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March 2021

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# **From the President**

March is Women's History month, commemorating and encouraging the study, observance, and celebration of the vital role of women in



American history. March 8<sup>th</sup> was International Women's Day, a global holiday to

celebrate the cultural, political, and social and economic achievements of women throughout the world. The CREW network shares a similar commitment, to challenge the commercial real estate industry in support of women and a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace and world. I participated in several Women's events throughout March and it allowed me time to reflect on the many amazing women who have made an impression on me, personally and professionally. I was also reminded of one particular event which occurred a couple of years ago when a family with two young children moved to our area from South America. One of the children joined my daughter's classroom in the middle of the school year. At the time, he only spoke a few phrases of English and was trying to quickly learn a new language while adapting to new surroundings. My daughter noticed he was sitting alone the first day and realized the language barrier was preventing him from making friends or joining in the group activities and conversations. She began using Google translator to communicate with the student. The two became quick friends, getting to know about one another's personal life, interests, cultures, and sports activities. Seeing how successful the two were communicating with Google translator, the teacher and other students began connecting with the new student in the same manner. Today, the student is well acclimated in the school, competes on the sports teams, and remains close friends with my daughter. A reminder that no act of kindness is too small and being mindful of and celebrating our differences and cultures is vital to opening the conversation and doors to change.

In the spirit of the month-long celebration, I would like to highlight a few recent achievements of some outstanding women within our organization.

Congratulations to <u>Jennifer Bosser</u> (Iredell County Economic Development Corporation), <u>Patty Trepp Drummond</u> (CREW Charlotte), and <u>Lauren Edwards</u> (Brasfield and Gorrie) 2021 Charlotte Business Journal (CBJ) Women in March 24, 2021 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Southeast CREW Chapters Virtual Happy Hour (CREW Members Only) Register Now

March 25, 2021 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. <u>CREW March Lunch Ladder (CREW</u> <u>Members Only)</u> Register Now

March 31, 2021 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. <u>CREW Before Hours - Walking Tour of</u> <u>Camp North End Public Art (CREW</u> <u>Members Only) - IN PERSON</u> <u>Register Now</u>

April 20, 2021 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. <u>CREW Charlotte April Luncheon -</u> <u>"Industrial is BOOMING...and Why it</u> <u>Matters to Everyone</u> <u>Register Now</u>

April 22, 2021 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. **CREW Authentic Leadership Program** Information Session Register Now

April 28, 2021 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. <u>CREW Charlotte After Hours - Meet the</u> <u>2021 CREW Charlotte Board</u> <u>Register Now</u>

# ALL EVENTS ARE VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED



Sadie Carillo Samet Coporation

Katie Gabriel

Business Achievement Award (WIB) winners! Jennifer, Lauren, and Patty will be recognized during virtual CBJ WIB Awards event on March 25th. Our Member Recognition Committee nominates and recognizes CREW Charlotte members for their expertise, influence, and contributions to the commercial real estate industry through local and national award nominations. As of the beginning of March, the Member Recognition Committee has submitted 17 CREW Charlotte member nominations for local and national awards resulting in four members honored as winners, with more to come! If you would like to be nominated for an award or for additional information, please contact the Member Recognition Committee cochairs <u>Hannah Breed</u> (Urban Design Partners) and Carter Jackson (Marsh & McLennan Companies).

At the end of 2020, CREW Charlotte asked its members to complete a survey to help us understand how well we are serving the needs of our members and how the organization can ensure continued value in the years to come. Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide us with feedback. We learned from the survey that our members want more targeted networking, along with smaller networking opportunities. We hear you! Our Strategic Planning Committee is currently developing networking groups to meet your needs and will have more information soon. Additionally, our Membership Committee is revamping the Ambassador Program to enhance the new member experience.

CREW Charlotte and our Education Partner, Northeastern University Charlotte, are honored for the return of the **2021 Authentic Leadership Program**! Join us April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30am – 9:30am for a free informative introduction session. The Authentic Leadership Program, led by our new Program Director, Dr. Dawn <u>Chanland</u>, has been specifically designed for transparent and honest leadership and will include targeted focus on: clarity of authentic self; manage conflict and negotiation; coach and mentor; navigate workplace challenges and opportunities; leadership ability and knowledge; and, personal change, courage, and resilience. Using Gallup's CliftonStrengths 34™ assessment, this program will teach you how to understand and use your strengths to develop your own authentic leadership style. The program will kickoff with a two-day opening session September 9-10, 2021, and then will meet on the first Thursday of each month. It will conclude with a two-day closing session March 3-4, 2022.

I am so proud and grateful to be part of an organization that is transforming the commercial real estate industry by leading the advancement

### Steelcase

Nikki Ricketson Optima Engineering

Sabrena Stabenaw Spangler Restoration

Victoria Taylor Womble Bond Dickinson



Legacy Commercial Real Estate Advisors

Angelica Ritter Gresham Smith

Ginger Rolfes Nelson Mullins Riley and Scarborough LLP

Please contact <u>Patty Drummond</u> with your career updates.



of women globally! I am hopeful our efforts to improve gender equality will continue to create opportunities and pave the way for the next generation of courageous women leaders. As we continue to celebrate Women's History Month, make sure you take time to recognize and thank the women who have made an impact in your life. Over the next few months, CREW Charlotte has many events taking place. I encourage you, in honor of my daughter, to invite someone who is diverse in some way from yourself to one of these events and get to know that person better and introduce them to other CREW members.

# **Highlights**

### CREW

Network has a new app available in the App Store and Google Play store! The

new app



allows you to access CREW Network content, news, events, and membership benefits, including jobs and content, all in one convenient place. Locate CREW members, access forums to connect and send messages and do business. You can also donate to CREW Network Foundation or renew your membership from the convenience of your phone!

Madelyn Furr ECS Southeast



Marsh & McLennan Agency

Click here to read the member spotlights.



Appreciate Gensler thinking of us at Kimley-Horn to help out with some recent parking garage solutions!.

Click here for more deals.



Foundation scholarship applications are now available! CREW Network Foundation will award \$5,000 USD academic

scholarships, paid internship opportunities, complimentary CREW Network Convention registration, and more to 25 female university students this year. Please share this opportunity with any real estate-related program students you know. Applications are due April 15.

Support CREW Charlotte and CREW Network Foundation by **linking your** Amazon account to CREW Network Foundation – donations



through Amazon Smiles will count towards our chapter challenge. You can find out more about this by visiting:

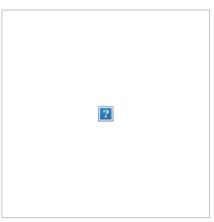
https://crewnetwork.org/foundation/amazonsmile.

East Mecklenburg High School, a CREW Charlotte Outreach Community, is Lease Administrator - Lat Purser Click here for more job opportunities.



Click here for more announcements.

# Thank You to Our Sponsors!





compiling a Career Spotlight Database and

they need your help creating content! If you would be interested in doing a video that talks about how you got to your career, training and education that it took to get there, day to day activities, your industry outlook and any other advice for young scholars you may think of, please send an email to **Dianne Jones** to get started!

Do you have any **news** to share with us about you or your company? Have you won an **award**? Would you like us to **nominate** you for one? If so, please contact **Patty Drummond** with your information.

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## March Virtual Luncheon: Unlocking the Hidden Value of Art and Community Messaging in Commercial Real Estate



Our March luncheon took a deeper dive into Unlocking the Hidden Value of Art and Community Messaging in Commercial

Real Estate. Kathleen Jordan, of Gensler, led a

lively discussion with panelists Carla Hanzal (Arts & Science Council), Jenny Vallimont (Gokatta), and Carla Hickey (ArtPop Street Gallery). Our panelists discussed how Art not only is becoming increasingly valuable as an opportunity for community and corporate messaging, but can also provide unexpected Return on Investments in the process. Process and "how to" information was also shared, including what to include in your project budget.

Click here to read a summary of the luncheon.

# **Thank You to Our Sponsors**

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