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# Your IWF Idaho News

*October 2023*

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**President's Message**



Dear IWFI friends:

Thank you very much for being a member of IWF of Idaho. Together, we develop and grow from IWFI opportunities to *Learn, Mentor, Support, and Connect*.

I was so honored to represent IWFI at the President's Council meeting and gatherings in Detroit at the 2023 World Leadership Conference and Gala themed What's Going On? It was inspiring to be there with IWFI sisters to share this unique experience. Special thanks to Global Ambassador, LeeAnne Linderman; Program Chair, Evelyn Self; and Board member, Peggy Goldwyn for joining over 700 leaders from 22 countries who together reflected on how creativity and culture shape our economy and our world. We delved into crucial topics such as artificial intelligence and its implications for the future of humanity, the evolving landscape of transportation and its impact on climate, as well as the profound influence of our environment on our brains and bodies, even before birth.

One of the most significant takeaways for me was recognizing the immense value we gain as members of this extraordinary global network of leaders. As we reflect on the 10-year milestone that IWFI celebrated in August of this year and anticipate the 50th anniversary of IWF Global in 2024, I am filled with deep gratitude to be associated with such an exceptional group of women - both here in Idaho, within our country, and across the world.

I am eager and excited to collaborate with each of you in fulfilling our mission of advancing leadership and championing equality. Together, through meaningful partnerships and

compelling programs, we will continue to enhance our organization for the betterment of our Idaho members.

Sincerely,  
Janet L. Gallimore  
President

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## **Please applaud IWFI leaders for state and national recognition**

Congratulations to Jeanne Herberger, Philanthropist and President, Herberger Enterprises Inc. who received the 2023 IWF Women Who Make a Difference award in Detroit!

Since 1987, the Women Who Make a Difference Awards have celebrated the tremendous accomplishments and contributions that IWF members have made to their communities and the world. The awardees' contributions form an exemplary role model for women's progress and highlight the impact of the IWF network around the world. Read more about the awardees [here](#).

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Congratulations to IWFI President Janet L. Gallimore, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer of the Idaho State Historical Society and Dr. Marlene Tromp, President of Boise State University, for exemplifying leadership, making a difference across our great state, and supporting others while doing so, as featured in Idaho Business Review's "Power List: Industry Influencers" [here](#).

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## **Events**

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### **Dr. Cheryl O'Brien: The Lonely Engineer**

***Tuesday, November 14th***

***5:30 p.m.***

***On Zoom [here](#)***

Join us to hear how Cheryl chose a career in engineering and the highs and lows of working in a field where women still represent only 15% of the workforce. Cheryl will share research

she has done in the past year on women's employment, median salaries, and the best and worst careers for gender pay disparity. It's these data that inspired Cheryl to form a new nonprofit, Vision for Inclusive Engineering Workforce (VIEW).

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**IWF of Idaho Holiday Gathering: Boise**

***Thursday, December 7th***

***6:00 p.m.***

Join your IWF colleagues for conversation and holiday cheer! Hosted by IWFI President Janet L. Gallimore at her home, 725 East High Point Lane, Boise. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. Look for the upcoming Paperless Post for more details and to RSVP - this event is limited to 30 IWFI members.

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**IWF of Idaho Holiday Gathering: Wood River Valley**

***Thursday, December 14th***

***6:00 p.m.***

Join your IWF colleagues for conversation and holiday cheer! Hosted by IWFI Membership Chair Tricia Swartling at her home, 109 Sunnyside Blvd., Ketchum. Guests are welcome to bring hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Look for the upcoming Paperless Post for more details and to RSVP - this event is limited to 20 IWFI members.

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**IWF 50th Anniversary World Leadership Conference**

***May 15-17th, 2024***

***New York, NY***

In 2024, we will celebrate an idea that has proved powerful enough to circle the globe.

At the World Leadership Conference and Gala, we'll highlight 50 years of women changing the world.

Over five decades, the International Women's Forum and our members have been in the forefront of change—breaking the glass ceiling across professions around the world, proving not only that women lead but women lead differently and gender balance at every level of

leadership makes stronger business, stronger societies and a better world.

In recent years the velocity of change, especially driven by technology, has impacted every country and every sector. It's only fitting that our 50th Anniversary Conference address change and how women at the top are making change a force for good.

Our conference will focus on key sectors that—like IWF—have strong roots in New York but are global forces for change themselves...

- Technology
- Health
- Media

We will also examine how more women at the top are managing change in the workplace and the social agenda for gender equality

Finally, we will explore the business of fashion—how we have evolved from men telling women what to wear to women changing what we buy, how we buy and how we express our beliefs about ourselves and our world in how we present ourselves.

For more information on the conference and sessions, go to the event page [here](#). If you are planning on attending, please fill out the form [here](#).

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### **IWF Global Events**

The IWF Program Passport is your source for upcoming events hosted by IWF on a global level. You can access these events via the [IWF Connect Portal](#). We encourage you to make the most of your IWF membership by taking full advantage of the insightful events available to you from across the globe.

Your membership of IWF also provides you with access to over 7,800 diverse and accomplished women through a network of 74 local forums. IWF has a presence in 33 nations across 6 continents. The IWF Connect Portal has the program passport and other resources.

[Watch the IWF video](#) and [join the IWF LinkedIn group](#).

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## **Past Events**

## 2023 World Leadership Conference and Gala

IWFI members who attended the conference in Detroit share their experiences below.



On October 4, 2023, I had the privilege of representing Idaho at the IWF President's Council meeting. This gathering brought together the IWF Board and over 60 Presidents of local chapters from around the globe. Traditionally, this meeting encompasses a comprehensive leadership report that outlines IWF's financial status and strategic undertakings. It also includes presentations of best practices, success stories, and roundtable discussions where intimate group conversations offer deeper insights into specific topics. I was invited by the President's Council Chair, Ruveni Kelleher, and I was truly honored to lead one of the six Challenge Roundtable discussions, which centered on Membership.

A significant highlight of the meeting was a presentation of findings from the 2023 Global Membership Survey. The purpose of the study is to inform 2024 strategic planning initiatives, capture member demographics, define the most valued benefits, and understand generational and regional differences. The study was done by Ellen Sills-Levy, Founder and Chief Insights Officer, ESL Insights. She is a member of the Women's Forum of New York.

Once the study is released, we will make sure to furnish our members with a link to the complete dataset. I believe you will all find compelling reasons for joining and remaining as IWF members, along with some intriguing general demographic information.

#### Reasons for joining:

Across all generations, the most common reason for initially joining IWF is to be part of a group of top women leaders from diverse professions. Having access to a global network of top women leaders and forming friendships within a leadership peer group rank second and third for all groups.

#### Reasons for staying:

- Being part of a group of top women leaders from diverse professions is also the top reason for continuing membership. Advancing women's leadership is one of the top 3 reasons.
- Forming friendships within a leadership peer group increases in importance as members get older.
- To have access to a global network of top women leaders and new perspectives on professional or personal issues for women round out the Top 5.

#### General information:

- 2202 members completed the survey: with a participation rate of 29%\*  
\* The percentage of responses from the US (61%) is consistent with the composition of IWF membership (63%)
- 74% are in senior leadership roles
- 40% of IWF members are in C-Suite positions holding a broad spectrum of senior industry positions
- Members are highly educated
- Members are affluent – representing significant purchasing power
- Members are professionally diverse
- Racial and ethnic diversity is increasing
- The IWF is attracting younger members

IWF of Idaho will be updating its strategic plan in the spring of 2024 and plans to use the 2023 Global Membership Survey data along with our own IWFI surveys to ensure our Idaho members find the most relevance and value in their IWFI experience.

—Janet L. Gallimore



The 2023 IWF Conference in Detroit was great. It followed the traditional format for all events i.e, the opening reception the first evening, followed by an array of full sessions the next two days.

They showcased Motown by having a local youth band perform at the opening reception, held at the Detroit Museum of Art. The museum was beautiful, housing two Diego Rivera murals as you enter. The band greeted us out front playing music as we disembarked from our buses. It was a fun welcoming as we entered to be greeted by a line up of local IWF members.

The next morning prior to the official program starting we were surprised by a large group of students that performed songs and dance to set the stage for an exciting day.

Our opening keynote was, the Honorable, Gov Gretchen Whitmer. She was revealing and very engaging. The day continued with individual speakers and panels. Every session that I attended was great! I was very excited to hear about the role that technology is playing in mobility for persons with disabilities. Programs were timely, engaging and well executed.

Several groups held receptions at the hotel prior to our dine a rounds after our first full day. I attended the NYC reception to familiarize myself with some of their members that I may see in May when they host the next conference. My dine a round host was lovely, her home was beautiful and our group was very diverse and engaging. The setting was quite



memorable.

The sights that we visited during our behind the scene tours were interesting. Local IWF members join us and were very helpful with questions, history and backgrounds. I visited the Opera House in the heart of town, The interior has that old traditional feeling, it is a beautiful setting to enjoy any opera. You can then walk across the street and watch baseball after. Gala night was magical, hearing Motown tunes that reminded me of my teen years as I watched overlapping generations dancing the night away!

The absolute highlight of the conference was hearing the two Hall of Fame Inductees speak, they were so inspiring and touched us all with their achievements.

The speakers, programs, the gala, tours, receptions, and dine a rounds were interesting and well executed. The bus drivers and staff were friendly and focused on their role.

All the local people that I met were welcoming. Kudos to the Detroit Forum, they executed a great conference, in a city that they are very proud to call home.

—Evelyn Self



How exciting it was to be one of 700 women from across the globe gathering in Detroit for the 2023 World Leadership Conference! We all know the dark history of Detroit's

bankruptcy in 2013—the largest municipal bankruptcy in US history—the population then plummeted with the highest unemployment rate in the country. Such a sad history! But our IWF sisters in the Michigan chapter introduced attendees to the inspiring stories of leaders who would not let their city die and re-built it into a vibrant, growing city.

For me, as the chair of the Leadership Fellows Program Selection Sub-committee, the highlight of the conference was spending time getting to know these extraordinary young leaders beginning their journey together as the newest cohort. A few I will mention are the founder & president of the Institute of Peace & Diplomatic Studies in Pakistan, the Artemis Launch Director at NASA, the CEO of Edelman Canada, the Deputy Director of EHealth Development in Ukraine, and the Director General of the Canadian Armed Forces. All 40 women are already extremely accomplished in their fields but looking to take their leadership expertise to even higher levels through the Leadership Fellows Program. They inspire me!

—LeeAnne Linderman



I have never been to Detroit and had been looking forward to seeing its revitalization since the conference was announced pre-Covid. What I was able to see and experience was even more inspiring than I imagined. Even before the conference opened, Evelyn Self and I organized a day to find out What's Happening, beginning with a wonderful tour of the Motown Museum. We must have spent over 2 hours exploring the rich history and also learning how to dance like The Temptations. This was followed by an auto tour of Belle Isle with a wonderful Uber driver. Connected to the Detroit waterfront by a bridge, it is a huge nature park. Looking through a reedy marsh filled with wildlife, we were impressed by the Detroit skyline: rather than a view of wall to wall skyscrapers, there is open air between buildings and buildings of human scale. Back across the bridge, a new river walk has replaced what had been dockland and warehouses. Trees and sculptures are everywhere. We learned later, during the conference how a strong sense of community and public input was able to bring off what was already impressive, but was still a work in progress.

Setting the tone was an outstanding opening speaker—the Governor of Michigan, the dynamic Gretchen Whitmer. She set a high bar, but everything that followed met it. My “Behind the Scenes” was a tour of street murals, many financed by the city to bring color and vitality to the streets. Because these murals are spread across a wide area, I was able to see much of the areas in which abandoned houses had been reclaimed and renovated. The houses that can't be reclaimed have been removed and pocket parks with grass and trees are everywhere.

In short, this was one of the best IWF Conferences I have ever attended—and certainly the most inspiring in seeing what a community can do when it comes together on all levels.

—Peggy Elliott Goldwyn

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### **Unleashing our Impact: Beena Mannan's Journey of Community Service and Personal Transformation**

Beena Mannan kicked off our series of 2023/2024 events with an incredible Zoom presentation about her life and contributions. Beena's journey is one of service, family, and social entrepreneurship. As an ordinary woman with extraordinary dedication, Beena has served as an elected official in her local Idaho government, raised three wonderful children, and is running three social enterprises.

In her talk, Beena shared her personal experiences of giving back to her various communities. She discussed her time in local government, her role as a mother, and her

involvement in running three impactful social enterprises: the JRM Foundation for Humanity, the Idaho State University Foundation, and the Desi American Woman Network. Be prepared to be inspired by Beena Mannan's story, which demonstrates the power of everyday individuals to create positive change and make a difference in their communities. Watch the video of the event [here](#).

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To watch our chapter's previous virtual events, please visit the website [here](#).

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## IWF Idaho Committees Need Your Help!

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### Program Committee

#### Programs and activities needed!

Our programs are member driven. We rely on you to share and inform us of things that you are engaged in: your work, boards that you serve on, as well as social and civic activities, to name a few. This is one of the ways we get to know each other.

Should you decide to host or present, please be mindful that we have limited resources and time to promote events. It is our hope that we have a good turnout for all activities. Therefore, we ask that you allow us time to publish your event by submitting all the relevant details at least a month in advance of your selected date. This allows for time to produce the Paperless Post and do a follow-up reminder so that our members are informed should they wish to attend.

The check list for submitting an event includes:

- Name of speaker or host
- Title/activity and a brief description
- Type: in person or virtual
- Date, time and location
- Technical needs
- Number of participants you can accommodate (for in person events)

Thank you and we are excited to see you soon!

Evelyn Self  
Program Committee Chair

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## Member Directory Updates

Please make sure to take a look at your bio on the IWFI website's member directory to make sure that it is up-to-date. If you do want to make updates to your bio, send the edits or new blurb, under 300 words, to [Kaley](#) and [Kendall](#) for review and upload.

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## Collecting Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Inclusion Resources

The IWF Idaho Board is in the process of developing and collecting resources to discuss and share regarding diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion in our community and chapter. This may include engaging with experiences as well as resources. If you have any ideas to share, please reach out to one of the board members. We would love to hear from you!

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Send your news on awards, career changes, board appointments and events to [Kendall Nelson](#) for inclusion in upcoming newsletters. Don't forget to use our IWF Idaho Website at <https://iwfidaho.org> for details on [upcoming events](#), [newsletter archives](#), and [contact information](#) for each of our members. If you have any questions or trouble accessing the site, contact [Kendall](#) for assistance. Thanks!

### ABOUT IWF IDAHO

IWF Idaho is the Idaho chapter of the International Women's Forum, an invitation-only, membership organization. In Idaho, we are 63 members strong and globally, there are more than 7,800 diverse and accomplished women from 33 nations on six continents. IWF is dedicated to building better leadership locally and globally.

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