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# Women's Festivals in Santa Barbara, CA and Sedona, AZ to Provide an International Forum for Celebrating Accomplishment and Stimulating Positive Change

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) -- The Women's Festivals, a new conference created to "celebrate the accomplishments of women and inspire others to realize their dreams" will launch with its inaugural event March 7 - 9th in Santa Barbara, Calif. A sister festival is scheduled for March 14 - 16th in Sedona, Ariz. The brainchild of Patty DeDominic and Mary Schnack, both successful entrepreneurs in their own right, the Women's Festivals were created to provide an interactive, multi-cultural forum focusing on the five key areas of women's lives: Personal, Professional, Philanthropic, Political, and Planet.

"We call these the '5 Ps," said Ms. DeDominic, recipient of the Los Angeles Business Journal's '2006 CEO of the Year Award.' "With an expected 5,000 participants from all walks of life, the Women's Festivals both here in Santa Barbara and then the following week in Sedona promise to be a fertile ground for networking, resource sharing and sparking meaningful dialog."

According to the organizers, a fundamental objective of the Women's Festivals is to bring together a unique gathering of extraordinary women to share their experiences and wealth of knowledge with the goal of transforming the lives of participants.

"We all must navigate through today's opportunities and challenges to the best of our abilities," Ms. DeDominic added. "It is our belief that to take our efforts to the next level, what's required is more of what women already do every day -- inspire each other in all areas of our lives."

## **Confirmed Speakers**

- Neeti Dewan (Author of "From Executive to Yogi in Sixty Seconds")
- Linda Gray (Actress and Advocate)
- Ed Begley Jr. (Actor and Activist)
- LeVar Burton (Actor, Director, and Author)
- Martha DeLaurentiis (Film Producer)
- Bobbi McKenna (Communication and Media Specialist)
- Francine LeFrak (Producer)
- Dr. Genevieve Clavreul (RN and Ph.D)
- Lucia DeGarcia (author of "Building Bridges of Understanding, My Personal Quest for Unity and Peace"); Dr. Howard Elkin (Founder of Heartwise, a longevity center)
- Diana Mercer (Attorney-Mediator and co-author of "Your Divorce Advisor")
- Anna Ouroumian (CEO of Academy of Business Leadership)
- Mimi Donaldson

(MORE)

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#### About the Women's Festivals

Recent data compiled by the Department of Commerce indicates that women now account for some \$7 trillion in consumer and business spending in the U.S. and control more than \$13 trillion in personal wealth. This amount is projected to rise to \$20 trillion over the next 15 years. Quite simply, the economic power wielded by women and their influence in all aspects of commerce, culture, politics and the sciences has never been greater.

The Women's Festivals were created to celebrate the accomplishments and nurture the dreams of women in an interactive, multi-cultural, and entertaining format focusing on the five key areas of women's lives: Personal, Professional, Philanthropic, Political and Planet (also known as the "5 Ps"). Total participation is projected at 5,000 women and men of various ages, lifestyles and backgrounds, providing a unique opportunity to provide a rich common experience and a fertile environment for networking and resource sharing. Proceeds benefit the National Association of Women Business Owners, Women's Economic Ventures, Score and Girls Inc.

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