

2026

Women of Distinction



Darla King is the Founder & Chairman of a family-owned, woman-owned business in Columbus, Ohio, established in 1998 at her kitchen table with nothing more than industry experience, conviction, and her family's life savings. Today that business boasts 70 employees and over \$63 million in annual revenue. Her leadership has always been rooted in long term vision, disciplined growth, and a people first culture. She invested her time, capital, and personal energy into building an organization that treats employees and customers the way she believed they deserved to be

treated. Her legacy is not just a business—it is a sustainable, woman-led enterprise built to endure. Darla is truly a Woman of Distinction.

An early adopter of WBENC certification (certified since 2007), Darla has long believed in the power of certification to unlock opportunity for women-owned businesses. She credits WBENC with providing access, credibility, and growth opportunities that strengthened her company's trajectory. She is an advocate for other women considering certification, and advises them through the process.

Through Darla's volunteer leadership roles with National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), the Columbus Chamber Small Business Council and more, women she has mentored have launched companies, scaled operations, expanded teams, and entered new markets because of her influence.

Darla has strengthened the supplier inclusion ecosystem not only by scaling her own certified business, but by creating pathways for other women-owned businesses to access opportunity and compete at higher levels. One unique way is through her "Connecting the Dots" program, where surplus office furniture gets donated to nonprofits and community organizations - many of which are led by and support women.