



## 2016 Olympic Bronze Medalist Fencer, Ibtihaj Muhammad, to be Keynote Speaker at the 2018 WIN for KC Women's Sports Awards Celebration

KANSAS CITY, MO (September 20, 2017) – The Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City (WIN for KC) is excited to announce that the keynote speaker for the 2018 WIN for KC Women's Sports Awards Celebration presented by Burns & McDonnell will be Ibtihaj Muhammad.

Muhammad is an American sabre fencer who won a bronze medal in the Team Sabre at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio. With this achievement, she became the first female Muslim-American athlete to earn a medal at the Olympics. Muhammad also made history as the first Muslim-American woman to compete in the Olympic Games for Team USA while wearing a hijab. She is ranked No. 7 in the world individually and won gold with Team USA at the 2014 Senior World Championships.



"We are absolutely thrilled to host Ibtihaj as our keynote speaker for the 2018 Women's Sports Awards Celebration," says WIN for KC Director Lisa Diven. "She has crashed through barriers of all kinds and truly understands how sports can positively impact the lives of women and girls. We can't wait to host her in Kansas City and to learn more about her incredibly inspiring, and eye-opening, journey."

In addition to winning an Olympic bronze medal in 2016, Muhammad took home gold in the 2005 USA Fencing Junior Olympic Championships. She is a three-time NCAA All-American (2004, 2005, 2006) and earned dual Bachelor's degrees in International relations and African-American studies from Duke University.

The WIN for KC Women's Sports Awards Celebration presented by Burns & McDonnell is the largest celebration of National Girls and Women in Sports Day in the country. This annual event recognizes women and girls throughout the community who are making a difference through sports. It is a key fundraising initiative to support WIN for KC's mission to ignite girls and women through advocating and promoting the lifetime value of sports and fitness, while providing opportunities for participation and leadership development.

The 24th annual WIN for KC Women's Sports Awards Celebration presented by Burns & McDonnell will be held Wednesday, February 7, 2018 in the Grand Ballroom at the Kansas City Convention Center. The 2018 luncheon co-chairs are Mary Buschmann, Executive Director, USTA, Missouri Valley Section and Rebecca Sommers, Fitness Creative Lead/Senior Copywriter, Garmin International.

Individual tickets are now available online. To inquire about table sponsorships, please contact WIN for KC Director Lisa Diven at [ldiven@sportkc.org](mailto:ldiven@sportkc.org). For more information about the award categories and to [nominate](#) a candidate for consideration, please visit [www.winforkcluncheon.org](http://www.winforkcluncheon.org).

114 West 11th Street  
Suite 300  
Kansas City, MO 64105

P: 816.474.4652  
F: 816.474.7979

[WINforKC.org](http://WINforKC.org)

