



## WOMEN WHO ROCK

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For Immediate Release

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### **Six Recipients Announced for the Inaugural Treasure Coast Women Who Rock Awards** *to be held March 28th* *in celebration of National Women's History Month*

Stuart, FLA. — The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Indian River State College (IRSC) has partnered with weVENTURE Women's Business Center (WBC) at Florida Tech's Bisk College of Business and presenting sponsor PNC Bank to host the Inaugural Women Who Rock Awards of the Treasure Coast on March 28th in honor of National Woman's History Month. Today they are pleased to announce the six award recipients will be:

**Small Business Owner of the Year:** **Tessa Adams**, Co-Owner of [Phatz Chick N Shack](#), with locations in Ft. Pierce and Vero Beach, as well as owner of Life U Save, a CPR & safety training business.

**Executive of the Year:** [Rebecca Miller](#), Founder and President of MPLD Consulting, a full-service development consulting firm.

**Women Trending in Tech:** [Amy Stapleton](#), CEO and Co-Founder of [Chatables](#), a company that builds narrative-driven interactive voice experiences and talking virtual characters to address loneliness and isolation among aging adults.

**Excellence in Mentorship:** [Maddie Williams](#), Executive Director of the Treasure Coast Builders Association

**Excellence in Caregiving:** **Keren Wheeler**, Owner and CEO of [Evergreen Private Care](#)

**Excellence in Community Service:** [Fabiola Simon](#), current President of the Royal Palms volunteer organization, volunteer with the St. Lucie Chamber of Commerce, and founder the Fab Moms Brunch event honoring local mompreneurs.

“PNC is proud to help recognize these dynamic women and their contributions to our community,” notes Tracy Sorzano, senior vice president and Wealth Strategy regional manager, National Centralized Planning for PNC Private Bank. “The Women Who Rock awards foster an inclusive business environment by celebrating outstanding female leaders and empowering all women to succeed personally and professionally. We invite the entire community to join us for this uplifting event.”

Recipients will be honored **Tuesday, March 28th, at the Indian River State College Chastain Campus**, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart, FL 34997. The luncheon event takes place from 11:00am-1:00pm and is open to the public. Individual to attend the luncheon are \$50 and are available for purchase online. Sponsorship opportunities begin at \$150. All proceeds benefit weVENTURE WBC and SBDC community programming. Please visit <https://weventure.fit.edu/events/women-who-rock-awards/>.

For more information call (321) 674-7007 or email [weventure@fit.edu](mailto:weventure@fit.edu)

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#### *About PNC Bank*

PNC Bank, National Association, is a member of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC). PNC is one of the largest diversified financial services institutions in the United States, organized around its customers and communities for strong relationships and local delivery of retail and business banking including a full range of lending products; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based lending; wealth management and asset management. For information about PNC, visit [www.pnc.com](http://www.pnc.com).

#### *About the Florida SBDC Network*

For over forty years, the Florida SBDC Network, the state’s principal provider of business assistance [[FL Stat. 288.001](#)], has nourished a statewide partnership between higher education and economic development

to provide existing and emerging small and medium-sized business owners with management and knowledge resources that enable overall growth, increased profitability, and economic prosperity for Florida's economy.

In 2019, Florida SBDCs provided 114,064 hours of professional business consulting to 12,535 client businesses, resulting in 37,966 jobs impacted; \$4.4 billion in sales generated; \$496.5 million in government contracts acquired; and \$255.3 million in capital accessed; and 453 new businesses started. With over 40 offices statewide, the Florida SBDC is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida and other private and public partners. The Florida SBDC Network, headquartered at the University of West Florida, is nationally accredited by the Association of SBDCs and is a recipient of the President's E Award for Export Service. Florida SBDC services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Language assistance services are available for individuals with limited English proficiency. For more information, please visit [www.FloridaSBDC.org](http://www.FloridaSBDC.org).

#### ***About weVENTURE WBC***

weVENTURE Women's Business Center (WBC) was launched in 2007 at Florida Tech, accelerates growth for entrepreneurs by providing customized coaching, business education, mentorship, and networking programs. weVENTURE WBC also strives to be the leading voice and resource for professional women across all industries, providing leadership development and purposeful networking events for women on the Space and Treasure Coasts. weVENTURE WBC is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. For more information, or to register for weVENTURE WBC courses and mentorship programs, visit <https://weventure.fit.edu/> or call 321-674-7007.

#### ***About Florida Institute of Technology***

Florida Tech was founded in 1958 at the dawn of the Space Race that would soon define the Atlantic coast of Florida and captivate the nation. Now the premier private technological university in the Southeast, Florida Tech is a Tier 1 Best National University in U.S. News & World Report and one of just nine schools in Florida lauded by the Fiske Guide to Colleges. Florida Tech is ranked among the top 5 percent of 20,000 degree-granting institutions worldwide in the 2020-21 World University Rankings and has been named a Top College and Best Value University for 2019 by Forbes. Florida Tech offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in aeronautics and aviation, engineering, computing and cybersecurity, business, science and mathematics, psychology, education and communication. Learn more about our relentless pursuit of greatness at [floridatech.edu](http://floridatech.edu).