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Contact Information:

Christopher Lowman

Tel.: 805.565.9967

E-mail: christopher@dedominic.com



California Women's Festival Calls on Speakers for any of the Festival's Key Themes: Personal, Professional, Political, Philanthropic, and Planet

SANTA BARBARA, CALIF. (October 6, 2008) – The California Women's Festival is now taking proposals from dynamic speakers interested in being a part of the 2009 festivities. Interested parties should submit their biography and letter of intent to info@womensfestivals.org.

The Women's Festivals, a new conference created to "be the premier gathering of women seeking to empower themselves by connecting with the tools and resources they need to flourish and prosper in all aspects of their busy lives" will be held this coming year on March 8th, 2009—International Women's Day—at the Corwin Pavilion at UC Santa Barbara.

The Women's Festivals host committee has begun the planning process for this year's festivities. The committee is comprised of over 30 esteemed members, including Dr. Dagmar Steinmetz, Assistant Secretary General of the World Association of Women Entrepreneurs (FCEM) and CEO of the DDS Consult Group in Germany; Nyiel Kuol at Limerick University in Ireland and former resident of the Sudan; and Hiroko Tatebe, the Founder and Executive Director of the Global Organization for Leadership and Diversity (GOLD) in Los Angeles.

The festival will include several plenary, educational sessions featuring renowned speakers, authors, and forward thinkers. Invited speakers include **Meg Whitman**, the former President and CEO of eBay, **Cindy McCain**, and **Michelle Obama**. Confirmed speakers include Dr. Cindy Brown, a relationship expert and the best-selling author of *From Whiner to Winner Instantly* and Dr. Anabel Ford, an archeologist at UC Santa Barbara who is conducting cutting-edge research into sustainable living practices.

About the Women's Festivals

Data compiled by the Department of Commerce indicates that women account for some \$7 trillion in consumer and business spending in the U.S. and control more than \$13 trillion in personal wealth. This amount is projected to rise to \$20 trillion over the next 15 years. Quite simply, the economic power wielded by women has never been greater.

The Women's Festivals were created to celebrate the accomplishments and nurture the dreams of women in an interactive, multi-cultural, and entertaining format focusing on the five key areas of women's lives: **Personal**, **Professional**, **Philanthropic**, **Political** and **Planet** (also known as the "5 Ps"). The Festivals aim to provide a unique opportunity to provide a rich common experience and fertile environment for networking and resource sharing. Proceeds benefit The National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), Girls Inc. of greater Santa Barbara, SCORE, and Future Women CEOs.

For press inquiries, contact Christopher Lowman at 805-565-9967 or by e-mail at christopher@dedominic.com.

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