

### 2017/18 Member Events:

- **December 6 - Holiday Party @ 6-9:00 pm** – We will celebrate together at the [Detroit Yacht Club](#) on Belle Isle. Members are free and guests are \$55. It will be a festive event with a beautiful display of richly decorated Christmas trees. There will be a lovely buffet dinner and a cash bar.

We ask participants to bring a donation for the food bank and/or toiletries for a donation to Alternative for Girls.

- **January 13, 7-9:30 pm**– Celebration of the Coming Year - Drinks and Desserts Gathering – IWF-Michigan Members and Spouse, Life-Partner or Significant Other are invited for drinks and desserts at the home of **Laurie Horiszny**, 1041 Greentree Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. Evite.com forthcoming.
- **February 7** - Possible behind-the-scenes tour of a new Detroit venue.
- **March 7** – Panel of speakers to focus on national defense to include the President of Women in Defense. Location: tbd
- **April (Saturday – date tbd)** – Florine has agreed to again host her marvelous luncheon.
- **May 2** – Beth Gottfhelp, Carolyn Cassin & Amy Good are coordinating a program on Human Trafficking.

*Please add to your calendars - Member Events normally held the first Wednesday of the month @ 6:00 pm.*

### Highlights of November 1 Marygrove College Event:



The education panel consisting of Alycia Meriweather, Susan Rowe, and Denise Mallett, representing traditional public K-12 schools, an independent Catholic High School, and public K-12 schools, an independent Catholic High School, and higher education, provided their perspectives on the state of education in metro Detroit today. While each panelist offered comments to her specific area of engagement, a consensus emerged around those factors having the greatest impact on the success of our schools. Student poverty, student social and emotional needs, teacher numbers and quality, and community investment in education were deemed to have the highest priority for attention. Unless and until these factors are taken into consideration, we will continue to see Michigan losing ground when compared to other states, when measures of educational quality are discussed.



Thanks to **Dr. Glenda Price**, president emeritus of Marygrove College, for organizing the panel.

## Did You Know???



**Lois Cohn**, owner/director of Artspace II in Detroit, designed **Hold The Phone** in partnership with Alternative for Girls. The handy cell phone tote is being sold on the Detroit Institute of Art website. This endeavor is accomplishing more than making

wonderful products—the women are learning marketable skills, self-respect and a productive future. [Click here to order.](#) Would make great holiday gifts.



**Faye Nelson**, Vice President DTE Energy, board chair and President of the DTE Energy Foundation is leaving DTE to pursue a teaching opportunity at

the University of Michigan and to continue her public board career, effective January 2018. With this change Nelson, a former board member of Detroit based Compuware, will have more time to pursue other board positions/opportunities, and continue to support initiatives to identify women for public board seats such as the Deloitte *Board Ready Women* program for which she is lending her public board expertise.



**Suzanne Mallare Acton** will be conducting “*Too Hot To Handel*” at the Detroit Opera House on Saturday, December 16 at 7:30pm. A holiday tradition too hot to miss! This soul-

stirring, toe-tapping rendition of Handel’s Messiah never fails to bring audiences to their feet. It’s an exhilarating fusion of gospel, jazz and classical music performed by the Rackham Choir, the Too Hot Orchestra and an all-star cast of soloists. This is a celebration unlike any other! Click here [for tickets and more info:](#)



The Engagement Committee, chaired by Board member **Tina Abbate-Marzolf**, has developed a member

survey so your voice and feedback can be heard! It will be distributed soon. Please take the time to respond.

## News & Member Sharing:



**Carolyn Cassin**, President and CEO, Michigan Women’s Foundation, and **Nancy Philippart**, General Partner, The Belle Michigan Fund, have just launched the Belle Michigan



Impact Fund, an early stage venture fund that invests in women founded/led businesses. Women entrepreneurs are hugely underserved. Although women start over 40% of businesses, they receive only 7% of venture funding. Minority and immigrant women leaders receive less than 2% of capital invested. Yet women create businesses with greater capital efficiency and companies with gender diversity in C suite and boards produce superior financial & product results. The Belle Michigan Impact Fund, like its predecessor, the Belle Michigan Fund, will continue to make sustainable impact on the women's entrepreneurial ecosystem here in Michigan and other communities. If you'd like to learn more, please contact either Carolyn [ccassin@miwf.org](mailto:ccassin@miwf.org) or Nancy [philippartn@gmail.com](mailto:philippartn@gmail.com).

Working to aid women starting businesses in Michigan, **Carolyn Cassin** and the Michigan Women's Foundation hosted its “Shark Tank” Dolphin Tank event, listening to 10 businesswomen pitch their plans and awards \$36,000 to women’s businesses. [Click here](#) to read more.



On Saturday October 28, The Michigan Council of Women in Technology hosted its 15th annual Scholarship Fundraising Gala at the Ford Conference and Event Center. Carey Pachla, President of MCWT (center) recognized **Blanca Fauble** as

one of the founders (2nd left) for having the foresight 15 years ago to start an organization that today supports women entering and staying in the technology field through education, mentoring and scholarships.

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Longtime Crain Communications executive **Mary Kramer** has been named group publisher of *Crain's Chicago Business* and *Crain's New York Business*, adding to her role as group publisher of sister business publications in Detroit and Cleveland. Kramer, joined the company in 1989 as editor of *Crain's Detroit Business*.



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General Motors contributed \$5 million to The Henry Ford. In recognition of this historic gift, **Patricia Mooradian**, President and CEO of The Henry Ford announced that the flexible gallery space in Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation will now be known as The Gallery by General Motors. The gift will allow The Henry Ford to deepen its community impact with innovative experiences and new exhibitions and programs in Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation.



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**Patti Poppe**, president and CEO of CMS Energy and Consumers Energy, was the keynote speaker at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Lakeshore Athena Award Presentation and Inforum's West Michigan Capstone Dinner. She encouraged all in attendance to tap into their passions, make a positive impact on their communities and to not be afraid of being "the first" when it comes to doing purposeful work.



## President's Message:



Dear IWF MI Sisters,

**We've had quite a year!** We have welcomed 19 new members, growing our SE Michigan IWF sisterhood to 101 influential and respected women leaders who share a commitment to advancing women and girls. We've begun strategic planning for the 2020 IWF Global Conference, when we will host over 1,000 women leaders from all over the world in Motown. And more of you are beginning to experience the richness of the IWF network by attending a global conference.

But most importantly, we've had great programs, including intimate dine-arounds in members' homes, which are all helping us to get to know one another and build relationships that will enrich our personal and professional lives.

Thanks to **Ruth Holmes** for nominating me years ago (3 or 4 times before I was admitted!), I have been a member of IWF for over 20 years, and have attended 14 global conferences. The friendships I have made and the insights I have learned from inspiring, courageous women – from our own chapter and multiple continents – have enriched my life immensely. I encourage you to "mine the IWF gold." It's worth every minute you invest.



**Michigan IWF's Profile Growing.** Excitement is beginning to build in the national and global IWF network about the 2020 Global Conference to be held in in Detroit October 7-9, 2020. GM CEO Mary Barra gave us a high-profile boost when she was honored at the *2017 Breakfast of Champions* hosted by the NY-IWF. While accepting the Muriel Siebert Award that annually recognizes a single company and CEO for advancing women on corporate boards, Barra told the NY audience of over 600



business leaders, “GM has been a long supporter of IWF, and I invite you to come to the Motor City when we will host the 2020 global conference.” In the photo with Mary is NY-IWF president Carolyn Carter, the 2018 co-chair of the IWF President’s Council. Live-streamed video of the event is posted on NY’s IWF website (scroll to 2:48:33 to see Mary’s remarks). <https://www.conference-board.org/2017breakfastofchampions/>

**500 Ways to Give Thanks.** I attended multiple events in the last few months where our IWF-MI members were speaking, honored or making a difference in multiple ways. One of the most amazing and unexpected was the discovery of Sandy Pierce’s Thanksgiving tradition. As if she doesn’t have enough to do as Huntington Bank senior executive vice president, Sandy bakes 500 pies for the needy and her friends. Sandy’s family and IWF member Beth



Chappell (in photo) were all helping when I picked up my pumpkin, apple and

chocolate pies! Thank you, Sandy.

**Sexual harassment/assault. Of course, my answer is, Yes, #MeToo.** Any woman who has been in the workplace as long as I have, particularly during the decades of the late 20th Century when women began integrating previously all-male work environments, can match me story for story on the gender harassment we have endured. You too, no doubt.

When the first, big scandals broke -- Fox Network paying \$45 Million and firing founder Roger Ailes, followed by the Harvey Weinstein legacy that rocked Hollywood -- I thought our national attention span would move on quickly and nothing would change. But I've changed my mind. As the flood of lewd and obscene stories of harassment and assault continues to spew from a national Pandora's box that has finally

burst wide open, I'm convinced we have truly arrived at a moment of cultural reckoning. It's been a long time coming. Here's the [interview I did](#) this week on state-wide radio in Michigan.

I’m thinking this could be an important topic for one of our 2018 programs. What interests me most now isn't "outing" everyone. It's how to use this painful purging to begin new conversations across gender lines. This iceberg of an issue is bigger and deeper than most of us imagined. But we need to probe its sharpest edges if we ever hope to create dynamic workplaces where all human talent can thrive. It could be a powerful conversation for one of our 2018 gatherings. Would love to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Happy Holidays.

*Anne*

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## More Michigan women pushing through the glass ceiling, new report shows, but slowly

When it comes to equality and women in C-suite and board positions at Michigan’s largest 100 publicly-held companies, it’s been a slow go over the last decade, according to the 2017 Michigan Women’s Leadership Report, just released by INFORUM and Wayne State University.



Multiple IWF Michigan members were quoted in the [Detroit Free Press](#) article on the benchmarking report,

including: **Nancy Schlicting**, retired President and CEO of Henry Ford Health System, **Suzanne Shank**, Chairwoman & CEO, Siebert, Cisneros, Shank & Co., LLC., **Leslie Murphy**, President and CEO, Murphy Consulting; **Faye Nelson**, Vice President, DTE Energy and Board Chair and President, DTE Energy Foundation, and **Lisa Payne**, immediate past Vice Chairman and CFO for Taubman Centers, and **Denise Ilitch**, CEO of Ilitch Enterprises.

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## IWF Global Member Portal

Have you tried the new IWF Member Portal? [members.iwforum.org](http://members.iwforum.org). We encourage you to use this platform as an online venue to reach out to IWF members from across the globe.

To take part in the conversation, members should begin by logging into the portal and creating their profiles. To fill out your profile, please watch the video tutorial below or follow the enclosed written instructions. For any assistance with logging in or with any questions, please contact [iwf@iwforum.org](mailto:iwf@iwforum.org).

[Video tutorial \(portal summary\)](#)

**pw: iwforum**

[Video tutorial \(detailed narrated version\)](#)

**pw: iwforum**

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## Reminders:

If you have not done so, please update your member profile on the IWF Michigan Website:

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

Newsletter items are due by the 15th 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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## IWF Conferences:

We encourage all our members to attend a global conference. It will open your eyes to the tremendous richness of the IWF network and membership. There are two global conferences each year with outstanding content and women leaders from all over the world attending both; each fall in North American (US or Canada); each spring on another continent.

### Upcoming IWF Conferences:

- **Melbourne, Australia, May 2-4, 2018**
  - **Miami, October 24-26, 2018**
  - **Barcelona - April 10-12, 2019**
  - **Toronto - November 13-15, 2019**
  - **Vienna - May 2020**
  - **Detroit - October 7-9, 2020**
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