



Inside Novi Oaks

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter
Meeting in Novi, Michigan

*A League of the
American Business Women's Association*

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A new ABWA year / honoring members and our "Stars!". See pages 3 through 5.

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter members will meet at the Farmington Community Library.

The Novi Oaks Night of the Stars on July 10. See pages 3 through 5.

The National Women's Leadership Conference / 75-Year Anniversary

See the list of upcoming Novi Oaks Charter Chapter meetings and other events

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter will celebrate its 35-Year Anniversary on December 11, featuring Kathy Crawford as our guest speaker

ABWA's Core Values and information about Novi Oaks

ABWA's Proud Code of Conduct



Marcia Green, President
Newsletter Editor
www.novi-abwa.org

5236 Oak Hill Trail
Commerce Township, MI 48382
248-330-6315 / NoviOaksABWA@gmail.com

President's Message

Another ABWA year ends as of July 31st. What better way to finish out 2023-2024 than to hold our first "Night of the Stars" since 2019? Nineteen of our members and twenty guests gathered at the George's Senate Restaurant in Northville on July 10, 2024. Thanks to the owner, Mr. George Dimopoulos, we enjoyed a wonderful dinner buffet at a great price, and we had excellent service. The room was full of positive energy! Pictures follow, and I apologize, because we did not get pictures of everyone, but I am in many!

We initiated three of our newest members: Olivia Spaller (see next paragraph) was sponsored by Chris Struwe; Jessica Dobradenka is an Associate Account Representative with Mutual of America Financial Services and was sponsored by Mary Gantt (Jessica modeled in our May fashion show); Michelle Turner-White co-hosts a podcast on WJZZ on Wednesday nights with her sponsor, Regina Hall, and does Community Service work with the Lions of Michigan - District 11 A1- working on recycling and their Environment Furniture Giveaway.

We honored two of our scholarship recipients: Olivia Spaller received \$2,000 from the Bettie Archer Johnson Scholarship at Madonna University, and Megan Hibbs received a \$2,000 2024 Impact Scholarship and one of two \$2,000 2024 Outright Grants from District V. Megan has been an active member of our chapter since she won the 2020 Impact Scholarship. She had also received four Bettie Archer Johnson scholarships at Madonna University (\$4,000). A third scholarship recipient, Claire Roffi (\$2,000 Impact), was unable to attend. We could not be prouder of these members!

2022 Top Ten Holly Hengstebeck did an excellent job installing the new board (as of August 1). I will continue as President, Linda DaBiero will join the board as Vice President, Sheri Mayer will continue as Secretary, and Chris Struwe will continue as Treasurer. We thanked Pat Plamondon for serving as Vice President this past year, in spite of many other commitments. If any member of the chapter is interested in serving on the board beginning in August of 2025, she may attend the board meetings to shadow the board and learn more about what we do. Board meetings will be on the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of November (1st Wednesday) and January (1st Sunday via Zoom).

We honored members who served on committees during the year, as well as our Woman of the Year, Linda DaBiero, Top Ten Nominee, Mary Gantt, and Protégé Award recipients, Emma DeCenso and Patty Sneed (Jennifer Starrs is also a Protégé Award recipient). The Protégé Award is for members who become active and contribute to the chapter in their first full year of membership. The Eastern Michigan Council will hold a special event on Saturday, September 14, to honor the chapter Women of the Year, Top Ten Nominees, and Protégé Award recipients. The cost to attend is \$25, and Novi Oaks will reimburse \$10 to its members who attend. See page 9 for details.

The main event of the Night of the Stars was, of course, our Stars! Sixteen people were recognized for how they made a difference in our members' lives. We also recognized six Good Guys – the men who help us do what we do: Bill Green, Tom Jones, Mark Plamondon, Gil Shultz, George Dimopoulos, and posthumously, Norman Mayer. There were laughs, tears, and plenty of hugs to go around. Thank you to everyone who participated – it is one of my all-time favorite activities in ABWA.

I am heading to East Tawas for my grandson's wedding on August 3rd. Have a great summer!



MARCIA GREEN

Novi Oaks' Team Retreat

On Wednesday, August 14, thanks to Emma DeCenso, who used to work there, we will be meeting at the Farmington Community Library on 12 Mile Road. See the flier on page 9.

Dinner and networking begin at 6:00 p.m., as usual, and the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. We'll vote on some required annual items, establish some teams for the October 19th auction, and then we'll have some fun while we get to know each other better and brainstorm our goals for the upcoming ABWA year. Please come and help us kick off the new year!



Holly Hengstebeck and Linda DaBiero at the 2023 Planning meeting

Night of the ★ Stars★ – July 10, 2024



New member initiation: President Marcia Green, sponsor Christina Struwe, new member Olivia Spaller, new member Jessica Dobradenka, sponsor Mary Gantt, new member Michelle Turner-White, and sponsor Regina Hall.



Education Chair Karen Wernette Kolc (left) and Olivia Spaller, recipient of the Bettie Archer Johnson Scholarship.



2024-25 Board: Secretary Sheri Mayer, Treasurer Christina Struwe, VP Linda DaBiero, and President Marcia Green.



Auction Co-Chairs Marcia Green, Chris Struwe and Sheri Mayer (far right) and Activity Committee Janice Jones and Pat Plamondon (center and 2nd from right)



Five of our ten new members for 2023-24: Emanuela (Emma) DeCenso, Olivia Spaller, Jessica Dobradenka, Michelle Turner-White, and Marcia Rodeheffer.



Education Chair Karen Kolc presenting a certificate and \$2,000 check for the Outright Grant to Megan Hibbs



★ Night of the Stars★

Night of the ★ Stars★ – continued



Marcia Green, Mark and Pat Plamondon



Chris Struwe (2nd from left) and her 3 "Stars," Marie Kegg, Linda Hall, and Rosanne Martell



Rev. Erika Monk-Goldman, Regina Hall, Michelle Turner White



Betty Shultz with "Star" and Good Guy Gil Shultz, & Marcia



Amy Sutzer (right) and her 2 "Stars," Linda DaBiero & Kim Mobley



Megan Hibbs and her "Star" Lisa Kudwa

Night of the ★Stars★ – continued



“Star” Mary Reading and Emma DeCenso



Marcia Green and “Star” and Good Guy Bill Green



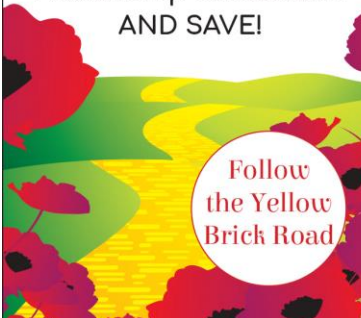
Marcia and Good Guy George Dimopoulos



Marcia and Good Guy Tom Jones

ABWA National Women’s Leadership Conference

Register for ABWA's National Women's Leadership Conference AND SAVE!



Follow the Yellow Brick Road

Early Bird Rates End Saturday, August 3rd!

Five members from Novi Oaks Charter Chapter have signed up to attend the National Women’s Leadership Conference (NWLC)! The **early-bird deadline for the \$615 price is August 3rd**.

Novi Oaks members who attend may receive reimbursement of up to \$615 from the chapter, based on how many members attend.

Call ABWA National at 800-228-0007 to register.

A few Novi Oaks members will be renting an AirBnB to share. If you are interested, contact Chris Struwe ASAP.



find unity in
COMMUNITY
AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION



Celebrating 75 Years of Unity and Community: ABWA's Milestone Anniversary Conference

Join us as we commemorate 75 years of empowering women in business at the American Business Women's Association's (ABWA) Annual Conference. This year's theme, "Find Unity in Community," reflects our shared commitment to fostering collaboration, leadership, and growth among women professionals. Our four-day celebration, packed with insightful sessions, networking opportunities, and inspiring keynotes, is set to be an unforgettable experience.



find unity in
COMMUNITY
AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
1949-2024



DAY ONE / WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

Our journey begins with the **Ambassador Meeting**, setting the stage for collaboration among ABWA's elite and influential leaders (Officers, District Vice Presidents, Top Ten and Forever Tens).

- Marketing and branding expert, Elizabeth Hambleton will share her insights on *From Leads to Loyalty: Designing Effective Marketing Funnels*.
- The excitement builds as registration and exhibits open offering a sneak peek into the vibrant marketplace and resources available.
- Dell will be promising cutting-edge knowledge from an industry leader in AI technology.
- The official start of the event kicks off with Accolades and Appetizers Soiree. It's your opportunity to network on a grand scale with ABWA's leaders and influencers followed by captivating entertainment by the world-renowned jugglers, **The Passing Zone**. Don't forget to bring your business cards too!

DAY TWO / THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

Start your day with a refreshing **Coffee and Tea Service** from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM. The exhibits will be open from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, providing ample time for you to shop!

- The morning **GENERAL SESSION** will honor our Inner Circle and "Level Up" recipients. Renowned motivational speaker **Janine Stange** will inspire us with her keynote address, *Choose to Rise: 5 Keys to Maintain Balance + Ignite Momentum During Disruption*. In this powerful presentation, Janine shares her story of overcoming adversity and encourages individuals and organizations to discover their unique purpose and rise in the face of challenges. Audiences will learn how self-reflection and a commitment to personal growth can turn suffering into strength. By giving back to others, we can transform tragedy into triumph. Janine's proven 5-step "Momentum Mindset" framework provides practical strategies for staying focused and moving forward during disruptive times.
- **TRACK A: ABWA-KU MBA ESSENTIALS** with **Charlotte Tritch** will focus on *Building Your Entrepreneurial Brick Road*, Charlotte will share her industry experience and knowledge to help you move forward with your own business venture. The highly interactive course approaches entrepreneurial competency as a way of thinking about problem-solving that can be applied across every industry and every type of organization. The approach is applicable to all – those who might have a business already, want to start a business, or who work in an established organization.
You don't have to be a business owner to register for this track.

- Dive into **TRACK B: ELEVATE YOUR LEADERSHIP CAPABILITY** with one of ABWA's favorite speakers, **Sherry Darden**, who will share *The Five Buckets Principle*. Sherry's motto is "I tell you the truth, not just what you want to hear!" We're all looking forward to hearing what Sherry has to say!
- The evening **GENERAL SESSION** includes the **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP**, whereby the members in attendance elect the National Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 term.



DAY THREE / FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

Start your day with our morning coffee and tea service from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM, setting the stage for a full day of learning and networking.

- Join us for the **GENERAL SESSION** featuring **Dr. Tracey Wilen**, a leading expert on the impact of technology on society, work, and careers. With a distinguished background as a former visiting scholar at Stanford University and leadership roles at Apple, HP, Cisco Systems, and the Apollo Group, Dr. Wilen brings invaluable insights. Don't miss her dynamic keynote on *Digital Disruption: The Future of Work, Skills, Leadership, and Careers in a Technology World*—a must-attend session for anyone aiming to excel in the digital age.
- Afternoon sessions include **TRACK A** and **TRACK B**, with a focus on entrepreneurial skills and effective leadership. For example, **Tneisha Brown** with Franklin Covey will be presenting a session on *Embracing Change: Keys to Being Highly Effective and Agile* where you will learn how to recognize and navigate change, adopt a growth mindset, and prioritize and focus on what really matters. This session is valued at .3 CEUs or 3.2 CPEs.
- The evening **GENERAL SESSION** will celebrate ABWA's award-winning Leagues. Dance the night away with the **KC All Stars Band**, making this a night to remember.



DAY FOUR / SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

- Following, will be a **RECOGNITION BREAKFAST BUFFET** honoring ABWA's **American Business Woman** and the **Top Ten Business Women** from the Class of 2025. Note, this is a ticketed event.
- The day's sessions continue with **TRACK A's** ABWA-KU MBA Essentials and **TRACK B**, covering vital topics such as negotiation skills and the impact of AI on business.
- And in our final **GENERAL SESSION**, we will recognize the **ABWA-KU MBA graduates** and announce the winners of this year's **Apex Award**.
- We will end the once in a lifetime celebration by welcoming international keynote speaker, **Jen Buck** to the stage. Jen's goal is to, "help female leaders plant their flags and leave a legacy," and that's why, her closing keynote, **Becoming a Woman of Impact!** will propel you towards your most aspirational goals.



Join us in this historic celebration as we find unity in our community, fostering a future of collaboration, innovation, and growth.

Here's to 75 years of the American Business Women's Association!

Agenda - National Women's Leadership Conference

DAY ONE / WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Ambassador Meeting**

1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. **Registration and Exhibits Open**

PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **AN ABWA SESSION FOR LEAGUE LEADERS**
**This session is limited to 90 attendees.*
From Leads to Loyalty: Designing Effective Marketing Funnels (this session will focus on the Fall Membership Campaign)
 Facilitator: Elizabeth Hambleton

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **AI-PC Revolution**
**This session is limited to 90 attendees.*
 Facilitator: Dell Technologies


6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. **Accolades and Appetizers Soiree**
 Network on a grand scale with ABWA's leaders and influencers followed by captivating entertainment with **The Passing Zone** 

Don't miss the **GENERAL SESSIONS** where all conference attendees are welcome!

Business Skills Tuition Reimbursement

- ABWA-KU MBA Essentials Track: Qualifies for up to \$330.00
- Franklin Covey Session: Qualifies for \$100.00

DAY TWO / THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. **Coffee and Tea Service** 

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Exhibits**

GENERAL SESSION:

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Celebrating ABWA's Inner Circle and "Level Up" Recipients and 25-Year and Beyond Members
 • **Keynote: Choose to Rise: 5 Keys to Maintain Balance + Ignite Momentum During Disruption**
 Presenter: Janine Stange

TRACK A • ABWA-KU MBA Essentials

12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **ABWA-KU MBA Essentials: Build Your Entrepreneurial Brick Road**
 Facilitator: Charlotte Tritch
This Track qualifies for 1.2 CEU's


TRACK B • Amplify Your Leadership

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **The Five Buckets Principle**
 Facilitator: Sherry Darden

GENERAL SESSION:

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **Annual Meeting of the Membership**

- Outgoing Presidents Speech
- Meet the Candidates
- Election of the 2024-2025 National Board of Directors/SBMEF Trustees
- Installation of Newly Elected Board/ Trustees

DAY THREE / FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. **Coffee and Tea Service** 

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Exhibits**

GENERAL SESSION:

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. **Keynote: Digital Disruption: The Future of Work, Skills, Leadership, and Careers in a Technology World**
 Presenter: Dr. Tracey Wilen

TRACK A • ABWA-KU MBA Essentials

10:00 AM - Noon **ABWA-KU MBA Essentials: Build Your Entrepreneurial Brick Road** (continued on Saturday)
 Facilitator: Charlotte Tritch


TRACK B • Amplify Your Leadership

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Embracing Change: Keys to Being Highly Effective and Agile**
 Facilitator: Tneisha Brown

 • For IACET, 3 Contact Hours/.3 CEU
 • For NASBA, 3.2 CPE

GENERAL SESSION:

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. **Best Practices in League Management Awards**
 • After the Awards Ceremony, dance the night away with the KC All Stars Band!



DAY FOUR / SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Recognition: Breakfast Buffet**
 ABWA's American Business Woman and Top Ten Business Women from the Class of 2025, Forever Tens and Women of the Year
**This is a ticketed event.*


TRACK A • ABWA-KU MBA Essentials

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **ABWA-KU MBA Essentials: Build Your Entrepreneurial Brick Road**
 Facilitator: Charlotte Tritch


TRACK B • Amplify Your Leadership

10:30 a.m. - noon **Mastering Negotiation: Empowering Women to Lead with Confidence**
 Facilitator: Dr. Stephanie Menefee, National University

2:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. **AI - What is AI? How is it going to change your business and your life?**
 Facilitator: Ted Janusz

GENERAL SESSION:

5:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. **Recognition**

- ABWA-KU MBA Essentials Graduates, Winners of the Apex Award, and Closing Accolades
- **Closing Keynote: Becoming a Woman of Impact**
 Presenter: Jen Buck



Upcoming Events

Visit novi-abwa.org/events to download fliers with details on meetings.

*Early registration for the auction is October 1, 2024
Members are asked to register by September 1, 2024!*

NOVI OAKS MEETINGS / EVENTS

- September 11 Meeting Gift of Life Michigan / Recipients speak / Novi Civic Center
- October 9 Meeting Amy Lazare, Empowered Dreams & Goals / Novi Civic Center
- October 19, 10:00 a.m. (Saturday) **A**utumn **B**runch **W**ith **A**uction
\$30 Early-bird pricing - Burton Manor – Livonia – Invite Guests!
- November 13 Meeting Veteran Shelly Rood, Mission Ambition / CARES of FH
- December 11 35-Year Anniversary / Kathy Crawford / Novi Civic Center

OTHER MEETINGS / EVENTS

- August 23-24 Summer Sizzler – Anderson, IN / \$30 Fri / \$60 Saturday
Our member, Regina Hall, will be speaking + 2 others
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/abwa-cardinal-crossroads-council-summer-sizzler-2024-tickets-882931841907?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>
- Sept 7 Regina Hall's Women Empowering Girls Tea Party / Greater Grace Temple
12 noon to 3:00 p.m. / \$50 – visit <https://sistersjourneyingtogether.com>
- September 14 Eastern Michigan Council (EMC) / Deer Lake in Clarkston
Event to Honor Chapter Women of the Year, Top Ten, and Protégé Awards
\$25 / \$27 online / Our members reimbursed \$10 – www.abwa-emc.org
- Sept 25-28 75th Anniversary – National Women's Leadership Conference
Overland Park, KS - \$615 / Payment Plan available / Members reimbursed

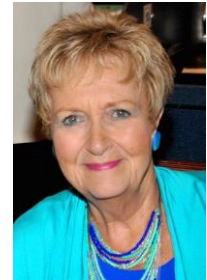
*Please register for all Novi Oaks meetings on our website or in person
no later than two days before a meeting.*

www.novi-abwa.org/events

Novi Oaks' 35th Anniversary Celebration



Featuring
Kathy Crawford



**NOVI CIVIC CENTER
December 11, 2024**

More details to follow!

It takes a team to build a successful ABWA chapter!

Members and guests are welcome to join us for an evening of learning more about each other and about the American Business Women's Association.

What are the benefits for members? What are the opportunities for getting involved and making a difference in the lives of other women?

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

6:00 P.M. NETWORKING & DINNER | 6:30 P.M. PROGRAM

PLEASE REGISTER AT WWW.NOVI-ABWA.ORG/EVENTS

\$20 WITH DINNER / \$5 WITHOUT DINNER

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

32737 W. TWELVE MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS, MI (EAST OF FARMINGTON ROAD)

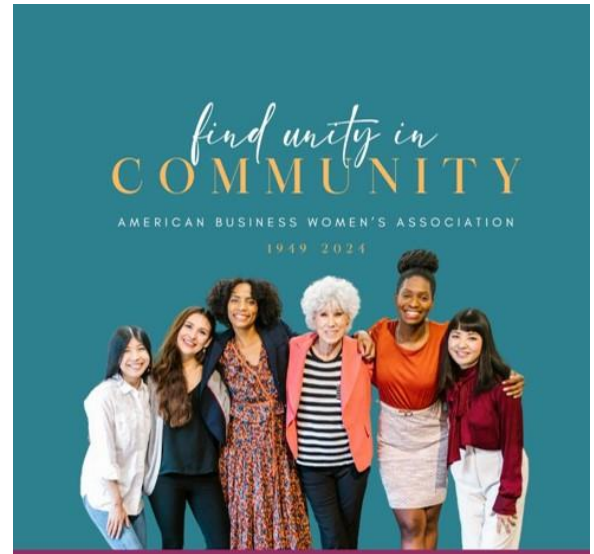
THE AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION WELCOMES ALL WOMEN AND MEN AS MEMBERS. WWW.ABWA.ORG.
QUESTIONS? E-MAIL MARCIA GREEN AT NOVIOAKSABWA@GMAIL.COM



Set of Core Values for the American Business Women’s Association

Our core values are the foundation for which the American Business Women’s Association (ABWA) was founded on in 1949. They’re reflective of the ethos of the ABWA culture and have been integral to creating an enduring and supportive community for generations of women in the workplace.

- 1. **Selfless Leadership** – Be committed to doing the right thing, always. Be transparent in your actions even when no one is looking!
- 2. **Building Community** – Be committed to creating sustainable ABWA communities where women can connect, learn, and grow together.
- 3. **Value and Seek Diversity** – Be committed to recruiting new members from diverse cultures, ages, work industries and experiences.
- 4. **Manage for Innovation and Excellence** – Be committed to original thinking and delivering excellence in everything you do.
- 5. **Lifelong Learning** – Be committed to enhancing your own business knowledge, skills, and acumen. Be unafraid to make mistakes, iterate, err and try again.
- 6. **Focus on Facts and Own Results** – Be committed to using “data” to drive your decisions and actions and be accountable for your performance, good and bad.
- 7. **Choose to Make a Difference** – Be committed to unlocking a member’s potential and inspiring/motivating her to become the best version of herself.
- 8. **Celebrate** – Be committed to celebrating members’ achievements.



2024-2025 Chapter Executive Board

President..... Marcia Green
 Vice President..... Linda DaBiero
 Secretary Sheryl Mayer
 TreasurerChristina Struwe

2025 Top Ten Nominee:

Mary Gantt

Novi Oaks’ 2024-2025 Woman of the Year:

Linda DaBiero

2024 Council Woman of the Year:

Mary Ceccanese, Maia Chapter, Ann Arbor

2023-2024 National Executive Board

President.....Rachel Jamerson-Holmes
 Vice President..... Anne O’Neill
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Genice Hall Fowler
 District V-Vice President.....Cheryl Schmandt
 Executive Director..... Rene’ Street

ABWA National Headquarters

P.O. Box 4757
 Overland Park, KS 66204-0757
 (800) 228-0007 / www.abwa.org

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter Meeting Details:

IN PERSON MEETINGS:

When: The **2nd Wednesday** of each month

When: 6:00 p.m. Dinner and Networking
 6:30 p.m. Introductions, then presentation.
 Meeting follows.

Cost: \$22 includes dinner / \$10 without dinner

Where: Locations vary – visit website for details

TO REGISTER visit www.novi-abwa.org/events

PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter’s Vision Statement:

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter educates and empowers women by supporting them to achieve their personal best.

Novi Oaks Charter Chapter

Get Connected

2nd Wednesday of the month / Visit website for location of each meeting
6pm Networking/Dinner | 6:30 Introductions/Program | \$22 w/Dinner, \$10 w/o Dinner
For reservations and details, visit www.novi-abwa.org/events



www.novi-abwa.org



NoviOaksABWA@gmail.com

**Tickets
Available
NOW!**

www.novi-abwa.org

AUTUMN BRUNCH WITH AUCTION



All proceeds benefit the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter's Education and Scholarship Fund

Saturday, October 19, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Burton Manor Banquet & Event Center - Livonia

27777 Schoolcraft Road - Livonia, Michigan 48150 (east of Inkster Road @ I-96)

\$30 per person until October 1, 2024 (\$37 after)

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.novi-abwa.org/events

VISA and MasterCard will be accepted at the auction!!

ABWA's Proud Code of Conduct

1. All members will serve as goodwill ambassadors for the American Business Women's Association.
2. Members will not allow their personal beliefs and convictions to interfere with the representation of ABWA's mission.
3. Members will always treat their member colleagues, guests, vendors and sponsors with honesty, respect, fairness, integrity, responsibility, kindness, and in good faith.
4. Members will maintain compliance with ABWA National, Chapter and Express Network Bylaws.
5. Members will not use their personal power to advance their personal interests. Members will strive for excellence in their professions by maintaining and enhancing their own business knowledge and skills, and by encouraging the professional development of other members.