Inspiring Women Leaders Encourage Confidence, Planning and Power

Northwestern Mutual to host second multi-city event tour for women who want to learn how to reach their full potential in life

MILWAUKEE, September 29, 2014 -- As women continue to assume leadership roles in business and society, research still shows untapped leadership potential among women and less self-assuredness compared to men. Northwestern Mutual's 2014 Elements of Success survey found that, despite the fact that women make up the majority of college graduates and comprise nearly half of the labor force, only one third of women believe they have achieved their financial goals. To continue to help address that gap, Northwestern Mutual is hosting the company's second multi-city event tour this fall for women, named *Inspiring Leaders: The Power of You*.

The Power of You tour will feature a panel discussion focused on instilling confidence and encouraging women to embrace their power to achieve their full potential - personally, professionally and financially.

Panelists include:

Moira Forbes, president and publisher of ForbesWoman, a multimedia platform serving successful women in business and leadership. She is the host of the online video series "Success with Moira Forbes" and founder of the Forbes Executive Women's Board.

Ingrid Vanderveldt, founder of Empowering a Billion Women by 2020, a global initiative that has the goal of providing tools, technologies and resources to women around the world. She also serves on the U.N. Global Entrepreneurship Council.

Joann (Jo) Eisenhart, Ph.D., senior vice president of human resources, facilities and philanthropy with Northwestern Mutual. Jo holds a doctorate in human organizational development, and her dissertation research focused on the topic of women, leadership and power in large corporations.

Each panelist will share personal experiences and insights from her own journey to leadership. Women will also learn valuable tips to gain confidence and empower themselves, and each other, to create a plan to reach their short- and long-term goals.

The Power of You will bring together local business and government leaders in the following cities:

Indianapolis, IN—September 29 Denver, CO—September 29 Minneapolis, MN—September 30

"Each of us has a unique power, and the key is to figure out how to use your power in a way that's authentic to yourself," said Eisenhart. "Women who tap into their power can achieve great things, from planning for a strong financial future to managing opportunities and challenges in their careers and personal lives."

The events will build on the success of the inaugural tour, which came on the heels of Northwestern Mutual's presenting sponsorship of the Forbes Women's Summit: Power Redefined in May, where a group of 300 leaders from around the world gathered to discuss women, leadership and philanthropy. At the summit, Jo Eisenhart presented Ingrid Vanderveldt with the Forbes Excellence in Entrepreneurship award presented by Northwestern Mutual.

This year, Northwestern Mutual has placed special emphasis on honoring the accomplishments of women who have found success through planning, dedication and preparation. The company's #WomanWithAPlan project has attracted a growing following on social media and INSPIRE360, an educational resource dedicated to providing insight and unique perspectives on the vision, guidance and planning it takes to achieve personal or professional goals.

Northwestern Mutual will share live tweets from each tour event, using the hashtag #powerofyou, and photos from the tour will be posted on the Northwestern Mutual Facebook page.

About Northwestern Mutual

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