

TRADESWOMEN COMMITTEE

BUILDING THE FUTURE

Newsletter | June 2026

SER SISTER SPOTLIGHT: CATHERINE WHITE



Catherine White is making an incredible impact for women in the trades, and recently received the Regents Award for Excellence in Philanthropy from the Tennessee Board of Regents in recognition of that work.

Through her partnership with TCAT (Tennessee College of Applied Technology), Catherine helped create Breakfast with TCAT. This initiative brings women in the trades into the classroom to speak with and encourage students pursuing construction careers. The impact has already been powerful — in April alone, 13 women from the class joined NAWIC.

Catherine's leadership continues to create opportunities, representation, and encouragement for the next generation of tradeswomen.

Congratulations, Catherine, and thank you for helping build the future of our industry!



NAWIC
The National Association of
Women in Construction

Southeast Region




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SPRING FORUM RECAP: CELEBRATING TRADESWOMEN EXCELLENCE

FIRST OFFICIAL SER TRADESWOMEN AWARDS PRESENTED



TRAILBLAZER AWARD
JENNIFER ALVAREZ

Presented to a tradeswoman whose leadership, perseverance, and impact are helping pave the way for future generations of women in the trades.



FIELD FORWARD AWARD
KEISHA BLAIRE

Presented to a tradeswoman demonstrating excellence in the field while actively advancing the visibility and success of women in construction.

The SER Tradeswomen Committee was honored to present the inaugural Tradeswomen Awards during Spring Forum in Knoxville. These awards were created to recognize women who are actively shaping our industry through leadership, mentorship, and excellence in the field.



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PRIDE MONTH: Building a More Inclusive Industry

As we recognize Pride Month, we celebrate the LGBTQ+ professionals helping shape our industry both in the field and behind the scenes.

While exact numbers are difficult to track, estimates suggest LGBTQ+ individuals make up approximately **2% of the U.S. construction workforce**. However, industry surveys indicate that as many as **54% of LGBTQ+ construction workers** do not feel comfortable being open about their identity in the workplace.

These statistics remind us that visibility, respect, and belonging remain important conversations within our industry. Creating workplaces where individuals feel safe, valued, and supported benefits everyone.

The SE Tradeswomen Committee remains committed to fostering environments where all tradeswomen feel seen, respected, and empowered to succeed.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TO SUPPORT THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

- **Date:** June 17, 2026
- **Time:** 1:00 PM ET
- **Hosted by:** Right To Be



REGISTER HERE

Committee Chair Stephanie Rodriguez will be attending this webinar and encourages members interested in creating safer and more inclusive workplaces to join.

GET INVOLVED:

Submit a Tradeswoman Spotlight
Join the Tradeswomen Committee

WE NOW HAVE AN INSTAGRAM PAGE!
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