



**DRESS FOR SUCCESS**®  
GREATER NEW YORK CITY

# BOOK CLUB TOOLKIT

2024



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## ELEVATE YOUR WORKFORCE: EMPOWER WOMEN THROUGH BOOK CLUB SPONSORSHIP

We invite you to join us in championing women's empowerment in the workforce through the sponsorship of our transformative book club opportunities. As a forward-thinking corporation, you have the power to ignite change, foster growth, and inspire leadership among your female workforce and powerfully influence our clients' career pathways. By investing in our book club initiatives, you are not only supporting professional development but also cultivating a culture of inclusivity and innovation within your organization and for women across the five boroughs of New York City.

### Why Sponsor Our Book Club Opportunities?

- 1. Empowering Professional Development:** Our book club experiences are carefully curated to provide women with access to thought-provoking literature that ignites passion, sparks creativity, and enhances critical thinking. By sponsoring our book clubs, you are investing in the continuous growth and development of your female employees, empowering them to excel in their professional roles and supporting women served by Dress for Success Greater New York City.
- 2. Fostering Leadership and Collaboration:** Through our book club gatherings, women have the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions, share insights, and build lasting connections with their peers. Your sponsorship will enable the cultivation of leadership skills, the exchange of diverse perspectives, and the enhancement of collaborative abilities, all of which are invaluable assets in a dynamic and inclusive workplace.
- 3. Promoting Diversity and Inclusion:** By supporting our book club initiatives, you demonstrate a commitment to fostering a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion within your organization. Our book club experiences celebrate the richness of diverse voices, amplify underrepresented perspectives, and create a space where all women feel valued and empowered to contribute meaningfully to the company's success.
- 4. Nurturing Personal and Professional Growth:** Your sponsorship will enable women to explore a wide range of literary works that inspire personal and professional growth. By participating in our book clubs, women will enhance their communication skills, expand their knowledge base, and gain the confidence to navigate challenges and embrace new opportunities in the workplace.
- 5. Creating a Positive Impact:** Your support of our book club opportunities will create a ripple effect of positive change within your organization. Empowered and engaged employees are more likely to bring fresh ideas, innovative solutions, and a renewed sense of purpose to their roles, ultimately contributing to a thriving and dynamic work environment.

Join Us in Empowering Women for Success! We invite you to partner with us in championing women's empowerment through corporate sponsorship of our book club opportunities. Together, we can inspire, uplift, and equip women with the tools they need to thrive in the workforce, driving positive change and fostering a culture of excellence within your organization.



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## HOW DOES THE BOOK CLUB WORK?

- Our Book Clubs consist of 8-12 members who share similar interests—whether that’s a shared identity or people who live in the same area, work in the same industry, or are at a similar life or career stage.
- Members usually meet once twice a month for peer-to-peer mentorship, skill building, and connection. Monthly Book Club meetings are typically 60 minutes long. Each book club experience meets twice a month for two months to discuss the assigned book for the group.
- Book clubs are facilitated by Dress for Success Greater New York City and our corporate partners and are held virtually using Zoom.
- Book club members receive a copy of the assigned book as part of the engagement.
- Dress for Success Greater New York City Circle members have the opportunity to connect with their fellow Book Club members in between meetings via email, text, or other social messaging platforms. We foster moments of connection that center around celebrating each other’s accomplishments, checking in with one another, and sharing resources and other personal updates. Corporations are encouraged to be a part of this check in following their engagement experience with the Book Club.





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# HOW DO BOOK CLUB EXPERIENCES ENHANCE A WOMAN'S POSITION IN THE WORKFORCE?

**Book club experiences can significantly enhance a woman's position in the workforce in several ways:**

**Knowledge Expansion:** Book club discussions expose women to a wide range of literature, including professional development, leadership, and career-focused books. This exposure can broaden their knowledge, introduce them to new ideas, and provide valuable insights that can be applied to their professional roles.

**Critical Thinking and Communication Skills:** Engaging in book club conversations encourages critical thinking, analysis, and articulation of ideas. Women can develop their communication skills, learn to express their opinions effectively, and gain confidence in presenting their viewpoints, which are essential skills in the workplace.

**Networking and Mentorship Opportunities:** Book clubs often bring together women from diverse backgrounds and experiences. This creates networking opportunities that can lead to valuable connections, mentorship relationships, and the exchange of career advice and support, which can be instrumental in advancing their careers.

**Exposure to Different Perspectives:** Through book club discussions, women encounter diverse perspectives and experiences that can challenge their assumptions and broaden their worldview. This exposure promotes empathy, understanding, and cultural competence, which are essential for effective collaboration and leadership in the workplace.

**Personal and Professional Growth:** Book club experiences can inspire personal and professional growth by encouraging self-reflection, goal setting, and the pursuit of continuous learning. Women may discover new passions, develop a growth mindset, and gain motivation to pursue career advancement and leadership opportunities.

**Empowerment and Confidence Building:** Participating in a book club can empower women by providing a supportive environment for expressing their thoughts, sharing their experiences, and validating their contributions. This can boost their confidence, assertiveness, and sense of belonging in the workplace.

**Enhanced Problem-Solving Skills:** Engaging with thought-provoking books can improve women's ability to analyze complex situations, think critically, and develop innovative solutions, which are valuable skills for navigating challenges and making meaningful contributions in their professional roles.

In summary, book club experiences can enhance a woman's position in the workforce by fostering knowledge acquisition, critical thinking, networking, exposure to diverse perspectives, personal and professional growth, empowerment, and problem-solving skills. These benefits collectively contribute to women's professional development, leadership capabilities, and overall success in the workplace.

# ~60 Minute Run of Show

10 Min

**01**

## Member Updates

Attendees provide updates on significant changes and crucial decisions. They also share 'One Action' updates with the group.

8 - 10 Min

**02**

## Video (Topic Specific)

Attendees will watch a video focusing on key workforce development subjects related to the topics covered in the assigned book. These topics will also be featured in the Ice Breaker and activities during the later part of the session.

35 Min

**03**

## Ice Breaker & Activities

Icebreaker (10 Minutes)  
Activity (25 Minutes)

Tailored icebreakers and activities will be based on task-specific topics. Discussion guides will be co-created with Corporate Partners and adjusted to respond to Partner areas of expertise, current workforce issues, and aligning with the themes covered in the designated book.

5 Min

**04**

## 'One Action'

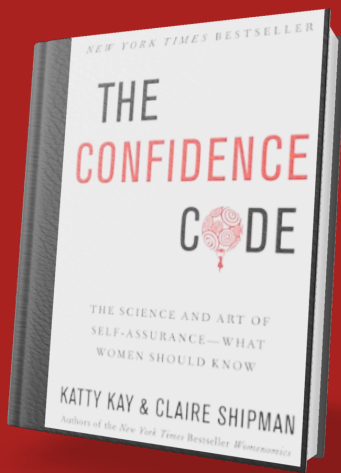
Participants are encouraged to choose a specific action, whether big or small, that challenges them to step outside their comfort zone or experience something new within the next 30 days. They can then discuss strategies to ensure they remain accountable for taking that action.



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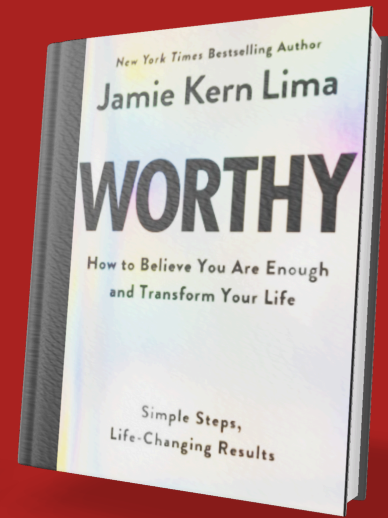
# SAMPLE BOOK CLUB IDEAS



The Confidence Code  
Katy Kay & Claire Shipman



The High 5 Habit  
Mel Robbins



Worthy  
Jamie Kern Lima

## Empower Women in the Workplace with the Power of Literature!

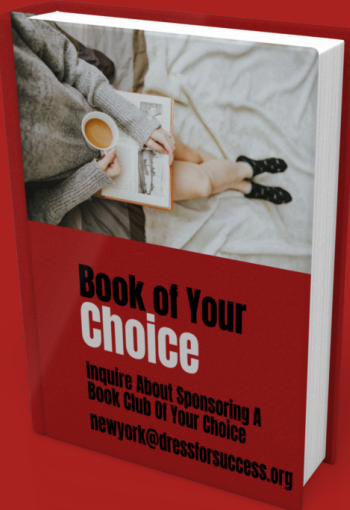
Join us in fostering a culture of learning, growth, and empowerment for women in the workforce by sponsoring a book club initiative. Your company has the unique opportunity to select a book of your choice and host a book club tailored specifically for the professional women in your organization.

By sponsoring a book club for women in the workforce, your company will not only promote literacy and intellectual engagement but also provide a platform for meaningful discussions, knowledge sharing, and networking opportunities. This initiative will contribute to the personal and professional development of the women in your organization, fostering a supportive and inclusive work environment.

Don't miss this chance to make a lasting impact on the lives and careers of the women in your organization and across Greater New York City.

Join us in creating a community of empowered, inspired, and well-read women in the workforce.

Contact us today to discuss how your company can sponsor a book club for women in the workforce and be a catalyst for positive change in your organization. Together, let's turn the pages of empowerment and transformation for women in the workforce.



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