



CENTRAL CALIFORNIA
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



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**WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ANNOUNCES 2023 KEYNOTE:
ACTRESS, MODEL, AUTHOR, PHILANTHOPIST, CEO – BROOKE SHIELDS**
www.ccwc-fresno.org

Fresno, CA – At Wednesday's Nené Casares Celebration of Service Grant Reception hosted by Central California Women's Conference (CCWC), the CCWC Board announced that world-renowned actress, model and advocate; Brook Shields; will keynote this year's event.

Tickets for the [34th Central California Women's Conference](#) go on sale Thursday, June 15. This day of inspiration, empowerment and growth is the largest women's event in the region and will be held from 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2023 at the [Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center](#).

Brooke Shields has spent her life in the spotlight. At the young age of 14 she was America's Sweetheart, but that didn't spare her the difficulties and insecurities faced by so many. In a conversation that deftly navigates between heartfelt and humorous, Shields talks candidly about her career trajectory and life in the public eye, living with an alcoholic parent and her own experiences as a mother. Audiences will find her story resonates with their own lives as Shields talks openly about finding the mental and emotional strength to live life to the fullest.

Brooke Shields began her modeling career at 11 months old in an Ivory Soap commercial. As a 14 year old model, Shields was the youngest fashion model ever to appear on the cover of *Vogue* magazine. That same year, she appeared in the now-famous, controversial Calvin Klein jeans ad. By 16, she had become one of the most recognizable faces in the world. As a model, Shields has graced the covers of hundreds of magazines, most notably as *Time Magazine's* "Face of the Eighties." Today, Shields continues her prolific career on screen and stage, as a best-selling author and an advocate for women and the arts.

In April 2023, Hulu released the documentary ***Pretty Baby: Brooke Shields***. Unsparingly honest, the film explores Shields' journey from from a sexualized young girl to a Princeton graduate, mother, and advocate who has embraced her identity and voice.

In October 2022, Shields launched her own podcast with iHeart. *Now What? with Brooke Shields* dives deep into the world of redos, resets, and forward fails: from career pivots and personal missteps to moving through grief (or just plain moving on). She sits down with authors, experts, and celebrity guests to hear their 'now what?' moments and learn what they've done (or are still doing) to get through it.

In 2021, Shields became a first-time CEO after founding "Beginning is Now," a growing global community of women of all ages finding strength, wisdom, optimism, humor, and so much more in each other, all while learning to live their fullest lives — on their own terms.

Shields also serves on the board of WIN, an organization dedicated to providing housing, services and programs to homeless women and children in NYC. In her personal life, Shields continues to be a strong advocate for women's issues and keeping the arts alive in schools. She is the happily married mother of two beautiful daughters.

"Brooke Shields is a survivor, a force, and a person our attendees can truly find a way to relate to!" says CCWC board president, Teri Amerine. "Brooke Shields is a real win for the Central California Women's Conference and the Valley as a whole!"

The theme of this year's CCWC is *Believe in Your Voice*. Attendees will be reminded to value themselves, follow their passion and have the confidence in their convictions.

In keeping with the Believe in Your Voice theme, the morning Warm-Up Session will feature local changemakers who use their voice and passion to make a positive impact on Fresno County.

Conference attendees choose three [breakout sessions](#) to attend throughout the day from 21 options. Topics include career development, health and fitness, money and finance, relationships, courage, service and activism, and strength and change. "Each year our team really looks and listens to the needs of the community," said Amerine. "This year's lineup is sure to offer something for everyone. CCWC offers a day of information, networking, fun, a little 'retail therapy' and maybe a few surprises for the hard-working women of this Valley."

Attendees also have the opportunity to visit the conference Marketplace and Community Corner where more than 175 businesses and nonprofits share information about their products and services. Visitors will be treated to samples, gourmet tastings, information, and shopping.

This fulfilling day will come to a close with the newly dubbed After Party where women enter to win prizes, relax and have a laugh with this year's speaker Nancy Norton, RN. Norton is a

Registered Nurse who now heals with humor. The Award-Winning comedian draws material from everyday life experiences such as growing up in a big Ozark family, the 4th of 3 wanted children, working as a Registered Nurse, spending months in Nepal adopting her son and then being a single “Stay AWAY from home mom.”

Like last year, this year's event is expected to be an exceptionally early sellout. Tickets go on sale on Thursday, June 15, and are \$125 each. Ticket price will increase to \$140 on August 1st. Admission includes continental breakfast, all seminars, the celebrity keynote speaker luncheon and the afternoon reception. Tickets are limited to the first 3,500 attendees. Early registration is encouraged. Visit www.CCWC-Fresno.org for tickets and additional information.

The conference is made possible through the [support](#) of national and Central Valley businesses. The presenting sponsor is Community Medical Centers. The founding sponsor is ABC 30. Saint Agnes Medical Center is the Keynote Speaker Sponsor. Major sponsors include Bank of America; AT&T; Kaiser Permanente, Fresno; Trinity Fruit Company; Fresno State; Fresno Acura; PG&E; CCFMG/UCSF Fresno; The Heart Group; Table Mountain Rancheria; US Bank; Walmart; RiverPark; The Brownie Baker, Inc.; The Fresno Business Journal; Y101; FTB Print & Mail; Univision Radio; Deli Delicious; Pepsi; and many more.

[Sponsorships](#) and [exhibit booths](#) are still available. For sponsorship information contact Karen Franz Karen@ccwc-fresno.org; for exhibit booth information contact Sonya Nagai-Menapace at Sonya@cwc-fresno.org.

More information about the [conference](#) and [speakers](#) is available at www.CCWC-Fresno.org.

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*The **CENTRAL CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE** was founded in 1988 by the late State Senator Ken L. Maddy of Fresno, Calif. The conference is a 501(c) (3) non-profit, non-political organization, and the event is designed to educate, motivate and inspire women to be the best they can be in their professional and personal lives. (Tax I.D. #77-0178140).*