



NAME: Mary Schnack

TITLE: Owner

BUSINESS: Mary Schnack & Associates

STUDENT: Deborah Kakoma

A specialist in communications, Mary Schnack is an award winning writer, business owner and public relations practitioner. Owner of Mary Schnack & Associates, Schnack is a public relations consultant and crisis communications expert. She has helped small businesses, associations and corporations with a variety of public relations needs and speaks on communications and business topics throughout the world. She has presented communications trainings and keynote speeches at conferences in Ghana, South Africa, Indonesia, Greece, Palestine, London, Geneva, Germany, Mexico City, Ukraine, Swaziland, Kenya, Brussels, Washington D.C. and throughout the United States.

Mary is past Chair of the National Association of Women Business Owners' (NAWBO) International Forum. She has focused her businesses over the past years on international work. Mary also started "**Up from the Dust: Supporting the global growth of women microenterprises.**" Up from the Dust brings beautiful handmade products to the U.S. marketplace that helps support and economically empowers women around the world. She imports jewelry, bags, and home decor from women entrepreneurs in developing countries, including China, Afghanistan, Egypt, Guatemala, Kenya, South Africa, Cambodia, India and Ghana, to help them grow their businesses by securing U.S. retail outlets and support their families and community. She sells through women business conferences, the website and home parties.

She was recently awarded an Enterprising Women of the Year award and has also been honored by the SBA as Women Business Advocate of the Year for the State of Arizona and Region IX, The International Alliance for Women Inaugural World of Difference 100 Awards, Advertising Working Mother of the Year Trailblazer Award and Member of the Year for Women Impacting Public Policy.