

For Immediate Release

**WPEO RECOGNIZED AS BEST ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

-- Sandra Eberhard Honored for Commitment to Diversity in Business --

NEW YORK, NY (May 23, 2014) -- Sandra Eberhard, Executive Director, WPEO-DC, was honored by the Maryland Washington Minority Companies Association (MWMCA), for her work on behalf of The Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO), recognized as the Best Organization for Women's Business Enterprises. She was among twenty-two leaders of diversity celebrated at the 2014 11th Annual Spring Breakfast Meeting/Business Showcase Expo, hosted by the business association that seeks to increase capacity for Minority, Women, Veteran and Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses.

Honorees represented varied industries, including government, healthcare, education, utilities, gaming, professional services, banking, finance, construction and small minority and women-owned businesses. Maryland Lt. Gov. Anthony G. Brown, Dr. David Wilson, President of Morgan State University, and Frank Kelly, Manager, Supplier Diversity, BGE, attended the May 9th event, which attracted more than 1000 attendees.

"I am proud to receive this award on behalf of The Women Presidents' Educational Organization, and support its commitment to furthering the success of women-owned businesses and the value of third-party certification," said Sandra Eberhard.

Ms. Eberhard was recognized for her advocacy on behalf of women in the state of Maryland and work to help to further inclusion. She received a citation from Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, a certificate of Congressional Recognition from the House of Representatives and a Certificate of Merit from U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, who cited her "outstanding commitment to diversity in business for all sectors of Government and Private business."

"Sandra has done an exceptional job leading our WPEO-DC office during a time of unprecedented growth," said WPEO founder and President Dr. Marsha Firestone. "Our operation supports women business enterprises that generate more than \$3.1 billion in revenue and employ more than 30,000 in Maryland, Virginia and the Washington, D.C. area," she added.

About The Women Presidents' Educational Organization

The Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO) is a regional affiliate of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation's premier third-party certification organization for Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs). The mission of the WPEO is to create increased access to business opportunities for WBEs. Its programs develop skills and knowledge for WBEs, advocate in the public and private sectors, foster relationships between WBEs, corporations and the government, and provide full-service, third-party certification to women entrepreneurs, in areas that include: New York; Northern New Jersey; Southern Connecticut; Washington, D.C.; Maryland; and Virginia. WPEO is incorporated in the state of New York and is recognized as a 501(c) (3) organization. For more information please visit www.wpeo.us.

Contact: Susan Johnson
Women Presidents' Educational Organization
sjohnson@womenpresidentsorg.com
212-688-4114 Office
917-601-5778 Mobile

#