

YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region Presents:

# Women's Empowerment Symposium

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center, Midland

Join us for an evening of empowerment, education, networking and fun!  
Attending women will be inspired by the dynamic and insightful experiences shared by our presenters in four blockbuster break-out sessions.

Stand Up, Speak Out: Why Women Need to Defend Their Rights and Fight for Equality in America

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Leading with Passion: A Personal Journey of Discovery and Success

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The Multiplier Effect: Economics of Relationships

.....  
On the Rise: The New Entrepreneurs in the Great Lakes Bay Region



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Cocktails, Silent  
Auction & Strolling  
Appetizers

5pm

Symposium

5:45 pm - 8:30 pm

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Tickets: \$40

Special Rate for  
Young Professionals: \$20  
Graciously Sponsored by  
Wildfire Credit Union

Purchase tickets at:

[www.ywcaglbr.org](http://www.ywcaglbr.org)  
989.894.9055

*Proceeds for the Women's Empowerment Symposium supports the programs and services for the economic advancement of women in the Great Lakes Bay Region.*

**Strong Alone. Fearless Together.**

## Keynote

### *Laughter Yoga*

*Jennifer Luzar, Language Arts Professor, Northwood University*

Jennifer award winning professor of business communications will introduce us to the benefits of Laughter Yoga and how it can help create a powerful and vibrant workplace. Studies report that laughter enhances employee morale, resilience and productivity. Laughter Yoga exercises in this workshop that'll literally have you laughing out loud. All shapes, sizes, clothing styles, and abilities levels can participate. Participants will leave with new perspectives, skills and enthusiasm for their work and their life.



## Breakout Sessions



*Stand Up, Speak Out: Why Women Need to Defend Their Rights and Fight for Equality in America*  
*Barb Byrum*

*Ingham County Clerk*



*Lisa Brown*

*Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds*

Hear the stories of two female elected officials who refused to be silenced when they were banned from speaking in the Michigan House of Representatives because they stood up for their beliefs. Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds, and Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk, share their experiences as women in politics, and how women can, and must, be active and engaged in standing up for their rights and fighting for equality in America.



*Leading with Passion: A Personal Journey of Discovery and Success*

*Donna Murray-Brown, President & CEO, Michigan Nonprofit Association*

Donna, will use a lens of Diversity and Inclusion to share her story of professional and personal success. She will give an inside account of her climb up the corporate ladder as the only African American woman on her senior bank executive team; to giving it all up to follow her passion to serve the nonprofit sector. Learn how she overcame barriers of race, gender, and means and persevered to become a successful banker, community leader, and ultimately the first woman president to lead Michigan Nonprofit Association.

*The Multiplier Effect: Economics of Relationships*

*Dr. Tracy Weber, Founder, Kaleidoscope Learning Circle, LLC.*

Economics may be difficult, yet the math is easy and straightforward – there is a **multiplier effect** when you build healthy, positive relationships. The mission of the YWCA is “the economic advancement of women in the Great Lakes Bay Region.” How can we accomplish such an objective with all the barriers, limitations, and challenges facing us? This interactive presentation will offer you recommendations of what to *subtract* from your language and transferable skills that you can *add* to your relationship toolbox!



*On the Rise! Women Entrepreneurs in the Great Lakes Bay Region*

*Robby Roberts, Associate Director, CMU, Isabella Bank Institute for Entrepreneurship*

An entrepreneur must fill many positions throughout the process of starting and running a business. From start up to exit, an entrepreneur has the strength, fortitude, and ability to see the process through. This segment identifies the traits and enhances the meaning through shared stories and strategies successful women have in common.



### Women's Empowerment Symposium Planning Committee

Starr Alvarez • Moira Branigan • Jenna Briggs • Deanna Campbell • Kallai Cunningham • Wanda Dziwura  
Barbara Engelhardt • Amy Lou Gage • Lisa Haines • Andrea Hales • Elizabeth Kastanya • Cathy Koebke  
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