



*The*  
**W O M E N**  
THRIVING FEARLESSLY  
**S U M M I T**

## **PARTNERSHIP PROSPECTUS**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**

MORAINÉ BUSINESS & CONFERENCE CENTER  
9000 College Pkwy, Palos Hills, IL 60465



## **BIRTH OF THE WOMEN THRIVING FEARLESSLY SUMMIT**

After surviving childhood sexual assault, homelessness, domestic abuse, and a suicide attempt, I ventured out into the world determined to build a business that would create a place of safety, prosperity, and community for other women. But I was met with barrier after barrier, making it immensely challenging to build the business I desired. So, I set a new goal - create a "one-stop-shop" for women in business to start, run, and grow their businesses.

After decades of trial and error, countless failed attempts to secure funding, and encountering a host of scammers who maliciously tried to steal my money & brand, I created the **Women Thriving Fearlessly Expo (now called "Summit.")** From the streets of the south side of Chicago to the 99th floor of the iconic Willis Tower, I finally created the space I wish I had when I was building my own business - a place where women in business could be introduced to people who genuinely cared about assisting them in the growth of their enterprise.

I brought funders, expert marketers, accounting professionals, law firms, and a host of other essential resources to one place for a full day event.

Erika Gilchrist

## **OUR MISSION**

The Women Thriving Fearlessly Summit empowers female business owners of color by connecting them with vital resources that have historically been less accessible to them. Driven by a relentless passion to demolish historical barriers, our mission is bold and unwavering: ***To shatter the status quo, level the playing field, and bridge the gap to business resources, fostering a community where women can have equal opportunities, a healthy well-being, and grow their enterprises.***



# ABOUT THE CURATOR

Assaulted as a little girl, domestically abused as a young adult, lived in a women's shelter, and survived a suicide attempt, Erika Gilchrist has earned the title of "The Unstoppable Woman." She is regarded as one of the most energizing, engaging, and captivating speakers in the industry.

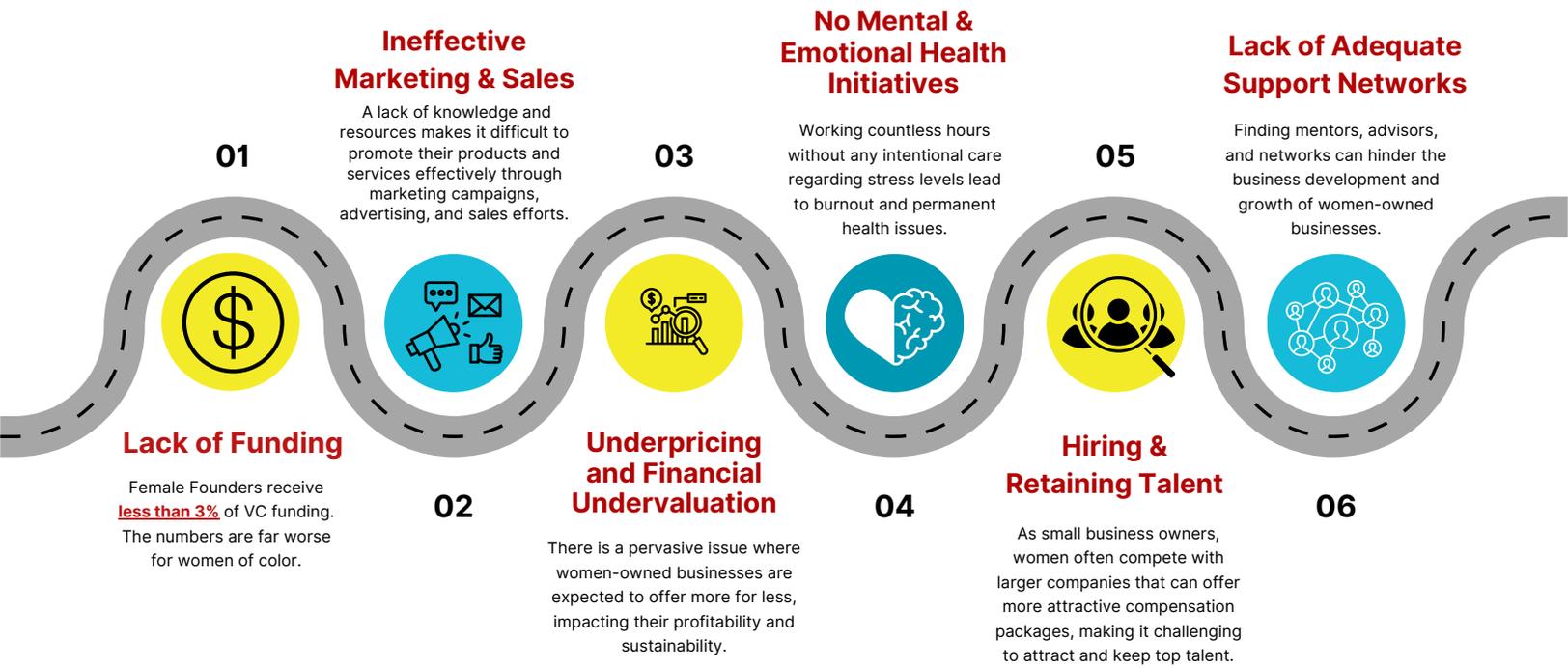
She is the creator of the brazen brand, W.T.F. - **Women Thriving Fearlessly**™.

As a published author of 13 books, and a 26-year speaking veteran, Ms. Gilchrist is an expert trainer in personal development, leadership training, abuse prevention & escape, team cohesiveness, and conflict management skills for women. She has built a thriving business from absolutely nothing to now being the owner of the largest summit for women of color in business in Chicagoland appropriately called the Women Thriving Fearlessly Expo™. She's been featured as one of the "15 Most Powerful Women on the South Side of Chicago," Chicago Woman Magazine, WCIU, CLTV, and Rolling Out Magazine.

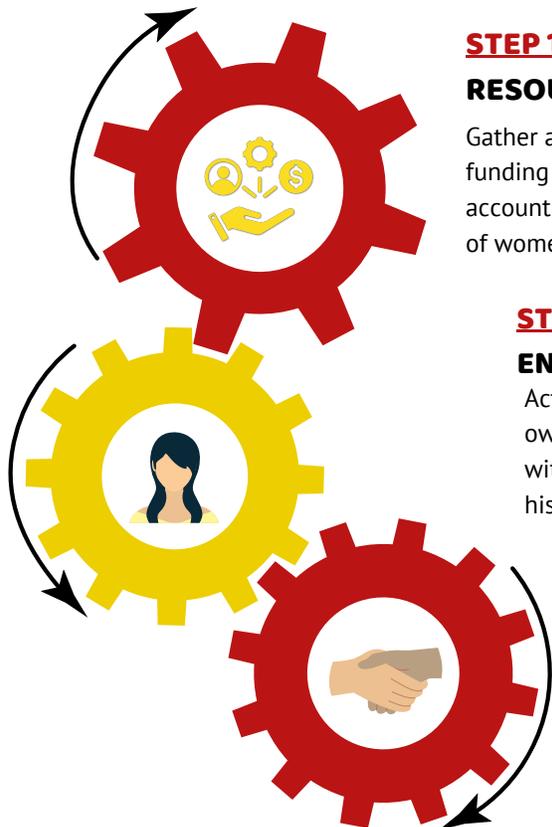
## ERIKA GILCHRIST



# The Winding Road of Challenges for Women in Business



## HOW WE SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS



### **STEP 1: CURATE ESSENTIAL BUSINESS RESOURCES**

Gather an extensive array of critical business resources, such as funding opportunities, advanced business tools, and expert accounting services, specifically tailored to meet the unique needs of women-owned businesses.

### **STEP 2: ENGAGE AND EMPOWER FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS**

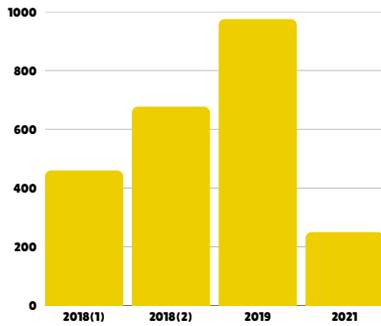
Actively reach out to and engage female entrepreneurs and business owners from diverse industries to attend the summit. Provide them with the opportunity to access resources and knowledge that have historically been less accessible, thereby leveling the playing field.

### **STEP 3: FACILITATE MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS AND COLLABORATION**

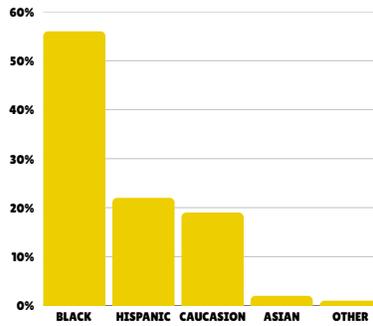
Create an interactive and supportive environment where women can form strategic partnerships, exchange innovative ideas, and build lasting relationships with mentors, peers, and industry leaders. This space will serve as a catalyst for growth and empowerment, ensuring ongoing support and community for all attendees.

# DEMOGRAPHICS

# OF ATTENDEES



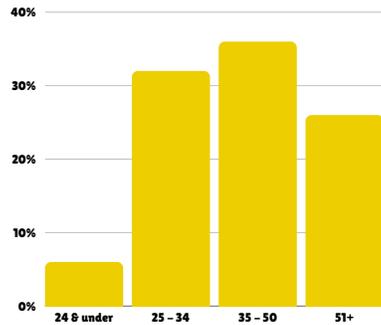
ETHNICITY



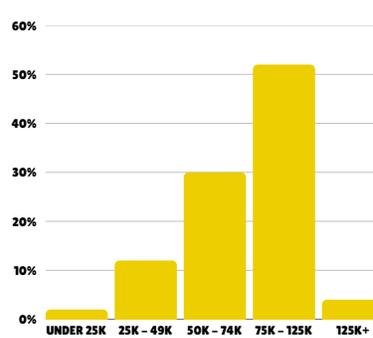
96% FEMALE, 4% MALE



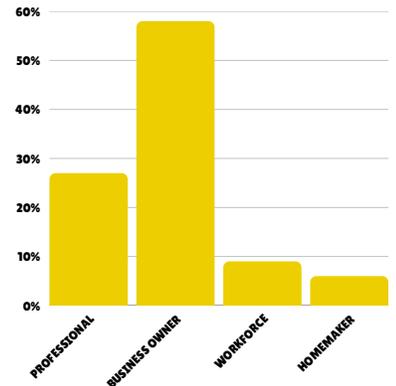
AGE



REVENUE



OCCUPATION



# SOME PREVIOUS SPEAKERS



**EMILY WASHCOVICK**  
SMALL BUSINESS EXPERT, YELP



**WATCHEN NYANUE**  
VP MARKETING PARTNERSHIPS,  
WNBA/CHICAGO SKY



**LOURDES DUARTE**  
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER/ANCHOR, WGN



**JADE CARPENTER**  
ATTORNEY & OWNER OF  
THE LAW OFFICE OF JADE CARPENTER



**JERI TOLIVER**  
CEO, FLYY CREDIT SOLUTIONS



**ARABEL ALVA GONZALES**  
CO-FOUNDER  
LATINO FASHION WEEK

AND MANY MORE...



# SUMMIT FEATURES



## VIP LOUNGE

Wine, swag bags, networking, massages, and food



## PANELS

Female professionals openly share their expertise and answer questions



## RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

Dedicated time to engage with other attendees and speakers



## VENDOR ARENA

Dedicated space for women-owned businesses to showcase their products & services



## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Presentations dedicated to specific relevant topics



## FOOD & BEVERAGES

Hot food and beverages served throughout the event in the VIP Lounge

# PAST SPONSORS

THE FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK



POWERING THE AMERICAN DREAM.



eliminating racism  
empowering women

ywca

metropolitan chicago

chicago WOMAN



COOPER'S HAWK™  
WINERY & RESTAURANTS



IT'S JUST LUNCH®  
DATING FOR BUSY PROFESSIONALS™



# PARTNER WITH US!

FEATURES	THRIVER	FOOD & BEV SPONSOR	FEARLESS	VISIONARY	PRESENTING
	\$5,500	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
MAX SPONSORS AT THIS LEVEL	20	1	10	4	1
Includes Exhibitor Booth & Premium Location	10 X 10 Premium Location	10 X 10 Premium Location	10 X 20 Premium Location	20 X 20 Ultra Premium Location (Pipe & draping)	20 X 20 Ultra Premium Location + 10 X 10 (Pipe & draping)
Complimentary tickets	5 general, 2 VIP	10 general, 5 VIP	12 general, 7 VIP	15 general, 10 VIP	25 general, 15 VIP
Sponsor name and logo in the event app (hyperlinked)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hyperlinked logo on event website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Email marketing to include hyperlinked logo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Color ad in summit magazine	1/4 page	1/2 page	1/2 page	Full page	2 Full pages
<a href="#">Rolling registration list (More info)</a>			✓	✓	✓
<a href="#">1 Roundtable Leader (More info)</a>			✓		
<a href="#">2 Roundtable Leaders (More info)</a>				✓	✓
Sponsor offers (ad with your QR code) within event app		✓	✓	✓	✓
<a href="#">VIP gift bag contribution (More info)</a>		✓	✓	✓	✓
3-min welcome at the beginning of cocktail reception		✓			
Cocktail reception naming rights		✓			
15-minute keynote on main stage				✓	✓
<a href="#">30-minute breakout session (More info)</a>			✓	✓	✓
Commercial running during the breaks on the main screen				✓	✓
Marketing giveaway at check-in area (Provided by the company)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Favorable article printed in summit magazine (Provided by the company)				✓	✓
VIP gift bag naming rights					✓
Registration area naming rights					✓
Awards presentation					✓
Logo printed on badges					✓

Questions regarding strategic partnerships, please contact:

**Erika Gilchrist**

**219-310-2505**

erika@womenthrivingfearlessly.com

# AVAILABLE ALA CARTE OPTIONS

<b>10 X 10 VENDOR TABLE</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>LOGO ON REGISTRATION BAGS (ONLY ONE AVAILABLE)</b>	<b>\$1,995</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>LOGO ON LANYARDS (ONLY ONE AVAILABLE)</b>	<b>\$1,995</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>VIP GIFT BAG CONTRIBUTION</b>	<b>\$495</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>BREAKOUT SESSION</b>	<b>\$995</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>ROUNDTABLE LEADER</b>	<b>\$995</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>LOGO ON STEP &amp; REPEAT (Limited number available)</b>	<b>\$2,995</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>1/4 PAGE COLOR AD</b>	<b>\$495</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>1/2 PAGE COLOR AD</b>	<b>\$750</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>
<b>FULL PAGE COLOR AD</b>	<b>\$995</b>	<b><u>MORE INFO</u></b>

## CONTACT US



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