

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed."

Maya Angelou

Happy Holidays EWI of Houston!

During this holiday season we are DRIVEN to give. I want to thank everyone for already giving so much as we gear up, schedule and attend committee meetings, send a billion emails, double check spreadsheets, and do the work we have set before us. I appreciate each and every one of you and gratefully accept your gift of time and energy that makes EWI of Houston strong and successful.

Margo Faulkner
Sewell Automotive Companies

I'm very excited about the new year coming up. We are already planning some inspiring meetings with guest speakers as well as some fun, team building meetings. And of course, we are looking forward to gathering again in person in March at Morton's The Steakhouse for our Sustainers' Luncheon! We will be taking every precaution as we gather including, socially distanced tables and chairs, sanitizing stations, and temperature checks.

I hope everyone has a healthy and happy holiday and returns in January refreshed and ready to hit the ground running. We definitely have our work cut out for us as we think of new and exciting ways to achieve our goals.

Lastly, I encourage everyone to reach out and check on your family and friends this holiday season. While the holidays can often be a stressful time for many, we now also have COVID-19. Here are some tips from The Mayo Clinic on preventing stress and depression:

- Acknowledge your feelings. It's ok to feel sad if your traditions aren't doable this year.
- Reach out. Call, email, video chat. Ask for the support you need.
- Be realistic. Nothing has to be perfect and traditions can be updated or changed.
- Take a breather. Take time for yourself and restore your inner calm.
- Keep healthy habits. Get restful sleep, drink your water, and eat a healthy snack.



Happy Holidays and I can't wait to see everyone in 2021!



2020-2021

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Margo Faulkner
Sewell Automotive Companies

President Elect

Shari Schiffman
Douglas Elliman Real Estate—Texas

Secretary

Sandy Gracia

Treasurer

Cindy Baker
Black Haw Group

Communications

Naseeka Cox
Martha Turner Sotheby's
International Realty

Director-at-Large B/C/DP

LaTonya Perez

Fundraising

Shannon McNair
The Rose

Membership

Carole Pitts
John Daugherty, Realtors

Program

Wendy Gonzales
The Plaza Group

Sergeant-at-Arms

Lily Portales
EOG Resources

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CHAPTER DATES

MONTHLY MEETINGS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021 - VIA ZOOM @ 6PM
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021 - VIA ZOOM @6PM
 THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 - MORTON'S THE STEAKHOUSE @ 11AM
 LUNCH WITH SUSTAINERS
 THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 - THE CITADEL
 EXECUTIVES' NIGHT
 THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021 - LOCATON - TBA
 THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021 - LOCATION -TBA
 BUSINESS MEETING & PAST PRESIDENTS' NIGHT
 THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021 - LOCATION - TBA
 SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021 - LOCATION - TBA
 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 - LOCATION -TBA
 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

BOARD MEETINGS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 VIA ZOOM
 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021VIA ZOOM
 TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021 VIA ZOOM **THIS IS THE 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
 TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 VIA ZOOM
 TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 VIA ZOOM *FULL LEADERSHIP*
 TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021 VIA ZOOM
 TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021 VIA ZOOM
 TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021 VIA ZOOM *FULL LEADERSHIP*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FINDING YOUR FINANCIAL CONFIDENCE - PAM PRINE
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 @ 3PM ET

LCAM

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2021- ALBUQUERQUE, NM



GGT Worldwide

5 years



Georgia Graugnard	December 7
Cindy Baker	December 9
Patti Strawther	December 11
Lindsey Duhon	December 14
Dale Hunt	December 15
Georgene Brandon	December 19
Betty Stolarski	December 24
Donna Turner	December 25
Precillia Williams	December 29



Join us for our January EWI meeting

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14
6:00PM-7:00PM**

**VIA ZOOM
MEETING FEE \$10**

**LINK WILL BE EMAILED THE DAY BEFORE THE
MEETING.**

**SPEAKER WILL BE CHRISTY SMALLWOOD
"FINDING PEACE IN YOUR OWN PARADISE"**

**RSVP'S (ACCEPTANCES, REGRETS, CANCELLATIONS) DUE BY MONDAY,
JANUARY 11, 2021**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO EWI OF HOUSTON MAY BE MAILED TO:
LILY PORTALES, EOG RESOURCES
1111 BAGBY STREET, SKY LOBBY 2, HOUSTON, TX 77002**



⇒ Follow/ like **EWI Corporate** on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EWICorp>

⇒ Follow **EWI Corporate** on Instagram and Twitter:

@EWICorporate

⇒ Follow / Like **EWI of Houston** on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EWIHouston>

Check out the monthly meeting photos and tag yourself and your member firm

⇒ Click going to each of the monthly meetings in FB Events:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3278772272194853>

⇒ And invite your network to join you as a guest using the Facebook invite

⇒ Follow / **Like EWI of Houston** on Instagram:

@EWIHouston



ewi How Member Firms Benefit from EWI: RESULTS

R RELATIONSHIPS

EWI is an organization that believes in long-term, highly valuable relationships. Member representatives build lasting, sustainable, and ultimately valuable business connections through trust and respect. Your employees form relationships that create associations between your organization and a diversity of other prestigious firms and executives in your city.

E EDUCATION

EWI offers professional development webinars and other resources each year on topics relevant to a member representative's professional and personal growth. Your investment provides affordable access to professionally produced training that would be difficult for many businesses to provide to their employees. To further your investment, member representatives are encouraged and expected to share their learning with other employees.

S SKILLS

EWI member representatives practice strong business ethics and build core skills such as public speaking, effective leadership, mentoring, strategic planning, and even how to effectively and efficiently run meetings with Robert's Rules of Order. There are additional opportunities for growth in EWI through Chapter and Corporate Board service such as preparing and managing a budget, managing a team, conflict resolution, and event planning.

U UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

Participation in EWI quickly raises your firm's visibility among your city's business community. This affords you the ability to promote your products and services to audiences you may not reach otherwise, both locally and throughout EWI's North American network. Your firm will also have the ability to build contacts by hosting Chapter Firm Nights or attending other Firm Nights and various business meetings throughout the year.

L LEADERSHIP

Many EWI member representatives cite leadership opportunities as a driving motivator for their participation. EWI offers a number of ways to build real-world leadership skills through Chapter leadership, Corporate Board participation, our Academy of Leadership program and other initiatives. Additionally, your membership positions your firm and your member representatives as leaders within your business community.

T TANGIBLE RETURNS

The EWI network is motivated to see your member representatives and your firm succeed. Representatives look to one another first when they need a specific product or service. Your firm will be listed in the EWI International Directory, which constitutes a network across the United States and Canada for the exchange of information and business matters. Member Representatives have immediate access to our online community to connect your firm with additional resources by delivering real time accessibility to all members through the EWI Mobile App.

S SUPPORT

Your member representatives will have a support structure of like-minded individuals outside of the office for career advice and other needs. EWI membership also provides you with an opportunity to support and recognize a top-ranking person within your firm by appointing her/him to represent your organization. Lastly, EWI offers your firm a number of ways to support your local community through good works, scholarship programs, and other philanthropic initiatives.

DECEMBER MEETING RECAP

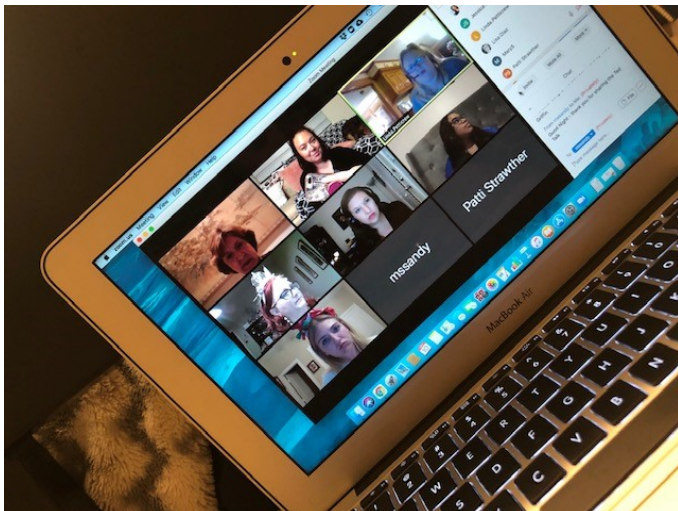
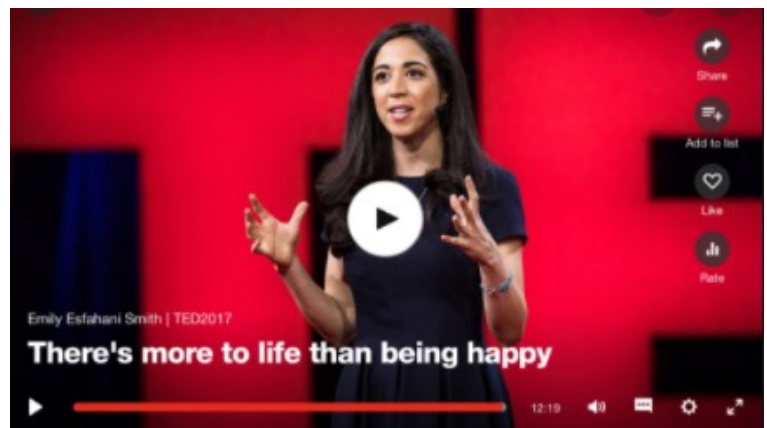


BLUE SANTA TOY DRIVE:

We had a guest speaker for the Blue Santa Program. Remember to check them out on Instagram @bluesantahouston.

TED TALK- MORE TO LIFE THAN BEING HAPPY

We watched an inspiring TED Talk about why happiness isn't everything when it comes to life.



EWI OF HOUSTON SPOTIFY PLAYLIST

We then created the EWI OF HOUSTON Spotify playlist ! We all chose songs that make us feel empowered and encouraged.

You can open your Spotify app and search for "EWI Playlist". Ours has our DRIVEN logo as the image! If you want add any songs, just email me and let me know!

AWARD FROM TASB



This award is presented to

EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL

for Standing Up and supporting public
schools in our community.

Presented by

Dr. Grenita Lathan, Interim Superintendent, Houston ISD



2019–20 Business Recognition Program

AWARD FROM TASB



Texas Association of School Boards

P.O. Box 400 • Austin, Texas 78767-0400 • 512.467.0222
12007 Research Blvd. • Austin, Texas 78759-2439 • tasb.org

Serving Texas Schools Since 1949

Dear Executive Women International

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) is delighted to have the opportunity to thank you for your generous support of Texas public schools and the students who attend them. Your partnership with the schools in your area is meaningful and effective, and we want you to know that we deeply appreciate what you are doing.

The task of educating the young people of Texas is a critically important one, and a task that requires the best efforts of educators, parents, and the community. It is not a task that can be left to others or put off until a more convenient time. When you step up to help, you participate in a noble cause.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff at TASB, I thank you and recognize you as an example in your community. Your unselfish willingness to go the extra mile for schools is an inspiring testimony to your support of students and schools. We honor you and are adding your name to the listing on our website of those who are "standing up for public schools" in all parts of the state.

Included with this presentation folder are tools to help you be a continuing part of the campaign to encourage everyone to Stand Up for Texas Public Schools. We hope that you will be newly energized in your support for the outstanding work going on in the public schools in your community and throughout the state.

As an avid supporter of Texas public schools, please check out other TASB resources designed to increase awareness of the issues and challenges public schools continue to face:

- texansforstrongpublicschools.org
- standup4txpublicschools.org
- mytexaspublicschool.org

Best wishes!

James B. Crow
Executive Director

AWARD FROM TASB

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS **GRENITA LATHAN**

December 2, 2020

Dear Executive Women International:

Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) provides a platform for school districts to shine a spotlight on their star community partners – those who stand up every day for public education in their cities and align their mission to support the cause. It is my honor, in partnership with TASB, to recognize your support during the 2019-2020 school year.

It is often said that to educate a child takes a village. It is because of you that the Houston Independent School District is able to support and provide each of our 196,000 students with the academic and social/emotional tools they need to succeed.

Our community partners supply both the wants and the needs of our students and families – from distribution of free school supplies and uniforms, to funding for innovative classroom STEM programs, to scholarships and teacher incentive programs – there is no ask too large for you.

Because you care, our students thrive. They excel in the classrooms at our schools, virtually through distance learning, and in after-school programs throughout our 280 campuses. We can't thank you enough for what you do each and every day. When you stand with public schools, you are investing in the future and ensuring a bright tomorrow for our students.

Thank you for standing with us.

Sincerely,



Grenita F. Lathan, Ph.D.
HISD Interim Superintendent

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by Margo Faulkner, representing Sewell Automotive Companies

8 Professional Development Goals to Work Towards

From workingvoices.com

Written by Natalie Mallee

January 22, 2019

Here are 8 smaller Professional Development Goals to work towards this year:

1. Learn a new skill

You might think you know everything you need to know for the job role that you have, but there is always more to learn. Think about the skills gap between you and your manager, are there any skills which would put you ahead of your peers? Is there a skill which would help you in the job that you're doing? Or for the job that you want? Be proactive and find out what you have to do to learn that skill and put an action plan in place.

2. Start networking

Whether you love it or hate it, networking is vital for career growth. Networking is about building and maintaining mutually beneficial working relationships. Your network offers you a pool of people from which you can exchange ideas, advice and support. A strong network and good networking skills can help you elevate your profile, build a great reputation and can open up a whole world of opportunities to you.

3. Read more

Often underestimated and overlooked, the impact that reading can have on your career is huge. The average CEO reads 60 books a year and 88% of financially successful people read at least 30 minutes per day. The benefits of reading include greater vocabulary, improved writing skills, reduced stress and enhanced analytical skills. Choosing books that relate to your career will obviously be even more helpful and will keep you up to date with industry trends, possibly even putting you ahead of your peers.

4. Improve your work life balance

Creating a healthy work life balance is essential to leading a happy and productive lifestyle, it can have positive effects on your wellbeing and even your work. Build realistic boundaries between work and your personal life, whether that's sticking to an 8-hour working day, not taking work home or by fighting the impulse to check work emails on your day off. Employing these tactics will help prevent burn out and you'll probably find you get more done when you are at work. Work smarter, not harder.

5. Challenge yourself

Sometimes people underestimate themselves. A lack of confidence or belief in your own abilities and an underlying fear of failure can hold you back. When you challenge yourself, and step out of your comfort zone you will find that you can do what you thought you couldn't. The more you challenge yourself at work the more you will learn and grow. Don't be afraid of failure, you will learn from mistakes!

6. Work on your weaknesses

Professional development is not all about working on your strengths. Identifying your weaknesses and working on them can be one of the best things you can do for your career. No one is perfect, but that doesn't mean you can't try.

Continued.....

7. Get organized

Getting organized feels good. Creating a clear workspace by decluttering both your physical digital desktops can reduce stress and increase productivity. Remove the distractions and you can spend more time on important tasks, less time looking for things.

8. Communicate better

Communicating effectively will help you in every aspect of your life from professional to personal. Good communication enables you to relate well to your superiors, colleagues, customers and clients, expanding the types of opportunities available to you. Our online training courses work on improving all aspects of communication including; presentation skills, interpersonal skills and leadership skills so if you make this your goal for 2019 we're here to help!

When thinking about your long-term career ambitions remember to make your professional development goals SMART. That's specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely. Smaller targets such as the ones listed above give you an action, something to actually do that will help you achieve the main goal. Consider the saying – a goal without a plan is just a wish!





CONNECTIONS | CAREERS | COMMUNITY

EWI of Houston Vision Statement

EWI of Houston aspires to be the premier business organization of choice for member firms and their key individuals. Recognized by the Houston community as an avenue to achieve personal and professional excellence, every activity of the Houston Chapter will fulfill at least one of the objectives of the EWI Mission Statement.

Our Mission

EWI brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.

Our Strategic Goals

- To strengthen, expand, and broaden membership.
- To provide member firms with meaningful benefits.
- To actively promote education for all representatives.
- To achieve a high level of community visibility through service.

Our Vision

To enhance professional growth and development within a diverse group of women while empowering them to make a difference as they inspire others.

EWI Corporate Office

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Direct: 262-269-5625
you may also text this number as it is a cell phone!

EWI of Houston Connect Newsletter

Feature your firm in a monthly Firm Spotlight!
Have news? Share it in the Connect Newsletter!

Contact:

Naseeka Cox, 2020-2021 Communications Director
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Submission deadline: 3rd Friday of each month.

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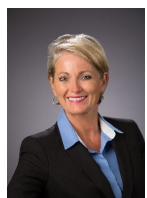


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2019-2020 LEADERSHIP TEAM



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EXECUTIVES' NIGHT
Open Position



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PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
Open Position



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