

TEMPO: 50 Years of Breaking Barriers, Building Leaders

From Handful to Hundreds: Celebrating Five Decades of Women's Leadership in Milwaukee

Fifty years ago, Milwaukee's power structure looked very different. Women, regardless of their talent or credentials, found themselves locked out of the city's decision-making circles. But on February 6, 1975, a small group of enterprising women refused to accept the status quo. They gathered to form the first TEMPO Business and Professional Women's Club of Milwaukee, a bold move that would reshape the landscape for women in business.

What began as a handful of determined women has evolved into Wisconsin's largest professional women's organization, now boasting over 800 executive and emerging women leaders across diverse industries throughout Southeastern Wisconsin. Today, TEMPO stands as a testament to the power of collective

action and unwavering commitment to equality.

Mission-Driven Impact

TEMPO's foundational mission remains crystal clear: to create a society where women hold an equal place in leadership, policy, and decision-making. Through its four core pillars: Connection, Leadership, Mentorship, and Advocacy, the organization continues to empower women to achieve and sustain leadership roles in an ever-evolving business landscape.

TEMPO's signature programs demonstrate the organization's comprehensive approach to professional development. Its Program Meetings feature high-caliber speakers and community leaders, creating lasting connections while delivering actionable insights. The Professional Development Series offers quarterly workshops

covering cutting-edge topics in the workplace.

Mentorship at the Heart

TEMPO's commitment to mentorship runs deep. Nearly 400 members actively participate in Mentor Circles, while the 1-to-1 Mentoring Program has facilitated over 900 meaningful connections between experienced leaders and emerging talent. The annual Mentor Awards, now in its 35th year, celebrates individuals and organizations dedicated to developing others. This year's event alone raised over \$22,000 for the TEMPO Foundation.

Investing in the Future

The TEMPO Foundation exemplifies the organization's commitment to advancing women leaders. Since 1990, the Foundation has awarded more than \$525,000 in undergraduate scholarships

to Wisconsin women and over \$100,000 in professional development grants since 2018. This year alone, the Foundation raised more than \$56,000 from members, corporate sponsors, and community supporters.

Looking Forward

As TEMPO enters its next chapter, its strategic initiatives focus on maximizing member value through intentional engagement, fostering equity and inclusion, and expanding its community impact. The Women's Affinity Alliance continues to support employee resource groups, while the annual Leadership Event draws Milwaukee's movers and shakers for premier professional development experiences.

From its first enterprising women in 1975 to today's 800+ members, TEMPO has proven that when women support women, entire communities thrive.

TEMPO50

For 50 years, TEMPO has stood firm in our mission to advance women leaders. As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary, this year provides a unique moment to reflect on our journey and reinforce our commitment to advancing women's leadership. It's not just about celebrating history - it's about writing the next chapter together to build a strong and successful future for all! We thank our incredible corporate partners who have pledged their support for our next 50 years!

THANK YOU FUTURE 50 CLUB



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



MESSMER HIGH SCHOOL

Messmer High School circa late 1920s.



Messmer High School in 2013.



REACH OUT AND READ WISCONSIN

Founding Medical Director Dipesh Navsaria, MPH, MSLS, MD, with a mom and child at a well-child visit.



1945 WWII ENDS

WWII ending celebrations on Wisconsin Ave circa 1945.



1925 MMSD JONES ISLAND

Milwaukee Metro Sewer Department Facility circa 1925.



POST MILWAUKEE FIRE

Post fire image late 1905 early 1906.



REGAL WARE

Regal Ware office building.



TEMPO

The founding members of TEMPO pose for a photo in 1975.



TEMPO newsletter article noting cost of membership dues and lunch fees at 1977 Program Meeting.



HAGGERTY

Haggerty building.



STAFFING PARTNERS

Before and after paint job at Staffing Partners' 2217 S. 1st Street warehouse.

LOOKING FORWARD



In 2025, Johnson Financial Group will celebrate our 55th anniversary serving as a trusted financial partner to individuals, families, businesses, and communities in the State of Wisconsin. We're proud to be family owned, privately held, and committed to our core values of Compassion, Customer focus, Consistency, and Community.

JIM POPP
President & CEO
Johnson Financial Group



Jacobs has helped shape Milwaukee's growth since the 1970s. Today, our 200+ local experts deliver end-to-end solutions in critical infrastructure supporting the water, transportation and environmental sectors. We're committed to building on five decades of progress and partnering with clients, employees and the community to enhance the Milwaukee of tomorrow!

BOB PRAGADA
Chair and CEO
Jacobs



At Findorff, we're reflecting on our 50th anniversary in Milwaukee with gratitude. From community engagement to shaping the skyline, it's an honor to serve such an incredible city and the place that so many of us call home. Thank you for 50 years of partnership, Milwaukee. Here's to many more!

JIM YEHL
President & CEO
Findorff



TEMPO is proud to celebrate 50 years of advocating and elevating women in our community. We mark this anniversary year with an unwavering stance: a renewed commitment to further the impact of women leaders in Milwaukee – and beyond – as we have done so for the past five decades. The World Moves When Women Rise.

JEN DIRKS
President & CEO
TEMPO



As we look to the future, HAWS continues to lead the community in animal welfare and assure sanctuary for animals. Meeting the community needs, we are increasing compassionate access to veterinary care for owned animals, expanding in shelter experiences for pets waiting for their forever home; together we are supporting a humane community.

MAGGIE TATE-TECHTMANN
HAWS Executive Director
Humane Animal Welfare Society



As Regal Ware celebrates 90 years of innovation and leadership in the premium cookware industry, we remain focused on shaping the future of American manufacturing. Through expanded US and global partnerships, we are committed to delivering high-quality cookware that empowers people and strengthens communities around the world for generations to come.

RYAN REIGLE
Chairman and CEO
Regal Ware



Whether in our theatres, hotels, or communities, Marcus Corporation is committed to delivering exceptional experiences. Guided by a legacy of "people pleasing people," we've grown from a single movie theatre in 1935 to a national leader in hospitality and entertainment. This legacy will continue to guide us as we delight generations of customers to come.

GREG MARCUS
President and CEO
Marcus Corporation



Messmer High School is an innovative Catholic school that lifts its students and community through the Gospel. MHS is on a growth trajectory, offering high-quality educational, trades, and career opportunities while remaining true to our Catholic values. We look forward to serving Milwaukee's northside for another 100 years.

DR. RICH MANNISTO
President
Messmer High School

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

MILWAUKEE
BUSINESS JOURNAL

CELEBRATING
**Business
Anniversaries**

2025

We celebrate Milwaukee
organizations that have reached
significant milestones!

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