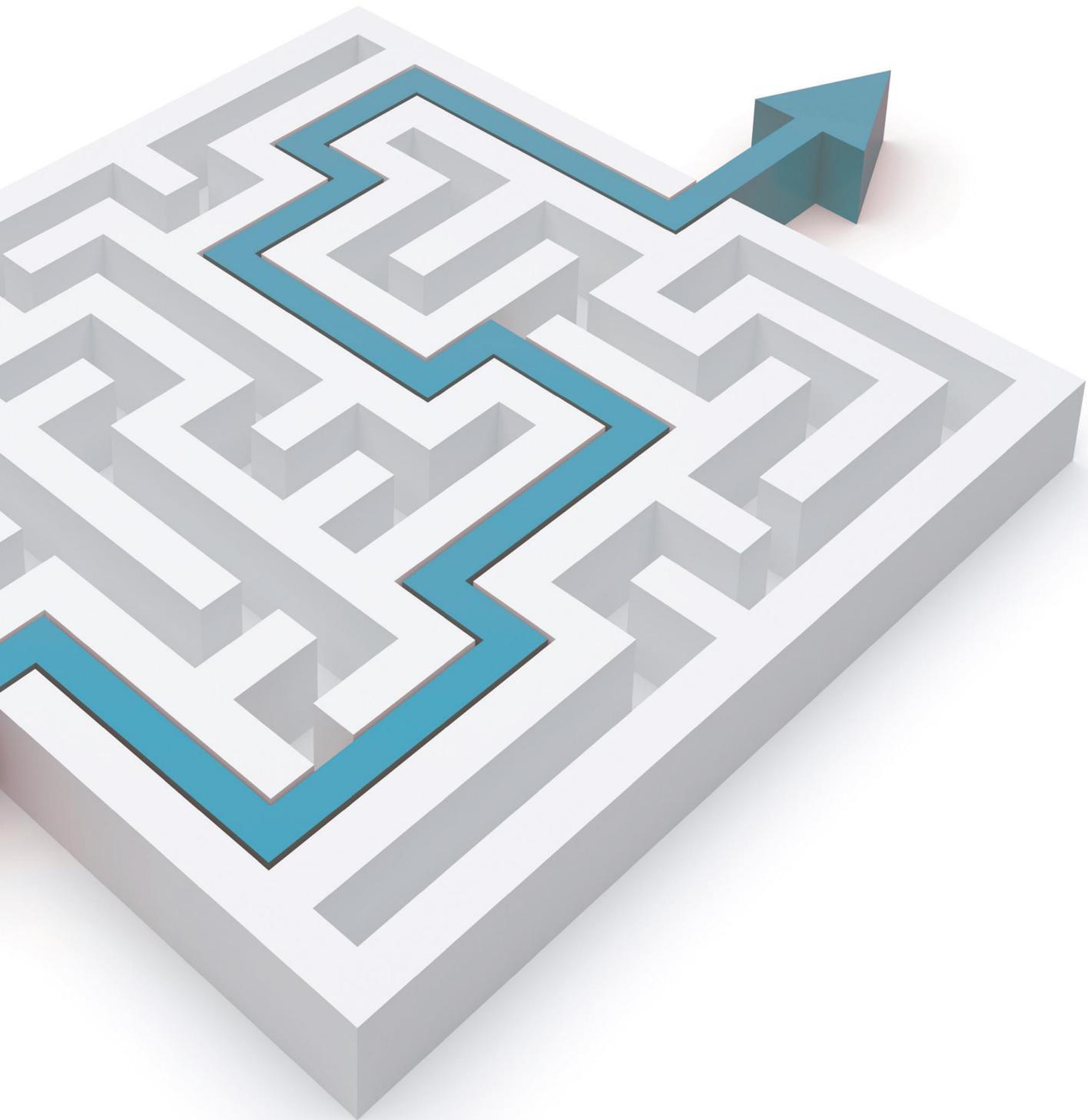


The Bower Forum





*“The only training
for being a CEO, is
being a CEO”*

Marvin Bower
McKinsey & Company
1933 - 1995

The Bower Forum is a unique platform to counsel and learn from fellow peers. The forum was initially designed for new CEOs who aim to build lasting legacies of outstanding performance and who share a willingness to exchange ideas in a candid, confidential setting.

In response to the feedback received from more experienced CEOs as well as chairpersons who miss having a similar forum, we started to offer additional programs.

We now organize over 20 forums a year including programs for new and experienced CEOs, CEOs of family-owned businesses and for chairpersons.

Participation in the Bower Forum is by invitation only.

The Bower Forum

Program Overview

The Bower Forum concept

Bower Forums are a 2-day peer-to-peer discussion session for a small group of 4-5 leaders accompanied by their McKinsey Partner. The forum is led by a highly respected and experienced former CEO or chairperson with an excellent record of leading a global organization.

Participants have the rare opportunity to engage in a candid dialogue between peers in a private environment and to discuss aspirations and challenges of their role as a leader.

They will leave the forum with an expanded network of peer leader relationships as well as McKinsey Partners who can all act as independent sounding boards on your way forward.

The Bower Forum format

The Bower Forum is designed for experiential learning based on peer-to-peer interactions complemented by topic-specific deep-dives. The deep-dive sessions are tailored to the needs of those attending. Participants will have ample time and thought partnership to apply insights to their personal aspirations and challenges. Topics often discussed include for example, driving organizational performance and health, developing strategy, strengthening governance, transforming the top team or managing stakeholders.

The Forum is set up as a field-and-forum program, with participants having the option to work closely with their McKinsey Partner before, during and after the 2-days workshop. Also allowing them to engage with their McKinsey Partner to translate workshop learning's into practice and generate momentum on key initiatives.

The Bower Forum participants

Bower Forums are designed for distinctive leaders who share a willingness to exchange aspirations and challenges of their role in a candid dialogue between peers in a private environment. Small groups of 4-5 peers are assembled based on similar levels of experience deliberately going beyond industry and geographic boundaries. This ensures the opportunity to learn from leaders across industries and geographies and minimizes the risk of any conflicts of interest that would harm openness and trust.

The Bower Forum faculty

The Bower Forum is jointly hosted by McKinsey senior Partner(s) faculty and an experienced chairperson / (ex-) CEO, including for example: Bruno Pfister (Rothschild Bank), Daniel Vasella (Novartis), Ian Davis (Rolls Royce), Jim Owens (Caterpillar), John Plant (TRW), Lynn Elsenhans (Sunoco), Peter Olson (Random House), Rolf Dörig (Swiss Life/Adecco), or Yasuchika Hasegawa (Takeda) amongst several others.

“A unique opportunity to have open, honest discussions with peers”

“The opportunity to learn from peers and a seasoned CEO in such an intimate setting is truly unique“

The Bower Forum programs

We offer different Bower Forum programs to address the specific situation and context of individual leaders.

Bower Forum for CEOs

This program targets new and experienced CEOs and is co-hosted by an experienced CEO or chairperson and McKinsey Senior Partner(s) with a strong background in leadership development. Discussions include topics like your mandate as a CEO, how to build an effective top team, how to effectively collaborate with your board or your personal growth as a CEO.

Bower Forum for CEOs of Family-owned Businesses

This program exclusively targets CEOs or Chairs/ owners of family-owned businesses to discuss dynamics, challenges, and opportunities specific to their situation. Discussions include topics like skills and capabilities required to address and manage different generations, how to enable effective succession planning and to ensure the right governance.

Bower Forum for Chairpersons

This program is for chairmen and chairwomen only and is co-hosted by an experienced chairperson and a McKinsey Senior Partner(s) who leads our work in the boards / governance area. Discussions include topics like clarification of the mandate between the board and management, how to effectively collaborate with your CEO, how to effectively lead your board team and personal growth aspirations.

Bower Forum – Special topics

Additionally, the Bower Forum offers a variety of “special” programs like deep-dive programs for past Bower Forum participants, mindfulness program, as well as regional variations in specific languages (e.g., in Spanish, Japanese and soon Chinese).

The Bower Forum offering

We offer over 20 Bower Forums a year across the globe. For further details and an overview of latest offerings please contact your McKinsey Partner.

“Only a few hours into the program, I identified four specific to dos“

“Candid feedback to the point we could let our guard down & address the real problem”

“Excellent program to share and gain insights from peers, with concrete counseling on potential areas of concern”

