



# Newsletter

April 2021

[www.iwfmichigan.org](http://www.iwfmichigan.org)

*IWF members are trailblazers, innovators, and influencers united to advance women's leadership and champion global gender equity.*

## President's Message:



Dear IWF Michigan sisters,

March was International Women's Month and many of you were highlighted,

featured and honored! It's nice to have a month dedicated to lifting up contributions women are making, but as one young woman said to me –“why just a month? Aren't we worth the whole year?”

I hope many of you had the chance to attend at least some of the 2021 IWF Virtual Cornerstone Conference: Change in the Face of Challenge. I had the fun of hosting a dine around, as did Anne Doyle and maybe others? I've come to believe there is no such thing as an uninteresting IWF dine around – so many incredible women and so little time to get to know them!

Unfortunately, the deaths of six Asian women in Atlanta brought us all back to reality, and reinforced that there is still so much work to do. Your IWF board will take up a discussion at our April meeting of how IWF Michigan can mobilize to create a community where hate and prejudice have no place, as we prepare for our membership meeting in May.

Be sure you have our April 7 meeting on your calendar. Talk about 3 powerhouse women – I officially declare April Michigan Women's Month as well!

See you next week!

*Carolyn*

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## 2021 Upcoming Events

**“Women  
belong in all  
places where  
decisions are  
being made.”**

**-Ruth Bader  
Ginsburg**



Please join us for a virtual panel discussion on April 7, with Linda Hubbard, Kathleen Ligocki, and Lashinda Stair on Women's Leadership.

**“Leading Over Time: Building our Personal Brands, Overcoming Leadership Challenges, and Redefining the Journey.”**



**Linda Hubbard**

President & COO,  
Carhartt, Inc.

**Kathleen Ligocki**

Serial CEO &  
Philanthropist



**Lashinda Stair**

1<sup>st</sup> Asst Chief of Police,  
City of Detroit Police  
Department

[Click here to register for April 7 Event](#)

#### SAVE THE DATES

- **May 5** - Strategic Direction of IWF MI
- **June - Florine Mark Brunch** (Date is TBD)
- **July Dine Arounds** *Need (2) Volunteer Hosts*
- **August Dine Arounds** *Need (2) Volunteer Hosts*
- **September 1, 6:00 pm – Belle Isle Restoration**, In-person event hosted by Sarah Earley
- **October 6 – BasBlue**
- **November 3, 6:00 pm – Leader Dogs for the Blind**, In-person *Pups and Pino* event hosted by Michelle Honomichl
- **December 1, 6:00 pm – Holiday Party** In-person event

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**News & Member Sharing:**

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**Mariam Noland ~**

## **Women Who Lead February Honoree**

Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan President Mariam Noland has dedicated her life to finding and funding philanthropic causes that empower Michiganders to live their best lives.

To hear the full WJR broadcast with **Ann Thomas** [click here](#).

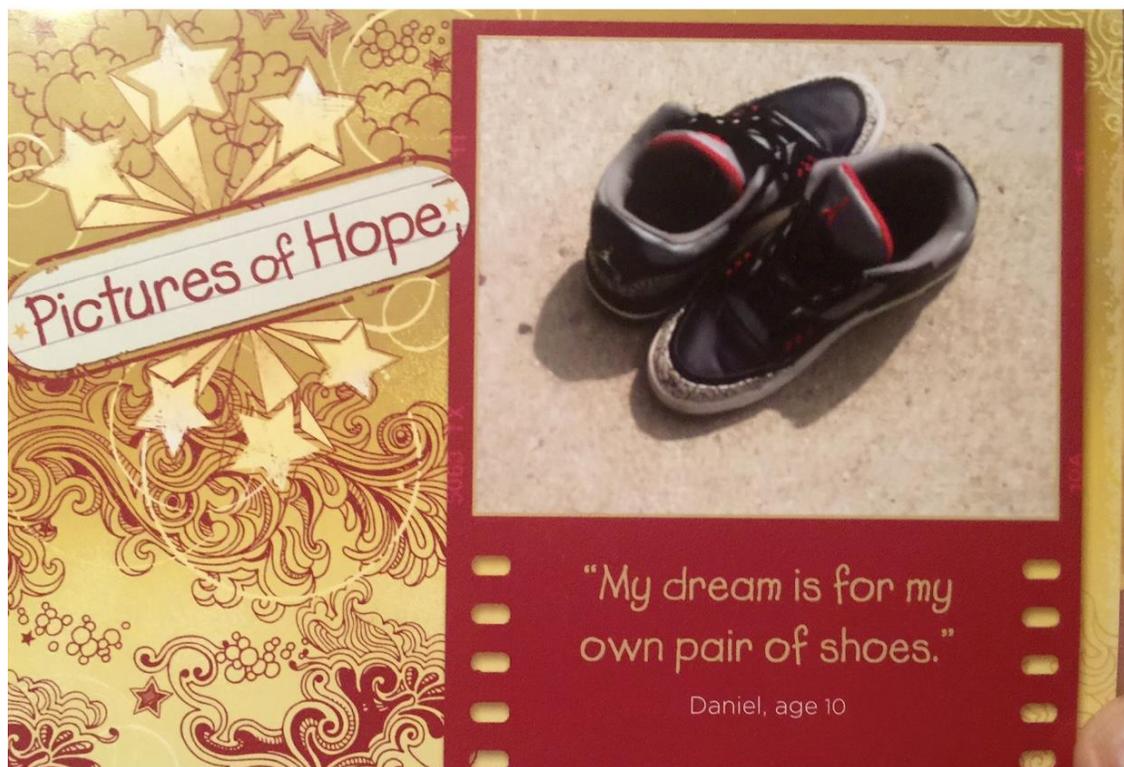
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**Here's how local women are helping other women lift up their small businesses during the pandemic**

(WXYZ): Rebound Detroit was launched nearly a year ago as an effort to help you navigate these trying times, connecting you with the resources to get back on your feet.

In tonight's report, we're taking a look at the resources out there for women-owned businesses on this international women's day, including a look at how one local organization is helping female entrepreneurs not only survive but thrive amidst this pandemic. [Click here](#) to read and watch the full report and **Carolyn Cassin's** contribution..



"So proud! The children of The Boys and Girls Clubs of Tucson will have their poignant PICTURES OF HOPE on exhibition at the prestigious Tucson Museum of Art opening April 8 through July 8," said **Linda Solomon**. "This life-changing experience will provide long lasting self-esteem and confidence for the disadvantaged and homeless children participating in Pictures of Hope. We are very grateful to the W. K .Kellogg Foundation for their very generous grant and to Walgreens for their wonderful donation of digital cameras for each child. The children will continue to photograph their heartfelt hopes and dreams and know they can achieve them!"

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**Ronia Kruse**, President and CEO of OpTech, LLC. was honored with the Distinguished Citizen Award presented by the Great Lakes Division, Boy Scouts of America on March 4, 2021.

Ronia was recognized because she has led her life in a "Scout-like" manner and has increased awareness of Scouting in our community. "I believe so strongly in giving back, especially as a business owner. Companies have a responsibility to the communities in which we live and work. When we help

one person, we provide them with the ability to help others, and then those people help others, and so on. Eventually that one good deed has perhaps resonated with thousands of people,” said Ronia Kruse of her desire to volunteer and give back to the Boy Scouts and the community.

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**Mary Kramer** and **Denise Lewis** have joined the Board of Directors of the Michigan Opera Theater, which now will include **five** IWF members: **Julia Darlow**, **Lorna Thomas** and **Ellen Hill-Zeringue**. And the guest speaker for the first board meeting in March? Another IWF member, **Rochelle Riley**, director of arts & culture for the city of Detroit!



**Mary** reports that after stepping into a new role at Crain in January and with her 8-year term on the Grand Valley State University board expiring at the same time, she has more time for other board work, notably the new **MiBank** in Bloomfield Township and another arts group, **Cabaret 313**. An investor in MiBank, she was attracted by the experience of the principals at the Bank of Birmingham (since acquired by the Bank of Ann Arbor), including a woman president – Jenny Meier – and two women loan officers in the commercial lending department!

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**Patricia Maryland** was selected to join the Board of Surgery Partners, Inc. (NASDAQ:[SGRY](#)) effective March, 2021. Headquartered in Brentwood, Tennessee, Surgery Partners is a leading healthcare services company with a differentiated outpatient delivery model focused on providing high quality, cost effective solutions for surgical and related ancillary care in support of both patients and physicians. Founded in 2004, Surgery Partners is one of the largest and fastest growing surgical services businesses in the country, with more than 180 locations in 30 states, including ambulatory surgery centers, surgical hospitals, multi-specialty physician practices and urgent care facilities.

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The MichBusiness (formerly Michigan Business and Professional Association) congratulates **Rochelle Riley** on her nomination for induction into the prestigious Michigan Business Women Hall of Fame.

The criteria for this honor includes women leaders who have not only had significant business success, many at a global level, but who have also made Michigan a better place to live and work through their efforts. Their contributions are significant and will impact future women leaders for generations to come. Many have been honored before, but their continued success and drive to improve the lives of others merits this prestigious honor.

The induction ceremony and awards celebration will be on Thursday May 13 from 1-2:30 pm.

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**Patricia Mooradian**, President and CEO of The Henry Ford, recently announced two new exhibits opening in Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation. On March 6 the museum opened *Louis Comfort Tiffany: Treasures from the Driehaus Collection*. This show features more than 60 exquisite objects, spanning over 30 years of Tiffany's prolific career and runs until April 25.

On March 27, the museum opened the much-anticipated *Driven to Win: Racing in America Presented by General Motors*. This permanent, state-of-the-art exhibition fully immerses guests in the thrilling and innovative history of auto racing in America. Spread across 24,000 square feet, *Driven to Win* focuses on racing through the lens of innovation and features 23 of some of the most significant and iconic race cars, 225 artifacts and a new, state-of-the-art, multisensory theater that showcases an adrenaline-pumping film created especially for this exhibit. In addition, six driver simulators will put guests behind

the wheel of some of the fastest cars on the most challenging tracks throughout the world.

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"I am very excited to share that this past Friday, March 19, 2021, which is National Residency Match Program Day for all fourth year medical students across the country provided outstanding news for my daughter, Allison Etling," said **Mary Lynn Foster**, Regional CEO – Michigan Region American Red Cross.

"She is a fourth year and soon to graduate student at the Indiana University School of Medicine who matched to her first choice for her dual Residency in Internal Medicine & Pediatrics at the University of Louisville where there were only 5 slots available nationally for this specialty. Even though we were disappointed that Match Day had to be virtual, we were thrilled to be by her side in our hotel room with her when she received the news!

Above are a few photos including her Match photo right after receiving the news and at our celebration dinner that evening. So proud of this soon to be female leader and MD!!" said Mary.

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## **Celebrating Women's History Month: 'This is our time ladies!'**

(WXYZ) — As we continue to celebrate Women's History Month and highlight the achievements of dozens of amazing women throughout metro Detroit, Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan is too.

7 Action News Reporter Andrea Isom introduces us to a pair of trailblazers committed to helping other women reach their potential and live their dreams.

Meet **Linda Orlans**, Founder and Executive Chair of Orlans Associates PC, and **Carla Walker-Miller**, Founder and CEO of Walker-Miller Energy Services.

Congratulations on all of your amazing accomplishments and may your stories inspire others! [Click Here to watch.](#)

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## **2021 IWF Michigan Board of Directors**



Carolyn Cassin  
President



Shirley Stancato  
Vice President



Beth Chappell  
Treasurer



Pam Reid  
Secretary



Dr. Betty Chu



Beth Gotthelf



Donna Inch



Denise Lewis



Kim Pittel



## **Upcoming IWF Global Conferences:**

There are two global conferences each year with *outstanding content and women leaders from all over* the world in attendance. Each Fall IWF global members gather in North American (US or Canada), and each spring on another continent.

We encourage all our members to attend a global conference. Because this year's global conference is virtual, it is easier (and more cost-effective!) than ever to experience the richness of this Global Sisterhood you are now part of.

- **IWF WLC Dine Arounds - October 28, 2021**
- **Virtual World Leadership Conference - November 3, 2021**
- **Santiago, Chile - 2022 IWF Cornerstone Conference – May 18-20, 2022**
- **Las Vegas, NV - IWF World Leadership Conference - November 2-4, 2022**
- **Detroit, MI - World Leadership Conference - October 4-6,,2023**
- **New York - 2024 World Leadership Conference – May 15-17, 2024**
- **Seattle, Washington - 2025 IWF World Leadership Conference - May 21-23, 2025**

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## **IWF Global Member Portal**

We encourage you to use this platform to reach out to IWF members.

[members.iwforum.org](https://members.iwforum.org). To take part, begin by logging into the portal and creating your profile. For any assistance with logging in or any questions, please contact [iwf@iwforum.org](mailto:iwf@iwforum.org).

If you have not done so, please update your member profile on the [IWF Michigan Website](#) -- [www.iwfmichigan.org](http://www.iwfmichigan.org)

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**Reminders:**

Newsletter items are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. Please keep submissions to no more than two **short** paragraphs. Email: [pdalrick@comcast.net](mailto:pdalrick@comcast.net)

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