

make mine a million \$ business

Local Business Woman Named Among Pitch Winners in the Make Mine a Million \$ Business™ National Event

Heather McCloskey of McCloskey Partners, LLC in Perkasie, PA received \$1000 prize for winning business pitch in national competition. Currently competing for a spot in renowned business growth program to help catapult her business revenue to a \$1million.

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania-9/28/2011 – Count Me In for Women’s Economic Independence, the leading national not-for-profit provider of resources, business education, and community support for women entrepreneurs, has named **Heather McCloskey of McCloskey Partners, LLC** of **Perkasie, PA** as one of Pitch Winners selected in the latest Make Mine a Million \$ Business event, M3 1000, which was held Monday, September 26, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA.

M3 1000 is the largest business pitch competition for women in the United States. The Philadelphia event featured more than 300 women entrepreneurs from across the nation pitching their businesses, participating in business growth education sessions, and building business opportunities with each other.

Described as a cross between “The Apprentice” and “American Idol,” the M3 1000 pitch competition invites women business owners to present their business in a two minute “elevator pitch” to a panel of small business experts and judges. Pitch Winners came away with a \$1000 American Express gift card, an introductory cycle of professional coaching from The Coach Connection (TCC), and a chance to participate in the next round of competition to win a coveted spot in the renowned Make Mine a Million \$ Business program, along with a business development package that includes additional cycles of coaching, national PR, and financing assistance to help their businesses grow into million-dollar enterprises. A complete list of M3 1000 Philadelphia pitch winners can be found at <http://makemineamillion.org/features/M3-1000-Philadelphia>.



Heather McCloskey, is the founder and CEO of McCloskey Partners, LLC a national full-service Human Resource firm and certified Women Business Enterprise (WBE) recently named one of the Top Women Owned Businesses in the *Philadelphia Business Journal*. Ms. McCloskey has over 20 years of human resources experience.

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A past recipient of the Eastern Pennsylvania Business Journal's *2010 Executive Spotlight Award*, she is an active member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and a recognized subject matter expert for NBC10's *Survive and Thrive* series.

A long-standing believer in philanthropic service, Ms. McCloskey is actively involved in several community outreach programs which assist individuals who have been displaced due to an economic downturn or a personal crisis situation. She utilizes her business expertise and positive outlook to support and motivate individuals to determine what makes them remarkable and find their Purple Cow. Ms. McCloskey is able to leverage her business relationships to help people and businesses embrace their authentic selves and create a positive path to success. Ms. McCloskey is also a well respected and sought after speaker both locally and nationally. Her direct and honest approach enables her to tailor her presentations to a wide variety of audiences. Ms. McCloskey's knowledge, enthusiasm and passion as a trainer have been recognized as second to none.

Launched in 2005 by Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence and founding partner American Express OPEN, the Make Mine a Million \$ Business program was created to help post-start up, women-owned businesses grow to one million dollars in annual revenue. Since its inception, the program has hosted over 20 competitions in cities around the country with thousands of women entrepreneurs participating, and grown into a nationwide movement. To date more than 28% of Make Mine a Million \$ Business program participants have surpassed the \$1 million mark in annual revenues versus the 2.6% national average for women business owners. A year-to-date investment of \$12 million in the program has yielded \$160 million in revenues for Make Mine a Million \$ Business Awardees. The ultimate goal of the program is to elevate one million women businesses to over \$1M in annual revenue generating \$1 trillion in revenues and creating over 4 million jobs by 2020. "We are thrilled by the eagerness of women across the country to grow their businesses, create jobs in their communities, and create stability for their families and the national economy," said Nell Merlino, Founder and President of Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence." **About Count Me In**

Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence is the leading national not-for-profit provider of resources, business education, and community support for women entrepreneurs seeking to grow their businesses to million dollar enterprises. Count Me In launched the Make Mine a Million \$ Business Competition to inspire one million women entrepreneurs scale their businesses to a million dollars in business revenues in the next decade by providing tools, skills, and the support of a nation-wide community of peers.