

2025 Annual Conference Impact Report



The 2025 EWF Annual Conference has come to a close!

The energy, passion, and purpose brought to this year's event were truly extraordinary.

There's nothing more powerful than witnessing nearly 700 remarkable women come together to lead with courage, share wisdom, and drive real change in their lives, their organizations, and across these vital industries.

I challenge leaders in our field to take three intentional steps forward:

1. **Invest in yourself:** Enroll in our Leadership Academy, your launchpad for the next level of your career and life.
2. **Invest in our community:** If your company isn't yet an EWF Benefactor, help make it happen. Your support sustains this movement.
3. **Expand our reach:** Share this impact report to highlight the significance of the EWF Annual Conference and the meaningful outcomes we achieve.

Until we meet next year in Denver, CO, keep leading boldly, lifting up others, and using strength and authenticity to shape a better world.

Remember: lead like the future depends on you — because it does.



Thank you.

Joyce Brocaglia
FOUNDER AND CEO,
EXECUTIVE WOMEN'S FORUM

Content Overview

84

SPEAKERS

33

SESSIONS

4

KEYNOTES

3

AMAZING DAYS

NEWBIE SESSION • WELCOME RECEPTION • 2 FITNESS SESSIONS • 4 FORUM
BREAKFASTS • EWF AWARDS LUNCHEON • GIVEBACK ACTIVITY • GROUP PHOTO
ANNUAL THEMED PARTY • 8 LIGHTNING TALKS

Accelerating Impact: Presentation Takeaways

Guardians of Data Galaxy: Keeping AI Compliant in a Privacy-First Universe

Caroline Aulbach, Keaira Philogene, Kathryn Young (Schellman)

Identify your AI system stakeholders & check in regularly. Devote 3-5 hours this month to learning and development. Learn more of the vocabulary, example use cases, and latest developments in AI, relevant to your sector. AI isn't going away. Set your organization up for success by pressure-testing your risk management program. Make sure policy and procedural documentation, recurring activities, and assessment criteria are firmly established and can be performed at scale.

Emotional Agility: The EQ Superpower Every Leader Needs to Navigate Change and Transformation

Lisa Kaplin (Executive Women's Forum Coach)

Take a few minutes each day to identify where you are and where you are not emotionally agile. Accept your areas of less emotional agility without judgment. Dig deep to really understand what's keeping you from emotional agility. Keep asking why until you get to the root cause. Once you understand the root cause, you can now consciously choose how you respond with emotional agility.

Cybersecurity Threats are Evolving: Are Your Security Training, Advocacy, and Awareness Strategies Keeping Up?

Stephanie Duffy (TikTok), Jill Areson-Perkins (Liberty Mutual Insurance)

Boost employee engagement through gamification, incentives, and video storytelling. Ensure security teams have a "seat at the table" by fostering collaboration across departments and with global partners. Establish your organization as a cybersecurity advocate through social media, conferences, and thought leadership. Make it real testing, such as phishing simulations and sharing behavioral metrics. Rebrand to the narrative from viewing humans as the weakest link to recognizing them as the strongest champions and key defenders in security.

Just Ask for It

Denise Hucke (EY), Janet Heins (ChenMed)
Natalie Dennes, Micky Peterson (JPMorganChase)

Embrace setbacks as learning opportunities and remain persistent in the face of challenges. Advocate for oneself by actively pursuing opportunities and being open to new challenges. Cultivate self-confidence to ask for what you deserve, recognizing that self-advocacy is essential for career growth.

2025 Conference Activities

EWF Forum Networking Breakfasts

These breakfasts brought together attendees in similar career stages to connect and accelerate growth.



ASCENDING LEADERS FORUM

Becoming a Brave Decision-Maker

163

REGISTRANTS



BISO LEADERS FORUM

Accelerating Impact: The Evolving Role of the Business Information Security Officer

80

REGISTRANTS



EMERGING LEADERS FORUM

Carving Your Own Role & Building Resiliency

128

REGISTRANTS



SENIOR LEADERS FORUM

Driving Cultural Change: Building a Cyber-Aware Organization Without Hindering the Business

175

REGISTRANTS

Community Giveback Activity

Conference attendees came together to give back through our hands-on Community Giveback activity, supporting three partner organizations: **Meals of Hope**, **Project Angel Heart**, and **Food Bank of the Rockies**. Attendees organized **58,449 total food servings** for the local Aurora community.



2025 Conference Activities

Welcome Reception

Attendees gathered to network, participate in a 'Crack the Code' activity, win prizes, and connect with EWF Diamond Benefactors: Avanade, Bloomberg, Carnegie Mellon University (INI), Okta, and TikTok.



EWF Awards Ceremony

A plated luncheon celebrating the EWF Awards (Women of Influence Awards, proudly sponsored by Avanade, Allyship Award, and Corporate Award) and the EWF Milestone Awards.



[Meet the Award Recipients and Finalists](#)

Keynote Insights



Charlene Li

Entrepreneur, Author, Speaker and Leader

Lead the Transformation: AI, Strategy, and the Need for Speed

- ✦ How do we trust AI, but more importantly, how do we trust ourselves and each other with AI in our hands? It's people who are going to drive this transformation. It's never about the technology, it's about the people.
- ✦ If you want to create impact, if you want to create value, be very, very intentional about how you use AI to achieve strategic objectives.
- ✦ Forget about feasibility. Something that feels unrealistic today could be easily achievable tomorrow, because technology is evolving and people are learning.



Nicole Perloth

Cybersecurity Author, Investor & Advisor, Silver Buckshot Venture

Reading the Digital Tea Leaves: Courage in a Hyper-Speed Cyber Age

- ✦ There are two types of people in cybersecurity: there are people who choose cybersecurity, and there are people cybersecurity chooses.
- ✦ The only thing I am afraid of is living a life where I didn't stand for anything, and I didn't speak the truth.
- ✦ There's three things that give me hope: innovation, that this industry self selects for courage, and that we all know how to do this.
- ✦ The only way out, is through. And the only way through is with courage and using your voice.



Sherrell Dorsey

Journalist, Author, Host of TED Tech

Defining Our Roadmaps and Impact in Chaotic Times

- ✦ That's what bridge building looks like: co-authoring the narrative and not dictating it.
- ✦ When a storm hits, the story isn't just about how the power went out. It's about how quickly those lights came back on . . . That is the ultimate intervention. Replacing the story of endless threats with resilience of long-term success.
- ✦ Remember that you are the narrative architect. How you shape your story can transform chaos into clarity and turn skepticism into trust. Take your role from leadership in the shadows to the heart of the business through narrative . . . You are going to leave behind a legacy that goes far behind any single incident.



Vasu Jakkal

Corporate Vice President, Microsoft Security Business

Leading with Courage and Conviction in a Cyber World

- ✦ Ultimately, human relationships, the way our companies operate, the way our family operates, is built on trust. And today, this trust is more profound than ever . . . When we lose trust, we lose the very essence of what it is to operate and live as a human.
- ✦ Purpose is what guides you when there is chaos around you . . . it's really a compass for navigating this world.
- ✦ Our 'why' in security is creating a better world for all . . . creating infinite possibilities and helping people achieve more than they thought possible.
- ✦ Remember: leadership is not about creating followers. Leadership is about creating more leaders.

Keynote Insights



Joyce Brocaglia

Founder and CEO, EWF

The Courage to Share Your Wisdom

- ✦ As we gather under the theme “Accelerating Impact in Technology and Leadership – Bravely Moving Forward,” we are reminded that impact doesn’t happen by chance, it is driven by choice.
- ✦ We must all be more intentional than ever. If we don’t deliberately evolve, we are going to be left behind.
- ✦ Wisdom means nothing if it’s kept silent. It becomes powerful when it is shared — across generations, across companies, across our EWF community.
- ✦ Lead like the future depends on you—because it does. And most of all, never forget the power of this community and what we can achieve together.



Linda Dolceamore

Chief Leadership Development Officer, EWF

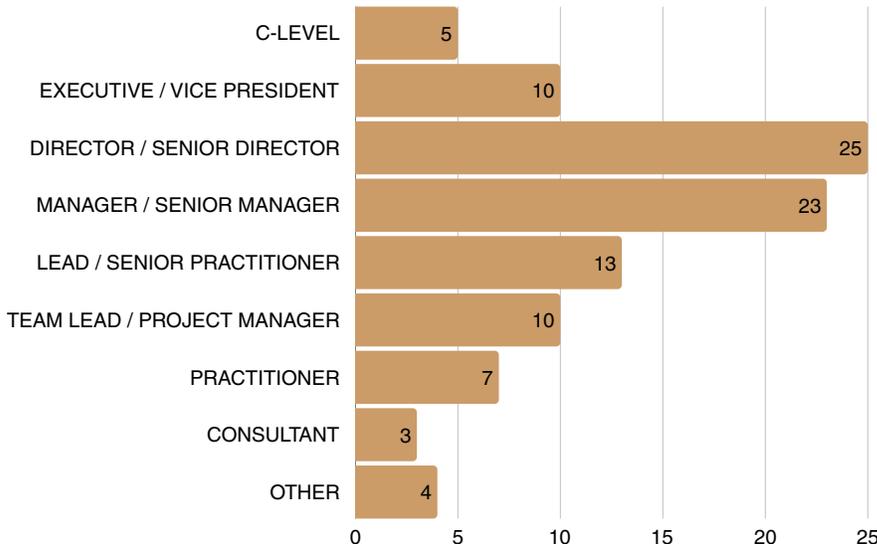
Awaken the Possibilities: Gratitude, Glimmers, and What’s Good

- ✦ Let this be a moment to explore practices that shift how you move through life. Because we all have that power.
- ✦ Gratitude has been shown to boost resilience and positive emotions and lower the stress hormone cortisol. Gratitude is powerful because it changes your brain to scan the world for what’s right, not what’s wrong.
- ✦ We’re not alone, and that connection itself can regulate and restore us. That’s what this conference is about.
- ✦ When we choose to acknowledge gratitude and celebrate what’s good right now, we don’t just feel better, we lead better. We live with intention and our impact ripples outward.

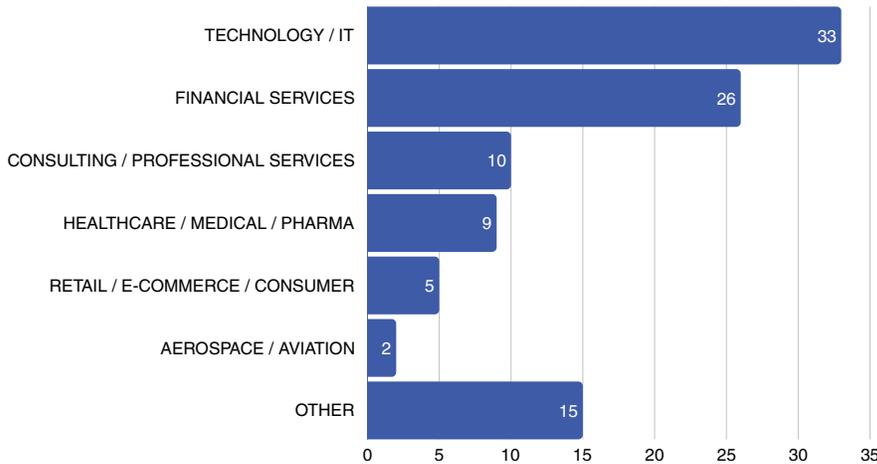


Attendee Breakdown

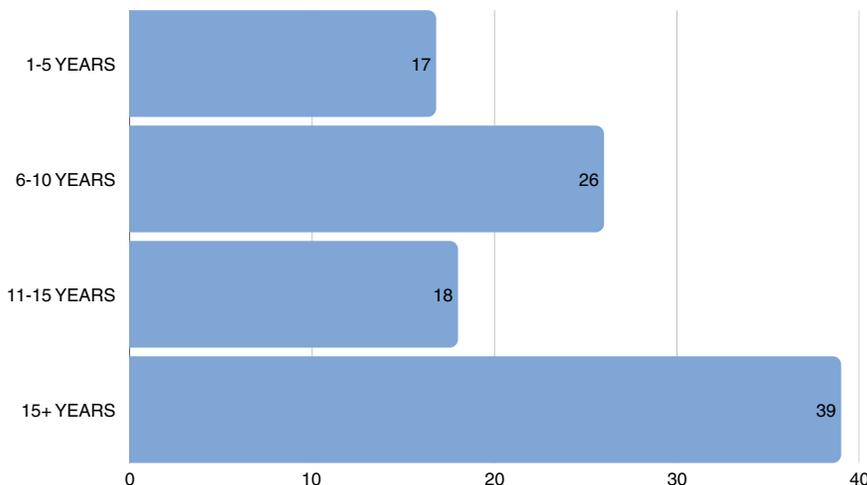
Job Level %



Industry Breakdown %



Years Experience %



2025 Company Attendee Sample

Abnormal AI • Accenture • Aflac • AIG
 Ally • Altria • Amazon • American
 Airlines • American Family Insurance
 Aspida • Avanade • BlackRock
 Bloomberg LP • Booking Holdings
 Booz Allen Hamilton • Bristol Myers
 Squibb • Capital One • Carnegie Mellon
 University • ChenMed • CIBC • Cisco
 Citizens Bank • CME Group • Cohesity
 Comcast • Costco • Cox Enterprises
 Cranium AI • CyberRisk Alliance
 Cybersecurity Wiley • Digital Cloak
 Dropbox • DTCC • Dycom Industries
 eBay • Eli Lilly • Experian • EY • Fidelity
 Investments • First Citizens Bank
 First National Bank • Fortinet • GE
 Aerospace • GE HealthCare • GE
 Vernova • Google • Google Cloud
 HCLTech • HewardMills Ltd • Humana
 IBM • IHG • Johnson & Johnson
 JPMorgan Chase • KAYAK • Kenvue
 Kroger • Kyndryl • Labcorp • LevelBlue
 Liberty Mutual Insurance • Lilly Living
 Security • Lowe's Companies, Inc.
 M&T Bank • Markel • Marriott
 International • Marsh McLennan
 MassMutual • McDonald's • Merck
 Meta • Micron Technology Inc.
 Microsoft • Mimecast • Navy Federal
 Credit Union • Newell Brands • NextEra
 Energy/FPL • Noma Security • Nortera
 Okta • Optiv • PNC • PwC • Roche
 RSM US LLP • Salesforce • Schellman
 Silver Buckshot • Ventures SmartSuite
 SMBC • spiderSilk • Spitfire Coach
 Swift • Target • TD Bank • TEKsystems
 Teladoc Health • TikTok • U.S. Bank
 United Airlines • Wells Fargo
 Zurich Insurance

Attendee Social Posts



Emily Brewer, MBA, CSPO • 3rd+
Executive Director achieving optimal business outcom...
1w • Edited •

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✦ Reflection from the Executive Women's Forum (EWF) ✦

As I think back on the EWF conference, one truth stands out: Empowerment is contagious.

Every keynote, every hallway conversation—each one left its mark. But one quiet moment captured the heart of it all.

Just before the annual themed night, I noticed a fellow attendee walking with her husband and young daughter. As they passed a sea of women in costume, her husband leaned down and said:

"See all these ladies in their costumes? These are powerful women—and they're having *fun*
This could be you, sweetie. You can be ANYTHING."

That moment stopped me.

Because that's the true superpower of the Executive Women's Forum — it's not just expanding networks and uplifting women. It's about shaping a world where every little girl grows up knowing she can become anything she dares to imagine.

It reminded me why I chose to lead.
Why I mentor.
Why I show up.

Because somewhere, a little girl is watching—and learning what's possible.



Nicole B. • 3rd+
Security Compliance Analyst @ Markel | CompTIA Security+, CCSK
1w •

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Day 2 at the EWF Conference was truly inspiring. Each session I attended offered new insights and practical takeaways that I can't wait to bring back and implement.

My sessions ranged from "Brave by Design: Owning Your Own Story in Security, Risk, and Privacy" led by Heather Rim, to "The One When Digital Twins Fight Cyber Villains: A Cybersecurity Venture" presented by JP Morgan Executives, to our very own Markel colleague, Lexi, sharing her expertise in "From Boomers to Zoomers: Addressing the Generational Security Divide."

The keynotes were equally powerful — Nicole Perloth took us through her decade-long journey covering some of the most consequential cyberattacks as a journalist, while Sherrell Horsey inspired us to turn chaos into clarity through three steps: identify, intervene, and inspire.

But the most fulfilling part of the day was volunteering during the community giveback — supporting Meals of Hope, Angel Heart, and the Food Bank of the Rockies. Together, across all stations, we prepared 58,449 servings, feeding countless families in need.

It was such a blessing to serve, learn, and grow alongside so many incredible women in cybersecurity, risk, and privacy. My cup is truly full. ❤️



Sienna Jackson, MBA, MS • 2nd
Quantifying Impact in Dollars and Data | CEO & Found...
5d •

+ Follow ...

I didn't expect the **Executive Women's Forum (EWF) | DSG Global** to hit me like this.

It was amazing to be in community with more than 630 women in cybersecurity, risk, and privacy — all brilliant, all generous, all deeply committed to shaping the future of AI, compliance, and data ethics with integrity and purpose. I learned something in every conversation.

One of the biggest takeaways for me was from the sessions on agentic AI and LLM risk — the kind of quiet but consequential threats that could redefine how we think about governance, compliance, and trust. From prompt injection and model poisoning to AI hallucinations and supply chain slopsquatting, the message was clear:

Security in the age of AI isn't just about patching code — it's about building guardrails, culture, and accountability.

These systems are powerful but highly suggestible. They can be tricked, manipulated, or simply misled by the data they consume. AI can be tricked easily — and that's not just a tech problem, it's a business risk.

The work ahead is about governance and foresight — validating and sanitizing outputs, scrubbing sensitive data from prompts, and aligning human oversight with AI autonomy. Because trust, not just data, is now the real currency of resilience.

Joyce Brocaglia has built something extraordinary over the last two decades — not just a conference, but a culture of care and collaboration. And yes, the EWF dance party was everything.

I left EWF inspired, informed, and reminded that the future of AI and risk management will be led by women who understand both the technology and the humanity behind it.

Who else is still riding the EWF high?



Marina Kaganovich, Esq. • 1st
AMERS Financial Services Executive Trust Lead, Office of the CISO @ Google C...
1w •

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Just wrapped up a whirlwind week at this year's executive women's conference, aptly themed Accelerating Impact in Technology & Leadership. It was a jam-packed schedule dedicated to tackling some of the most critical and complex challenges facing our industry. The programming this year was exceptionally relevant, with tracks focused on **#AI** governance, **#cybersecurity**, **#risk** management and **#privacy**.



Monica Albuerne • 2nd
Risk & Security Account Executive
1w •

+ Follow ...

Coming out of the 2025 EWF (Executive Women's Forum) Annual Conference this week with a full heart and notebook. To be in a room with nearly 700 executive women and thought leaders in risk management, cyber security, and privacy is both an overwhelming and empowering experience.

Their mission of engaging, developing and advancing leaders while fostering inclusion is truly embraced by this community, and I'm excited to be a part of it thanks to one of my customers. I'm grateful to be surrounded by women who uplift other women, and it's an honor to learn from them every day.

Photos



[See more images](#)

Photos



Photos



Stay Connected



The EWF Leadership Academy offers premier programs designed to drive organizational change, improve team performance, and increase leadership effectiveness across all levels. Whether you're an individual looking to grow or a company ready to invest in your teams, our proven approach delivers results. [Learn More](#)

Become a Benefactor or Renew

The EWF Benefactor Program is how organizations deepen their commitment to developing strong leaders, enhancing team culture, and retaining top talent. Benefactors are active participants in a shared mission to advance inclusive leadership in high-stakes fields. [Learn More](#)

Become a Member

Joining this community as an individual member is a unique leadership and learning opportunity designed to advance your career, build your network, and provide you with access to empowering resources. [Learn More](#)

Sponsor the Conference

Sponsoring the EWF Annual Conference offers your company a high-visibility platform to engage with nearly 700 influential women leaders in cybersecurity, privacy, and risk. [Learn More](#)

Meet DSG Global

Thank you to our parent company, DSG Global. We are grateful for your continued support of this powerful community. DSG Global is a premier executive search and consulting firm delivering tailored leadership solutions with measurable impact. [Learn More](#)



Follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

Resources

Wrap-up Video



Session Guide



Group Photo



Exclusive Content for EWF CONNECT Members:

Find conference recordings in the Resource Library.

Save the Date

November 4–6 · Denver, CO

The EWF Annual Conference is the premier event for leaders in cybersecurity, risk management, privacy, governance, compliance, IT audit, and related technologies. Join 700 industry professionals for three days of learning, networking, and transformative experiences. Whether you're an individual attendee looking to grow your career or a corporation aiming to empower your team, this conference is the place to be.



For Attendees

3 Days of Empowering Content: Participate in keynotes, panel discussions, and interactive sessions across two focused tracks: Leadership and Tech

Networking with Industry Leaders: Build valuable connections with 700+ women decision-makers, practitioners, and experts.

Actionable Insights: Take-home strategies and ideas that will accelerate your career and personal growth.



For Corporations

Send Your Team: Empower your team members by sending them to the conference, providing them with networking opportunities and leadership development.

Spotlight Your Employees as Speakers: Highlight your organization's thought leadership by featuring your employees as speakers, showcasing their expertise and empowering them to influence the industry.

Sponsor the Event: Gain valuable exposure and showcase your organization's commitment to advancing leaders in cybersecurity, privacy, and risk management.