2026 WCWI Facilitators & Class Overviews

Saturday: Morning Sessions - 9:45 - 11:15 AM

Session #1:

Meltrice Sharp, CPA, MBA (CLE Consulting Firm & Sharp University) – **Her Money Plan: Budget Smart, Build Wealth**

A budget isn't about restriction, it's about creating a plan that empowers you to achieve your goals. In this interactive workshop, you'll learn how to build a realistic spending plan, manage debt strategically, improve your financial decision-making, and create habits that support long-term wealth. Discover practical techniques for setting achievable financial goals, increasing savings, understanding the role of credit, and making intentional money choices that reflect your values and vision for the future. Whether you're just beginning your financial journey or looking to strengthen your financial foundation, you'll leave with practical tools, greater confidence, and a personalized roadmap to help you take control of your money, reduce financial stress, and build lasting financial security.

Session #2:

Clarissa Foster, MBA & Jazmine R Greer, Esq (Greer Law Firm Co. LPA) – **Estate Planning Made Simple: Protect What Matters Most**

Estate planning isn't just for the wealthy—it's for anyone who wants to protect their loved ones, preserve their assets, and ensure their wishes are honored. Join Clarissa Foster, MBA, founder of National Paralegal Services LLC, and Attorney Jazmine Greer of The Greer Law Firm for an informative session that simplifies the fundamentals of estate planning. Together, they will explain the purpose of wills, revocable living trusts, financial powers of attorney, healthcare directives, living wills, and beneficiary designations, while discussing common planning mistakes and practical strategies to help protect your family and legacy. Combining Clarissa's educational approach with Attorney Greer's legal perspective, this session will provide attendees with a well-rounded understanding of the essential components of an estate plan and the confidence to take the next steps toward protecting what matters most.

Session #3:

Paris Lampkins (Lampkins & Co.) – **Executive Presence Is Currency**

You've done the work. You've earned the degree. You've built the experience. So why do some people seem to be trusted, promoted, and chosen before you? Executive presence is often the missing piece.

In this interactive workshop, you'll learn how communication, confidence, personal brand, and image work together to shape first impressions, build credibility, and influence opportunity. Whether you're leading a team, growing a business, interviewing for your next role, or preparing for the boardroom, you'll leave with practical tools to strengthen your presence and ensure that how you show up reflects the leader you already are.Because talent gets you in the room. Presence changes what happens once you get there.

Session #4:

Charmaine Brown (Connexions Consulting) – **The Triple P Blueprint: Purpose, Passion, and Prosperity**

In this high-impact session, participants will activate their journey toward building wealth with meaning—rooted in their purpose, passion, and the power to create prosperity on their own terms. Grounded in the Simply Living Me Mindset (Authenticity, Abundance, Clarity, and Independence), this session guides women through personal reflection and vision-mapping to align who they are with how they earn.

Using the Simply Launch Roadmap, attendees will identify their core values, talents, and interests, and explore how these can be transformed into entrepreneurial ventures, aligned career pivots, or income-generating side projects. Together, we'll explore how to:

- Clarify what you really want (not just what you're good at)
- Build a business or brand idea that reflects your lived experiences and values
- Evaluate opportunities through a lens of sustainability, alignment, and impact

With real-world examples, inspiring stories, and practical tools, participants will leave with a draft vision, early action steps, and the confidence to begin shaping a life and livelihood that reflects who they truly are.

Session #5:

Andrea Wilson, MBA (Brick House Realty), Jeannet Wright Burgess (Akron Cleveland Association of REALTORS), Feliz A. Colón – (Viva Homes Group & Keller Williams Living, "Se Habla Espanol") **Panel Discussion: Building Wealth Through Real Estate: From First Property to Lasting Legacy**

Real estate remains one of the most powerful tools for creating wealth, generating passive income, and building a lasting legacy. Whether you're purchasing your first investment property, expanding your portfolio, or exploring real estate as a new wealth-building strategy, this engaging panel will provide practical insights to help you move forward with confidence. Hear from experienced investors and industry professionals as they discuss identifying opportunities, financing strategies, avoiding common pitfalls, maximizing returns, and creating generational wealth through real estate. You'll leave with actionable knowledge, real-world perspectives, and the inspiration to take the next step toward building wealth through real estate—regardless of where you are on your investment journey.

Saturday: Mid-Morning Sessions - 11:45 - 1:00 PM

Session #1:

Nicole McKinney-Johnson (Cleveland Rape Crisis Center) - **Negotiation Skills & Strategies for Success**

This presentation explores practical negotiation techniques that help individuals build confidence, strengthen communication, and achieve positive outcomes in professional settings. Participants will learn key strategies for preparing for negotiations, understanding interests and priorities, managing difficult conversations, building consensus, and creating mutually beneficial solutions. Whether negotiating contracts, partnerships, resources, or workplace matters, attendees will gain actionable tools to navigate negotiations effectively and achieve successful results.

Session #2:

Norlynn Johnson (U.S. Bank) - **Behavior Over Brilliance: The Mindset Behind How She Builds Wealth**

This session explores how mindset, behaviors, and financial habits shape long-term wealth building. Attendees will gain insight into how daily decisions, beliefs about money, and intentional actions can either accelerate or limit financial growth, and how to shift from reaction to strategy when it comes to building wealth. Participants will also learn practical ways to identify limiting financial patterns, develop healthier money habits, and build the confidence to make intentional financial decisions that support lasting wealth and financial independence.

Session #3:

Tanya Manning-Grant (TMG Professional Services Consulting Firm LLC, DRESSCODE Boutique, Ashton's Corner, and DCB Spaces) - **The Seat is Yours: Navigating Corporate Without Losing Yourself**

Success in corporate isn’t just about working hard - it’s about knowing how to navigate the room, build your brand, advocate for yourself, and make strategic career moves. As a black woman with nearly 30 years of executive leadership and transformation experience, I’ve experienced the wins, setbacks, politics, and lessons that shaped my career. This isn’t another motivational talk. It’s a real conversation about confidence, executive presence, sponsorship, leadership, entrepreneurship, and building a career that aligns with who you are. You’ll leave with practical strategies, renewed confidence, and an action plan you can immediately put into practice.

Session #4:

Natika (Nikki) Anderson (PNC Bank) - **Wealth Looks Like HER: Redefining Financial Success Through Ownership, Opportunity, and Legacy**

Wealth isn't about looking wealthy. It's about having choices, stability, ownership, and the ability to change your family's future. Whether you're just beginning your financial journey or looking to strengthen the foundation you've already built, this session will provide practical insights and a fresh perspective on what it truly means to build a lasting legacy. Attendees will leave empowered to define what wealth looks like for them and equipped with strategies to move from simply earning income to building lasting financial freedom.

Session #5:

Nichole M. Collins (Cleveland Foundation) – **The Giving Blueprint: Smart Philanthropy for Building Generational Wealth**

Building wealth is only part of the equation—creating a lasting legacy requires a plan. In this interactive session, you'll discover how philanthropy can become a powerful part of your overall financial blueprint. Learn how charitable tools such as donor advised funds, life insurance, estate planning, charitable gift annuities, and other tax-smart giving strategies that can help you maximize both your financial goals and your community impact. Through a guided "Giving Blueprint" activity, you'll begin designing your own personalized philanthropic plan that aligns your values, assets, and vision for the future. Whether you're just starting your wealth-building journey or refining your legacy strategy, you'll leave with practical ideas and a blueprint for creating generational impact.

Saturday: Afternoon Sessions - 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Session #1:

Robin Sadler (Women Who Build Brands™) – **Building A Profitable Personal Brand: Visibility As A Wealth Strategy**

Wealth isn't only what's in your bank account. It's the expertise you've built over years and the reputation you've earned. But that wealth has a ceiling if it stays contained to the circles that already know you. Credibility built inside your industry doesn't automatically travel to the broader audiences and platforms where new opportunities and income are built today.

This session is for established professional women who are ready to turn their knowledge, expertise, and intellectual property into a personal brand that creates new revenue streams, clients, and collaborations. You will learn how to become visible on platforms and in the spaces where credibility and authority are being built in real time. Key topics include redefining visibility as a wealth-building strategy (not a popularity contest), and identifying exactly where your expertise is currently going unseen by the audiences who need it most. Attendees will also watch a live demonstration: A volunteer from the room will go through a proprietary process for uncovering and defining her personal brand during the session. Attendees will walk away with a clear framework for turning expertise into visibility that opens doors to new income and opportunity.

Session #2:

C. Renee Wilson (National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc. (NAREB)), Raisa Minaya (KeyBank) – **Panel Discussion: From Homeownership to Wealth Building: Expanding Access and Driving Financial Outcomes**

Discover how KeyBank's lending solutions and relationship-based approach can support long-term wealth building and financial stability. This session will explore homeownership as a critical pathway to building wealth, along with strategies that expand access, improve affordability, and strengthen financial resilience.

Joined by C. Renee Wilson, Executive Director of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc. (NAREB), and KeyBank's Raisa Minaya Mortgage Loan expert, will share perspectives on understanding borrower needs, building trust within diverse communities, and creating more equitable pathways to financial success.

Learn how a comprehensive banking relationship can help individuals and families navigate the financing process with confidence, optimize affordability, and unlock stronger financial outcomes from pre-approval through closing and beyond. Walk away with actionable insights to guide meaningful conversations, deepen relationships, and support clients in achieving sustainable, long-term wealth goals.

Session #3:

Danielle (Dani) Morris (DM Strategic Solutions, LLC) & Victoria Willson (Willson Capital Management) – **Financial Essentials for Entrepreneurs: Navigating Financial Statements for Growth**

In this session, participants—whether they're just starting their entrepreneurial journey or have been in business for ten years—will gain a practical understanding of key financial statements, including the balance sheet, income statement, and the benefits of cash flow analysis. This session is designed for small business owners at varying levels of financial knowledge, ensuring all attendees can walk away with actionable insights into managing their finances effectively. By the end, they will understand how to analyze their finances and use that knowledge to drive sustainable growth.

Session #4:

Veranda Rodgers, MBA (Veranda Rodgers The Nonprofit Dynamite) – **From Mission to Movement: Building Sustainable Nonprofits That Create Lasting Impact and Generational Wealth**

Women leaders are uniquely positioned to transform communities, influence systems, and create economic opportunities through purpose-driven organizations. In this dynamic workshop, Veranda Rodgers, Founder and CEO of Pregnant with Possibilities Resource Center and Bloom Behavioral Health, will share proven strategies for building a sustainable nonprofit that generates measurable community impact while strengthening organizational financial health.

Participants will learn how to diversify revenue streams, develop strategic partnerships, secure funding, leverage their leadership influence, and create organizational models that outlive their founders. This session is designed for nonprofit leaders, social entrepreneurs, and changemakers seeking to move beyond survival mode and build organizations that create both social impact and long-term economic sustainability.

Session #5:

Monique Winston (MWINS Consulting) – **Buy, Don't Build: Business Acquisition as a Wealth-Building Strategy**

As millions of Baby Boomers prepare to retire, an unprecedented number of profitable businesses are changing hands—creating a once-in-a-generation opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs and investors. Why start a business from scratch when you can acquire one with an established customer base, proven operations, and existing cash flow? In this informative session, you'll learn how to identify acquisition opportunities, evaluate businesses, understand financing options, conduct due diligence, negotiate a successful purchase, and position a business for future growth. Whether you're looking to become your own boss, diversify your investments, or accelerate your path to wealth, this session will provide the practical knowledge and strategic insights needed to confidently explore business acquisition as a powerful vehicle for entrepreneurship, legacy, and generational wealth.

Sunday: Morning Sessions - 9:45 - 11:15 AM

Session #1:

Tanya Haggins (Lakewood University) - **Pivot with Purpose: Turning Mid-Career Change into Your Greatest Opportunity**

Is your next chapter calling? Whether you're considering a career change, launching a business, stepping into leadership, or pursuing a long-held passion, a mid-career pivot can be one of the most rewarding investments you make in yourself. In this inspiring and practical session, you'll explore how to evaluate risks, leverage your existing skills, navigate uncertainty with confidence, and position yourself for long-term success. Learn strategies for making intentional career transitions, building financial readiness, expanding your professional network, and embracing opportunities that align with your purpose and values. You'll leave with actionable insights, renewed confidence, and a framework for making bold, informed decisions that transform career change into a catalyst for greater fulfillment, impact, and wealth.

Session #2:

LaRese Purnell, MBA (CLE Consulting Firm & The Real Black Friday) & Monica L. Womack, MPA (MLW Solutions LLC) – **Mastering Entrepreneurship: Building a Strong Business Foundation**

This session equips business owners with the core principles needed to run a successful business. Participants will learn how to manage finances effectively, build a powerful brand, and implement strategic pricing. Key areas covered include financial management, marketing, operational efficiency, leadership, and pricing strategies. Attendees will leave with practical strategies to streamline operations, enhance team performance, and ensure long-term business sustainability. This session is perfect for entrepreneurs looking to elevate their business and achieve lasting growth.

Session #3:

Tirah M. Thompson (Tirah Thompson Agency of State Farm) -

Wealth, Women & Wisdom

Insurance strategies for women & families. How a good foundation and a good understanding of how insurance plays a part in building wealth from generation to generation while providing a great safety net. When you leave this workshop, you will be excited about paying for something that works to keep you wealthy.

Session #4:

Kalimah White (KeyBank) - **Her Wealth, Her Legacy: Advanced Estate Planning Strategies for Every Stage of Life**

Building wealth is a journey — and protecting it requires intention. This workshop offers a candid, empowering conversation about wealth planning tailored for women navigating every stage of financial growth, from first-generation wealth builders to seasoned investors ready to leave a lasting legacy. We'll explore how your planning needs evolve as your wealth grows, and why the right strategies today can protect your family and community for generations to come.

Session #5:

Habeebah Rasheed Grimms, M.A., Psy.S. (Habeebah Rasheed Grimes LLC) -

Unmasked: Making Meaning of Our Experiences to Be Our Full Selves

SWhat if the beliefs, behaviors, and patterns that no longer serve you were once necessary for your survival? Women are often expected to prioritize the needs of others while disregarding their own, leaving little space for authenticity, healing, or possibility. In this exploratory and reflective session, you'll discover how the neuroscience of trauma and healing can help you make meaning of your lived experiences and reconnect with your truest self. Together, we'll explore how the masks we wear to survive can also limit our ability to flourish. You'll leave with a deeper understanding of yourself and practical insights to support greater self-trust and alignment, making room for the kind of wholeness that enriches every dimension of your life, including how you lead, love, and build lasting wealth.

Sunday: Mid-Morning Sessions - 11:45 - 1:00 PM

Session #1:

Endia Small (First Federal Lakewood) **- From Renter to Homeowner: A Practical Roadmap to Owning Your First Home**

Homeownership is one of the most powerful ways to build wealth and create long-term financial stability—but the process doesn't have to be overwhelming. In this interactive workshop, you'll gain a clear understanding of the homebuying journey, from preparing your finances and improving your purchasing power to navigating the mortgage process and closing on your dream home. Learn about down payment assistance programs, grants, and other financial resources that can help make homeownership more attainable. Whether you're just beginning to explore homeownership or are ready to take the next step, you'll leave with practical tools, expert guidance, and a personalized roadmap to help you confidently transition from renter to homeowner.

Session #2:

TerDawn DeBoe (Institute of Business AI) – **How to Use Artificial Intelligence to Grow Wealth in 2026**

Most women are using AI to save time. The ones building wealth are using it to make better financial decisions.

This session introduces a framework for treating AI as a strategic financial partner, not just a productivity tool. TerDawn DeBoe walks attendees through three practical applications: using AI in a CFO capacity to see the full picture of your business finances, measuring actual return on investment from the AI tools already in your stack, and building an AI agent that surfaces the data you need to make informed decisions before they become urgent ones.

The women in this room have already built something real. This session is for those who are ready to use AI to protect what they have built, grow what is working, and stop making expensive decisions without complete information.

No technical background required. No jargon. Just a clear method for putting AI to work on the financial health of your business. Attendees leave with a working understanding of how to measure AI ROI, what an AI CFO function looks like in a small business, and the first steps to building a decision-support system that works.

Session #3:

Anthony Scott, Esq. (I.S.I. Publishing, LLC) – **Passion. Purpose. Paycheck.: Building a Career and Life That Reflects Who You Really Are**

For many professionals, success looks good on paper but feels empty in practice. Promotions, titles, and pay increases may provide temporary satisfaction, but true fulfillment comes when work aligns with passion, values, and purpose.

Drawing from the 3Ps Framework, "Passion. Purpose. Paycheck.", participants will explore the three critical elements of career fulfillment and learn practical strategies to build a life and career that are both meaningful and financially sustainable.

Session #4:

Dr. Arlonda Stevens (Charmlife Enterprise, LLC) – **The Wealth Gap No One Talks About: When Financial Success Doesn't Feel Like Wealth**

You built the income. You checked the boxes. So why does something still feel off?

This session exposes the wealth gap no one talks about — the hidden space between financial success and a life that actually feels wealthy. Many high-achieving women have the career, the income, and the accomplishments, yet still find themselves burned out, overwhelmed, or quietly unfulfilled.

In this powerful and honest conversation, you'll uncover how health, mindset, relationships, purpose, and spiritual and emotional alignment can either fuel — or quietly sabotage — your financial abundance. Walk away with a new definition of wealth and practical tools to stop performing success and start living it. Because real wealth isn't just about what's in your bank account — it's about how full your life truly feels.

Session #5:

Rachel Sampson (KeyBank) in Conversation with Terese McGroarty (FranNet of Northern Ohio) – **Franchise Freedom: Exploring Franchise Ownership as a Wealth-Building Strategy**

Have you ever considered owning a business but weren't sure where to start? Join this engaging fireside chat with Rachael Sampson (KeyBank) and Terese McGroarty (FranNet of Northern Ohio) as they demystify the world of franchising and explore how franchise ownership can be a powerful path to entrepreneurship, wealth creation, and financial independence. Learn how franchising works, what types of investments are available, how to evaluate opportunities, financing options, and the key factors to consider before making an investment. Whether you're looking to diversify your income, transition from corporate America, or build a business that can create long-term wealth and legacy, this conversation will provide practical insights, expert guidance, and real-world perspectives to help you determine whether franchise ownership is the right opportunity for you.

Sunday: Afternoon Sessions - 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Session #1:

Boyd (Tony) Sharp (The Sharp Group) – **Savvy & Secure: Safety Starts with You**

This empowering self-defense class is designed specifically for women to build confidence, enhance personal safety, and develop awareness skills to recognize and avoid potential dangers. Participants will learn strategies for staying safe, how to de-escalate threatening situations, and ways to trust their instincts. The class will also cover basic laws and legal protections relevant to self-defense, helping participants understand their rights.

Session #2:

Arrkeenah Willis (Equitable Advisors) – **From Coverage to Comfort: Dispelling Myths and Applying Strategies to Build a Secure Financial Life**

Financial security begins with understanding the tools available to protect yourself and your loved ones. In this engaging session, participants will explore common misconceptions about insurance, risk management, and financial protection while learning practical strategies to build a stronger financial foundation. Through real-world examples and actionable insights, attendees will discover how the right coverage, combined with intentional financial planning, can provide peace of mind, protect wealth, and create long-term stability. Whether you're just beginning your financial journey or looking to strengthen your existing plan, you'll leave with greater confidence and practical next steps toward a more secure financial future.

Session #3:

Anna Rathbun (Grenadilla Advisory, LLC) – **Women and Wealth - Build, Manage, Lead**

With each passing year, more women are in control of the growing wealth in the United States. However, ownership is only a starting point! This session will explore ways to build upon what you own, manage the assets to fit your life and passions, and to leave an impact in your community. We will discuss creating and maintaining tax-efficient investment portfolios, how alternative investments can fit into your life, tax planning, and other tools for financial planning. Knowledge is power, so come join us!

Session #4:

Harrison Gilmer (CLG Enterprise Group LLC) - **Credit Confidence: Strategies for Repairing and Strengthening your Score**

Your credit score can influence everything from loan approvals and interest rates to housing and employment opportunities. In this practical, action-oriented workshop, you'll learn how credit scores are calculated, identify the most common mistakes that can negatively impact your credit, and discover proven strategies to repair and strengthen your credit profile. Participants will learn how to review and dispute errors on their credit reports, reduce debt strategically, build positive credit habits, understand their rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, and recognize common credit repair scams. Whether you're rebuilding your credit or looking to improve an already solid score, you'll leave with practical tools, actionable steps, and the confidence to take control of your financial future.

Session #5:

Pastor Jon & Sheryse Henderson (Faith Fellowship Church), Pastors Rayshawn & KB Gaines (Alive Church International) & LaRese Purnell (CLE Consulting Firm & The Real Black Friday) & Rashaunda Purnell (Palmeros & Co.) Moderators - **Panel Discussion: Beyond "I Do": Building Wealth Together**

Saying "I do" is just the beginning. Building a strong financial future requires intentional communication, shared goals, and a commitment to growing together through every stage of life. Whether you're dating, engaged, newly married, or have been together for years, this interactive session explores how couples can align their financial values, navigate difficult money conversations, and create a roadmap for lasting wealth and legacy.

Join us as we discuss practical strategies for budgeting, saving, investing, managing debt, protecting assets, and making financial decisions as a unified team. You'll leave with actionable tools to strengthen your partnership, increase financial confidence, and build a future that reflects your shared vision and values.