

WIPP CEO Candace Waterman



YWCA CEO Alejandra Y. Castillo



International Bridge CEO Shoshana Grove EWG Past President Panel Moderator



Ernst Young, CFP Ann Marie Scalora



Managing Director Maryland WBC Morgan Wortham



SES to CEO: Tips for Business Startups February 9th at 4:30 pm

Alejandra Y. Castillo is the CEO of YWCA USA, which serves 2.3 million women and girls around the country with a network of over 200 associations. YWCA plays a dual role as both a social service provider and an advocate for reform and justice. Alejandra has over two decades of professional experience in Washington, D.C., having served in senior leadership in two presidential administrations. Given her policy, legal and business expertise, she has worked in various public, private, and non-profit settings. In 2014, Alejandra was appointed by the Obama Administration to serve as the national director of the Minority Business Development Agency, becoming the first Hispanic American woman to lead the agency. In that role, she helped secure financing and capital in excess of \$19 billion and created or retained over 33,000 jobs. Alejandra holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook in economics and political science; a Master of Arts degree in public policy from the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin; and a Juris Doctorate from American University, Washington College of Law. Alejandra is an active member in various civic and professional organizations, and currently serves on several boards. She considers herself an example of the American dream and is proud to have raised two amazing nieces she calls her daughters. A longstanding and committed resident of the District of Columbia, Alejandra is a supporter of the arts and an avid international traveler.

<u>Shoshana Grove</u> is the Chief Executive Officer, International Bridge -<u>an award-winning</u> executive with more than 35 years of leadership experience in the public and private sectors. In her current role as Chief Executive Officer at International Bridge, Inc., she has primary responsibility for driving the company's global parcel delivery strategies.

Prior to assuming her current role, Ms. Grove served as Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer of the Postal Regulatory Commission, the regulatory body charged with oversight of the United States Postal Service (USPS). With \$69 billion in revenue and nearly 500,000 employees, USPS is the world's largest postal operator.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Grove was Manager of Ground Products at the United States Postal Service, where she managed relationships with some of the Postal Service's largest mailers and business partners.

Ms. Grove serves on the Boards Executive Women in Government (EWG) and The Parcel Shippers Association and she Chairs Women in Delivery and Logistics Services. Ms. Grove is a Lifetime Member and Past President of EWG.

Ann Marie Scalora is a senior financial planner and educator at Ernst & Young with over 25 years of financial services experience. Ann Marie obtained her bachelor's degree in Accounting from Montclair State University. She is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™] and holds the National Social Security Advisor[™] designation. At EY, Annie specializes in both governmental retirement plans and high net worth financial planning, while at home she enjoys spending time with her family and volunteering at church.

<u>Candace Waterman</u> is President and CEO of Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP), and leads the nation's largest public policy organization for women and minority entrepreneurs. Waterman is a nationally recognized and respected business thought leader whose 30-year industry expertise spans multiple disciplines, including but not limited to domestic and international business certification; diversity and inclusion; procurement; mindfulness leadership; and multigenerational talent management.

Prior to leading WIPP, Waterman served as the Vice President and Chief of Staff for the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation's leading third-party certifier of Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs) for commercial interests and Woman Owned Small Businesses (WOSBs) for government contracting.

During her tenure, her team implemented the digitization of WBENC's certification program, affecting more than 14,000 women-owned businesses and more than 1000 corporate and government agency partners. She also worked to achieve acceptance of WBENC's certification by U.S. government entities, and assisted in driving initiatives and policies affecting international certification.

Waterman has owned three successful companies in the medical, real estate, and hospitality industries and worked as an executive for the ambulatory services division of a hospital system in Michigan overseeing OB-GYN, hematology, radiology, and oncology operations and programs.

Her commitment to diversity, inclusion, and operational excellence has earned her numerous awards and recognition as well as a seat on the American Contract Compliance Association (ACCA) Board of Directors and the Essence Entrepreneurial Advisory Council for Essence magazine.

Waterman holds an M.B.A., an M.C.A., and is a Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth Fellow. She resides in the Washington, D.C. area.

Morgan Wortham is the Maryland Womens Business Center's Managing Director. She leads MWBC's team of experienced counselors and trainers who provide essential services to women

entrepreneurs and empower them to launch and grow successful, women-owned businesses in Maryland's Capital Region.

Morgan joins MWBC with 20 years of experience in economic and workforce development projects and urban planning. Prior to enrolling in the University of Maryland's Doctorate of Urban & Regional Planning and Design and working on a variety of area urban planning projects as a graduate research assistant, Wortham was the President/CEO of Envision Community Solutions in Iowa, where she managed multiple projects in economic and workforce development as well as consulted in nonprofit management, urban planning, affordable housing development and financial education. Prior to that, she was the Founder and Executive Director of New Waterloo Community Development Corporation in Waterloo, Iowa.

Morgan holds an MBA from the University of Northern Iowa and a MPA from Drake University. She has served on numerous boards & committees, including a chamber committed focused on diversity & inclusion, head start policy council, and city housing & community development commission. Morgan has also been recognized as a one of Iowa's Cedar Valley "20 under 40," which honors outstanding young leaders.