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MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN SELLS OUT IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF EMPOWERING WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

Women Are a Major Driver of the Economy Across the Commonwealth

BOSTON, Aug. 21, 2023—It's still four months away, but the Massachusetts Conference for Women has already sold out in a sign of the importance of empowering women in the workplace and recognition that women are a major driver of the economy.

That seems fitting for a place that in 2022 elected nearly all women constitutional officers on a ticket led by Gov. Maura Healey; that in 2021 elected Michelle Wu, the first female and Asian-American mayor of Boston; and that achieved majority-minority status in 2020.

But with an A list of long-standing sponsors, it also demonstrates strong corporate support for empowering women in the workplace at a time when some parts of the nation have experienced setbacks.

Women hold senior leadership positions across all sectors in Massachusetts, from the life sciences to media to higher education. These include Conference sponsors State Street, Merck KGaA Darmstadt Germany, Takeda, Vertex, *The Boston Globe* and *WBUR*.

Perhaps it goes without saying the sold-out conference—the largest conference for women in the nation—also shows women's renewed interest in reconnecting, both personally and professionally, in community.

The 19th annual Massachusetts Conference for Women will occur on Thursday, December 14, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. Under the theme, "Be Brave. Be Bold. Be Daring.", it will focus on leadership, career advancement, personal development, and justice, equity, and inclusion.

Keynote speakers include Dame **Jacinda Ardern**, former prime minister of New Zealand and Senior Fellow at Harvard University; **Margaret Atwood**, two-time Booker Prize-winning author of more than 50 books; **Michelle Yeoh**, Academy Award-winning actress for *Everything Everywhere* and *Time* 2022 Icon of the Year and **Dr. Joy Buolamwini**, artificial intelligence expert, activist and author of *Unmasking AI*.

The Massachusetts Conference for Women is presented by <u>State Street Corporation</u> and generously sponsored by <u>Hologic, Inc.; Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany; Fidelity</u> <u>Investments; Hologic; Takeda Pharmaceuticals; Target; Cisco; Sanofi; Bank of America;</u> <u>Converse; Johnson & Johnson; Liberty Mutual Insurance; National Grid; Ocean Spray</u> <u>Cranberries, Inc.; Pfizer; PTC; The TJX Companies, Inc.; Teradyne; UKG; United</u> <u>Airlines; GoDaddy; Lantheus; New Balance;Oracle; Rapid7; Alkermes, Inc.; Bentley</u> <u>University Center for Women & Business; Bristol Myers Squibb; Commonwealth</u> <u>Financial Network; Enel North America Inc.; IPG Photonics Corporation; JPMorgan</u> <u>Chase & Co.; Juniper Networks; MorphoSys US Inc.; P&G Gillette;</u> <u>VertexPharmaceuticals; and media partners The Boston Globe; WBUR; and WCVB-TV</u> <u>Boston</u>.

The Massachusetts Conference for Women is part of the <u>Conferences for Women</u>, the nation's largest network of women's conferences. Its Pennsylvania, California, Massachusetts, and Texas conferences attract more than 50,000 people annually.

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