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Wendy Kurtz is founder and president of Elizabeth Charles & Associates, LLC, a public relations firm that specializes in helping executives become published authors and paid speakers. An accredited professional and award-winning business expert, Wendy has been helping individuals, businesses and organizations develop and deliver their marketing and communication messages efficiently and effectively for more than 25 years.

Wendy's client list has included *Chicken Soup for the Soul* co-founder Mark Victor Hansen, the late Art Linkletter, military and law enforcement personnel, CEOs and entrepreneurs as well as civic and nonprofit organizations. She has also been a strategic and communications consultant to candidates, both incumbent and first-time, in several successful political races in Central Florida.

Wendy is Chair-elect for the Orlando Chamber, a graduate of Leadership Orlando and a member of the Orlando Economic Partnership's Investor Relations Committee. She also chairs the professional development committee for the Public Relations Society of America's Independent Practitioners Alliance and was recently recognized by her peers with the 2017 Indie Award for outstanding contributions to IPA.

Wendy holds her Bachelor of Science and Master's degrees in Business Administration and is an accredited public relations professional ("APR") and a certified public relations counselor ("CPRC").