

For immediate release

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Prosperity, Growth and Connection Themes of Women's Conference

Columbus, OH – Dames Bond, Columbus' preeminent networking organization for women, will hold its second annual conference on Wednesday, Oct. 24 at Shadowbox Live in the Brewery District.

With more than 400 members and three chapters in Ohio and Tennessee, Dames Bond has grown exponentially since its founding in 2007. "Hundreds of women are now making authentic connections, confident in their abilities to make their businesses thrive, and are embracing the power of working as a collective toward the success of each woman," said Founder Mary B. Relotto.

The diversity of the organization's roles is reflected in the topics planned for the 2012 Dames Bond Conference, When Dames Bond, Dames Prosper:

- Panelists will discuss trends in retail, small business, wealth management and legislation,
- Opening remarks will be presented by WBNS 10TV Anchor, Kristyn Hartman,
- Keynote presenter, Suzanne Roberts of Women Generating, will share the importance of The Collective Power of Women,
- As a collective, attendees will harvest the intelligence of women in the Pro Action café,
- Shadowbox Live, the talented resident performance troupe, will entertain, and
- The 2012 Grand Dame Award will be given to restaurateur Elizabeth Lessner and the Pillar Award will be presented to Harold LaRue, CIO of Columbus Food League.

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“One of the things we heard at our first conference, last year, was that women wanted more time to talk through issues, to draw on the collective experience and thinking at the table to get their own questions and challenges answered,” Relotto said, “So we added the Pro Action Café.”

Pro Action Café is a unique method for bringing more depth to conversations sparked by attendees’ ideas. Attendees are invited to bring their topics, projects, ideas, questions or challenges – and present them as part of the collective discussion.

Participants move among tables and topics, cross-pollinating ideas and offering new insights into the questions at hand. “We want to tap into the power, the experiences of all the women around the table,” Relotto said. “This is a first for us and will be a first for many. I know it’s going to be a really dynamic part of the day.”

Early registration is available through Sept. 24, at \$109 per attendee. Registration increases to \$129 after that date.

“Last year’s conference sold out,” Relotto said. “We were thrilled. This year, we have more space and are anticipating an even larger crowd.”

More information and registration is available at damesbond.com, one of Forbes Top 100 Best Career Sites for Women.