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## Texas Conference for Women Celebrates 20 Years of Empowering Women in the Workplace

*Announces First Line Up of Keynote Speakers:  
Best-Selling Author Elizabeth Gilbert and  
Award-Winning Actress Tracee Ellis Ross*

**AUSTIN (May 21, 2019)** – The largest professional development conference in the state of Texas, **The Texas Conference for Women**, is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Today they are announcing that *best-selling author **Elizabeth Gilbert** and award-winning actress, producer, director, and activist **Tracee Ellis Ross*** will be keynote speakers at the Conference on **Thursday, Oct. 24**, held at the Austin Convention Center. Registration is now open and additional keynote speakers will be announced in the coming weeks.

The Texas Conference for Women has been at the forefront of women in the workplace issues since 2000 – attracting more than 107,000 participants and featuring pioneering women CEOs, National Book Award-winners, Nobel Laureates, Olympians, global nonprofit leaders, and hundreds of other trailblazers.

The nonpartisan, nonprofit event is part of the largest network of women’s conferences in the country. It was also the subject of a study published last year in the *Harvard Business Review*, which found that participants are twice as likely to be promoted and three times as likely to receive a raise within one year of attending.

This year’s special anniversary Conference – themed “The Power of Us:

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Amplify Your Voice” – is expected to attract more than 7,500 attendees and will continue to offer access to some of the most successful women in America.

Among them, Elizabeth Gilbert is the critically acclaimed author of *Eat Pray Love*, a best-seller that famously chronicled the year Gilbert spent traveling the world after a shattering divorce. Her writing has been published in *Harper’s Bazaar*, *Spin*, and *The New York Times Magazine*.

Tracee Ellis Ross is an award-winning actress, producer, director, and activist, best known for her Golden Globe-winning performance as Dr. Rainbow Johnson on ABC’s comedy series “black-ish,” and for her role as Joan Clayton on the long-running hit series “Girlfriends.”

Joining Gilbert and Ross is AnxietyHelper founder and mental health and human rights advocate **Amanda Southworth**, and Wall Street powerhouse and author of *Expect to Win*, **Carla Harris**.

“For the past two decades, the Texas Conference for Women has been one of the pre-eminent places for providing inspiration and professional development to women,” said **Carla Piñeyro Sublett**, president of the Texas Conference for Women Board of Directors. “We are excited and proud to celebrate this incredible event in its 20<sup>th</sup> year and to continue supporting and influencing this dynamic community for decades to come.”

New for 2019 is **Opening Night at the Conference** on Oct. 23, which will offer a taste of the main Conference experience, but in a shorter timeframe and at a lower price. Opening Night is designed to bring Conference offerings to a wider audience and was added by Conference organizers due to growing interest in the program offerings. It’s a perfect event for main-day attendees who want more time to browse the Exhibit Hall and network in a relaxed environment, or for anyone who wishes to attend the Conference but is not able.

The Texas Conference for Women is also excited to launch a new Young Women’s Program to support and champion the next generation of women

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leaders. In partnership with several education organizations, the Conference will offer select young women new mentoring, scholarship, and internship opportunities.

Among the 100+ speakers at the Conference will be: **Tiffany Aliche**, known as "The Budgetnista" America's favorite personal financial educator; **Jennifer Brown** is an award-winning entrepreneur, dynamic speaker, and diversity and inclusion expert; **Lida Citroën**, reputation management and personal branding expert, and author of *Reputation 360: Creating Power Through Personal Branding*; **Amy Gallo** is an expert in conflict, communication, and workplace dynamics and author of the HBR Guide to Dealing with Conflict; **Charmaine Mc Claire** is a C-suite adviser, keynote speaker, executive coach, and executive presence authority; **Amber Rae** is the author of *Choose Wonder Over Worry: Move Beyond Fear and Doubt to Unlock Your Full Potential*; and **Valerie Smith** is the 15th president of Swarthmore College.

The Texas Conference for Women is presented by [Liberty Mutual Insurance](#); and generously sponsored by [Target](#); [Cisco](#); [Accenture](#); [Applied Materials](#); [Dell](#); [IBM](#); [Indeed Inc.](#); [Nutanix](#); [United Airlines](#); [Wells Fargo](#); [AT&T](#); [Broadway Bank](#); [Deloitte](#); [Intel](#); [Mary Kay](#); [Merck](#); [National Instruments](#); [Oracle](#); [Phillips 66](#); [Planview](#); [Q2E Banking](#); [RetailMeNot](#); [Silicon Labs](#); [Visa](#); [Texas Beverage Association](#); [Arm](#); [CORT Furniture](#); [Fresenius Medical Care](#); [Frost Bank](#); [GLG](#); [Google](#); [H-E-B](#); [Huston-Tillotson University](#); [LegalZoom](#); [SHI International](#); [SKG Texas](#); [Tokyo Electron \(TEL\)](#); [United Healthcare](#); [USAA](#); and media sponsors [Clear Channel Outdoor](#) and [The Texas Tribune](#).

"At Liberty Mutual, we are honored to partner with and support the Texas Conference for Women," said Dawn Frazier-Bohnert, SVP and Global Diversity & Inclusion Officer at Liberty Mutual Insurance, presenting sponsor of this year's Conference. "As the Conference celebrates its 20-year anniversary, we know the insights, training, and inspiration that happens here fuels the innovation within the workforce. We are proud to join Conference attendees and support their growth and transformation as leaders in our community."

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Registration for the Conference opened Tuesday, May 21, 2019. To register or learn more about the event, visit <https://txconferenceforwomen.org/>.

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