



WITA/WITF

2024

# Annual Dinner

Wednesday, July 24

5:30 PM to 11:00 PM  
Atrium and Atrium Hall



Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW | Washington, DC

# Past Honorees & Speakers at the WITA / WITF Annual Dinner

## 2023

Congressman Adrian Smith, Congressional Leadership Award  
Senator Tom Carper, American Leadership Award  
Deputy Director-General Angela Ellard, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Monica H. Whaley, Lighthouse Award  
Masters of Ceremonies: Stacy J. Ettinger & Vanessa Sciarra

## 2022

Congressman Ron Kind, Distinguished Service Award  
Senator Pat Toomey, Distinguished Service Award  
Ambassador Carla Hills, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Jennifer A. Hillman, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Rufus Yerxa

## 2021

Congressman Richard Neal, Congressional Leadership Award  
Congressman Kevin Brady, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Ambassador Rufus Yerxa, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Florizelle Liser, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Susan Schwab

## 2019

Senator Chuck Grassley, American Leadership Award  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene, Congressional Leadership Award  
Congresswoman Jackie Walorski, Congressional Leadership Award  
Women in International Trade (WIT), Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: John Veroneau

## 2018

Senator Ben Cardin, Congressional Leadership Award  
Senator Pat Roberts, Congressional Leadership Award  
Secretary Sonny Perdue, American Leadership Award  
Laura Baughman, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Nicole Bivens Collinson

## 2017

Congressman Rick Larsen, Congressional Leadership Award  
Senator Jeff Flake, Congressional Leadership Award  
Meredith Broadbent, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Kellie Meiman Hock

## 2016

Secretary Penny Pritzker, Global

Leadership Award

Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Congressional Leadership Award  
Congressman David Reichert, Congressional Leadership Award  
Bill Lane, Lighthouse Award  
William Reinsch, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Nicole Venable

## 2015

Congressman Paul Ryan, Congressional Leadership Award  
Senator Orrin Hatch, Congressional Leadership Award  
Senator Ron Wyden, Congressional Leadership Award  
Ambassador Mike Moore, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Everett Eissenstat, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Nicole Venable

## 2014

Congressman Charles Boustany Jr. MD, Congressional Leadership Award  
Congressman Ron Kind, Congressional Leadership Award  
Ambassador Michael Punke, Distinguished Service Award  
Ambassador Clayton Yeutter, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Wendy Cutler, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Peter Allgeier

## 2013

Chairman Dave Camp, Distinguished Leadership in International Trade  
United States Trade Representative Michael Froman, Distinguished Leadership in International Trade  
Congressman Gregory Meeks, Distinguished Leadership in International Trade  
Ed Gresser, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Ambassador Peter Allgeier

## 2012

United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman David Drier, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Jutta Hennig, Lighthouse Award  
Master of Ceremonies: Grant Aldonas

## 2011

Senator Rob Portman, Distinguished Service Award  
Senator John Kerry, Distinguished Service Award  
Angela Ellard and Viji Rangaswami, Lighthouse Award  
Keynote address by United

States Trade Representative

Ron Kirk  
Master of Ceremonies: Frusina Harsanyi

## 2010

Senator Max Baucus, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Ambassador Jon Huntsman, Distinguished Service Award  
R. Scott Miller, Lighthouse Award  
Keynote address by former United States Trade Representative Susan Schwab  
Master of Ceremonies: Dan Glickman

## 2009

Congressman Kevin Brady, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman Joe Crowley, Distinguished Service Award  
Frank and Regina Vargo, Lighthouse Award  
Keynote address by Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke  
Master of Ceremonies: Jim Kolbe

## 2008

United States Trade Representative Susan Schwab, Distinguished Service Award  
R.K. "Judge" Morris, Lighthouse Award  
Keynote address by former United States Trade Representative Rob Portman  
Master of Ceremonies: Cal Dooley

## 2007

WITA's 25th Anniversary: Celebrating a Quarter Century of Trade Leadership  
Keynote address by Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez  
Master of Ceremonies: John Castellani

## 2006

Congressman Charles Rangel, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman Jim Kolbe, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Keynote address by Senator Hillary Clinton  
Master of Ceremonies: Bill Lane

## 2005

Congressman William Thomas, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman Robert Matsui, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Keynote address by Congressman Jim Kolbe

## 2004

Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade Grant Aldonas, Distinguished Service Award

Deputy United States Trade Representative Peter Allgeier, Distinguished Service Award  
Keynote address by Congressman Cal Dooley  
Master of Ceremonies: Bill Lane

## 2003

United States Trade Representative Robert Zoellick, Distinguished Service Award  
Keynote address by Jack Valenti

## 2002

Congressman Amo Houghton, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Congressman William Jefferson, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman John Tanner, Distinguished Service Award

## 2001

Congressman Phil Crane, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Senator Charles Grassley, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman Sander Levin, Distinguished Service Award

## 2000

Secretary of Commerce William Daley, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Congressman Calvin Dooley, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman David Dreier, Distinguished Service Award

## 1999

Senator Max Baucus, Distinguished Service Award  
Senator Chuck Hagel, Distinguished Service Award

## 1998

Secretary of Treasury Robert E. Rubin, Distinguished Service Award  
Senator William V. Roth, Distinguished Service Award

## 1997

United States Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman William Archer, Distinguished Service Award

## 1996

Congressman Sam Gibbons, Lifetime Achievement Award  
Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade Stuart Eizenstat, Distinguished Service Award

## 1995

Congressman James Kolbe, Distinguished Service Award  
Congressman Robert Matsui, Distinguished Service Award



WITA/WITF

WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL TRADE ASSOCIATION  
WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL TRADE FOUNDATION

*welcome you to the*

## **2024 WITA/WITF Annual Dinner**

Each year we honor individuals who have provided leadership and vision in the advancement of international trade and economic policy.

Thank you for joining us this evening as we honor

**Senator Chris Coons**

United States Congress

**Congressman Darin LaHood**

United States Congress

# Welcome to the Washington International Trade Association and Foundation Dinner!

On behalf of the Boards of the Washington International Trade Association and Foundation, welcome! We are delighted you are able to join us this evening.

With help and support from all of you, the Trade Community, WITA continues to grow and expand, both in terms of sheer numbers and impact. Today, we have nearly 6,000 members, nearly double the number we had in 2020. We continue to expand our national and global reach, and in September, we will be hosting our first international trade reception and a panel discussion at the WTO Public Forum in Geneva!

Central to WITA's growth is the work of the WITA Academy™, whose mission is to make trade education and careers in international trade more accessible to diverse communities in the United States and around the world.

Since we launched the WITA Academy in the fall of 2022, we have hosted 524 students from 45 different colleges and universities for career development seminars, as part of our Pathways program. Many of you are part of the "faculty" of this unique and inspiring program. We are grateful to you, the global trade professionals who have shared your stories to help bring the next generation of trade professionals into our community, and to make our community itself more diverse and inclusive. We have also expanded our trade education and capacity building programs. 640 government officials from 76 different countries have taken part in our Intensive Trade Seminars - including 412 from 27 different U.S. government agencies.

Tonight, we come together to be reunited with old friends and to celebrate the achievements of trade leaders. We honor two Members of the U.S. Congress who have worked to advance America's global leadership and to promote the interests of their constituents through trade. They are Congressman Darin LaHood, a senior Member of the House Ways & Means Trade Subcommittee, and Senator Chis Coons, the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, and a Member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Both are committed to bringing people together across party lines to advance the interests of America and global trade.

We are also pleased to host a former winner of WITA's Congressional Leadership Award, and a friend to many of us, Congressman Earl Blumenauer, the Ranking Member and past Chairman of the House Ways & Means Trade Subcommittee. We congratulate Congressman Blumenauer on a remarkable career of public service, and are grateful he is giving his valedictory remarks on trade at tonight's dinner.

Tonight's honorees and speakers embody WITA's vision that we can come together to debate and discuss international trade as a means to strengthen the U.S. and global economies, and to support workers, farmers, and firms around the world.

Thank you for being here to celebrate our honorees and our phenomenal trade family.

Have a great evening,



**Steve Lamar**

Chairman of the Board  
Washington International Trade Association



**Ted Austell**

Chairman of the Board  
Washington International Trade Foundation

WITA is a non-partisan, non-profit membership organization providing a neutral forum for the open and robust discussion of international trade and economic policy. WITF is the 501(c)(3) organization that supports the educational mission of WITA through the WITA Academy, coordination of the Annual Dinner, WITA's Young Trade Professionals (YTP) program, and WITA's affiliates: the Association of USTR Alumni (AUSTRA), Congressional Trade Alumni Association, and the Embassy and Ministry Network.

# Evening Schedule

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM  
**Registration & Cocktails**  
**Atrium**

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
**Dinner & Awards Program**  
**Atrium Hall**

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM  
**Post Dinner Reception**  
**Atrium**

You are invited to pick up a gift bag as  
you exit tonight's event.  
Floral centerpieces may also be taken as souvenirs.



# Welcome

**Kenneth I. Levinson**

WITA Chief Executive Officer

**Antonin Aviat**

Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, Embassy of France

**Stephanie Lester**

WITA Board Vice President, Gap, Inc.

## AWARDS PROGRAM

**Kaitlin Sighinolfi and Nasim Fussell**

Masters of Ceremonies

Featured Remarks by

**Congressman Earl Blumenauer**

**Former Congressman Kevin Brady**

Presenting Award to

**Congressman Darin LaHood**

Congressional Leadership Award

**Former Senator Rob Portman**

Presenting Award to

**Senator Chris Coons**

Congressional Leadership Award

Presentation of 2024 Lighthouse Award by

**Stephanie Lester and Sarah Thorn**





# Menu

## Passed Hors d'Oeuvres

**Vegetarian Samosa**  
Raita Sauce

**Mini Beef Wellington**  
Mushroom Duxelles

**Smoked Salmon Deviled Egg**  
Dill and Caviar

**Beet Salmon Gravlax**  
Pumpernickel Toast

## First Course

**Watermelon and Arugula Salad**  
Red Endive, Radish, Chevre, Lemon Thyme Vinaigrette

## Entrée

**Roasted Muscovy Duck Breast**  
Braised Chard Florentine, Dauphinoise Potato,  
Citrus Beurre Blanc

## Dessert

**Espresso Pot de Crème**  
Vanilla Bean Chantilly Cream, Salted Chocolate Crumble,  
Chocolate Covered Coffee Beans

## Post-Dinner Delights

Assortment of Macarons

If you requested the vegetarian, vegan, or gluten-free options,  
please notify your server.

# BEVERAGES

The Boards of WITA and WITF thank the Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S. for providing tonight's spirits for the Annual Dinner receptions.



The Boards of WITA and WITF gratefully acknowledge the generous donations of wine, beer, spirits, and refreshments from the following embassies and organizations:

## **Embassy of Australia**

Assortment of wines from the Yalumba Y Series  
The Chook Sparkling Shiraz  
Jansz Premium Brut Cuvée

## **British Embassy**

Samuel Smith's Organic Chocolate Stout  
Boddingtons Pub Ale  
Belhaven Scottish Ale  
Old Speckled Hen Ale

## **Embassy of Canada**

2021 Malivoire Farmstead Gamay  
2020 Peller Estates Private Reserve Gamay Noir  
Sleeman Cream Ale  
Sleeman Honey Brown Ale

## **Embassy of Costa Rica**

Ron Centenario El Ron De Costa Rica

## **Embassy of Germany**

Bitburger Premium Pilsner  
Warsteiner Premium

## **Embassy of Israel**

2019 Segal Wild Fermentation Chardonnay  
2019 Barkan Gold Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

## **Embassy of Italy**

2023 Canicatti La Ferla Inzolia  
2020 Casteggio Barbera

## **Embassy of Japan**

Sapporo Premium Beer

## **Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Heineken Original Beer  
Heineken Silver Beer

## **Embassy of New Zealand**

Eva Pemper Sauvignon Blanc 2021

## **Embassy of Switzerland**

Amprò 2014, Domaine des Trois Étoiles  
Humagne Rouge AOC Valais 2022



## 2024 Paris Olympics Champagne Fountain

The Boards of WITA and WITF are grateful to the Embassy of France for their contribution of champagne!



### Embassy of France

Champagne Louis Hurtebisse

The Boards of WITA and WITF are grateful to the Wine Institute for their generous contribution of wine to tonight's dinner!



# Sponsors

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## SILVER SPONSORS

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**Stephanie Lester**, WITA Vice President, Gap, Inc.

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**Sarah Thorn**, WITA Secretary, Walmart

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**Sarah Stewart**, Silverado Policy Accelerator

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**Diego Añez**, Managing Director, WITA and Executive Director, WITA Academy

**Maya Ghazi**, Program Associate

**Thomas Sand Nielsen**, WITA Academy Fellow

**Rafael Augusto Centeno**, WITA Academy Fellow

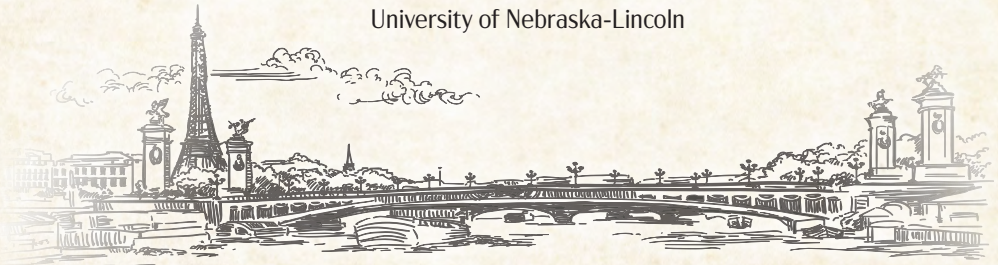
**Zabei Frank**, Intern, B.A. Philosophy, Politics, and Economics; Pomona College

**Jackson House**, Intern, B.A. Economics and Political Science;  
Saint Louis University

**Jake Levine**, Intern, B.A. Public Relations; American University

**Nina Pollak**, Intern, B.A. Political Science, Business, and Spanish; Trinity University

**Katharine Wandsnider**, Intern, B.A. Global Studies;  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



# 2024 Annual Dinner Committee

**Ted Austell**, WITF Chair, Boeing

**Bill Lane**, WITF Vice Chair, Trade for America

**Kenneth I. Levinson**, WITA Chief Executive Officer

**Diego Añez**, Managing Director, WITA and Executive Director, WITA Academy

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**Stephanie Lester**, Gap, Inc.

**Sarah Thorn**, Walmart

## Special Thanks

Thank you to the following groups and individuals for their dedication, energy, creativity, and tireless enthusiasm:

Baldwin Graphics, **Eric Baldwin**

Artovation, **Kathy Butterfield**

KRC Creative LLC, **Kerrin Cuison**

EventPro, **Luis Villarruel**

Herman Farrer Photography, **Herman Farrer**

MSE Productions, Violin and Accordion Duo, **Miles Stiebel**

MultiFlor, **Nick Perez**

Wine Institute, **Jamie Ferman**, **Susan Gregoy**

Big Biz Entertainment, **Michael Horne**

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## Thank You!

An extra special thank you to Allyson Browne McKithen, Nimal Aluthgama, Erin Taylor, Monica Howell, J. Phillip Gambrell, Rene Guambo and all the staff of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center for their constant and tireless support of WITA throughout the year!







## Senator Chris Coons

As a U.S. Senator for more than a decade, Chris Coons has worked hard to find bipartisan solutions to the issues facing Delaware, the nation, and the world.

As a member of the Foreign Relations, Judiciary, Appropriations, and Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committees, and as Co-Chair of the bipartisan Senate Select Committee on Ethics, Senator Coons is uniquely positioned to nurture American innovation and make the United States more competitive in the global market.

Senator Coons is Chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, where he focuses on strengthening U.S. alliances, supporting displaced and vulnerable people, and bolstering public health infrastructure around the world. He is also Co-Chair of the Senate Human Rights Caucus.

In these roles, Senator Coons is working for the interests of Delaware and the United States abroad while shaping a more stable, secure, and prosperous world. This includes advocating for peace and stability in regions plagued by conflict, supporting American partners and allies, and advancing U.S. international trade interests.

A longtime New Castle County resident, he lives in Wilmington with his wife, Annie. They have three children: Michael, Jack, and Margaret.



## Congressman Earl Blumenauer

A lifelong resident of Portland, Oregon, Congressman Earl Blumenauer is one of Oregon's innovative leaders. Raised in SE Portland, Earl attended Centennial High School. While still a college student at Lewis and Clark College, he led the campaign in Oregon to lower the voting age. He was a key player just two years later as one of the youngest legislators in Oregon's history in a landmark session for school funding, ethics reform and Oregon's groundbreaking land use laws.

As a Multnomah County Commissioner and member of the Portland City Council, Earl's innovative accomplishments in transportation with light rail, bicycles and the street car, planning and environmental programs and public participation helped Portland earn an international reputation as one of America's most livable cities.

Elected to the US House of Representatives in 1996, Earl has been a tireless advocate for the 3rd Congressional District. He's recognized for his creative, innovative policies and accomplishments, and also his political leadership in Oregon and nationwide. He tackles controversial issues and finds ways to break ideological and partisan gridlock with a unique approach to problem solving that brings people together.

He is currently a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Ranking Member of the subcommittee on Trade and a member of the subcommittee on Health. Earl is also serving as a senior member on the Budget Committee. Earl has been a champion for rebuilding and renewing our nation's infrastructure, economic security for families, protection of public lands, stopping gun violence, ending the prohibition of marijuana, and criminal justice reform.



## **Congressman Darin LaHood**

Congressman Darin LaHood is serving his fourth full term in Congress, representing the 16th Congressional District of Illinois, which spans 21 counties across central and northwestern Illinois, including Peoria, Bloomington-Normal, Rockford, and Galena. He serves on the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party. LaHood is the Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Work and Welfare and the Intelligence Committee's National Security Agency and Cyber Subcommittee. During his time in Congress, LaHood has had a strong record of leadership for his constituents in Illinois, promoting economic development, fiscal responsibility, and supporting America's national security interests. LaHood has been an outspoken advocate for creating a better business climate, reducing our federal deficit, and advocating for better international market access for the U.S. farmers. He believes strengthening America's economic and security interests are essential to effectively compete with countries like China and Russia. LaHood also serves on the House Democracy Partnership and currently co-chairs the bipartisan US-China Working Group, Digital Trade Caucus, US-Lebanon Friendship Caucus, and the Congressional Soccer Caucus. LaHood, a third generation Peorian, graduated from Spalding High School. He earned a B.A. from Loras College and holds a J.D. from the University of Illinois-Chicago John Marshall Law School. Congressman LaHood and his wife Kristen currently reside in Peoria and are the proud parents of three sons, McKay, Lucas, and Teddy.

# Sponsors

**Thank You to All Our Sponsors!**

**Akin**<sup>SM</sup>

Akin proudly supports Trade Prom and warmly congratulates this year's esteemed honorees.



The Boeing Company salutes Congressman Darin LaHood and Senator Chris Coons for their exemplary leadership in the advancement of international trade.

**BR** Business Roundtable

Business Roundtable congratulates this year's honorees.  
America should lead the way in working with our partners and allies to establish new high-standard trade agreements, especially in the Indo-Pacific region.

**CATERPILLAR**<sup>®</sup>

The Road to progress begins with a road. Caterpillar thanks tonight's honorees for paving the way through their leadership on trade.

# COVINGTON

Covington congratulates this year's WITA honorees, Senator Chris Coons and Congressman Darin LaHood, and applauds their leadership on international trade.



FGS Global congratulates Senator Chris Coons, Congressman Darin LaHood, and Congressman Earl Blumenauer for their well-deserved recognition in the global trade field. Thank you WITA for acknowledging their achievements!

# Gap Inc.



BANANA REPUBLIC

ATHLETA

Congratulations to Congressman Darin LaHood and Senator Chris Coons! Your tireless efforts in advancing international trade have bolstered American economic growth and fostered stronger global partnerships. Thank you for your dedication!

# KING & SPALDING

King & Spalding sends its best wishes and many thanks to this year's deserving honorees.



Expanding global markets strengthens American dairy farming and manufacturing. The National Milk Producers Federation and the U.S. Dairy Export Council congratulate this year's winners for their contributions to the world of trade.



Cheers to another successful year for WITA and the trade community!



P&G has been a Worldwide Partner of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since 2010. P&G congratulates the WITA award winners for medaling in public service to international trade!



We are proud sponsors of the Washington International Trade Association / Washington International Trade Foundation Annual Dinner. Congratulations to the 2024 Honorees.



Bravo to all awardees! Congratulations from the Trade Data Monitor team!



Moving our world forward by delivering what matters. Congratulations to this year's award winners for their vision, leadership and purpose.



U.S. Chamber of Commerce

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce congratulates Senator Chris Coons and Congressman Darin LaHood for their tireless leadership on trade.



Congratulations to Senator Chris Coons and Congressman Darin LaHood for their outstanding contributions to advancing international trade.



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WASHINGTON, D.C.

RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND  
INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE CENTER  
*Setting the stage for tomorrow*

TCMA  
A DREW COMPANY

Our sincere congratulations to the distinguished honorees for their continuous commitment and dedication to the advancement of international trade.



AMERICAN  
APPAREL &  
FOOTWEAR  
ASSOCIATION



The American Apparel & Footwear Association congratulates this year's WITA honorees. We are proud to show our support for Senator Chris Coons and Congressman Darin LaHood and are grateful for their leadership!

Chevron is a proud sponsor of the 2024 WITA/WITF Annual Dinner. Congratulations to this year's honorees for their commitment to advancing a proactive trade agenda.





We understand what it takes to deliver when it counts. We are proud to show our support for this year's award winners. Congratulations!



Congratulations to another successful year for WITA and the International Trade community!



As a proud supporter of international trade as a path to economic growth and prosperity, MetLife congratulates all the winners of WITA's prestigious award.



McLarty Associates congratulates Senator Coons, Congressman LaHood, and Congressman Blumenauer for the recognition of their leadership and significant contributions to US trade policy.



Congratulations to tonight's honorees! Polsinelli is proud to celebrate your accomplishments!



Congratulations to the honorees for their service and dedication to advancing international trade and to WITA for offering timely and informative programming on trade policy.



Skadden

Skadden congratulates Congressman Darin LaHood and Senator Chris Coons for their achievements within international trade.



Congratulations to this year's award winners and honorees!



As a global mobility company exporting to over 60 countries from the U.S., we are excited to be a part of this celebration. Toyota congratulates this year's deserving honorees.



Congratulations to tonight's honorees and all of those who support building a stronger American steel industry through partnership with a key national security ally.  
[www.BestDealforAmericanSteel.com](http://www.BestDealforAmericanSteel.com)

**WHITE & CASE**

Congratulations to the WITA honorees! White & Case applauds your commitment to progress in international trade. We are delighted to celebrate your achievements.



WilmerHale congratulates the 2024 WITA award winners on their well-deserved recognition of visionary leadership and contributions to international trade.



**Thank you to our  
WITA Academy Sponsors!**



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# Event Sponsors

Thank you to Silverado Policy Accelerator for their generous sponsorship of WITA's Trade and Environment Series!



2024 Washington International Trade Conference

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The 2025 Washington International Trade Conference will be held on  
**February 10, 2025 and February 11, 2025.**

If you're interested in supporting the 2025 International Trade Conference, please contact  
**Diego Añez at [danez@wita.org](mailto:danez@wita.org) or call 202-312-1600.**

# Sponsorship Opportunities

We are incredibly grateful for the support WITA receives throughout the year, through the record attendance at our online events, sponsorship of our event series, and of course through WITA's Annual Dinner – the TRADE PROM - the biggest annual gathering of the international trade community. We're also incredibly grateful to the WITA Academy sponsors, whose support has enabled us to bring this vital initiative to an even wider audience across the U.S. and around the world.

WITA is widely considered Washington's premier trade forum, and we are very grateful for your support of our efforts to promote trade-related dialogue around the world. In addition to the Annual Dinner, WITA and WITF (**a 501(c)(3) a non-profit which supports the educational mission of WITA**), offer various ways to support our trade education mission, including event sponsorships and series sponsorship.



## Sponsorship Opportunities:

- ✿ **WITA's International Trade Reception:** On Wednesday, September 11, 2024, WITA and the Foundation will host its first international trade reception at the WTO Public Forum in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ✿ **WITA Academy™:** The WITA Academy makes trade education and career opportunities in international trade accessible to communities in the United States and around the world, making the trade community itself more diverse, equitable and inclusive.
- ✿ **The WITA Academy's Trade & Law Series:** Law students and undergraduates hear from law firms and trade professionals about career opportunities in international trade and law.
- ✿ **WITF Academy Fellowship:** Support a post-graduate Fellow to work at WITA and the Foundation for a full year after graduation from college.
- ✿ **2025 Washington International Trade Conference:** On February 10, 2025 and February 11, 2025, WITA and WITF will host the seventh annual Washington International Trade Conference, with online and in-person events looking at key international trade policy issues in the U.S. and around the world.

✿ **WITA Event Series:** Work with WITA to formulate and deliver a series of events on a thematic trade topic. In the coming year, we will launch a new series to look at the renewal of USMCA, and will be continuing our Trade & Environment Series. Sponsorship packages for each of these series are available. We also welcome ideas for new topics if you are interested in sponsoring a new series with WITA.

✿ **Individual WITA Events:** We welcome sponsorship for most of our individual events. Sponsors receive high value exposure in event-related communications to over 20,000 trade leaders in DC and around the world.

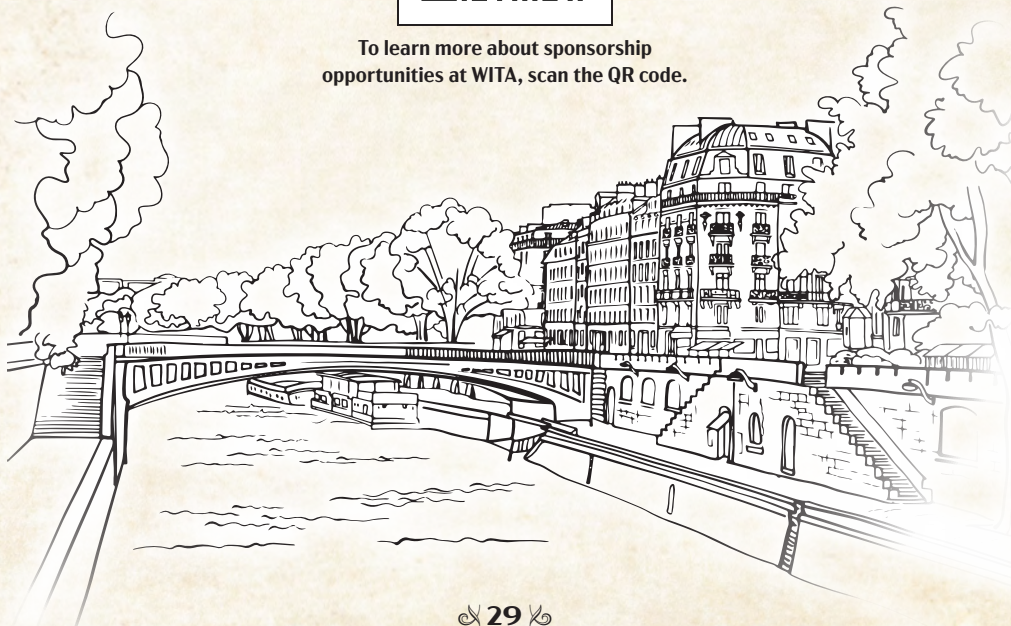
✿ Support for WITA/WITF's affiliated groups such as our Alumni Associations, the Embassy and Ministry Network, and Young Trade Professionals.



Please contact Ken Levinson or Diego Añez if you wish to discuss these and other opportunities, at [KLevinson@wita.org](mailto:KLevinson@wita.org) or [DAnez@wita.org](mailto:DAnez@wita.org)



To learn more about sponsorship opportunities at WITA, scan the QR code.





The mission of the WITA Academy™ is to make trade education and career opportunities in international trade accessible to communities in the United States and around the world.

Working with our global network of trade professionals, we are expanding what the term “inclusive” means to WITA and the trade community at large.

The two pillars of the WITA Academy are Career Development and Trade Education.

**Pillar I: Career Development:** Through our Pathways programs, we are working with universities to give students the knowledge they need to access career opportunities in international trade.

Our vast network of trade professionals in the United States and around the world allows the WITA Academy “faculty” to highlight different pathways to future jobs in trade. These Pathways programs empower individuals to overcome obstacles that might otherwise keep them from accessing careers in international trade.

The work of the WITA Academy fosters a sustainable pipeline for the international trade community to bring the best and brightest, next generation workforce into the trade policy community – diversifying its network of professionals with new talent that may not have previously sought careers in international trade.

**Pillar II: Trade Education, Capacity Building & Workforce Development:** For almost 20 years, WITA’s Intensive Trade Seminars (ITS) have educated government officials, the private sector and the public to better navigate the Washington and international trade policy landscape.

Building on this success, we’ve taken the ITS model global. Our first international intensive trade seminar focused on trade and development for officials from over 30 African countries. In just the last two years, we’ve also hosted sessions on European trade governance, U.S.-China policy, and the World Trade Organization.

Through the work of the WITA Academy, WITA and the Washington International Trade Foundation are committed to supporting the next generation of trade policy leaders. If you wish to join us in this mission, please reach out to Ken Levinson, Diego Anez, or any of our Board Members.



To learn more about the WITA Academy, scan the QR code.



# WITA Academy's Reach



**524**  
Student  
Participants



**45** Universities  
and Colleges



Participants from **76**  
Different Countries

**640** Government Officials  
from the U.S. and Around  
the World



**1624** Participants in WITA  
Academy Events



**27** U.S. Government  
Agencies

The WITA Academy is a program of the Washington International Trade Foundation, whose work is supported by the generous contributions of UPS, the Cristena Bach Yeutter Charitable Trust, the American Apparel & Footwear Association, Microsoft, and Mayer Brown.



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# Upcoming Events

## 2024 WITA Virtual Intensive Trade Seminar

Four part series hosted over  
three days



September 27, September 30,  
and October 1.



Institute for  
International  
Economic Policy

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Washington International Trade Association, in partnership with the Institute for International Economic Policy at George Washington University and the World Trade Center DC, proudly present the four-part Virtual Intensive Trade Seminar.

The four-part Intensive Trade Seminar is geared towards individuals who want to learn how trade policy is made in Washington, DC. Past attendees include those in business, law, academia, NGOs, embassies and the U.S. Government.

The 2024 Intensive Trade Seminar will be held virtually on Zoom over three days, **a full day on Sept. 27, a half day on Sept. 30, and a half day on Oct. 1.**

Speakers help attendees increase their professional knowledge by learning the nuts and bolts of trade policy directly from career trade policy professionals from across government, industry, and law.



To learn more, scan the QR code.

# Please Join WITA at Our International Trade Reception at the WTO Public Forum!



**Wednesday, September 11 | 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (Central European Time)**

The Washington International Trade Foundation is going global with the WITA International Trade Reception, hosted in the Salle des Pas Perdus at the World Trade Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. This prestigious event will connect trade professionals from the WITA community with their international peers attending the 2024 WTO Public Forum.



We are honored to welcome **Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the WTO**, who will be presented with the WITA/WITF Global Leadership Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions as Director-General.

**Sponsorship opportunities are available!** If you are interested in gaining recognition for your organization at the WITA International Trade Reception or wish to learn more, please contact **Diego Añez** at [danez@wita.org](mailto:danez@wita.org).

**Thank you to our sponsors!**

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