

The official newsletter of the Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation



Feature:
EWPB Podcast
Episode [HERE](#)



What's happening at EWPB:

Dear Members,

This is one of the most exciting times of the year for Executive Women of the Palm Beaches as we enter the final planning stages for our **42nd annual Women in Leadership Awards (WILA) Luncheon!** This signature event will take place on **Thursday, April 16, at the Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion**, and we are thrilled to bring our community together once again to celebrate the remarkable women who make a difference across Palm Beach County.

This year, we are proud to honor **43 extraordinary nominees** in the Public, Private, Nonprofit, and Emerging Leader categories. Each of these women represents the strength, vision, and commitment that define true leadership.

Our **2026 theme, "Legacy and Leadership – Significance versus Success,"** reflects the powerful impact women have as leaders in business, government, and nonprofit organizations. Women continue to be key drivers of charitable giving and community service, and those who invest in others and in their communities create a lasting legacy of significance.

We are delighted to welcome **Dianne Bailey**, Managing Director for Philanthropic Solutions at Bank of America Private Bank, as **our keynote speaker**. Dianne is a nationally recognized thought leader whose insights on philanthropy and leadership have been featured in Barron's, Business Insider, Fortune, The Washington Post, and The New York Times, and she has also shared her expertise through several inspiring TEDx talks.

We are also honored to have **longtime EWPB member Rebecca Doane** serve as our **Honorary Chair**. Rebecca's distinguished career as an estate planning attorney, combined with her deep commitment to supporting others in our community, truly embodies the spirit and mission of the EWPB Foundation: advancing women as leaders in the workplace.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our **event chair, Christine Raymond**, and her dedicated committee for their passion and hard work in bringing this event to life. The generosity of our partners and sponsors makes this celebration possible and allows the EWPB Foundation to continue its vital work—supporting the educational advancement of women in Palm Beach County through college scholarships and providing Kwasman Grants to nonprofit organizations that serve underprivileged girls and women.

We hope you will join us for this inspiring celebration and consider supporting our efforts through attendance or sponsorship. Together, we can continue building a powerful legacy of leadership, opportunity, and impact.

We look forward to celebrating with you on April 16!

Warm regards,

Kae Jonsons
Board President

WILA Updates
P. 2-5

Trailblazers Event
& Photos P. 6-8

Member
Spotlight P. 9

New Members
P. 10

MARCH 2026

Partner With Purpose: WILA Sponsorship Opportunities

Inspiration Sponsor \$10,000

- 10 luncheon tickets and 6 invitations to the pre-event reception
- Prominent listing on the luncheon and pre-event reception invitations
- Recognition as the Empowering Women in the Workplace sponsor on all promotional items, including press releases, social media posts, fliers, and emails
- Verbal recognition at the luncheon and pre-event reception
- Inside front, inside back or center fold full page advertising opportunity in luncheon program
- VIP preferred luncheon table seating and signage
- Presenting sponsor for one WILA main award category
(Non-Profit Sector, Private Sector, Public Sector, or Volunteer)
- Introduction of the selected award recipient
- Name and logo recognition in luncheon program and on signage
- Name and logo recognition in print ads and PSAs
- Recognition in pre- and post-event press releases
- Name and logo on the EWPBF website
- Recognition on EWPBF social media sites

Motivation Sponsor \$7,500

- 10 luncheon tickets and 6 invitations to the pre-event reception
- Listing on the luncheon and pre-event reception invitations
- Verbal recognition at the luncheon and pre-event reception
- Full page advertising opportunity in luncheon program
- Preferred luncheon table seating and table signage
- Name and logo recognition in the luncheon program and on signage
- Name and logo recognition in print ads & PSA's
- Recognition in pre- and post-event press releases
- Name and logo on the EWPBF website
- Recognition on EWPBF social media sites

Integrity Sponsor - \$5,000

- 10 luncheon tickets and 4 invitations to the pre-event reception
- Listing on the luncheon and pre-event reception invitations
- Verbal recognition at the luncheon and the pre-event reception
- Preferred luncheon table seating with table signage
- Half page ad in luncheon program
- Name and logo recognition in program and on signage
- Recognition in pre- and post-event press release
- Name and logo on EWPBF website
- Recognition on EWPBF social media sites

Table Sponsor - \$2,750

- 10 luncheon tickets and 2 invitations to the pre-event reception
- Name recognition in luncheon program
- Table signage

½ Table Sponsor - \$1,500

- 5 luncheon tickets and 1 invitation to the Pre-event reception
- Name recognition in luncheon program
- Table signage

Signature Sponsor \$400 (EWPBF Members) \$550 (EWPBF Non-Members)

- 1 ticket to the luncheon and pre-event reception
- Name recognition in the luncheon program

Community Sponsor - \$1,000

- 1 luncheon ticket and 1 invitation to the pre-event reception
- 2 luncheon tickets for 2 scholarship students
- Photograph with the students prior to the event
- Name recognition in the luncheon program

Opportunity Sponsor - \$1,000

- 2 luncheon tickets and 1 invitation to the pre-event reception
- Name recognition in the luncheon program
- Verbal recognition at the Pre-event reception
- Opportunity to sit at a preferred table with other Opportunity Sponsors

Luncheon Ticket \$225



Inside WILA: A Message from the Committee Chair, Christine Raymond



I am truly honored to serve as chairperson for this year's Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Women In Leadership Awards luncheon, taking place on April 16 at the Kravis Center. This event is always one of the highlights of our year, and I'm especially excited about the powerful theme we will explore together: Legacy and Leadership – Significance versus Success. It's a conversation that resonates deeply with so many women who are not only building careers, but also striving to make a lasting impact in our organizations, our communities, and the lives of those around us.

We are thrilled to welcome Dianne Chipps Bailey, National Philanthropy Strategy Executive at Bank of America, as our keynote speaker. Dianne brings an extraordinary perspective to the conversation around leadership, philanthropy, and purpose. In her role, she works with clients and organizations across the country to align their philanthropic goals with meaningful impact. Her experience helping individuals and institutions think strategically about generosity, legacy, and long-term change makes her the perfect voice to guide our discussion on significance versus success.

Kenote Speaker



Dianne Chipps Bailey
Bank of America

I am also delighted to introduce our Honorary Chair, Rebecca Doane of Doane & Doane. Rebecca is widely respected throughout Palm Beach County for both her professional leadership and her longstanding commitment to philanthropy. Her passion for strengthening our community and supporting charitable organizations makes her an ideal champion for this year's event. This luncheon promises to be an inspiring gathering of women leaders, professionals, and community advocates who believe in lifting one another up and leading with purpose. Tickets are now available, and we encourage you to reserve your seat soon. Sponsorship opportunities are also available for those who would like to showcase their support while gaining valuable visibility among an incredible network of women.

I hope you will join us on April 16 at the Kravis Center for what promises to be a meaningful, energizing, and memorable afternoon.



MARCH 2026



EXECUTIVE WOMEN
of the Palm Beaches Foundation
EST. 1982

Presents

A NIGHT OF
LEADERSHIP

The 42nd Annual Cynthia Allen
Gracey Women in Leadership
Awards Nominee Reception

Join us for an unforgettable
evening celebrating
achievement and success.

Open to nominees & guest,
nominators, and WILA
Sponsors.

THUR

12
MAR

5:30 PM

Manatee Lagoon, 6000 N. Flagler Dr.

Registration is required:
ewpb.org/programs-events/

Reception generously
underwritten by:



MARCH 2026

2nd Annual Trailblazers Panel: Celebrating the Achievements of Black Women in Palm Beach County

Executive Women of the Palm Beaches, the Urban League of Palm Beach County and Hubbard Radio Honor Black Women Trailblazers at Powerful 2nd Annual Black History Breakfast

More than 200 leaders, visionaries, and community champions came together on February 26th for the 2nd Annual Trailblazer Black History Breakfast, a celebration that uplifted the brilliance, resilience, and transformative impact of Black women across Palm Beach County.

Presented in partnership by Executive Women of the Palm Beaches, the Urban League of Palm Beach County, and Hubbard Radio's X102.3, the event served as a living testament to what is possible when organizations unite with purpose to create pathways for future generations.

Naysimone Crews of X102.3 brought warmth and energy as MC, while WPTV anchor Tania Rogers led a stirring and deeply motivational conversation with a panel of extraordinary Trailblazers. Their stories, rooted in courage, conviction, and community, reminded attendees that leadership is not only about achievement, but about opening doors, building bridges, and lifting others along the way.

Guests were deeply moved as panelists reflected on their journeys, shared hard-earned wisdom, and offered powerful insight during the interactive Q&A. The morning became more than a program, it became a moment of collective empowerment for Women in Leadership.

This year's distinguished panelists included:

- Alexcia Cox, Palm Beach County State Attorney
- Rosalyn "Sia" Baker-Barnes, Shareholder at Searcy Denney Scarola Barnardt & Shipley, PA, and President of The Florida Bar
- Tykelia Brownlee, Firefighter and Paramedic, West Palm Beach Fire Department
- Nicole Daggs, Executive Vice President, NextEra Energy
- Annetta Jenkins, Director of Neighborhood Services, Riviera Beach Community Redevelopment Authority
- France Makabu, Realtor and Former President, Urban League of Palm Beach County Young Professionals
- Kalinthia Dillard, Esq., General Counsel and Deputy Inspector General, Palm Beach County

Each woman embodied the spirit of a Trailblazer, fearlessly leading, boldly innovating, and inspiring others through service and excellence.

We proudly recognize our sponsors, whose generosity helped make this celebration possible:

- PNC Bank
- WPTV NewsChannel 5
- Riviera Beach CRA
- Florida Power & Light (FPL) who was the proud underwriter of the event's coffee bar
- Hubbard Radio
- Local IQ and The Palm Beach Post
- The Black Chamber of Commerce

Their continued commitment to uplifting the community ensures events like this have a lasting and meaningful impact.

It was a morning filled with affirmation, hope, and inspiration and an opportunity to honor Black women who are not only shaping the future of Palm Beach County, but defining it with strength, purpose, and vision. Their leadership lights the way for generations to come.

MARCH 2026

2nd Annual Trailblazers Event



MARCH 2026

2nd Annual Trailblazers Event



Member Spotlight:

VERONICA FREHM FRIENDS OF MACARTHUR BEACH STATE PARK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



• **Tell us a little about your professional journey.**

I stepped into the role of Chief Executive Officer of Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park with a clear purpose: to implement thoughtful, sustainable changes that foster a healthy, collaborative, and motivating work environment for the team, knowing that strong internal culture is the foundation for meaningful impact. By strengthening how the organization operates, I wanted to ensure we are doing the most good possible, protecting and celebrating this special place while expanding our ability to educate and inspire generations to come.

• **What inspired you to join Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation?**

I was drawn to this organization because I have heard great things about the strength and diversity of the women involved. Being in a space where accomplished, thoughtful women support and empower one another is both motivating and grounding, and it reinforces my belief that we do our best work when we surround ourselves with incredible people. I value environments where learning, collaboration, and mutual growth are prioritized.

• **What's one accomplishment you're most proud of?**

Something I am deeply proud of is being part of a nonprofit that is able to make such a meaningful difference in the lives of the students in Palm Beach County. Through our environmental education program at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park, the only state park in Palm Beach County, we serve more than 4,000 students each year, the majority of whom are from Title I schools. Because of the Friends underwriting, these students are able to learn in the park as a living laboratory completely free of charge. For many, this is their very first time seeing the ocean or spending meaningful time in nature. It is incredibly fulfilling to help provide that opportunity and to share what I love most with the next generation. I truly believe that you can't protect something you don't know or love, and for many of these students, this experience is the first step toward becoming lifelong environmental stewards.

• **What advice would you give to other women leaders in Palm Beach County?**

I don't know that I have advice for other women leaders in our community, because I am constantly learning from those around me. What I can say is, how continually impressed I am by this community and the women within it. Over the years, I've watched women here create, lead, and do truly amazing things for the organizations they serve, and it is incredibly empowering to see. Leaders who choose collaboration over competition, who take the time to lift each other up, are the ones I admire most. That spirit of support and shared success is what makes this community so special.

• **What's something fun or surprising about you that most people don't know?**

I went to the University of Florida to study film and photography. After a few years working in the film industry, I realized that it was not exactly my dream career. I took a hiking trip with my dad to Yosemite National Park while I was trying to figure out my next move. While we were there, I saw a group of students on a field trip, and that moment completely changed things for me. After working at various outdoor education centers in different states, I came back to Palm Beach County, where I grew up, to get my master's degree in environmental education and the rest is history. In the end, it all worked out, because I still use my media background all the time to highlight the amazing things happening at the Park... just in a way that feels much more meaningful to me.

MARCH 2026

Upcoming Events

WILA Nominee Reception

March 12th at 5:30pm
Manatee Lagoon

Looking Ahead:

June: Annual Luncheon & Installment

Women in Leadership Awards Luncheon

April 16th

Kravis Center

Sponsorship and Signature Sponsorships
available online [HERE!](#)

Reoccurring:

Breakfast Bunch

First Friday of the Month, 8:00am
Lili's Cafe, Palm Beach Gardens

Event details & registration at www.ewpb.org

Welcome New Members:

Veronica Frehm

Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park,
Chief Executive Officer

Amanda Joiner

Chief Marketing & Technology Officer at Palm
Beach Zoo & Conservation Society