



Breaking Barriers

Workshop and Panelist Presenter(s) Application

“Breaking Barriers” is the theme of this year’s Niagara Leadership Summit for Women, being held at Brock University on Saturday, October 28, 2017. The Summit is a full day conference hosted by YWCA Niagara Region. Focusing on women’s leadership, it features guest speakers, panel discussions, workshops, networking opportunities and space to evaluate, discuss and promote women’s leadership in Niagara.

Why Breaking Barriers? By definition, a barrier is an “obstacle that prevents movement or access.” As women, we face not only the external obstacles in our path such as accessibility, privilege, and patriarchy, but those internalized barriers bred by fear or uncertainty. We would like to share and celebrate how we are smashing through those barriers.

The 2017 NLSW Speakers and Presenters committee is now accepting workshop and panelist proposals that reflect some of the issues and experiences around breaking barriers in Niagara and beyond.

The committee invites proposals that:

- Stimulate and promote discussion around access and barriers to women’s leadership in **all** facets of life.
- Engage with ideas, concepts, research or evidence-based knowledge about issues facing women in Niagara.
- Present an innovative and diverse perspective on women’s leadership, women’s issues and ways to support women.
- Explore innovative tools to empower women in leadership roles – whatever and wherever those roles may be.

Suggested panel and workshop topics include, but are not limited to:

- Women in the arts
- Politics and public service roles
- Challenges and benefits of entrepreneurship as a woman
- Advocacy and activism
- Breaking through barriers such as: self-doubt, mental health, body image, poverty, racism, ageism, etc.



The workshop line-up will include a variety of diverse presenters, ideas and models, including performance-based session that allow attendees to engage in meaningful discussions and techniques to facilitate women's leadership. You can approach your session from the perspective Attendees should leave the Summit feeling empowered, knowledgeable and prepared to apply and share what they have learned. Interested applicants should review the application process and form below.

Thank you for showing interest to be a presenter at the [2017 NLSW](#). Please note the following:

There are two parts to this application:

- [Part A](#) is a written application form. You **must** submit a photograph and short bio with your application. If your application is successful, this information will be used on our website.
- [Part B](#) requests a video submission – this video may be used to promote your workshop and/or NLSW. If you are applying as an artist, include a few examples of your craft by photo or video.
- Submit both [Parts A and B](#), including your photo and bio as an attachment to your application.
- Allow up to **4 weeks after the application deadline** to review your submission and respond to your application.
- The NLSW is a volunteer-driven event hosted by YWCA Niagara Region. We welcome all presenters on a volunteer-basis – from professional speakers and educators to community leaders and activists.

How can we help? We understand that people are individuals, each with their own unique strengths, and we welcome diversity. We encourage you to apply in the format you are most comfortable with. With that in mind, if you feel more confident speaking than writing, say it with audio or video for Part “A” as well. [We are looking for unique presenters](#). Please don't fear you won't be the right “fit.” Use this opportunity to break through your own barriers!



Call for Workshop Presenter(s) Application – Part A

Please fill out this form and attach a photo/ bio of yourself with your application.

Workshop _____ or Panelist _____ (please check one)

Name: _____

Company (if applicable): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Twitter Handle*: _____

Facebook User Name*: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

City: _____

Proposed Workshop or Panel Discussion Topic: _____

Perspective you would like to present: _____

Who should attend this workshop/panel? _____

What length of time does your (workshop) require? _____

***Social Media handles will be used to promote your participation in the event, and be included in the programme. They are a great way to build your network and social media presence. Only include if you agree to the aforementioned use.**



Please tell us about yourself - provide us with a bio/overview of who you are, what you do and why you do it (70-100 words).

Provide a brief summary of your presentation and why it would be beneficial to the attendees of NLSW:

Does your workshop have an interactive component? If so, please describe.



Additional information about you that you feel is important for us to know:

Provide a list of 3 personal or professional references:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

If applicable, provide us a list of events and topics that you have presented in the past, including where the presentation took place:
(Note: Please don't let this question deter you. We encourage and welcome new presenters.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Were you referred by someone? If so, who? _____
(Note: Again, in the spirit of encouraging and welcoming new presenters, points are not awarded for being referred by someone.)

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Call for Workshop Presenter(s) Application – Part B

Please submit a short video proposal to support your application. Feel free to make the video as creative or simple as you'd like. It can be a simple video from your smartphone. We just want to see you and get to know you. Please follow these general guidelines:

- Ensure that your video submission is a minimum of 1 minute and maximum of 5 minutes.
- Ensure that the audio is clear and not muffled.

We thank you for your application for the [2017 NLSW](#). We look forward to your contribution at the event.

Applications are to be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, June 30, 2017.

If you have questions regarding the application process or your application, please contact Arienne Good, Community and Public Relations Coordinator at [905.988.3528](tel:905.988.3528) ex. 3246.

Once complete, submissions and applications should be sent by e-mail to Arienne Good at agood@ywcaniagararegion.ca.



YWCA NIAGARA REGION

Hope for Homeless Women and their Families since 1927

For more information about **Niagara Leadership Summit for Women** visit: www.niagaralsw.ca