

WiM Virginia Leadership Conference - Now Accepting Speaker Submissions

Speaker Benefits

The Women in Manufacturing (WiM) Virginia Chapter invites industry professionals to submit speaking proposals for the 2023 Leadership Conference to be held on October 27, 2023, in-person at the Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia.

WiM Virginia is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and inspiring women in the manufacturing sector. The Leadership Conference brings together manufacturers of all types and welcomes individuals from every job function. The event features professional development sessions, roundtable discussions, and inspiring keynote presentations, as well as social and networking opportunity.

WiM seeks presenters who share cutting-edge ideas, inspire enlightening discussions, and offer the latest innovative concepts and trends that are changing how we work in manufacturing. Proposals are encouraged on presentation topics related to professional development, personal development, technical innovations and training, manufacturing business trends, strategic leadership, and diversity, equity and inclusion.

To be considered to speak at the 2023 Leadership Conference, please submit your presentation description and outline to Knoonan@vamanufacturers.com.

Selected speakers will be notified by email by July 31, 2023. You will only be notified if you are selected to speak.

Speaker Benefits

- Each presenter will receive one complimentary registration
- Your name, company and title of your presentation will be published in the conference program and on the conference website and will be featured on social media
- Your presentation provides an excellent marketing and business development opportunity by highlighting your company's leadership, best practices and successes
- As a speaker, you are recognized as a leader in your field and to the WiM community

The Evaluation Process:

All proposals are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Overall quality
- Relevance to the industry
- Practical applications of the material
- Timeliness of the topic
- Speaker qualifications

To be considered as a conference speaker, your program must be educational in nature, sales presentations will not be accepted.

Session Formats:

Keynote - The main, featured addresses at the conference. The topics of keynote addresses fit closely with the conference theme. Keynote speakers are all well-accomplished in their fields. (30 minutes – 1 hour in length)

Breakout Session - Smaller group sessions focused on specific topics or discussions that attendees choose to attend. These sessions are normally run concurrently with other sessions. (45 minutes – 1 hour in length)

Panel - Panels are moderated sessions of no more than four panelists, plus one moderator. The moderator should have a predetermined set of questions and incorporate audience questions and feedback into the discussion. Panel presentations should be designed to engage with the audience. (45 minutes – 1 hour in length)

Roundtable - A speaker presents a topic and leads discussion. At roundtables, participants could visit more than one roundtable discussion during the session.

Workshop - These sessions are meant to provide attendees with practical tools and approaches, featuring interactive components that will engage participants in learning activities throughout the time block. (1-1.5 hour in length)

Learning Pathways:

- Professional Development
- Personal Development
- Technical Topics
- Sustainability
- Innovation & Transformation
- Allyship
- Manufacturing Business Trends
- Strategic Leadership
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Instructional Design:

WIM Virginia seeks proposals that reflect adult learning principles and reflect the best thinking in the field, informed by theory, research, and practice.

To deliver exceptional learning experiences, preference may be given to proposals that demonstrate an ability to:

- Reflect innovation and cutting-edge content
- Stimulate and provoke discussion and audience engagement
- Facilitate knowledge transfer and development of new competencies
- Provide diverse approaches for different types of learners
- Present a business case with evidence supported by research or data
- Provide concrete examples and relevant takeaways that can be utilized immediately
- Use methods that draw out relevant past knowledge and experiences
- Motivate learners with goal- or outcomes-focused design
- Demonstrate relevance of lessons through “real-life” case studies as they relate to current business environment.