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Dr. Brené Brown, Shawn Achor, and Carla Harris to headline Pennsylvania Conference for Women

Registration opens for tri-state area's largest gathering of women

PHILADELPHIA – The Pennsylvania Conference for Women announced that the 2017 event on October 3rd will feature keynote speakers Dr. Brené Brown, courage and vulnerability researcher, #1 *New York Times* best-selling author and one of the top five most viewed TED speakers in the world; Shawn Achor, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Happiness Advantage*; and Carla Harris, Wall Street executive and author. More than 9,000 are expected to attend the event at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

Dr. Brené Brown is a research professor at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work. She has spent the past thirteen years studying vulnerability, courage, worthiness, and shame. Brené is the author of three #1 *New York Times* bestsellers: *Rising Strong*, *Daring Greatly* and *The Gifts of Imperfection*. She is also the Founder and CEO of The Daring Way and COURAGEworks – an online learning community that offers eCourses, workshops, and interviews for individuals and organizations seeking braver living, loving, and leading. Brené's 2010 TEDx Houston talk, *The Power of Vulnerability*, is one of the top five most viewed TED talks in the world, with over 25 million views.

Shawn Achor is a distinguished Harvard professor and *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Happiness Advantage* and *Before Happiness*. Achor spent 12 years at Harvard, where he won over a dozen distinguished teaching awards, and delivered lectures on positive psychology in the most popular class at Harvard. He has since become one of the world's leading experts on the connection between happiness and success.

Carla Harris is a banker, motivational speaker, gospel singer, and author of *Strategize to Win*. She is managing director and senior client advisor at Morgan Stanley and board chair of the Morgan Stanley Foundation. Recently named chair of the Executive Leadership Council, Harris holds degrees from Harvard University and Harvard Business School and numerous honorary doctorates.

"Once again, the Conference will bring together pioneering change-makers at the top of their fields who are committed to improving the workplace for women and men alike," said Leslie Stiles, Board President of the Pennsylvania Conference for Women. "Our extraordinary speakers inspire attendees and redefine opportunities for growth and leadership."

The nonpartisan, nonprofit 14th annual Pennsylvania Conference for Women will host thousands of women - and men - for a full day of networking, inspiration, professional development and personal growth. In addition to a standout lineup of keynote speakers, the Conference will feature breakout sessions led by experts in the fields of business, philanthropy, leadership, finance, media and professional development.

Among the 100+ speakers at the Conference will be: Tiffany Dufu, chief leadership officer of Levo and launch team member to Lean In; Teresa Ghilarducci, PhD, Bernard L. and Irene Schwartz Chair in Economic Policy Analysis at The New School for Social Research; Amy Cooper Hakim, Ph.D., industrial-organizational psychology practitioner; Grace Killelea, CEO and founder of the GKC Group; and Caroline Webb, author, economist, and senior adviser to McKinsey.

The Pennsylvania Conference for Women is presented by [Beneficial Bank](#) and generously sponsored by [Dow Chemical Company](#); [PNC](#); [QVC Inc.](#); [Shriners Hospitals for Children](#); and [United Airlines](#).

"Beneficial Bank is honored to be a part of the inspiring conversations in which purpose-driven women and the men who are their allies share ideas, harness potential, and create change for themselves and future generations." said Joanne Ryder, Chief Administration Officer for Beneficial Bank. "The goals of the Conference align perfectly with our values at Beneficial Bank."

Registration is now open for the Conference. To register or learn more about the event, visit www.paconferenceforwomen.org. To apply for media credentials, please contact Michelle Clark, mclark@conferenceforwomen.org.

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