



# The Connection

PAST ISSUES | [WWW.NAWIC.ORG](http://WWW.NAWIC.ORG)

March 23, 2021

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## Association News

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### NAWIC announces new Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

We are proud to announce the newly formed **NAWIC Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee**. Our mission is to create a place of peace, safety and support, surrounded by openness and inclusivity in which to grow, dream and simply be.

Committee Chair and National Secretary Kristey Stewart along with Vice-Chair Jennifer Morales representing the Southeast Region have assembled a team of 8 additional NAWIC members from the various regions to represent the intersectionality of our construction industry. In the upcoming months, we will introduce them to you with their responses regarding not only recruiting/retaining members within NAWIC, but also increasing communication and, most importantly, education about DE&I.

As the committee builds momentum, we hope you will also offer your support by way of our four pillars:

**Retention:** Asking our established members to keep an open mind

**Recruitment:** Bringing in new women from our industry for fresh perspectives

**Communication:** Sharing our new endeavors with others

**Education:** Being willing to receive new ideas and incorporate it back into our membership to create an evolutionary movement in the construction industry

### Emerging Professionals Contest



**NAWIC**  
The National Association of  
**Women in Construction**

**2021 EP Contest**

*Have you joined the construction industry or NAWIC in the past three years? We want to hear from you, Emerging Professional!*

*How did you get into the construction industry? How's your transition into the industry?*

*Are you new to NAWIC? How did you learn about NAWIC and how has it helped you?*

*Share your story to receive an entry to win a prize. You do not need to be present to win! One entry per submission.*

*Submit a video or slideshow to earn 5 entries!*

**Prizes: Three \$50 Gift Cards**

**Post to @EPNAWIC Facebook page or email to ep@nawic.org before August 1st**  
**Winners will be announced at Annual Conference. Winners will be randomly selected!**

Sp Adobe Spark

## Interested in competing in or judging the Department of Energy's \$5 Million E-ROBOT Prize ?

As part of the [American-Made Challenges](#) prize family, the Envelope Retrofit Opportunities for Building Optimization Technologies (E-ROBOT) Prize is offering up to \$5 million in cash prizes and support to drive robotic innovations to improve current building envelope retrofitting practices. This short [video](#) explains what NREL and DOE are hoping to achieve. Submissions for Phase 1 of the E-ROBOT Prize are due by 5 p.m. ET on May 12, 2021.

The [E-ROBOT Prize](#) consists of two phases that will fast-track efforts to identify, develop, and validate solutions, offering competitors up to \$4 million in cash prizes and an additional \$1 million in Recognition Awards and other support for [Connectors](#) in the American-Made Network who help recruit participants and mentor competitors.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory is administering the Prize on behalf of the DOE. Visit the [E-ROBOT Prize website](#) on the American-Made Challenges site for more information, including how to get involved.

Contact [sarah.truitt@nrel.gov](mailto:sarah.truitt@nrel.gov) directly if you are interested in serving as a judge.

[Learn More...](#)

## Marketing Committee Award nominations due April 5

Nominations for the Marketing Committee Awards are due to Region Marketing Committee Chairs on April 5, 2021. This year we have two awards to honor those that have gone above and beyond to market NAWIC and their chapter. The Marketing Excellence Award will highlight a Chapter that stands out in their promotion of NAWIC, and the Marketing Star Award highlights a Chapter Marketing Committee Chair who stands out in her promotion of NAWIC.

[Learn More...](#)

## Annual Conference speaker Shakira Brown gives sneak peak to her session

Shakira Brown Speaker NAWIC Aug 2021 Conference Prom...



Early registration opens April 1.

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## Education / Training

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### PD&E Webinar: Marketing for Construction Professionals

Don't miss out on tips, tricks and strategies on marketing in the construction industry! Join the Professional Development & Education Committee April 13.

[Learn More...](#)

## Groundbreaking Women in Construction Conference

Reboot, Reconnect & Reimagine at this year's GWIC. The conference has gone virtual and is jam-packed of professional and personal development, networking opportunities and much more. It's set for May 4-6, so make sure you register soon!

[Learn More...](#)

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## NAWIC Benefits Spotlight

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### NAWIC announces partnership with professional development services A/E/C Business Strategies



**March 2021-** The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) is pleased to announce a new three-year partnership with A/E/C Business Strategies. A/E/C Business Strategies will be providing coaching, training, and professional development services to NAWIC throughout the partnership and will support the delivery of NAWIC's mission of supporting women in the construction industry and affiliated fields.

A/E/C Business Strategies Director Michael Riegel will be a regular contributor to NAWIC's publications where he will give his unique perspective on topics such as industry, career, leadership, and professional development. Michael will also support NAWIC's National Board through leadership training and will participate at NAWIC's annual conference.

Michael Riegel is a professional coach whose career has spanned many aspects of the construction industry. His expertise is in project planning and management, program management, business operations, team building and supervision, and developing and implementing mentor and training programs for AEC companies, transportation authorities, and utilities. Michael received his BS in Construction Management from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston and his MBA from the Zicklin School of Business at Baruch College in New York. He is a certified coach through the International Coach Federation and a Project Management Professional through the Project Management Institute.

NAWIC believes this partnership will be integral to meeting the association's mission of supporting women in the construction industry. Many members and staff have already had the opportunity to work with Michael as a coach and hear him speak on a range of topics including Coaching and Mentoring, Navigating Change and Transition, and Prioritizing Important vs. Urgent.

NAWIC believes A/E/C Business Strategies and Michael Riegel will be a valued resource to you and your organizations. If your leaders, teams, and organizations have identified leadership and professional development needs, NAWIC encourages you to contact Michael. Contact information is provided below.

Michael Riegel, Director

***A/E/C Business Strategies***

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Mobile: 516-238-0859

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## Industry Update

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### Senate confirms former union leader Marty Walsh as labor secretary

In a 68-29 vote Monday, the U.S. Senate confirmed former Boston Mayor Martin Walsh as secretary of labor. Walsh will be the first union leader to serve in the position in more than 40 years, according to National Public Radio.

[Learn More...](#)

### OSHA launches COVID-19 National Emphasis Program, prioritizes onsite inspections

OSHA has introduced a new National Emphasis Program aimed at companies that put the largest numbers of workers at risk for exposure to the coronavirus. The new initiative is in response to President Joe Biden's Executive Order on Protecting Worker Health and Safety.

[Learn More...](#)

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## Calendar

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1

Apr 2021

**Annual Conference early registration opens April 1**

[Learn More...](#)

5

Apr 2021

**National Leadership Training Series – Being a Director - Events**

[Learn More...](#)

7

Apr 2021

**Tesla Talk: How Tesla is working with women in construction**

[Learn More...](#)

13

Apr 2021

## PD&E - Marketing for Construction Professionals

[Learn More...](#)

### The National Association of Women in Construction

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