



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CONTACT:

Amy DeCamillis

720-244-0200

[amy@denverbiztechexpo.com](mailto:amy@denverbiztechexpo.com)

**Denver Biz Tech Expo Partners with Denver Scholarship Foundation**

**Expanding the Women in Technology Scholarship**

**Denver, CO, September 19, 2018** – The Denver Biz Tech Expo (DBTE) and Platte River Networks are proud to announce a partnership with the Denver Scholarship Foundation (DSF) and the Colorado Women’s Chamber of Commerce (CWCC) to benefit the Women in Technology (WIT) Scholarship at DSF.

The Denver Biz Tech WIT Scholarship was created in 2013 in partnership with Platte River Networks to assist and motivate young women from Denver Public Schools to pursue degrees in technology. This new alliance between four Colorado organizations will help grow and strengthen the WIT Scholarship, which is dedicated to high school senior girls who will soon pursue college. To date, the new alliance has generated over \$11,000 in new scholarship funding, the largest annual raise in the 5-year WIT Scholarship history.

The technology industry in the United States is growing rapidly and the disparity of men to women working in the field is surprisingly getting wider. A great need exists for more educated and certified professional women in the field. “The lack of women working in the technology industry is a direct result of fewer women studying technology in school,” stated Amy DeCamillis, Director of the DBTE. “We have to break this unfortunate cycle by empowering young women to overcome gender stereotypes in both school and society and help them pursue degrees in technology. We need more female role models in the field for young girls to follow in their footsteps.”



DSF is committed to closing long-standing educational and economic achievement gaps through college access and success. “Thanks to community partnerships like the one we have with DBTE, Platte River Networks and CWCC we are able to support students and families with tools, resources and aid that make College Possible,” shares Lorii Rabinowitz, Chief Executive Officer for DSF. “We are so excited to support our Scholars who are working toward completing their STEM degrees. We also know that it takes more than financial resources for students to succeed and persist to and through college. Our unique approach that provides college advising and support services beginning in high school and extending through college competition is the key to the success of the students we serve.”

DSF has changed the life trajectory for more than 6,300 Scholars since its founding in 2006. This strategic investment in the community has provided \$38 million in scholarships to graduates who attend some of Colorado’s most prestigious universities, community and technical colleges.

“I cannot think of better partners to help advance women in business than DSF, DBTE, and Platte River Networks. Creating partnerships with organizations of this caliber will absolutely help make critical changes for women in the workplace,” says Kristen Blessman, President and CEO of the CWCC. “And this type of change is truly needed in Colorado. Less than 14% of CEO positions are held by women and Colorado is nearly last in the nation for number of women on publicly traded boards of directors. And for female entrepreneurs, the statistics are staggering. Nationally, less than 2% of women-owned businesses reach over \$1 million in revenue. Through this partnership, we’ll create a pipeline of young women who will change this reality.”

“We are always looking for talented women to fill our technology positions,” said David DeCamillis, Vice President of Sales & Marketing of Platte River Networks. “Unfortunately the number of female applicants we receive is very small. We helped create this scholarship with the Denver Biz Tech Expo in order to help fill that void and now with awesome partners at DSF and the CWCC, we can make a bigger impact.”

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### **About the Denver Biz Tech Expo**

Denver Biz Tech Expo presents: “Simplify Your IT” on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Mile High Stadium. “Simplify Your IT” will feature industry-leading technology software, hardware, service, cloud and security providers helping Colorado companies reduce the complexity of their IT and streamline their business. For eight years, the Denver Biz Tech Expo has provided technology companies a platform to showcase their most advanced technology solutions striving to help companies operate more successfully in today’s competitive global marketplace. Over 1,000 attendees include: C-Levels, business owners, executives, directors, managers and IT professionals across all industries. Please visit [www.denverbiztechexpo.com](http://www.denverbiztechexpo.com) for more information.

### **About the Denver Scholarship Foundation**

Denver Scholarship Foundation (DSF) is a 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to inspire and empower Denver Public Schools’ (DPS) students to achieve their college goals. A direct service provider, DSF provides college and financial aid advice to Denver students and families and offers a renewable, need-based scholarship to support Scholars throughout their college careers. DSF also partners with colleges across Colorado to implement retention strategies that help Denver students complete their college education. DSF aims to create systemic change to prepare Denver’s youth to succeed in today’s evolving workforce. For more information, [www.denverscholarship.org](http://www.denverscholarship.org) or connect with us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

### **About the Colorado’s Women’s Chamber of Commerce**

Since its inception in 1988, the Colorado Women’s Chamber of Commerce has fostered an environment that supports members’ business needs and celebrate successes. The Colorado Women’s Chamber of Commerce provides opportunities and visibility for women in business through relationship development, education, mentorship, partnership and alliances. Visit [www.cwcc.org](http://www.cwcc.org) for more information.

### **About Platte River Networks**

For the past 16 years, Platte River Networks, a technology consulting and managed services firm based in Denver, CO, has provided complete IT services to small-mid-enterprise businesses throughout the United States, with a prominent presence in their home state of Colorado. Their depth of expertise and commitment to quality has resulted in hundreds of diverse clients across a variety of industries. Platte River Networks provides infrastructure design, procurement, implementation, monitoring and management including security, help desk, projects and virtual CIO services. [www.platteriver.com](http://www.platteriver.com)