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**Local Business Woman Named As Winner for the  
Make Mine a Million \$ Business™ Seattle Event**

*~ 8 regional entrepreneurs chosen for financing, mentoring, and  
other prizes to help catapult their businesses' revenue to a million dollars~*

**Seattle, WA** – June 11, 2008 – Business growth program, Make Mine A Million \$ Business selected **Ann-Marie Archer** of **Archer & Associates** as one of the 8 winners of an awards package at the Seattle event on June 11, 2008 at Fisher Pavilion. The exciting event featured entrepreneurs from Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana and Oregon who competed for business development packages that include money, marketing, mentoring and technology assistance to help their businesses grow into million-dollar enterprises. The event also included educational and network opportunities in addition to keynote speeches by Governor Chris Gregoire and Special Guest Nely Galan, Founder, GaLAN Entertainment.

Described as a cross between “The Apprentice” and “American Idol,” the competition provides the sixteen finalists the opportunity to present their business in a 3 minute “elevator pitch” to a panel of business experts and a live audience. Eight winners were chosen by the audience and judges who collaborate on the selection process, including Ann-Marie Archer of Archer & Associates in Redmond.

As President and Founder of Archer & Associates, Ann-Marie Archer brings 20 years of expertise in recruiting, team building, and consulting to Seattle’s technology firms.

Her mission in doing business and in leading her own team of top professionals lies in her passion to build healthy companies through strategic planning and value-added implementation. Her impeccable integrity & commitment to quality has brought tremendous success to both her business and clients, and now it's time to take the model to the next level.

Archer & Associates is a Recruiting Process Outsourcing firm that goes beyond traditional agency recruiting to implementing a complete model for long-term recruiting and hiring success. They drive emerging businesses by hiring their high impact teams quickly, painlessly, and economically.

Their distinctive "in-sourced" business model is unique because they offer a customized framework that is delivered by a seasoned human resources team that works onsite to develop the clients' employment brand. Upon completion of the project, Archer consultants have trained internal staff, modeled best-practices, and built customized tools to enable the client to continue to be successful in hiring well into the future. They do this all for a significantly lower cost than any other contingent search firm, making Archer & Associates a genuine business value.

Finalists will receive several of the key components of the Make Mine a Million \$ Business awards package that will help their businesses break the million-dollar barrier, which includes inspiration, community, business coaching and mentoring from a "dream" team of coaches and business experts from Count Me In, and select discounts from national sponsors.

Launched in 2005 by Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence and founding partner American Express OPEN, the Make Mine a Million \$ Business program was created to help post-start up, women-owned businesses grow to one million dollars in annual revenue. Since the inception, the program has hosted 15 competitions in cities around the country and grown into a nationwide movement. For the Seattle event, over 200 applications were submitted in hopes of securing one of the sixteen finalist openings.

"We thrilled by the eagerness of women in Seattle and across the nation to participate in this event," said Nell Merlino, founder and president of Count Me In. "The number of applicants mirrored the growth of our entrepreneurs' businesses and their desire to take them to the million dollar level."

The Make Mine a Million \$ Business program has garnered support from organizations who are all joining hands in order to make an impact in women's lives and strengthening the US economy. The impressive list of blue-chip national sponsors includes American Express OPEN, AIG, Cisco, FedEx, Jet Blue, Marriot, and Dell. Sponsors provide an array of products and services that serve as invaluable tools for growth.

For more information about how women can grow their businesses please visit

[www.makemineamillion.org](http://www.makemineamillion.org).

### **About Count Me In**

Count Me In for Women's Economic Independence is the leading national not-for-profit provider of resources, business education and community support for women entrepreneurs seeking to grow micro businesses to million dollar enterprises. Count Me In launched the Make Mine a Million \$ Business to inspire one million women entrepreneurs scale their businesses to a million dollars in revenue by 2010 by providing tools, skills and the support of a nation-wide community of peers.