

CREW Charlotte Ups The Ante For 12th Annual Casino and Gaming Night

All funds raised at March 21 event go toward scholarships in commercial real estate

CHARLOTTE — CREW Charlotte – the local chapter of the global networking organization that supports women in commercial real estate – is preparing for its 12th Annual Casino and Gaming Night. The fun happens on Wednesday, March 21 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at LaCa Projects. As always, the event raises funds for scholarships for students interested in pursuing a career in commercial real estate. All the casino games (think: Blackjack) people love will return. But new this year are interactive games such as skeeball, Pop-A-Shot, air hockey, Jenga® Giant™ and more.

It's all designed to increase attendance – and giving. This year's fundraising goal is \$20,000. CREW leaders hope to raise that at two fundraisers – Casino and Gaming Night in March and the ABC Networking event in September.

“By CREW Charlotte offering financial assistance in the form of scholarships to students – especially women pursuing this field – we are helping groom our next wave of the most empowered, influential thought leaders in the commercial real estate space,” said Elizabeth Romano, program manager at Wood, plc and – along with Megan Shaw, a CPA at CohnReznick – Casino and Gaming Night co-chair.

Nikki McLucas is a past CREW Network scholarship recipient. As part of her \$5,000 scholarship, she received a one-year paid CREW Charlotte membership, a paid internship at CBRE and complimentary admission to the CREW Network convention. She was a student member of CREW Charlotte for three years before joining the organization as a working professional. After earning a master's degree in accounting last August, McLucas is a member of the tax accounting staff at Elliott Davis, where she prepares returns for real estate clients.

“During the three years I was a student member, I attended conventions in Miami, New York City and Houston where I engaged with local and national members and received industry training and insight,” McLucas said. Thanks to CREW, she was able to begin cultivating her own professional network while still a student.

Event proceeds support local scholarships for students at the undergraduate and graduate level pursuing a career in commercial real estate at the UNC Charlotte Center for Real Estate and Queens University of Charlotte. CREW Charlotte gives additional money to the CREW Network Foundation, and that organization awards multiple scholarships annually.

Casino and Gaming Night tickets are \$100 per person for CREW members and \$125 per person for non-members. A “high roller” ticket is available for an additional \$25 and includes an additional drink ticket and play money vouchers. Visit crewcharlotte.org for event details and tickets. Raffle tickets are \$10 each, and five tickets are available for \$40. Prizes include a three-night stay (a \$900 value) in a luxury mountain cabin in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

CREW Charlotte's fundraising efforts have raised over \$160,000 since 2004. Co-chair Megan Shaw says CREW members – who have been successful, in part, through the organization's networking opportunities – always enjoy being able to pay it forward. "Besides, LaCa is a cool venue, there's always great food and it's just a fun night."

More About CREW Charlotte

CREW Charlotte is a chapter of CREW Network, with the mission of transforming the commercial real estate industry by advancing women globally. Founded in 1989, CREW Network is the premier resource and referral network in commercial real estate. More than 10,000 CREW Network members represent nearly every discipline within the commercial real estate industry globally and have a presence in more than 70 major markets. For more information on CREW Charlotte, visit crewcharlotte.org.