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NEWS RELEASE

Mentors to Guide the Next Generation of Business Leaders

Scott Wylie – First Western

Margaret Kelly – RE/MAX

Bahman Shafa – Focus Property Group

October 2, Denver – Three prominent business leaders will serve as Presenting Mentors for the 17th annual YouthBiz Stars business competition and gala, which is the largest youth business competition in Colorado. Benefitting Young Americans Center for Financial Education and presented by CoBank, this year’s event will be held at Denver’s Seawell Grand Ballroom on Thursday, October 4, 2018.

This year’s elite mentor group includes Scott Wylie, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of First Western; Margaret Kelly, retired CEO of RE/MAX; and Bahman Shafa, President of Focus Property Group. With a wide variety of business accomplishments and experiences, the group has much to offer aspiring young business men and women. Wylie has spent 31 years in the banking and finance industry, founding a number of banks for establishing First Western 14 years ago. Kelly successfully led RE/MAX through the “uncharted territory” of the 2005 housing crash, and by the time she retired in 2015, Kelly led 120,000 agents world-wide. Shafa manages retail stores, GreenBox Self Storage facilities, real estate investment, and the Enterprise Coworking Space in Five Points.

“Our mentorship program creates an exciting opportunity for both mentors and the youth businesses they advise,” said Richard E. Martinez, Jr., President and CEO of Young Americans Center. “Youth have the chance to gain valuable business advice from their seasoned mentors, while the mentors have the opportunity to support and encourage the future drivers of Colorado’s entrepreneurial economy.”

About YouthBiz Stars and Young Americans Center

Spotlight on YouthBiz Stars is a business competition and dinner event fundraiser that benefits the programs of Young Americans Center for Financial Education, a nonprofit charity that reaches more than 67,000 youth every year through hands-on programs and real-life experiences to develop financial literacy in youth. Event sponsors include Xcel Energy and Great West Financial.

Visit www.yacenter.org to learn more about Young Americans Center’s programs which include Young AmeriTowne, International Towne, YouthBiz, and Young Americans Bank, the only FDIC insured real bank in the world designed specifically for young people (age 21 and under).

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