Maria Cucciniello is the founder of The Hip Event and the Marketing Executive for Luxury Brands.

The Hip Event is a full-service public relations, event planning and lifestyle marketing agency specializing in fashion and beauty; hospitality, dining and nightlife; entertainment and media.

In addition to being a successful entrepreneur, Maria has vast experience as a marketing executive with companies such as Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, and Hugo Boss.

As a young, driven Italian American woman, Maria is an inspiration to women everywhere, and the EHIAC is proud to honor her as our 2012 Italian American Woman of the Year.