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Keiretsu Forum Announces Summer Solstice Event for Women Investors

Bay Area's Most Active Angel Investment Group Reaches Out to Women Angel Investors

SAN FRANCISCO, CA--(Marketwire - May 22, 2008) - Keiretsu Forum, the world's largest angel investment network, will host its third annual Summer Solstice event on Thursday, June 19 at the PG&E Auditorium in San Francisco from 5:30pm until 8:00pm. A "Who's Who?" list of the Bay Area's most successful and respected business women are expected to attend.

Highlighted Links

www.keiretsuforum.com

The purpose of the Keiretsu Forum Summer Solstice is to educate and inform leading Bay Area business women about how they can support entrepreneurial efforts on a local, national, and global level. In addition to a networking reception, attendees will hear brief presentations and a panel discussion from notable members of the Keiretsu Forum, Women's Initiative for Self-Employment, and WOW for Africa.

More than ever, the angel community is eager to attract women investors. A compelling report by the Kauffman Foundation explains that while "women own half of this country's wealth... [they] make up no more than eight percent of angel investors." Women investors are considered a largely untapped market that is critical to "financial and mentoring support for new companies."

In June 2007, Keiretsu Forum members established a Women Investing in and Supporting Entrepreneurs (WISE) committee to support and educate women angel investors and entrepreneurs in the Bay Area.

"We live in the heartland of the investment community, Northern California. Most professional women here are over-achievers competing in various businesses. For years women were only too familiar with the concept of 'angel.' It's time they added the word 'investor' to it," said Judith Iglehart, Keiretsu Forum Vice President of International Chapter Development and Operations.

About Keiretsu Forum

With 17 chapters and over 750 accredited investor members on three continents, Keiretsu Forum (www.keiretsuforum.com) is the world's largest angel investment network. Keiretsu Forum members provide early-stage capital in the range of \$250k-\$2 million to high quality, diverse investment opportunities and collaborate in the due diligence, but make their own individual investment decisions.

About Summer Solstice

Hosted by Keiretsu Forum, the 2008 Summer Solstice is a premier gathering for female investors and entrepreneurs in the Bay Area. Please register at <http://summersolstice08.eventbrite.com>. Contact Maggie Jacobberger for more information at Maggie@keiretsuforum.com.

About Women's Initiative

Women's Initiative for Self Employment provides a one-stop shop where high-potential, lower-income women receive training to start and grow their business.

About WOW

WOW (www.wowforafrica.com) helps grow small and medium size enterprises (SME) in West Africa through an innovative hybridization of capital and human resources. Most are owned and/or led by women. Too often lack of access to capital, networks, business expertise and training in low-income countries constrains the growth of these SMEs. WOW investments, WOW Foundation and WOW Enterprises organize and focus these resources to nurture promising African business ventures.

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