

## FHWien der WKW Honors Christiane Wenckheim as “Business Icon of the Year”

The Vienna University of Applied Sciences honored the Chairwoman of the Ottakringer Supervisory Board with the new award and presented Alumni Awards to nine graduates.

*Vienna, December 2, 2024* – FHWien der WKW offers its graduates the best career opportunities in the business world. This year, for the 16<sup>th</sup> time, nine alumni were brought on stage and presented with an Alumni Award, exemplifying the diverse career paths that a degree from the university, which specializes in management and communication, opens up.

On November 28, 2024, the newly opened Hotel Imperial Riding School in Vienna provided the glamorous setting for the award ceremony. 150 guests, including other top alumni of FHWien der WKW as well as representatives from the university and the business world, gathered for a very special awards night. The evening was hosted by ORF presenter Madeleine Gromann.

### Premiere: special award “Business Icon of the Year”

The invited guests enjoyed a premiere this year: The special award “Business Icon of the Year” was presented for the first time. Christiane Wenckheim was honored with this award. She is Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board of Ottakringer Getränke AG and the epitome of a successful entrepreneur.

“We all need role models – even in the workplace. With the special award 'Business Icon of the Year', FHWien der WKW pays tribute to personalities who have achieved outstanding things and whose careers serve as role models and guidance for young talents. I am very pleased that with Christiane Wenckheim we can honor a person who, through her forward-looking leadership, is creating a healthy and modern company for future generations,” says Michael Heritsch, CEO of FHWien der WKW.

### Award for specialists and executives

The awards in the “Professional Achievements” category went to specialists and executives who have achieved national or international success in their industry or field of activity.

The award winners:

- **Bernhard Capek-Krautgartner:** The graduate of the Master's degree program in Organizational & Human Resources Development is HR Business Partner within Global Medicine at Boehringer Ingelheim.
- **Julia Gattringer:** She completed her Bachelor's and Master's degree in Real Estate Management at FHWien der WKW. Her career has taken her into real estate and

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shopping center management.

- **Birgit Würth:** A graduate of the Finance, Accounting & Taxation study program, she is a Tax Partner and Managing Director at Forvis Mazars Austria.

## Award for particularly innovative alumni

In the “Shaping the Future” category, alumni who find forward-looking answers to pressing questions of our time with their way of thinking and their actions were honored.

The award winners:

- **Kerstin Dohnal:** She completed a Master's degree in Leadership in Tourism at FH Wien der WKW. The multiple founder (Destination Development, Conscious Tourism Group e.G.) is also involved as Project Lead at ECPAT International for child protection in tourism.
- **Alexandra Ebert:** The graduate of the Bachelor's degree program in Communication Management is Chief Trust Officer at MOSTLY AI, podcast host and AI and data protection expert.
- **Nikolaus Pabst:** He graduated from the Marketing & Sales degree program. Pabst is Managing Director of the sampling agency Freudebringer and Awardix OG.

## Honoring exceptionally committed alumni

The category “Exceptional Commitment to FH Wien der WKW” recognized graduates who are particularly committed to teaching or research at FH Wien der WKW and thus contribute to the continuous development of the university.

The award winners:

- **Florian Jungniki-Gossy:** The graduate of the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in Journalism & Media Management is Chief Product Officer at the Falter Publishing Group.
- **Michael Neuberger:** He completed the International MBA in Management & Communications at FH Wien der WKW and is now CEO of MN Management GmbH as well as founder and CEO of Sales as a Service FlexKapG.
- **Andreas Raschke:** The alumnus of the Management & Entrepreneurship degree program is an independent management consultant and has been a lecturer at FH Wien der WKW for over 20 years.

## Studies as a foundation for careers

“The fact that many of our graduates are so successful in their careers makes us very proud. For many, their studies laid the foundation for careers in Austria and abroad. With

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the Alumni Award, which we have been presenting for 16 years now, we are putting some of our more than 15,000 alumni in the spotlight,” says FH Wien CEO Michael Heritsch.

## Photos:

Christiane Wenckheim received the “Business Icon of the Year” special award, which was presented for the first time (with Michael Heritsch, CEO of FH Wien der WKW, and presenter Madeleine Gromann).

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The award winners were visibly delighted to receive the Alumni Award.

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## **FHWien der WKW – University of Applied Sciences for Management & Communication**

*FHWien der WKW is Austria's leading university of applied sciences for management and communication. Its Bachelor's and Master's degree programs offer over 2,800 students a practical academic education. Around 900 people complete a continuing education program at the university. Two thirds of the teaching staff come directly from industry. The close cooperation with local companies in teaching and research prepares students optimally for their careers. Since its foundation in 1994, FHWien der WKW has already produced around 15,100 graduates.*

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