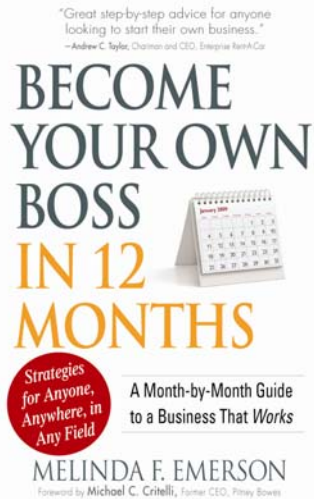


For Immediate Release:

**Contact: Melinda F. Emerson, 610-352-0680 o 610-256-8719 c
Melinda@melindaemerson.com**

Win a Year of FREE Business Coaching From Melinda Emerson “SmallBizLady”



January 5, 2010 Philadelphia, PA -- In celebration of the release of her first book, **Become Your Own Boss in 12 Months: A Month-by-Month Guide to a Business That Works** (Adams Media, March 2010) Melinda Emerson has decided to offer one lucky business owner the opportunity to be coached weekly personally by her.

If you are an early stage entrepreneur with one year or less in business, or someone looking to start a business in 2010, this opportunity is for you. One of the main selling points of her book is the Emerson Planning System, Melinda’s innovative method for starting a successful small business.

In addition to FREE one-on-one coaching, the selected business owner will receive an autographed copy of

Melinda’s book *Become Your Own Boss in 12 Months*, plus the workbook, her life planning journal, and her Audio CD: *10 Things You Must Never Forget in Business*. This is a once in a life time opportunity worth over \$25,000 to a start-up business. You supply the energy, the idea, and elbow grease—and **SmallBizLady** supplies the plan.

To enter, entrepreneurs should submit an essay of **500 words or less** explaining why they want to be an entrepreneur, including their basic business concept, and a 100 word biography. Entrants should also provide a headshot, email address, website/blog, and any social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn) in their contact information. No purchase necessary to enter. Coaching with Melinda will be 50 minutes a week for 50 weeks. The winner will be required to blog weekly about their entrepreneurial journey.

Submissions are due to Melinda@melindaemerson.com by 5pm on February 5, 2010. The winner will be selected by March 5, 2010.

About the Author:

Melinda F. Emerson “**SmallBizLady**” is a seasoned entrepreneur, professional speaker, and small business coach who. Her areas of expertise include small business start-up, business development and social media. She also hosts #SmallBizChat weekly on Twitter. She is the founder and CEO of Quintessence Multimedia, an award-winning strategic communications firm. She has created productions for such companies as Johnson & Johnson, Verizon, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Comcast. Emerson was named one of the Top 50 Women in Business in Pennsylvania, one of Top 30 Leaders of the Future by Ebony magazine and the Philadelphia Business Journal/National Association of Women Business Owners gave her the Woman of Distinction Award.

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