



The Beacon Hill Women’s Forum’s (BHWF) 2022-2023 season will start on September 13. The first Forum speaker of the season will be Leslie Adam, Board Chair of Friends of Public Garden.

BHWF is a nonprofit social club designed to inspire and create connections among neighbors in the Beacon Hill Area.

In addition to hosting monthly forum meetings which feature speeches by notable Beacon Hill residents, the organization also hosts monthly book group meetings, lunches and group activities.

“There’s just an unending amount of opportunities for people to jump in,” said Wendy Oleksiak, Co- President of the Executive Board. “One of the things that I think is really nice is that at every event you’re going to be mingling with a wide variety of ages.”

The 2022-2023 season lineup consists of seven forum speakers in addition to the group’s Annual Wassail Party and a scheduled fashion show.

Forum hosts are typically women who are chosen, according to Oleksiak, from the Beacon Hill area, in line with the group’s mission to inspire community connections. “We sit down and try brainstorming who knows who and what they can speak to… we try to appeal again to a huge range of interests,” said Oleksiak.

Some notable forum hosts include Leslie Adam, who according to BHWF, will talk on her “unusually deep insight into the nuances of the local residential real estate market,” her “commitment to the conservation of green space and city life” and her various non- profit work in the city.

Sara Campbell, owner of the women’s apparel retail store on Chestnut Street will be speaking on November 8.

Local veterinarian, Cynthia Barker Cox will be the forum host on February 14.

Sharri Harmel, Founder and Editor- In- Chief of Extraordinary Women magazine and podcast will speak on March 14.

Broadway stage actress, Annette Miller will present on April 11.

According to Oleksiak, BHWF currently has around 250 members, a number that will only grow in the coming weeks as people start to recognize the end of summer as the start of BHWF’s new season.

“Everyday people are signing up. We’re in that phase of where people are going- oh yeah. The summer is over. I’ve got to sign up again,” she said.

According to the organization’s website, BHWF is open to all women in the extended Beacon Hill community. The membership levels and price vary based on age, starting at \$100 annually for those under 35 and \$200 for those 35 and older.

Oleksiak noted the impact that joining has on an individual’s sense of community. “If you want to make friends, this is the place to do it… I would encourage people who think of themselves as shy or feel like this is the year to make some new friends or add something new, to get involved. The cost right now for young professionals is \$100 per year. Let’s say you would on average spend that on two dinners and in exchange, all of a sudden you have a social life instead.”