

Ann V. Sahlman

Ann V. Sahlman was chairman and founder of Sahlman-Williams Public Relations & Marketing. She specializes in senior executive counseling, strategic planning, public relations consulting, communications policy, issues management, public relations program development and implementation, management, and donation/fund-raising program development.

During her 45-year career, Ann has specialized in communications and public relations counseling for chief executives and other senior officers of large, complex organizations. Because there is always a communications component to every major business and strategic issue, she uses her extensive knowledge of communications strategies and media to develop creative solutions to achieve a client's business objectives. Strategic positioning and knowledge of the special communications needs and points of view of senior executives are her specialty.

Ann's career began at the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (Tampa International Airport). She served as senior public information officer for Tampa General Hospital, assistant to the president of TECO Energy responsible for community relations, education and corporate contributions and as the first staff director for the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center. After founding the firm, she has worked with and has been recognized by major corporate and professional clients for her communications expertise and ability to build long-standing client relationships, a remarkable achievement in a "turn-over" business.

Ann received her bachelor's degree in advertising from the University of Florida, graduating cum laude. She has served on more than 17 boards and counsels such as Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, Florida Chamber of Commerce, United Cerebral Palsy Foundation, University of Tampa Board of Fellows, and Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center Leadership Gifts Campaign. Additionally, Ann was appointed by Tampa mayor, Pam Iorio, to a four-year term on the Public Art Committee for the City of Tampa.

Ann has won several awards including Who's Who in Leading American Executives, Who's Who in Public Relations in the U.S. and Canada, Finalist in the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award For Community Service and the Florida Hospital Association Public Relations Award. She has most recently served as Strategic Communications Counsel for the David A. Straz Performing Arts Center, one of the largest centers and conservatories in the United States.

Ann is on the Board of Trustees of ASOR, an international organization of 2,000 archeologists, historians, teachers, institutions and public members who's work focuses on the broader Middle East and North Africa. ASOR is the flagship organization for archeology, history and cultural studies. It enables archeological research and the highest ethical peer review standards to be maintained even in this war-torn and political diverse region.