

ADVANCING TODAY'S GLOBAL CAREER WOMAN

CAREER MASTERED

5 BOOKS
FOR THE
FEMALE
FOUNDER

**LAUREN
FITZPATRICK
SHANKS**

TOP ENTREPRENEURIAL
WOMAN TO WATCH

**HER
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HEY QUEEN! YOUR SUPERPOWER SHINES

2025

**TOP ENTREPRENEURIAL
WOMEN TO WATCH**

SPECIAL EDITION FALL 2025

FALL 2025 EDITION



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for Career Mastered Magazine, Stephanie keeps service to others at the core of her work. Her perspective reminds us that true leadership is about uplifting others while building sustainable success.

A pivotal Career Mastered moment - her entrepreneurial leadership while balancing multiple professional commitments. Her work as a contributing writer for Career Mastered Magazine gave her a platform to inspire women globally. Simultaneously, she took bold steps to build Career Rise, LLC, providing soft skills and career development services to underrepresented professionals. Stephanie mastered the art of "career stacking"—leveraging her skills across multiple platforms to drive maximum impact.

Stephanie's entrepreneurial journey started with a simple observation: too many professionals are overlooked because of soft skill gaps. With Career Rise, LLC, she designed workshops, career coaching, and facilitation services that focus on communication, leadership presence, and confidence building. Her business solves a real market need while reinforcing her personal mission—empowering people to navigate their careers with purpose and strategy.

Stephanie's success is also fueled by the strength of her professional networks. From corporate circles to entrepreneurial communities, she has mastered the art of relationship building. Her ability to foster meaningful connections has led to career opportunities—even after industry layoffs—and business collaborations that drive her ventures forward. She embodies the Career Mastered principle that "proximity is power."

Stephanie understands the economics of business building. Through her entrepreneurial ventures, she's learned to balance profitability with purpose. She has built Career Rise, LLC into a sustainable business while contributing to corporate leadership at Dealer Image Pro™. Stephanie proves that women can be both mission-driven and financially successful.

Stephanie is a role model for women in business because she exemplifies innovation, persistence, and strategic growth. Her career journey teaches others that success isn't linear, but with adaptability, creativity, and the right mindset, it's achievable. She actively mentors young professionals, contributes knowledge through writing, and uplifts others through coaching—making her impact extend far beyond her own career wins.

Helping others is more than a side project for Stephanie—it's her life's work. Whether it's facilitating career workshops, mentoring through Career Mastered, or supporting her team at Dealer Image Pro™, Stephanie's mission is to build people. She is a living example that success multiplies when you help others rise.

For Stephanie Hancock, the ultimate reward isn't just personal achievement—it's seeing others flourish because of the seeds she's planted. Her story is a testament to what's possible when you blend ambition with purpose, creativity with strategy, and leadership with service. Upcoming entrepreneurs can look at Stephanie's journey to know: you don't have to choose between impact and success—you can achieve both.



Linda Hannah

Company: Linda Hannah Speaks

Launched: 1989

Location: Detroit, MI

www.lindahannahspeaks.com

The Secret to Her Success

Learning at Any Stage of Life

Using the Power of Hats to Bridge Resilience, Brilliance, and History

Entrepreneurship wasn't just something Linda Hannah pursued—it was part of her DNA. Growing up in Detroit, she watched her father run his own TV repair business, operating daily from the shop attached to their home. He was sought after for his excellence, always delivering more than expected. Additionally, her uncle—one of the first in Detroit to open a unisex barbershop—built a space so glamorous that everyone called him “Mr. Hollywood.” It was their work ethic and ability to serve and build something lasting that shaped Linda’s understanding of what it means to take ownership of your craft.

The male figures weren't the only family members who inspired Linda. Later in life, her mother reinforced this entrepreneurial spirit in a different way—by going to college in her 50s. “She showed me that growth has no expiration date. That courage to step into learning at any stage of life sparked something in me, leading me to embrace my own path of transformation,” she said.

As Linda sat in her home studio crafting hats, she found herself doing more than design. “I was listening, encouraging, and connecting with the women who came to me,” she said. Each hat carried a deeper meaning, tied to the mindset we wear in life. “Some of my clients came in celebrating victories, others facing struggles, but all of them had a story. The more I listened, the more I realized the symbolic power of hats—not just as fashion but as a metaphor for identity, resilience, and the way we show up in the world.”

“They weren’t just learning about vintage styles—they were hearing about the perseverance of women in the 1920s and 1940s who faced adversity yet became iconic designers.”

That moment of realization was more than inspiration; it was divine. “I believe it was something God placed in my heart to see, leading me to develop my first talk *Shifting Your Mindset: Cultivate, Embrace, and Demonstrate Resiliency*,” said Linda. It was the bridge between her creative work and her greater purpose—empowering women to embrace their brilliance and resilience.

Linda hadn't set out to disrupt an industry, yet her journey naturally led her there. When she first began sharing the history of hats, people gravitated toward the storytelling. They weren't just learning about vintage styles—they were hearing about the perseverance of women in the 1920s and 1940s who faced adversity yet became iconic designers. Somehow, these two worlds merged: history, empowerment, and personal growth.

She wasn't just running a business; she was creating a movement. Hat Moments, which started as presentations

about millinery history, soon became a space for women to reflect on their own stories. From libraries, Derby events, teas, and women's ministry gatherings, Linda found that hats had the power to connect people, build confidence, and inspire transformation.

If there's one thing she learned, it's that relationships matter more than anything in business. “Networking isn't about collecting business cards or LinkedIn connections—it's about real relationships that create impact,” she said.

“Even today, she presents on The History of Hats, including an upcoming event at the Detroit Main Library on January 15, 2026.”

“Organizations like Toastmasters and Career Mastered opened doors, but more importantly, they connected me with people who helped me grow. Whether in business or life, the most valuable connections come when you serve others, not just when you seek opportunity,” she said.

In 1989, she never could have predicted that her millinery business would eventually transform into a speaking career. But *no experience in life is wasted*.

The business wasn't just a passion project—it was a practical way to earn income while being a stay-at-home mother, homeschooling her three children. Her home became both a classroom and a creative studio, where she balanced education with entrepreneurship. What started as a way to provide for her family evolved into a thriving business, proving that women can build something impactful right from their homes.

Hat Moments remain a cornerstone of her work. Even today, she presents on The History of Hats, including an upcoming event at the **Detroit Main Library on January 15, 2026.**

Linda's mission? To equip women with the tools to cultivate knowledge, confidence, courage, and resilience—what she calls the “Four Crowns.” Through storytelling, faith, and practical strategies, she continues to inspire audiences to embrace their personal and professional potential.

