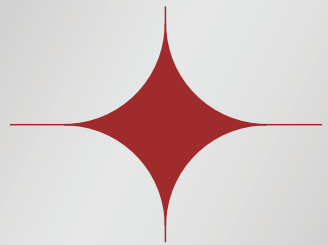


WCD Global Institute & Visionary Awards 2025

October 5—7, 2025
Chicago



AGENDA

**Sunday,
October 5**

4:00–4:45 pm

Chapter Chair Meeting

Venetian Room

5:00–7:00 pm

Welcome Reception:

Tea with a Twist

Palm Court

Presented by Women's Leadership Center

- ✦ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation
- ✦ **Debra Panzarella** | Partner, KPMG LLP; WCD Chicago Co-Chair
- ✦ **Ann Drake** | Chair and President, Women's Leadership Center

AGENDA

**Monday,
October 6**

6:30–7:35 am

Continental Breakfast
Walton

7:35–7:50 am

Welcome Remarks

- ◆ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation
- ◆ **Karen Mitchell Curran** | Retired Office Managing Partner, KPMG Ft. Lauderdale
- ◆ **Cathy Gonzales** | Partner, KPMG LLP; Director, WCD Foundation

7:50–8:15 am

FIRESIDE CHAT
Celebrating WCD's 25th Anniversary

As we celebrate 25 years of empowering women directors to deliver visionary board leadership, what were the key drivers that led to WCD's formation and success? From WCD's beginnings around a dining room table to today's global organization, how can we continue to "pay it forward" to the next generation?

- ◆ **Henrietta Fore** | Co-Founder, Women Corporate Directors; Chairman and CEO of Holsman International; Senior Managing Partner, Radiate Capital; WCD Washington D.C.
- ◆ **Susan Stautberg** | Co-Founder, Women Corporate Directors; Operating Advisor, Atlantic Street Capital; President and CEO of PartnerCom Corporation; WCD South Florida
- ◆ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation

8:15–9:05 am

KEYNOTE

Leaders in Business & the Boardroom

In an era of rapid innovation and global uncertainty, CEOs and boards are delving deeply into the potential impacts rapid, transformative change may have on their organizations. As boardroom conversations focus on strategic opportunities for future growth and value, we explore some of the major shifts and influences that are informing strategic decisions.

- ◆ **Debra Cafaro** | Chairman & CEO, Ventas; The PNC Financial Services Group
- ◆ **Pam Boneham** | Senior Strategic Advisor, Ventas Inc.; Independent Investment Committee Member, CBREIM; Board Member, City Hope; WCD Chicago (Moderator)
- ◆ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation

9:05–9:55 am

KEYNOTE

Global Economic Uncertainty & Future Forecast

In a world defined by volatility, how can business leaders stay ahead? Join Diane for a compelling session exploring the challenges and opportunities of navigating global uncertainty. She'll share forward-looking insights into the trends and issues firms may need to consider in 2026 and beyond.

- ◆ **Travis Hunter** | Chicago Office Managing Partner, KPMG (Moderator)
- ◆ **Diane Swonk** | Chief Economist, KPMG

9:55–10:15 am

Break

10:15–10:30 am

PANEL

Tim Walsh: Leading Through Disruption

- ✦ **Jackie Daylor** | Retired Global Audit Leader to Consumer and Retail Sector, KPMG LLP
- ✦ **Tim Walsh** | Chair and CEO, KPMG LLP

10:30 am–11:15 am

FIRESIDE CHAT

Strengthening Corporate Value in an Age of Disruption

In an era where technology is advancing at lightning speed and regulations are constantly changing, corporate boards have a unique opportunity to build trust and lead with confidence. Join our speakers as they explore how directors can leverage AI and tech innovation to stay ahead, foster agility, and align with long-term goals. Discover how to elevate governance practices, build lasting stakeholder trust, and create enduring corporate value in an evolving landscape.

- ✦ **Katy Brown** | Corporate Vice President, Americas Markets & Industries at Microsoft
- ✦ **Tim Walsh** | Chair and CEO, KPMG LLP

11:15 am–12:25 pm

PEER EXCHANGE

Joint Compensation & Human Capital AND Nominating & Governance Peer Exchange: What Comes Next? Board Governance of Talent & Culture in an Era of Change

This session will focus on how boards can lead the way forward to ensure inclusive and welcoming workplaces and boardrooms are in place. Compensation and Nominating committees have a unique opportunity to show leadership for how companies respond to pressures on diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives including in board composition and searches, executive compensation approaches, leadership succession and development plans, and culture in the workforce and boardroom. How are these committees fulfilling their oversight role in a changed environment? What more can be done to show continued support for inclusion and diverse voices in the workplace and boardroom?

- ✦ **Chris Edwards** | Financial Director and Rush University System for Health Vice Chair, BMO Financial; WCD Chicago
- ✦ **Jannice Koors** | Sr. Managing Director, Pearl Meyer (Moderator)
- ✦ **Edna Morris** | Chair, Tractor Supply Company; WCD Tampa
- ✦ **Lisa Shall** | Managing Director, Pearl Meyer

12:50–1:30 pm

FIRESIDE CHAT

(BUFFET LUNCH)

Women Leading in Sports & Inspiring the World

2024 was a landmark year for women's sports and its popularity only continues to grow and inspire the world. How can further growth and success in women's sports be encouraged? What are lessons learned from your journey that enabled you to be a strong and effective leader? As an experienced business executive and board member, how can companies build a welcoming workplace where future women leaders (all leaders) are inspired to succeed? What should board members consider when their companies have sports relationships?

- ✦ **Laura Ricketts** | Executive Chairperson and Controlling Owner, the Chicago Stars FC; Board Member, Chicago Cubs; Board Chair, Cubs Charities; Co-founder, Beyond Barriers
- ✦ **Anne Ward** | CEO, Treehouse Ventures; Director, SPS Commerce, Vanda Pharmaceuticals; WNBA and USL Owner, WCD Minnesota

12:25–1:40 pm

Buffet Lunch

1:00–4:00 pm

WORKSHOP

Boardroom Bound: A Strategic Pathway for Women Leaders
Venetian Room

Presented by KPMG Board Leadership Center

This session is specially designed to provide C-suite executives with an understanding of the board landscape, good practices that exemplify effective board leadership, and inform their personal journey to the boardroom. Participants will engage in real-world scenarios, hear directly from seasoned board directors and governance experts, and refine their understanding of business through a boardroom lens. The program helps equip future board members to contribute confidently and strategically at the highest levels of corporate governance.

- ◆ **Susan Angele** | Senior Advisor and Managing Director, KPMG Board Leadership Center
- ◆ **Annalisa Barrett** | Senior Advisor, KPMG Board Leadership Center
- ◆ **Anna Catalano** | Board Director, HFC, FTDR, ECVT, Hexion
- ◆ **Tina Chang** | Founder and CEO, Pioneering Collective
- ◆ **Tanuja Dehne** | Independent Director, Chair Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, Granite Point Mortgage Trust; WCD Philadelphia
- ◆ **Keith D. Dorsey** | Founder & Executive Advisor at Boardroom Journey
- ◆ **Andrea S. Rattner** | Partner, Proskauer

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1:40–2:25 pm

FIRESIDE CHAT

Being a Visionary & Impactful Leader for a New Era

The world is on the cusp of such change that the very fabric of society may be transformed. Business, governments, and communities across the world are experiencing potentially disruptive new technologies and shifting societal views. As an experienced global leader, CEO, and board member, how do you envision this playing out for the current and future generations? What is your advice to board members as they consider leadership for a new era workforce and business model?

- ◆ **Valerie Jarrett** | CEO, The Obama Foundation; Ralph Lauren, Walgreens, Ariel Investments
- ◆ **Lanesha Minnix** | EVP & CLO, Walgreens (Moderator)

2:25 pm–2:55 pm

BOARDWISE

BoardWISE (Women Inspiring Strategic Excellence) Session

In this bold and energizing session, Luvvie Ajayi Jones explores how today's leaders can embrace authenticity, lean into discomfort, and disrupt with purpose. Drawing on her unique perspective at the intersection of culture and strategy, she'll challenge attendees to rethink how they show up in rooms of influence. Expect insights on courageous leadership, personal presence, and the power of storytelling to drive global impact. Attendees will leave reinvigorated, inspired to lead with conviction, and more attuned to how their voice shapes the culture of the boardroom.

✦ **Luvvie Ajayi Jones** | CEO and Chief Visionary Officer, Awe Luv Media, LLC

3:25–4:10 pm

PANEL

Balancing Innovation & Transformation for Business & Society

Business leaders are taking a fresh look at how their companies will look in a new era. As AI technologies present an exciting opportunity to create new products and services, more efficient operations, and transform business around the world, global policy changes cause uncertain conditions and risks which need to be better understood. This session will address how business leaders can encourage innovative mindsets and approaches, while also digging deep to understand the disruptive risks to the organization and society. What does strategic leadership look like as we experience real-time transformative change?

✦ **Sophia Hudson (Moderator)** | Partner, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP

✦ **Sonita Lontoh** | Board member, Sunrun, TrueBlue; Advisor, Sway Ventures; WCD Bay Area

✦ **Richelle Parham** | Former President, Global eCommerce & Business Development, Universal Music Group; Director, Best Buy, LabCorp

✦ **Janet Wong** | Independent Board Director, Lucid Group and TWFG; WCD Houston

2:55–3:25 pm

Book Signing in the French Room

4:10–4:55 pm

KEYNOTE

Leading with Purpose & Positivity, Keep the e.l.f. Up with Tarang Amin, Chairman & CEO

e.l.f. Beauty is dedicated to making “the best of beauty accessible to every lip, eye, and face”. A vision of fostering “connections through positivity, inclusivity, and accessibility” is amplified across the organization and with stakeholders. CEO Amin has cultivated an inclusive culture of diverse, high-performing teams in the workforce and boardroom. In this session, we will explore how e.l.f.’s purpose-led approach is empowering growth and redefining leadership, culture, and success.

- ✦ **Tarang Amin** | Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, e.l.f. Beauty; Director, The J. M. Smucker Company, Pharmavite, LLC
- ✦ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation

4:55–5:00 pm

Closing Remarks

Closing remarks and reflections of the day.

- ✦ **Cristiane Azevedo** | KPMG Deal Advisory Partner; WCD Brazil Co-Chair
- ✦ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation

AGENDA

**Tuesday,
October 7**

7:30–8:00 am

CONCURRENT BREAKFAST SESSION

Paying it Forward: 25 Years of Impact

Presented by Pearl Meyer

As part of WCD's silver anniversary celebration, this session will reflect on the profound transformations that have shaped today's generation of leaders. What is the responsibility of current board members to mentor and support future generations of leaders? What can directors do to prepare future leaders for the complex scenarios that often arise in the corporate world, such as navigating CEO succession, fostering effective board collaboration, managing challenging stakeholder relations, and leading through periods of significant change?

✦ **Lianne Richardson** | Principal, Pearl Meyer

✦ **Mary Beth Vitale** | Former Interim CEO & Independent Board Member, WCD Foundation

✦ **Erin Dwyer** | CEO, Women Corporate Directors

7:30–8:00 am

CONCURRENT BREAKFAST SESSION

What the One Big Beautiful Bill Means for the Energy Industry

Presented by Vinson & Elkins LLP
Venetian Room

Three months after the passage of the OBBB, this session will focus on changes that are emerging in the energy industry since the passage of the bill. As shifts occur in the landscape for energy transition, renewables and traditional energy investments, how are deal structures, volumes, and the focus for investors evolving post-passage of the bill?

✦ **Ana Dutra** | Director, Pembina Pipeline Corporation, CarParts.com, Lifespace Communities; Vice Chair, Latino Corp.; WCD Chicago

✦ **Caitlin Lawrence** | Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP

✦ **Jenny Speck** | Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP

8:00–8:15 am

Welcome Remarks

- ✦ **Anne Zavarella** | Co-Leader, KPMG Board Leadership Center, KPMG US; Director, WCD Foundation
- ✦ **Erin Dwyer** | CEO, Women Corporate Directors

8:15–9:00 am

PANEL

Geopolitical Outlook & Risk Environment

Global leaders are challenged by an uncertain geopolitical environment and changing risk landscape. This session will explore how C-suite executives and boards can prepare for the directional changes that may occur as a result of shifting relationships around the world. What are the key focus areas emerging that may have the most impact on business? What strategies can help mitigate business risk as policy changes have broad implications on global economies, trade and tariffs, and taxes? What are the upside opportunities business leaders should be looking out for and considering in their boardroom strategy conversations?

- ✦ **Vicky Bailey** | Director, TXNM Energy, Inc, Occidental Petroleum Corporation, EQT Corporation; WCD Washington DC
- ✦ **Cristina Finocchi Mahne** | Board Member, Maire Group; De Longhi Group; Partner, Brunswick Group; WCD Italy
- ✦ **Adriana Wirtz (Moderator)** | Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP; WCD New York

9:00–9:40 am

FIRESIDE CHAT

Fireside Chat: Looking Ahead: What the Future May Bring & How to Plan for It!

This session will explore how emerging data, trends and fresh perspectives will shape the future of global business and society. What are big global issues you are seeing emerge, including the rapid adoption of AI technologies? Recognizing companies face different issues across geographies, demographics, and markets, what do you foresee as long-term impacts boards need to consider in their strategic decisions and forward strategies? How can the dynamics between consumers, investors, suppliers, and employees be optimized for future value?

- ✦ **John Dick** | Founder and CEO, CivicScience
- ✦ **Alexandra Dimitrijevic** | Global Head of R&D, Co-chair of the S&P Global Look Forward Council; WCD London
- ✦ **Christie Hefner** | Former Chairman & CEO, Playboy Enterprises; Principal C.A.H. LLC; Director, R.D. Offutt Company, ScentBeauty, Metro Edge; WCD Chicago (Moderator)

9:40 am–10:05 am

BOARDWISE

BoardWISE (Women Inspiring Strategic Excellence) Session

As a CEO and board member with significant experience at iconic companies such as Build-A-Bear, Stride Rite, Mattel and Hasbro, what has most empowered your success? In a rapidly evolving landscape, how can today's leaders cultivate a culture of innovation and transformation within their organizations? What can the C-suite and board do to ensure they are looking widely at emerging global trends and approaches with a bold, strategic view, and with the right mindset and team to embrace change with courage and confidence?

- ✦ **Sharon John** | Build-A-Bear Workshop, President & CEO

10:05–10:30 am

Break

10:30 am–11:15 am

PANEL

Building a Culture of Trust in the Boardroom & with Stakeholders

Findings from Edelman's 2025 Trust Barometer unveil a "crisis of grievance" and an erosion of trust in government, business, and other institutions. Our speakers will reflect on the Trust Barometer's findings and what companies and boards can do to rebuild trust with stakeholders. What is the board's role in this discussion and what should board members be asking of management? In a period of political and societal divisiveness, how can business leaders inspire a culture of innovation and growth across their organization? How can an equal playing field be fostered for all stakeholders amidst global uncertainty and rapid change?

- ✦ **Ximena Corbo** | Director, Empresas CMPC; WCD Chile
- ✦ **Susan Sandlund** | Managing Director, Pearl Meyer Leadership Advisory (Moderator)
- ✦ **Cindy Brinkley** | Retired CAO/COO, Centene Corporation
- ✦ **Lex Suvanto** | CEO, Edelman Smithfield

11:15–12:30 pm

PEER EXCHANGE

Concurrent Session: Audit Committee

ERM: Taking a Holistic Look at Risk Management & Board Oversight Practices

Presented by KPMG

Join us for this peer exchange where our speakers will explore Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) and the role of the audit committee and board in overseeing organizational and strategic risk. What are current best practices in risk management and how the audit committee can ensure management is effectively identifying, assessing and mitigating risks to safeguard the company's long-term value? Given a complex global risk landscape, how are risk conversations with stakeholders being impacted and are changes in risk disclosures anticipated as relates to the audit committee and board oversight role? How can a culture of risk awareness and accountability be encouraged throughout the organization?

- ✦ **Cathy Gonzales** | Partner, KPMG LLP; Director, WCD Foundation
- ✦ **Kerstin Günther** | Member of the Supervisory Board and the Audit Committee, Huber & Suhner AG; WCD Germany
- ✦ **Joseph P. Gyengo** | Principal, Advisory, and U.S. Enterprise Risk Management Solution Leader, KPMG US
- ✦ **Amy Hellen** | Risk Management Executive; Former CRO of Discover

12:30–1:30 pm

Lunch & Networking

11:15–12:30 pm

PEER EXCHANGE

Concurrent Session: Private Company & Family Business - NextGen Transition & Leadership for Private Company Boards

Ensuring a successful CEO transition is a primary duty of the board and critical to a business' continued viability. These situations can present unique challenges for private companies especially when NextGen leadership is involved. How can private company boards ensure a strong CEO succession plan is in place and ready for prime time? What are the right strategies for engaging and onboarding the next generation, addressing their roles as both executives and owners, all while navigating the challenges of family

- ✦ **Marina Brogi** | University of Sapienza; WCD Netherlands
- ✦ **Betsy Bennett** | Director, Flanigan's Enterprises; Co-Founder and President, The Florida CFO Group; WCD Tampa
- ✦ **Myma Belo-Osagie** | Of Counsel, Udo Udoma & Belo-Osagie; Director, African Opportunity Fund, Pensions Alliance Limited; WCD Nigeria

1:30–2:30 pm

INTERACTIVE DEMO

Generative AI at the Board Level

Presented by KPMG

In Generative AI at the Board Level, you'll explore how GenAI is rapidly reshaping industries and what today's boards must understand to stay ahead. Through engaging demonstrations of real GenAI capabilities – ranging from GenAI-driven knowledge assistance and compliance analysis to sentiment analysis and data extraction – you'll see firsthand how these capabilities can transform processes and decision-making. You'll also hear directly from subject matter experts and board leaders on the key questions board members should be asking, the risks to watch, and the strategic approaches that deliver results.

- ✦ **David Fisher** | Global Audit Incubation Hub Leader, KPMG US
- ✦ **Anne Zavarella** | Co-Leader, KPMG Board Leadership Center, KPMG US; Director, WCD Foundation
- ✦ **Samantha Kappagoda** | Independent Director, Credit Suisse Funds

2:30–3:10 pm

FIRESIDE CHAT

Navigating Capital & Growth Decisions in Complex Times

Boards play a pivotal role in ensuring that capital is allocated wisely to advance financial and strategic plans while also preparing for unforeseen challenges. In today's dynamic, tech-driven economy, decisions around capital deployment are more complex than ever. What is the board's role in guiding management through trade-offs on investment decisions - whether to use capital on dividends, restructuring, M&A, or organic growth? How can directors ensure management has the skills, tools, and insights to deliver the best outcomes and create lasting value for stakeholders?

3:10–3:15 pm

Closing Remarks

Keynotes



Tarang Amin

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer,
e.l.f. Beauty; Director, The J. M. Smucker
Company; Phramative LLC



Luvvie Ajayi Jones

CEO and Chief Visionary Officer, Awe Luv
Media, LLC



Debra Cafaro

Chairman & CEO, Ventas; The PNC Financial
Services Group



Henrietta Fore

Henrietta Fore | Co-Founder, Women
Corporate Directors; Chairman and CEO of
Holsman International; Senior Managing
Partner, Radiate Capital; WCD Washington
D.C.



Valerie Jarrett

CEO, The Obama Foundation; Director, Ralph
Lauren, Walgreens Boots Alliance, Ariel
Investments

Keynotes



Sharon John

Build-A-Bear Workshop, President & CEO



Susan Stautberg

Co-Founder, Women Corporate Directors;
Operating Advisor, Atlantic Street Capital;
President and CEO of PartnerCom Corporation;
WCD South Florida



Diane Swonk

Chief Economist at KPMG LLP



Tim Walsh

Chair and CEO, KPMG LLP



Susan Angele

Senior Advisor and Managing Director,
KPMG Board Leadership Center



Cris Azevedo

KPMG Deal Advisory Partner; WCD Brazil
Co-Chair



Vicky A. Bailey

Director, TXNM Energy, Inc, Occidental
Petroleum Corporation, EQT Corporation



Annalisa Barrett

Senior Advisor, KPMG Board Leadership
Center



Betsy Bennett

President and co-founder, Florida CFO
Group



Pam Boneham

City of Hope, Board; Ventas; CBREIM



Marina Brogi

Professor, University of Sapienza



Katy Brown

Corporate Vice President, Americas Markets
& Industries at Microsoft



Anna Catalano

Board Director, HFC, FTDR, ECVT, Hexion



Tina Chang

Founder and CEO, Pioneering Collective



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Retired Office Managing Partner, KPMG Ft.
Lauderdale



Lisa Daniels

Retired Partner, KPMG LLP



Jackie Daylor

Retired Global Audit Leader to Consumer
and Retail Sector, KPMG LLP



Tanuja Dehne

Independent Director, Chair Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, Granite Point Mortgage Trust



John Dick

Founder and CEO, CivicScience



Alexandra Dimitrijevic

Global Head of R&D, Co-chair of the S&P Global Look Forward Council



Keith D. Dorsey

Founder & Executive Advisor at Boardroom Journey



Ana Dutra

Director, Pembina Pipeline Corporation, CarParts.com, Lifespace Communities; Vice Chair, Latino Corp



Erin Dwyer

CEO, Women Corporate Directors



Chris Edwards

Financial Director and Rush University
System for Health Vice Chair, BMO Financial



Cristina Finocchi Mahne

Board Member, Maire Group, De Longhi
Group, Dexelance



Myma Belo-Osagie

Founder, Metis Capital Partners Ltd.; Of
Counsel, Udo Udoma & Belo-Osagie; WCD
Nigeria



David Fisher

Global Audit Incubation Hub Leader, KPMG
US



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Risk Management Executive, former CRO of Discover



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Partner, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP



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Chicago Office Managing Partner, KPMG



Samantha Kappagoda

Independent Director, Credit Suisse Funds



Alex Kazan

Partner, Brunswick Group



Jannice Koors

Sr. Managing Director, Pearl Meyer



Caitlin Lawrence

Vinson & Elkins LLP, Partner



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Board member, Sunrun, TrueBlue; Advisor,
Sway Ventures



Lanesha Minnix

EVP & CLO, Walgreens



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Chair, Tractor Supply Company



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Susan Sandlund

Managing Director, Pearl Meyer Leadership Advisory



Olivia Segura

Partner | Co Chair WCD Mexico | Leader KPMG Network of Women (KNOW Mexico)



Lisa Shall

Managing Director, Pearl Meyer



Jenny Speck

Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP



Angelika Huber-Strasser

Managing Partner, KPMG AG; WCD Germany
Co-Chair



Lex Suvanto

CEO, Edelman Smithfield



Mary Beth Vitale

Former Interim CEO & Independent , Women
Corporate Directors



Anne Sempowski Ward

CEO, Treehouse Ventures



Adriana Wirtz

Partner, Vinson & Elkins LLP



Janet Wong

Independent Board Director, Lucid Group
and TWFG



Anne Zavarella

Co-Leader, KPMG Board Leadership Center,
KPMG US; Director, WCD Foundation



Andrea Rattner

Partner, Proskauer

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