studios' team of image experts.

Kali currently lives in Chicago with her husband, Illinois State Senator Kwame Raoul, and their two children, Ché & Mizan.

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