

## News from...

## Maryland Federation of Business & Professional Women (BPW/MD)

Contact: La'Kenya Walter, 434-825-8837 For Immediate Release April 16, 2018

Maryland Business and Professional Women Celebrate "The Power of YOU – Our Voices, Our Votes!" At Annual Conference to be held in Frederick Gubernatorial Candidates' Forum, Guest Speakers, Interactive Panel Discussions, Complete Weekend Program

Members and guests of the Maryland Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW/MD) will hold their Annual Conference on May 4-5 at the Hilton Garden Inn, 7226 Corporate Drive, Frederick, Maryland. The theme of the conference is "The Power of YOU – Our Voices, Our Votes!"

The conference begins with a luncheon on Friday, May 4 featuring Tonya Hatosy-Stier, Executive Director of Woman to Woman Mentoring, (W2WM), an intergenerational program sponsored by Frederick Community College that pairs young women with mentors to provide them with personal and professional guidance on career, education, and family. A panel discussion on "Engaging Women in Politics" follows at 2 p.m., presented by Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Delegate Susie Proctor, and Delegate Diane Fennell, and moderated by Dr. Valencia Campbell. The public is invited, but reservations are required. Cost is \$30 for lunch, but the 90-minute panel discussion is free.

A highlight of the conference is a moderated gubernatorial candidates' forum on Friday evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. All candidates for Maryland Governor have been invited to this event, which is free and open to the public. Co-hosted by BPW/MD and Maryland Federation of National Active and Retired Federal Employees, the forum is cosponsored by American Association of University Women Maryland (AAUW), Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW), and Business & Professional Women's Foundation of Maryland.

The luncheon on Saturday, May 5 from noon to 1:30 p.m. features Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine, President of Hood College, speaking on "Empowering Women to Make a Difference." A panel discussion on "Sexual Harassment and Assault" is scheduled from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. and includes Moderator Jennifer Jones, and panelists Arleen Joell and Nina Carr. The public is invited, and reservations are required. Cost is \$35 for lunch, but the 90-minute panel discussion is free.

Maryland Business & Professional Women will complete state business and elect officers for the coming year. Attendees are asked to bring donations to support Heartly House, Inc., a Frederick organization that provides comprehensive services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.

BPW/MD and the BPW Foundation of MD are co-sponsors of the conference, and other sponsors are invited to support the programming that includes professional development, support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and advocacy for women's legislative representation. Contact BPW/MD President Theresa Foster at teddybear81@verizon.net or 410-828-7895 for additional sponsorship information.

BPW promotes equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. Membership is open to women and men who support the mission of BPW. With members throughout the state, BPW/MD is the leading advocate for workingwomen in Maryland.

The conference is open to the public, and guests may register and purchase tickets for individual events by visiting BPW/MD's website at <a href="www.bpwmaryland.org">www.bpwmaryland.org</a> and clicking on the link to register via PayPal. Full details, agenda and a printable registration form for the conference are also on the website. For additional information, please contact <a href="mainto:info@bpwmaryland.org">info@bpwmaryland.org</a> or BPW/MD Conference Co-Chair La'Kenya Walter at <a href="mainto:lakenyasw@yahoo.com">lakenyasw@yahoo.com</a> or 434-825-8837.