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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION PRESENTS ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT FEATURING WOMEN'S PANEL, "PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS"

Las Vegas NV ~ The Optical Women's Association will host a Professional Optical Women's Workshop at the upcoming International Vision Expo West Conference in Las Vegas Nevada. The OWA is presenting a different style event this conference. Rather than an individual speaker, a panel of women will be featured presenting "Pathways to Success".

These accomplished women will address registrants on Wednesday, September 21st from 4:30-6:00pm at the Venetian/Palazzo Congress Center Level 1, Casanova Room # 606. There is no admission fee for OWA members and \$35 fee for guests. Advance registration is required. Light refreshments will be served prior to the start of the program. Visit www.opticalwomen.com to register. This inspirational and motivating program will be worthwhile for every woman in the industry.

"Pathways to Success" will be moderated by Christie Walker, Editor of *Lab Talk* and an OWA Program Committee member. Earlier this year, Walker was the honored as the recipient of the 2011 OWA Pleiades Award. "For this year's professional development event at Vision Expo West, we are riding the coattails of last year's first panel program, which was extremely well received," noted Walker. "Instead of a single speaker, we have assembled a panel of women who will be sharing their pathways to success."

The workshop panel consists of five women in optical who have achieved success in various segments and positions in the industry. Panelists include: Robin Scheer Ettinger, Vice President of Marketing, Safilo USA; Donna Gindy, Chief Operating Officer/Owner, REM Eyewear; Kathryn M. Gross-Edelman, Director of Education, Pech Optical Corporation; Katheryn Schramm, CEO, A Child's View; and Kathy Torrence, Product Line Manager, Kaiser Permanente Optical Services.

"Each of these women has a great story to tell and will be sharing their pathway to success with the audience. There will be a specific question and answer period for each speaker to ensure plenty of audience participation," said Walker. Attendees will each receive a handout with a total of ten tips from the five panelists.



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The Optical Women's Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1997 with the mission of supporting and promoting the professional development of women in the optical industry. Projects and programs include the Star Network Mentoring Program; the Professional Optical Women's Workshop, providing women in the optical industry with personal and professional growth opportunities; networking events at both Vision Expo East and West; and the annual Pleiades award which recognizes and honors individuals who have made a significant difference for women in the optical industry.

The OWA would like to thank our professional development fund sponsors for their generous support and belief in the OWA mission.

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