



Wednesday-Friday, March 6-8, 2024

AC Hotel Downtown Bozeman  
Kimpton Armory Hotel

WEDNESDAY, March 6, 2024

**2024 MT WIB SUMMIT WELCOME RECEPTION**

**AC HOTEL BENCHMARK RESTAURANT & BAR (rooftop)**

**4:00 – 6:00 PM** Registration Open at the AC Hotel Benchmark entrance (rooftop)

**5:30 – 7:30 PM** **2024 MT WIB SUMMIT WELCOME RECEPTION** Sponsored by Mountain Health CO-OP

THURSDAY, March 7, 2024

**2024 MT WIB SUMMIT OPENING SESSION**

**KIMPTON ARMORY MUSIC HALL**

**7:30 – 9:00 AM** Registration Open at the Kimpton Armory Hotel; breakfast on your own

**9:00 – 9:10 AM** Welcome from Montana Chamber w/Sponsor Recognition

**9:10 – 9:40 AM** **2024 Honorary Chair, Lt. Governor Kristen Juras Fireside Chat** with Nancy Schlepp, VP, Communications - Montana Chamber Board Chair

**9:45 – 10:15 AM** Opening Keynote Speaker: **Chef Allison Fasano – est. 1864 - “Just Say Yes!”**

**10:30 – 11:15 AM** **MORNING BREAKOUTS – Session I**

- ***“Trailblazing Titans: Women CEOs in Outdoor Recreation and Hospitality – A Career Roadmap”***  
**KIMPTON ARMORY MUSIC HALL**
  - Amy Beck, President – Oboz
  - Toby O’Rourke, President & CEO – Kampgrounds of America
  - Laura Orvidas, Chief Executive Officer - onX
  - *Moderator: Diane Conradi, Founder – Montana Access Project*
  
- ***“Leading with Impact – The Good, The Bad & The Ugly”***  
**THE ETHA (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kimpton)**
  - Dr. Alison Harmon, Vice President of Research and Economic Development – MSU
  - Molly Kocialski, Rocky Mountain Regional Director – U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
  - Carmen McSpadden, Founder – 17West, Leadership & Organizational Development Services

**11:30 AM – 12:15 PM** **MORNING BREAKOUTS – Session II**

- ***“From Boardroom to Ballot: Women Leaders Seeking Public Service”***  
**THE ETHA (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kimpton)**
  - Christi Jacobsen, Montana Secretary of State
  - Courtenay Sprunger, State Representative - HD7 / Kalispell (CEO, Big Sky Public Relations)
  - *Moderator: Larissa Martinez, Founder & President – Women’s Public Leadership Network*

- ***"The Art of Negotiation"***  
**FIRST SPIRIT & STORY (2nd Floor Kimpton)**
  - Telesa Via – Head of Sales – IHG Luxury & Lifestyles Americas
- ***"Inclusive Horizons: Elevating BIPOC Women in Business" - AC HOTEL BRIDGER BALLROOM***
  - Cora Chandler, Founder – Cora K. Productions
  - Karen Dove, Program Director – Native Women Launch (NWL) Program
  - Liz Marchi, Head of Community Engagement – Two Bear Capital
  - Yolanda OldDwarf, Founder – Sweet Sage Woman
  - Mariah Omeasoo, Marketing Coordinator – NWL Program
  - *Moderator: Lynn-Wood Fields – AccelerateMT Rapid Training Program Manager for Film & Media*

**12:30 – 1:45 PM            LUNCH @ AC HOTEL BRIDGER BALLROOM**

- ***"Blaze Your Trail: Discover the Path to Successful Goal Setting"***
  - *Mary Flor with Master Connection Associates*

**2:15 – 3:00 PM            AFTERNOON BREAKOUTS – Session I**

- ***"Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Women Succeeding in Male-Dominated Industries"***  
**AC HOTEL BRIDGER BALLROOM**
  - Shannon Christensen, Principal-in-Charge of Architecture, Cushing Terrell
  - Kim Jakub, SVP Rocky Mountain Refining – Par Montana
  - Jenny Walby, General Manager – Ressler / Toyota of Bozeman
  - *Moderator: Suzi Berget White, First Security Bank*
- ***"Empowering Boardroom Equality: Women's Voices on What to Know and How to Serve"***  
**FIRST STORY & SPIRIT (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kimpton)**
  - Susan Carstensen, Independent Advisor
  - Kirsten Suddath, General Partner – Next Frontier Capital
  - *Moderator: Britt Ide, Ide Energy*

**3:15 – 4:00 PM            AFTERNOON BREAKOUTS – Session II**

- ***"Women Driving Change: Unleashing the Power of Business for Good through Philanthropy and Social Impact"***  
**AC HOTEL BRIDGER BALLROOM**
  - Amberly Pahut, Director of Community Responsibility & Executive Director of the First Interstate BancSystem Foundation
  - Mary Rutherford, Executive Director – Montana Community Foundation
  - *Moderator: Liz Moore, Executive Director – Montana Nonprofit Association*
- ***"Elevating Women Entrepreneurs: Navigating Entrepreneurship and Securing Capital for Success"***  
**FIRST STORY & SPIRIT (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kimpton)**
  - Avanlee Christine, Founder – Avanlee Care App
  - Becca Egbert, Emerging Manager / Founder
  - Kassi Strong, Rocky Mountain Women's Business Center (AccelerateMT)
  - *Moderator: Jenni Graff, Executive Director - Early-Stage Montana*

- **"Empowering Women's Health and Family-Friendly Benefits in the Workplace: A Collaborative Approach between Hospital Systems and Health Care Insurance Providers"**

**TRUE NORTH (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kimpton)**

- Blair Fjeseth, SVP and Chief of Staff – Mountain Health Co-Op
- Dr. Melissa Wolf, Medical Director of Women's Services – Bozeman Health
- *Moderator: Dr. Suzanne Tilleman, Sprunk & Burnham Endowed Dean – University of Montana College of Business*

**4:00 – 5:00 PM – BREAK**

The AC Hotel Lobby is available for workspace; AC Benchmark and Kimpton Sky Shed bars are open

**5:00 – 7:30 PM MT WIB SUMMIT NETWORKING RECEPTION @ KIMPTON SKY SHED (rooftop)**

**5:30 - 6:15 PM GENERAL SESSION PANEL**

- **"The State of Childcare in Montana with a Look Ahead to the 2025 Legislative Session"**
  - Jessica Dehn, Founder/Owner – Explore Montessori & Academy
  - Caitlin Jensen, Executive Director – Montana Child Car Business Connect | Zero to Five
  - Sam Schmidt, Physical Therapist | Clinic Director – Alpine Physical Therapy
  - *Moderator: Sheridan Johnson, Government Affairs Specialist – Montana Chamber*

**FRIDAY, March 8, 2024**

**VIP MEET & GREET**

**THE ETHA, MEZZANINE (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Kimpton)**

**10:00 – 11:30 AM** FOR SPEAKERS, SPONSORS, and SPECIAL GUESTS only

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY POWER LUNCH  
KIMPTON ARMORY MUSIC HALL**

**11:00 – 11:30 AM** Registration Opens at Kimpton Armory Music Hall entrance

**11:30 AM–12:00 PM** International Women's Day POWER LUNCH Begins; Networking

**12:00 – 12:15 PM** Introductions and Welcome

**12:30 – 1:00 PM** Keynote Speaker: Elke Govertsen, CEO – Mamalode - "Fambition: Purpose vs. Love"

**1:15 – 1:45 PM** Keynote Speaker: Elaine Swann, Etiquette Expert – "Bridging the Gap: How to Succeed in a Multi-generational Workplace"

**1:45 – 1:45 PM** Winners Announced: Raffle Prizes and Centerpieces

**2:00 PM** Lunch Concludes