Vital Voices and Bank of America Host 18th Global Ambassadors Program in Dublin, Providing Mentoring and Skill-Building to Women Entrepreneurs From Around the World

Initiative Highlights a Six-Year Milestone in the Partnership’s Global Impact by Returning the Program to Europe

Dublin

Vital Voices Global Partnership and Bank of America will bring together women leaders in the private sector and social enterprise to Dublin, Ireland October 8-12 for the Global Ambassadors Program (GAP), a weeklong initiative to help women entrepreneurs succeed. The program highlights the role of women as drivers of economic growth and addresses the ongoing needs and challenges that women leaders face around the world.

The Dublin Global Ambassadors Program will pair a diverse group of women leaders of small businesses and social enterprises (mentees) with 11 Global Ambassador mentors, established women executives from a range of sectors and organizations, including Bank of America, for a week of one-on-one mentoring and workshops focused on building business acumen and enhancing skills in key areas such as leadership, financial management, business strategy, and communications.

“We recognize that women play a vital role in driving economic growth within their communities and in the global economy,” said Anne Finucane, vice chairman, Bank of America. “We’re committed to helping women entrepreneurs succeed by providing them the resources to contribute to stronger economies, accelerating the rate of economic and social development.”
Since the program launched in 2012, 17 successful Global Ambassadors Programs have been held in Haiti, South Africa, India, Singapore, Brazil, Qatar, Mexico, Northern Ireland, Poland, Japan, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States, bringing together a total of 291 women (141 Global Ambassadors and 150 mentees) from 76 countries.

“We’re thrilled to mark the sixth year of our partnership with Bank of America,” said Alyse Nelson, president and CEO of Vital Voices. “Mentorship accelerates leadership, and Dublin is a fitting location for our 18th program. One in every 14 women in Ireland is an entrepreneur—one of the highest rates of entrepreneurship among women in Europe.”

In conjunction with the Dublin program, Bank of America will host a global forum on October 9, featuring distinguished leaders and entrepreneurs who will discuss the importance of women’s role in driving economic and social progress. Martha Stewart, entrepreneur and founder of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, and Bank of America Vice Chairman Anne Finucane will speak at the event.

The Global Ambassadors for the Dublin program include:

- Morra Aarons-Mele, founder, Women Online/The Mission List, USA
- Norah Casey, broadcaster and publishing entrepreneur, Ireland
- Susan Davis, chairman, Susan Davis International, USA
- Míne Öztürk, angel investor and co-founder, Tikabasa, Turkey
- Pacita “Chit” Juan, founder, ECHOstore, Philippines
- Tehya Kopp, social impact strategist, USA
- Jocelyn Mangan, founder, Him for Her, USA
- Holly A. O’Neill, head of Consumer Client Services, Bank of America, USA
- Jennifer M. Sloan, vice president of public policy, Mastercard Canada, Canada
- Nadiia Vasylieva, founder, Digital Transformation Corporation; co-founder, Digital Transformation Institute, Ukraine
- Ellen Voie, founder, president and CEO, Women in Trucking, Inc., USA

The mentees include:

- Michelle Tunno Buelow, founder, Bella Tunno, USA
- Michelle Pesce, founder, Nona Entertainment, USA
- Maria Kim, president and CEO, Cara, USA
- Bevin Mahon, managing director, Dental Tech, Ireland
- Ciara Crossan, founder and CEO, WeddingDates, Ireland
- Anne Butterly, founder and CEO, Easydry, Ireland
- Ntombenhle Khathwane, founder and CEO, AfroBotanics Pty Ltd., South Africa
- Shilpi Singh, co-founder, Unhotel, India
- Orit Cohen, entrepreneur; owner and CEO, Mootag, Israel
- Jane Mutulili, owner, La Femme Engineering Services Ltd., Kenya
- Farana Boodhram, founder and CEO, Avita Mining and MiDesk Global; managing director, Forever Farana Coveralls, South Africa

The Global Ambassadors Program is part of Bank of America and Vital Voices’ ongoing commitment to investing in women’s leadership development, a goal guided by the belief that strong leaders are important for developing healthy, vibrant communities and
advancing economic growth. Bank of America invests in helping women make meaningful contributions within the company and supports the economic empowerment of women in local communities and around the world.

For more information on the Global Ambassadors Program, visit www.bankofamerica.com/globalambassadors. Follow @BofA_News and @VitalVoices for updates via #GlobalAmbassadors.

Vital Voices Global Partnership
For more than 20 years, Vital Voices has identified, provided training for and invested in creative and fearless women so that they can lead change in their communities and around the world. Vital Voices searches the world for women leaders with daring vision, who they then partner with to make that vision a reality through grants, skill-building training, network expansion, mentorship and guidance – accelerating change on a global scale. Through their proven leadership model – a five-pillar process developed with input and insight from the 15,000 women from more than 180 countries and territories – Vital Voices connects, informs and empowers women leaders to increase economic empowerment, boost political participation and protect civil rights. Vital Voices connects women already solving problems in their communities and equips them with the tools they need to incite global, positive change. Visit www.vitalvoices.org to learn more.

Bank of America
At Bank of America, our focus on environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors is critical to fulfilling our purpose of helping make people's financial lives better. Our commitment to growing our business responsibly is embedded in every aspect of our company. It is demonstrated in the inclusive and supportive workplace we create for our employees, the responsible products and services we offer our customers, and the impact we make around the world in helping local economies thrive. An important part of this work is forming strong partnerships with nonprofits and advocate groups, such as community and environmental organizations, in order to bring together our collective networks and expertise to achieve greater impact. Learn more at www.bankofamerica.com/about, and connect with us on Twitter (@BofA_News).

For more Bank of America news, including dividend announcements and other important information, visit the Bank of America newsroom. Click here to register for news email alerts.

www.bankofamerica.com

###

Reporters May Contact:
Noelle Bell, Bank of America, 1.980.388.6791
noelle.bell@bankofamerica.com

Kathy O'Hearn, Vital Voices, 1.917.885.4489
kathyohearn@vitalvoices.org

Stock Info
Categories
Community Development
Corporate Philanthropy
In the Community