December 18, 2018

Gary Shapiro  
Karen Chupka  
Consumer Technology Association  
1919 S. Eads St.  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Gary and Karen,

I’m pleased to let you know CES has been awarded a [Gold Stamp of Approval](https://www.genderavenger.org) by GenderAvenger for the strong gender balance, including women of color, among the featured speakers at this year’s conference. We appreciate such a positive response to the events of last year.

The following statement will be published on our blog.

**CES Wins Gold Stamp of Approval from GenderAvenger**

*Diverse lineup of keynote and featured speakers for 2019 Show includes 45% women, 60% of whom are women of color*

GenderAvenger congratulates the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) on achieving a Gold Stamp of Approval for its 2019 lineup of keynote and featured speakers. GenderAvenger reserves the Gold Stamp for those events which feature more than 40% women speakers, of whom at least 50% are women of color.

GA founder Gina Glantz says, “We want to recognize the responsiveness of the team at Consumer Technology Association and CES for acknowledging problems with their previous speaker lineups and changing the numbers. As of this writing, the list of CES keynoters consists of 45% women, 60% of whom are women of color, and the entire featured speaker list is 50% men and 50% women, 62% of whom are women of color.

This means CES has gone from having an abysmal gender balance at their last event to being awarded a GA Gold Stamp of Approval for CES 2019. We applaud the organizers of CES 2019 and the effort they put in to correct the absence of women’s voices at their 2018 event.
We look forward to a time when organizations meet GenderAvenger’s standards without the necessity of public shaming. As CES has shown, it’s really not that hard.

We want to thank our community and all the many advocates for gender diversity for their strong voices of protest and to acknowledge CES' progress.”

GA is about the number of women's voices heard on stage. There's more to creating a welcoming and diverse event for women. Even at this year’s CES there could well be reports of sexism.

GenderAvenger counts women's voices because we believe more women on stage means more women being acknowledged for the power of their perspectives and experiences which translates into greater respect. And along with respect comes the prospect of diminished abuse. We are pleased that CES has taken the first step towards improving the environment for women in the public arena, and in society more generally. This isn't the end; this is the beginning.

We expect CES to continue to feature and promote women’s voices. There is no returning to past inequities. CES has set expectations and the GenderAvenger community will watch to make sure they continue to achieve gender balance at their public events. Because it is good for society and good for business.

Sincerely,

Gina Glantz
Founder
GenderAvenger