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## **THE 2022 PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN TO FOCUS ON BEING A POSITIVE FORCE FOR CHANGE**

**Speakers include Dr. Kizzmekia S. Corbett, Malala Yousafzai, Jane Fonda, Marlee Matlin, and more than a dozen others**

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**PHILADELPHIA, August 25, 2022** – In a time of backsliding and breakthroughs for women across the globe, Pennsylvania’s largest conference for women will focus on being a positive force for change this October.

For the first time, the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Pennsylvania Conference for Women will also offer both an in-person gathering and a virtual event to meet diverse needs in a not-yet-COVID-free world.

The Pennsylvania Conference for Women is dedicated to advancing women at work. Its in-person gathering will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center on Thursday, October 6. The virtual event will be held on Friday, October 7.

“This exceptional community of women has a strong desire – and capacity – to be a positive force for change,” said Leslie Stiles, Pennsylvania Conference for Women Board President. “And we are excited that this year’s speakers are some of the most significant exemplars of positive change in these times.”

### **Speakers at the Oct 6 in-person gathering include:**

- **Jane Fonda**, two-time Academy Award-winning actor, producer, author, activist, and fitness guru.

- **Arianna Huffington**, founder and CEO of Thrive, the founder of The Huffington Post, and the author of 15 books.
- **Yara Shahidi**, award-winning actress, producer, and the breakout star of ABC's Emmy and Golden Globe-nominated series *black-ish*.

**Speakers at the Oct. 7 virtual event include:**

- **Dr. Kizzmekia S. Corbett, PhD**, viral immunologist who led the team that created the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, health equity advocate, and assistant professor at Harvard University's T. H. Chan School of Public Health.
- **Marlee Matlin**, Academy and Golden Globe Award-winning actress, *New York Times* best-selling author, and disability rights advocate.
- **Malala Yousafzai**, Nobel Peace Prize-winner, advocate for girls' education, and founder of the Malala Fund.

Nearly a dozen breakout speakers will also appear at the virtual event to discuss leadership, well-being, diversity and inclusion, and other timely topics. Among them: Arthur C. Brooks, Amy Cuddy, and Frances Haugen.

The theme for this year's conference is "Reset. Renew. Reconnect" – recognizing the extraordinary challenges women have overcome in recent years and the power of coming together as a community of women supporting women.

The presenting sponsor is Bristol Myers Squibb.

"BMS is committed to advancing women in the workforce, which includes creating the right opportunities, preparing women for next-level roles, and creating an inclusive culture that supports their advancement," said Chris Boerner, executive vice president and chief commercialization officer.

"Gender equity not only drives business performance. It also creates a workforce that reflects the communities and patients we serve, which leads to better medicines for patients and a healthier workforce," Boerner added. "We are thrilled to support the Pennsylvania Conference for Women and the work they do to increase opportunities for women through business networking, professional development, and personal growth."

The Pennsylvania Conference for Women is presented by Bristol Myers Squibb; and generously sponsored by Target; Cisco; Comcast NBCUniversal; Independence Blue Cross; Johnson & Johnson; PECO; Qurate Retail Group; United Airlines; AstraZeneca; Drexel LeBow College of Business; Jazz Pharmaceuticals; Macquarie Asset Management; Merck & Co., Inc., Troutman Pepper; Villanova School of Business; Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; CMI Media Group and Compas, Inc.; Law Offices of Jennifer J. Riley; Oracle; Philadelphia Foundation; State Street Corporation; Takeda Pharmaceuticals; Temple Health; Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health; and The Graduate School at

West Chester University; community sponsors iRelaunch; Luminary; PowerToFly; and reachHIRE; and media sponsors Harvard Business Review - Women at Work; iHeartMedia Philadelphia; WHYY; and WPVI-TV, 6abc Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Conference for Women is part of the [Conferences for Women](#), the largest network of women's conferences in the nation. Its conferences in Pennsylvania, California, Massachusetts, and Texas attract more than 50,000 people a year.

**Tickets and more information available at:** <https://www.paconferenceforwomen.org>.

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