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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**“The Diva Series” Celebrates Women In Business “Bizy Bees”**

di-va - [dee-vuh, -vah] noun, distinguished female singer; prima donna. Goddess, fine lady.

Chicago, Ill. – May 19, 2011 – Maven, the ‘connection company’ behind various luxury lifestyle networking events will host the monthly installment of “The Diva Series” on Thursday, June 2, 6-9PM at Jbar in the contemporary James Hotel at 610 North Rush. The Diva Series honors successful and influential women in Media, PR, Fashion, Fitness, Beauty, Business, Philanthropy and is also hosted by Today’s Chicago Woman. This Diva Series will honor women in business - career coaches, entrepreneurs, mortgage brokers, publicists, lawyers, financial planners and more.

“These women creative innovators and visionaries,” says Maven Founder and President Sarah Vargo. “They really know how to get business done and will inspire many women who are watching their strategic moves.”

This monthly cocktail series launched in June 2008 and has recognized over a hundred Chicago women in various lifestyle industries. Past themes have includes Angels (Female Philanthropists), Social Butterflies (Marketing), Media Mavens (Journalists, Publicists and TV personalities) Players (Female Athletes and Sports Figures), Female Foodies (Culinary Arts), Women in Business (Bizy Bees), Beautiful Gems (Beauty and Jewelry), Party Girls (Event Planners), and Social Butterflies (Socialites, Social Media and Marketing).

“I love the Diva Series because I get to meet the crème de la crème in each industry and inspire the emerging Divas by making these women accessible,” remarks Vargo. “I also love putting women on a platform to shine and create an outlet for them to showcase their talent and accomplishments. I want these women to cheer for each other and expand their professional and social networks.”

Maven also hosts the male-version of the Diva Series (appropriately titled the Divo Series) at the House of Blues Foundation Room the second Wednesday of each month. According to Vargo, the word Divo means ‘male superstar’ in Italian. The Diva Series is male-friendly and many men come out to support the successful ladies they know and love. The group of Divas and Divos consistently grows each month and many attendees walk away with new Facebook friends, business cards, dinner plans and business connections.

The event is an intimate yet relaxed networking opportunity. While there is no formal ceremony, Vargo greets the guests with a short thank you speech and champagne toast to the Divas. Vargo explains that most of the recognition actually happens over social media channels and traditional media before and after the event. There is no cost to attend and specialty cocktails are available. Each Diva has the opportunity to contribute their company logo, press and pictures for a looping slideshow during the event and is encouraged to invite their contracts to celebrate this honor. The Diva Series is the first Thursday of each month and is at Jbar in the James Hotel. To RSVP for the guest list please email [sarah@maven-chicago.com](mailto:sarah@maven-chicago.com).

**HONORARY DIVAS**

- Adriana Llames - Internationally Acclaimed Career Coach and Author - [www.adrianallames.com](http://www.adrianallames.com)
- Amy Hesser - CEO of Hesser Communications Group
- Asha Spacek- Founder/Artistic Director at UR SUPERMODELS and High Profile Image/Brand Consultant and Stylist at UR Artists - [www.ursupermodels.com](http://www.ursupermodels.com)
- Ashley O'Dell - Co-Founder and Master of Marketing of Polka Dot Consulting
- Bevin Lynch - President/Certified Transformative Coach at Bevin Lynch, Inc. Coaching
- Brittany Heidtke - Co-Founder and Marketing Maven of Polka Dot Consulting
- Christin Luckman – Vice-President of Mortgage Lending at Guaranteed Rate
- Erin Marie Gavin, J.D. - Financial Representative - Northwestern Mutual Financial Network and The McTigue Financial Group
- Jeannine Prombo - Partner at Avid Solutions, LLC
- Jessica Edgerton - Corporate Counsel for US Appraisal Group
- Jessica Mammen - CEO/Owner for Diamond Personal Assistants
- Katie Bommarito - Founder and Co-Owner of Chicago Rentals Direct
- Kelly Saindon – Partner at Belongia, Shapiro & Franklin and Legal Analyst
- Kendal Brown - Kendal Brown Design
- Lindsay Saewitz - Founder of CitySwarmChicago.com
- Laura Schwartz – Principal of White House Strategies, Author of "Eat, Drink and Succeed! Climb Your Way to the Top Using the Networking Power of Social Events"[www.EatDrinkandSucceed.com](http://www.EatDrinkandSucceed.com) and Commentator for The CBS Early Show, BBC World News, GMTV London and Frost Over the World
- Lilia Corral - Regional Director of New Business at Avid Solutions, LLC
- Maggie Antillon-Mathews - Partner at Avid Solutions, LLC
- Michele Lomax Clauss - Vice-President and Counsel at James H Lowry & Associates and Power Yoga and Boot Camp Instructor at CorePower Yoga.
- PJ McGuire - Founder of Modet, Inc. and Shy to Social Butterfly, Certified Etiquette & Protocol Consultant
- Rachel Anne - CEO, Chief Enlightenment Officer of Yes You Can With Rachel Anne
- Sami Schmidt - Regional Director of New Business at Avid Solutions, LLC
- Stephanie Andre-Ouellette - Partner at Avid Solutions, LLC
- Stephanie Konow - Founder and Co-Owner of Chicago Rentals Direct
- Victoria Garcia - Home Mortgage Consultant at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Vargo hopes someday to put the Diva and Divo Series on a national and even global map. "I feel that everyone needs encouragement and recognition. I love how excited people get about this. It keeps people motivated, driven and is an inspiration to the next generation of Diva and Divos. I will toast the Divas with some bubbly and drink scotch with the Divos and throw them the best party to celebrate their success. It is a message everyone should hear no matter how small or large their business is. It all started with a dream," she says with a smile.

***Maven is a "connection" agency. Our strength lies in who we know, and how we connect our clients with the right people to achieve their objectives. Maven - ma·ven [mey-vuh n] noun, an expert or connoisseur. A person who has special knowledge or dazzling experience. From Yiddish meyv'n, from Heb. mebh'n, lit. 'one who understands.' We are mavens in the areas of Publicity, Promotions and Perception. For more information please contact Sarah Vargo at 224-622-1759 or [sarah@maven-chicago.com](mailto:sarah@maven-chicago.com)***