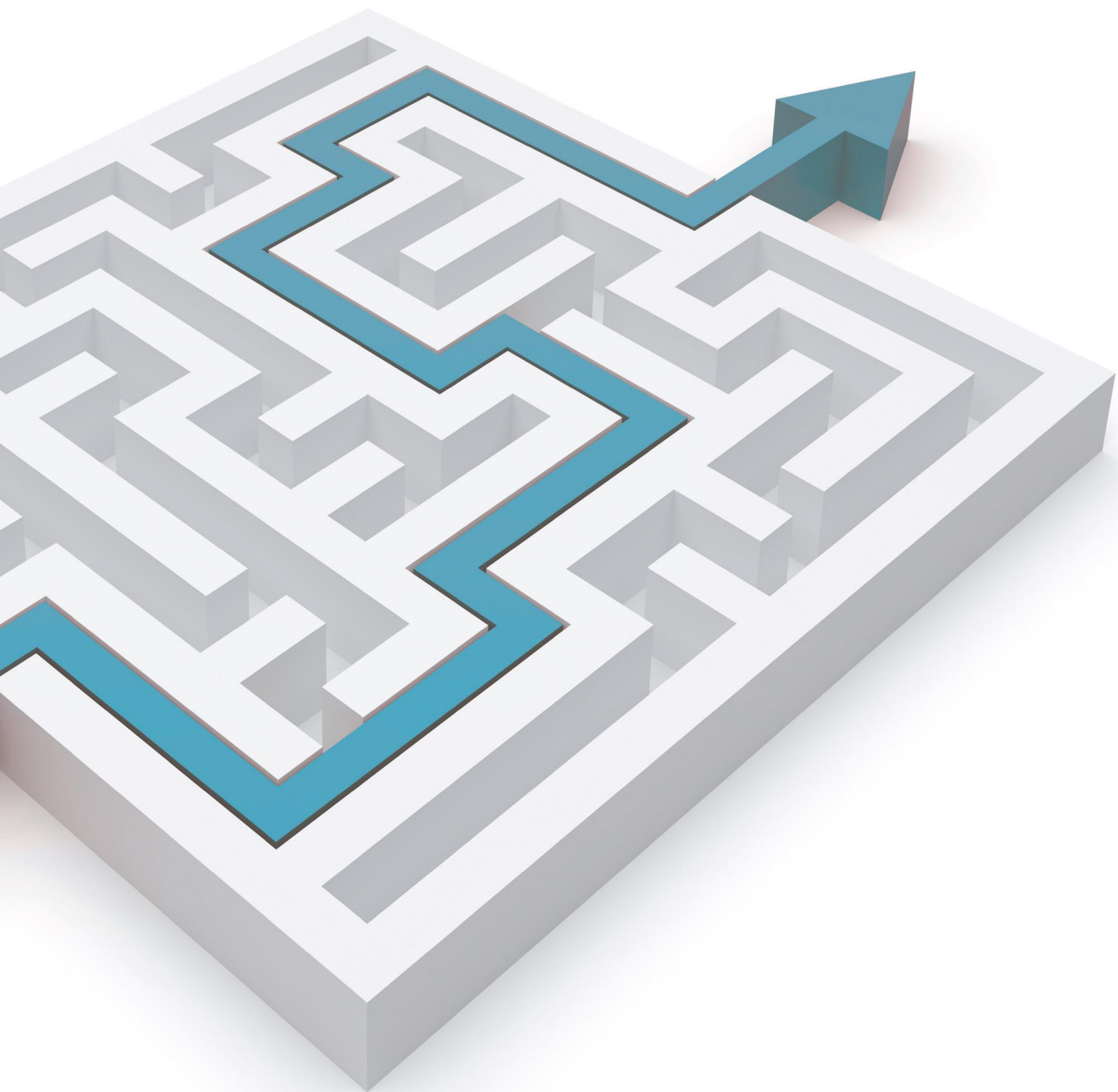


The Bower Forum





*“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 for new or 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 peers accompanied by their McKinsey partner. The forum is led by a highly respected and experienced CEO or chairperson with an excellent record of leading a global organization. You have the rare opportunity to engage in a candid dialogue between peers in a private environment and to discuss your aspirations and the challenges of your role as a leader. And, you will leave the forum with an expanded network of peer relationships with other leaders as well as McKinsey senior 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 breakouts. The breakout sessions are tailored to your needs, you will have ample time and thought partnership to apply insights to your 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, you will have the option to work closely with your McKinsey senior partner before, during and after the 2-days workshop. You will be able to engage with your McKinsey senior 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 Director(s) and an experienced chairperson / (ex-) CEO, including for example: Bruno Pfister (Rothschild Bank), Daniel Vasella (Novartis), Ian Davis (Rolls Royce), Klaus Kleinfeld (Alcoa), Lynn Elsenhans (Sunoco), Marcel Rohner (UBS) or Rolf Dörig (Swiss Life/Adecco) 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 or experienced CEOs and is co-hosted by an experienced CEO or chairperson and McKinsey Senior Director(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 Chairpersons 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 Director(s) who lead 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 Deep Dive programs for past Bower Forum participants as well as regional variations in specific languages (e.g., in Spanish, Japanese and soon Chinese).

The Bower Forum offering

We offer over 18 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”

