

***News from...***

**Maryland Federation of Business & Professional Women (BPW/MD)**

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**Maryland Business and Professional Women  
Celebrate Change and Move Forward Together  
At State Conference at the Holiday Inn in Gaithersburg  
*Networking, Professional Development Workshops, Guest Speakers,  
Ladies Spa Night Fundraiser, Complete Weekend Program***

Members and guests of Maryland Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW/MD) will “celebrate the change and move forward together” with working women in a fast-paced world of technology advances and competitive workplaces during their annual State Conference May 20-22, at the Holiday Inn in Gaithersburg.

The theme of the conference is “Celebrate the Change ~ Moving Forward Together” which emphasizes the fact that the one aspect in life everyone can all count on is change.

Featured presenters include Laura Feldman, of National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, who will speak on “What You Always Wanted to Know About Social Security but Were Afraid to Ask,” and Bette J. McLeod, an educator and motivational speaker who will challenge attendees to “Move Forward with Change.”

Workshops offered on Friday and Saturday will include “Unlocking Your Potential,” by Rita Hummel Crowe, leadership coach; “Why Do We Still Need ERA?” presented by Carolyn Cook from United 4 Equality, LLC; and the launch of the BPW/MD website by Toni Koenigsberg.

The conference will conclude on Sunday with breakfast speaker, Marga Fripp, award-winning journalist and native of Romania, sharing how her organization, Empowered Women International (EWI), “Empowers Women and Transforms their Lives through the Arts.”

BPW/MD President Patty Alexander of Cumberland said, “Working women face challenges every day, and we choose to embrace the changes and move forward together. We know that challenges can create positive changes that will provide endless possibilities for personal and professional development. Attendees will be empowered and energized to realize their potential, and have the confidence to meet the challenges and opportunities of change.”

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A Ladies Spa Night fundraiser will be held on Friday evening, May 20, to benefit the BPW Foundation of Maryland which provides scholarships for working women who are continuing their educations. The evening includes a buffet dinner and a variety of mini-spa treatments.

Maryland Business & Professional Women will complete state business and elect officers for the coming year. Conference attendees are asked to bring donations to support Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville, where families with children can regain their independence.

Following the installation and awards banquet on Saturday evening, attendees will be treated to modern tunes, “oldies”, show tunes, and standards by *Hearts Content* in their four-part a cappella harmony.

BPW promotes equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information. Membership is open to women and men who support the mission of BPW. With members throughout the state, BPW/MD is the leading advocate for the workingwomen in Maryland.

The conference is open to the public and guests who may register for all events by visiting the BPW/MD website at [www.bpwmaryland.org](http://www.bpwmaryland.org) or contact BPW/MD President Patty Alexander at [patty.alexander.bpw@gmail.com](mailto:patty.alexander.bpw@gmail.com) or 301-281-1923.

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