

Webinar Summation Piece

Mary E. Lee

Introduction



Seen and Heard around the Summit

Lois Liberman • 2nd
Matrimonial Partner
2mo • 🗨️

Blank Rome's Women's Leadership Summit was truly amazing! The speakers were inspirational and thought provoking and the excitement and appreciation to share such an empowering experience "virtually" with over 500 sisters was awesome! Thank you to Stacy Phillips, Debbie Skakel, Sophia Lee, Lisa Bochner and the entire WLS Planning Team for planning and pulling off such a powerful event!
[#wearseedsthatwillgrow](#) [#empathyisasuperpower](#) [#walkthewalk](#) [#brwlsrocks](#)

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In her opening keynote address, [Angelica Fuentes](#), international businesswoman, executive, and impact investor, reminds us that there is power in resilience and reinvention. [#BlankRomeWomen](#)

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"They tried to bury me, but they did not know that I was a seed."
- [Angelica Fuentes](#), Keynote Speaker

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As our Fourth Annual Women's Leadership Summit comes to a close, we want to thank our speakers and guests for joining us for this unforgettable event! We hope you all walked away with meaningful ideas for meeting this unique moment in time and for leading beyond it. [#BlankRomeWomen](#) [#WomenLeadership](#)

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Thank You!

Attendees participated in a live chat during the Summit, which garnered more than 1,000 inspiring and encouraging messages. They also took to social media to discuss the program, creating a strong sense of community during and after the virtual event.

Women's Leadership Summit Chat

Michaela Cronin
This is the best Thursday afternoon I've had in forever.

Caroline Donelan
Also, this WLS playlist is 100%

Nina Faber
Thank you to Blank Rome. The sisterhood is re-fueled. While this was wonderful, I hope to see all of you IN PERSON next year. Cheers!

Inbal Garrity
There should be dance breaks during all Teams and Zoom meetings!

Sophia Lee
Empathy = Superpower. LOVE THAT!

Cheryl Elliott Thornton
How cool is this. I'll never miss another Summit!

Whitney Holtzman
It was such an amazing and inspirational afternoon. The spirits of all of the attendees were greatly lifted. One of the biggest highlights of 2020.

Amy Phillips
Very grateful for being included in today's summit. Incredible energy and thoughtful discourse.

Monika McCarthy
Excellent speakers and fun networking events. Thank you Blank Rome leadership!

Type message here + 😊

Timeline

Fourth Annual Women's Leadership Summit

Amber Morrison
Didn't expect to cry today! That was amazing!

Meghan Horner
Thank you Mori and Michelle! So grateful to have been privy to your conversation!

Deborah Skakel
This content is spot on--practical, helpful, and specific.

Betty Liu
Executive Vice Chairman, NYSE

Carole Laible
CEO, Domini Impact Investments

Katherine Franco
Blank Rome Partner
Intellectual Property & Technology

Shawn Wright
Blank Rome Partner
White Collar Defense & Investigations

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Nancy Smith
SVP & Corporate Secretary
Lincoln Financial Group

DOING WELL AND DOING GOOD: THE BUSINESS CASE FOR ESG

Blank Rome Partners **Yelena M. Barychev** and **Stacy H. Louizos** gave an update on Blank Rome's new Environment, Social, and Governance ("ESG") Team and introduced our ESG session. Panelists **Betty Liu**, Executive Vice President of NYSE; **Carole Laible**, CEO of Domini Impact Investments; **Nancy Smith**, Senior Vice President and Corporate Secretary at Lincoln Financial Group; and **Shawn M. Wright**, Partner at Blank Rome, engaged us in a timely discussion on ESG issues and strategies for businesses.

BRING YOURSELF: HOW TO HARNESS THE POWER OF CONNECTION TO NEGOTIATE FEARLESSLY

Blank Rome Partner **Michelle Gervais** joined author and negotiation expert **Mori Taheripour** for an important fireside chat on the art of negotiation. Mori shared with us that empathy is our superpower and that staying curious and learning the experiences of others is what makes exceptional negotiators.

WELCOME

The Summit kicked off on October 8, 2020, with a special introduction video and performance of "A Million Dreams" by the **Philadelphia Girls Choir**.

EMCEE

The Summit was emceed by Blank Rome Partner and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer **Sophia Lee**.

RESILIENCE AND REINVENTION

In her opening keynote address, **Angélica Fuentes**, international businesswoman, author, and impact investor, shared her powerful personal story of resilience and reinvention and encouraged us to embrace the challenging moments in life, because they empower us to learn and grow.

Sonia Galindo
I LOVE that this my only professional event that includes dancing every year!!

Sarah Fisher
Thank you so much for sharing your story, Jenielca! You are so inspiring.

Angélica Fuentes
Entrepreneur and Author

ENTERTAINMENT

Summit attendees enjoyed a fun and interactive dance break intermission brought to us by the talents of nationally recognized twin duo **DJs Amira and Kayla**.

SOLEDAD O'BRIEN
Journalist and Author

LEADING AND COMMUNICATING DURING CRISES

In her empowering closing keynote address, **Soledad O'Brien**, award-winning journalist, author, and philanthropist, shared how we can stand up, lean in, and lead bravely during a challenge or crisis. She reminded us that there's always an opportunity for leadership in chaos if we opt-in to find a solution.

THE 19TH AMENDMENT CENTENNIAL

Blank Rome Partner **Katherine Franco** honored the 19th Amendment Centennial and extended an exclusive exhibit invitation to guests.

MY SISTER'S PLACE

Blank Rome Partner **Shawn M. Wright** discussed her work with, and encouraged guests to give back to, My Sister's Place, an organization that shelters, supports, and empowers survivors of domestic violence and their children in Washington, D.C.

CLOSING AND SPEED NETWORKING

Following closing remarks from the women of Blank Rome, Summit attendees participated in a live chat with guest speaker **Mori Taheripour** and in interactive speed video network sessions.