

**Croatian
Women of Influence**

2024

**AWARDS
GALA**

**Friday, March 8, 2024
Sheraton Hotel Zagreb**

**Svečana večera za dobitnice
nagrade Utjecajne Hrvatske Žene**

Petak, 08. ožujka 2024. godine

**Las ganadoras del Premio Mujeres
Influyentes Croatas**

Viernes, 8 de marzo de 2024



CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME TO THE CLUB

The winners of the prestigious
Croatian Women of Influence Awards and
Future Leader Awards extend our congratulations
to the 2024 award winners.

*We're thrilled to welcome
you to the club.*



WELCOME

[@CWNLeaders](https://twitter.com/CWNLeaders)//croatianswomensnetwork.org



CAROLINE SPIVAK - FOUNDER

We are delighted to welcome you to the seventh Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža Hrvatskih Žena /La Red Mujeres Croatas Croatian Women of Influence Awards gala. This year we celebrate and honor 26 new Croatian Women of Influence award winners and two Future Leaders from 11 countries. We welcome them to the ranks of a prestigious group of 146 total CWol winners drawn from a pool of more than 550 world-wide nominations.

Tonight we celebrate the remarkable women who often linger in the shadows yet illuminate the path for future generations. Our aim is to shine a spotlight on Croatian Women of Influence, those exceptional women who seamlessly navigate between their professional careers and personal lives, leaving an indelible mark in both spheres. By celebrating the unsung heroines, we hope to honor all women who, through their exceptional efforts and determination, have carved a space for themselves in history.

To showcase our incredible community of female trailblazers, artists, business women, entrepreneurs, influencers, philanthropists, scientists and more, we shine a light on those women who, day in and day out, charge through uncharted territories making significant strides in fields where their accomplishments may go unnoticed.

The Croatian Women of Influence Awards honors women who redefine leadership. Their journeys are inspiring testaments to courage, determination and an unwavering commitment to their vision. These are success stories of women who embody the ethos of persistence and resilience, balancing the demands of career and family while shattering preconceived notions about what women can achieve. Our award winners are beacons of empowerment, women who exemplify what it means to make a difference and leave a lasting legacy.

From boardrooms to living rooms, their influence spans diverse domains, pushing boundaries and leading the charge in industries that traditionally offer them limited recognition. Tonight we celebrate and share their success stories - narratives of triumph, breaking barriers and navigating uncharted waters. In the relentless pursuit of excellence our CWol award winners have transformed the landscapes of their industries and communities.

As we celebrate these remarkable women we hope to also inspire others to challenge the status quo, to push beyond existing boundaries and to believe in the power of their own potential. On behalf of CWN™/MHZ, an organization of women supporting women, I look forward to continuing to work together to provide opportunities for Croatian women to celebrate, champion and connect our way to collective success.

Congratulations to all of our Croatian Women of Influence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Spivak', written in a cursive style.

Caroline Spivak
Founder,

Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža Hrvatskih žena
Founding Organization, Croatian Women's Alliance

ABOUT THE AWARD



*Honoring the Past.
Celebrating the Present.
Creating the Future.*

Throughout Croatia's history, courageous and strong women have played an integral role in inspiring action, preserving culture, religion and heritage and even bravely protecting our borders - just as they do today. In creating the Croatian Women of Influence award, our goal was to honor the heritage that binds us and to recognize the strength and tenacity of our Croatian Women of Influence.

The Croatian word for woman is "žena". The symbol for the first letter "ž" in the ancient and original Croatian Glagolitic alphabet, that played an important role in Croatian history, is in fact the symbol that shapes the form of the award.

The Glagolitic alphabet (known as Glagolitsa) is the oldest known Slavic alphabet. It was created in the 9th century by Saint Cyril, a Byzantine monk from Thessaloniki. He and his brother, Saint Methodius, were sent by the Byzantine Emperor, Michael III in 863 to Great Moravia to spread Christianity among the Slavs in the area. The brothers decided to translate liturgical books into the Old Slavic language that was understandable to the general population. As the words of that language could not be easily written by using either the Greek or Latin alphabets, Cyril decided to invent a new script, Glagolitic, which he based on the language of the Macedonian Slavs from the Thessaloniki region. After the deaths of Cyril and Methodius, the Glagolitic alphabet ceased to be used in Moravia, but their students continued to propagate it in the west and south.



Baška tablet is one of the first monuments with an inscription in the Croatian recension of the Church Slavonic language, dating from c. 1100.

The Glagolitic alphabet was preserved only by the Croats, using it from the 12th to the 20th century, mostly in liturgy. The name was not coined until many centuries after its creation, and comes from the Old Church Slavonic glagol “utterance” (also the origin of the Slavic name for the letter G). The verb glagoliti means “to speak” It has been conjectured that the name glagolitsa developed in Croatia around the 14th century and was derived from the word glagolity, applied to adherents of the liturgy in Slavonic.

Croats using the Glagolitic alphabet were the only nation in Europe given special permission by Pope Innocent IV (in 1248) to use their own language and this script in liturgy. More precisely, this permission had formally been given to bishop Philip of Senj. However, special care accorded by the Vatican to the Glagolitic liturgy in subsequent centuries (even by publishing several Glagolitic missals in Rome), shows that this privilege applied to all Croatian lands using the Glagolitic liturgy, mostly along the Adriatic coast. As is well known, Latin had been the privileged language in religious ceremonies in the Catholic Church until the 2nd Vatican Synod held in 1962-1965, when it was decided to allow vernacular national languages to be used in the Catholic liturgy instead of Latin. It is interesting that even today the Glagolitic liturgy is used in some Croatian churches.

The award is a modern interpretation and recognition of our past, present and future. It's pillars of the letter “Ž” are a nod to the strength and resilience of women; protective, stable and timeless. It is a celebration of Croatian women of influence of today and is an affirmation to our trailblazing women that we all stand on each other's shoulders in creating the future.

Created in Canada, from aluminum and stone, this beautiful and now iconic award appears at first glance as a gift. Perhaps this is a gentle reminder that women are a gift and blessing to their communities and that the world should value their incredible and numerous contributions.

2024
**JUDGES
PANEL**



ANTUN (TONČI) KREŠIMIR BUTERIN

Head of Marketing, Hikvision Europe (Adriatic and Malta)
President of the Association Meeting G2

In 2014, Antun Krešimir Buterin joined FORUM Zagreb Congress Center as the head of marketing and sales.

In the spring of 2015, he was invited to join the internationally recognized corporation Hikvision, the world's largest manufacturer of video surveillance cameras and security equipment. Two years later he progressed from business development manager for Croatia, Slovenia and BiH to marketing manager for the Adriatic region and Malta. Until 2021, he was the only Croat among more than 40,000 employees at

this Chinese technology giant, which today has over 58,000 employees worldwide. As a volunteer from the very beginning in 2015, he actively participates in the creation of all the Meeting G2 conferences to date, which are aimed at building business connections between the native and expatriate Croatia, and in 2019 he was chosen as the president of the Meeting G2 association of the same name. In 2023, the Association held its 9th conference in Sisak, bringing the Croatian diaspora closer to the business potential of that wonderful region that suffered both in the Homeland War and as a result of the catastrophic earthquake of 2020.



ANA MARIJA FRKOVIĆ

Head of the Service for Legal Status, Culture and Education of the Croatian Diaspora
Central State Office for Croats Living Abroad

Ana Marija Frković moved to Zagreb, Croatia in 1993 from

Mississauga, Canada after completing an Honours Political Science Degree at the University of Western Ontario. She has worked in various positions in the Croatian State Administration over the past 25 years. Starting in the State Office for European Integration and later in the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. She also worked in the Office of the Chief Negotiator

to the European Union and seven years in the Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia. She was the Operations Manager of the UNDP Office in Croatia from 2007-2013. Ana Marija recently joined the Central State Office for Croats Abroad as Head of the Service for Legal Status, Culture and Education of the Croatian Diaspora. She is a mother of three daughters.



LIDIJA KOVAŘÍK

Life & Business Coach
Holistic Visionary Leadership

Lidija Kovařík, is a Croatian born in Požega. After attending Gymnasium Požega and obtaining a master's degree in law at the J.J. Strossmayer Faculty of Law in Osijek, she moved to Prague, Czech Republic. There she created a family becoming a mother of two daughters. Since graduating from the Belgian coaching academy, Inge Rock, as a mentor and life and business coach, Lidija hosts inspiring online and in-person lectures and workshops on the topic of psychology. She is the author of the book *Living the Life of Our Dreams* which has been translated into four languages. Lidija

expresses her love for art by working as the executive director of the Museum of Illusion Art Prague. She is the organizer of numerous cultural events and business gatherings, actively operating in several countries. She recently obtained her MBA and MSc in Psychology in Management and Mental Coaching from Newton University. She is a member of Mensa ČR and several professional and cultural organizations. She is the winner of the special award of the Croatian Homeland, 2023, and the 3rd place Personality of the Year award, Český Goodwill, 2023 and a Croatian Woman of Influence award, 2023 for Art and Culture.



IVANA RORA

Head of Marketing and PR Croatian Heritage Foundation

Ivana Rora is the Head of Marketing and PR Department at the Croatian Heritage Foundation. She is a communications expert who has been working on organising projects with Croats outside the Republic of Croatia and on establishing good communication channels and networks outside of Croatia for many years. Ivana, a communications specialist and journalist by profession, has been particularly active in following the work of Croatian communities worldwide and promoting the importance of the connection between the

homeland and the Croatian diaspora. She was the editor of *Dom i svijet*, the first and only weekly insert for Croats outside the Republic of Croatia, published in the foreign edition of the *Večernji list* newspaper, and a journalist in several newsrooms covering that topic. In recent years, she has successfully led the Marketing and PR Department that supports and organizes many projects outside the Republic of Croatia. She is also active in the Croatian World Congress, and for several years, she was the Director of the Homeland Headquarters and part of the organizational team of the Croatian World Games for young Croats outside the Republic of Croatia.

Judges

Žiri

Inaugural 2016

Nives Antoljak-Kostadinov
mr. sc. Daria Krstičević
Antonija Mršić
Viktor Segrt
dr. Željko Tanjić

2017

Ivana Perkušić
Mirjana Ana-Maria Piskulić
dr. sc. Viktor Segrt
dr. Željko Tanjić
dr. Ivana Zerec

Croatian Women of Influence Award and Future Leader Award Winners

Dobitnice nagrade Utjecajne Hrvatske Žene i Buduće Liderice

Inaugural 2016

President Kolinda Grabar Kitarović
Honorary Award/Počasna Nagrada
Brenda Brkušić
Ljubica Cimerá
Vlatka Hlupić
Diana Juričević
Bernadette Luketich
Karen Oremuš
Maria Ramas
dr. sc. Ana Sunčana Smith
Antonija Spajić
dr. sc. Dunja Šamec
Dr. Katarina Školnik- Aleksa
Tena Stivičić
prof. dr. sc. Iva Tolić
Antonija Trupinić
Natalie Beg
Matea Kovač
Emma Moguš
Julia Moguš
Nina Skočak

2017

dr. med. dent. Neda Caktas
Branka Cubelić
Ivona Culo
Marijana Dokoza
dr. Ivančica Dvoržak Schrunck
prof. dr. sc. Tamara Gazdić-Alerić
Petra Gregorič
Mara Letica-Saad
dr. Maja Lučak-Stier
Ana Matulić
Andrea Novak Neumann
Delfa Kosić Papić
Nika Pinter
dr. sc. Anita Šalić
s. Anđelita Sokić
Gabrieza Elena Spanić Utrera
dr. Nela Sršen
dr. Silvia Sušnjić
Dr. Suzana Tkalčić, DVM, PhD
dr. sc. Ksenija Uroić
Blanka Vlašić
dr.sc. Dijana Zadravec
dr. Esther Gitman,
Friend of Croatia/Prijatelj Hrvatske
Gabrijela Jurić
Kaja Pavlinić
Anita Vidić

2018

Ivana Perkušić
Kaja Pavlinić
mr. sc. Snježana Jurišić, prof.
dr. Zeljko Tanjić

2019

Ana Mandac
Kaja Pavlinić
mr. sc. Snježana Jurišić, prof.

2020

Dario Magdić, prof.
Izv. prof. dr. sc. Nataša Drvenkar
mr. sc. Snježana Jurišić, prof.

2023

Jan de Jong
Ana Marija Frković
Ivana Rora
Antonija Trupinić

2018

Ksenija Abramović
Zrinka Bačić
Carolina Borojević
mr. sc. Vesna Bosanac, dr. med.
Antonella D'Antuono
Suzana Flanz
Gloria Jurešić
dr. Zorka Kinda-Berlaković
Sara Kolak
Đurđica Orepić
Anita Martinac
Dr. Josipa Petrunić
Marija Perić
dr. sc. Marija Selak, doc.
dr. med. Nikolina Sesar
dr. sc. Branka Salopek Sondi
Ivana Tkalčić
Kathryn Tesija
Ana Tomašković
doc. dr. sc. Ana Jurinjak Tušek
Tea Zakula
Iva Buljan
Maja Grujić
Tatjana Mustač

2019

Danijela Balikić
Damjana Domanovac
Sanja Drakulić
Izv. prof. dr. sc. Nataša Drvenkar
Jasenka Gajdoš Kljusurić, Ph.D., MBA
Viktorija Knežević
Ankica Kovač, Ph.D., MEng. AE.
Biljana Lovrinović
prim. Ph.D dr. sc. Ulla Marton, MD
Katica Perinac
Nada Pritisnac Matulich
Nada Prkačin
Mirna Šitum, dr. med.
dr. sc. prim. Vanja
Sljepčević–Saftić, dr. med.
doc. dr. sc. Hedda Martina Sola
Ruža Studer Babić
prim. dr. sc. Spomenka
Tomek–Roksandić, MD
Ana Vidović
Jelena Lara Marinković

2020

Sonja Breljak
Liliana Čanadić
Debbie Cosić
Dr. sc. Rozelindra Čož Raković
Ana Ganza
Dr. Suzana Hlatki-Matijević
Goranka Horjan
Vedrana Jelušić Kašić
Prof. dr. sc. Antoinette Kaić Rak
Ankica Karačić
Elizabeth Kera
Silvija Kolar Fodor
Patricia Avila Kuljiš
Mirjana Marčinko Smit
Viktorija Matin
Tommi Mitchell
Katarina Pejić
Martina Peranović
Marina Aleksandra Rukavina
Ane Stražičić Rodriguez
Lucija Veličan
Heidi Wohlfahrt Granić

2023

Dalia Alić
Marianna Balatinac
Matea Brižić
Katarina Čeliković
Ivana Dobrotić
Olja Družić Ljubotina
Sara Dyson
Cathy Gom
Ivana Kalogjera
Jullija Kaleb
Dijana Katica
Marijana Kletečki Radović
Lidija Kovařík
Dajana Kučić Grgić
Ana Maria Kuljevan
mr. sc. Jadranka Luketa Marković
Karmen Meić
Jelena Nadinić
Ivana Nosić
Antonija Petričušić
Neda Rosandić Šarić
Francesca Sammartino
Andrea Sepúlveda Rosso

2024
**FUTURE
LEADERS**





Future Leader

DUBRAVKA DATKOVIĆ, CROATIA

Math teacher, Elementary School Vladimir Nazor, Zagreb

Dubravka Datković is a recent graduate with a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering. At the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology in Zagreb she excelled in her work in the Student Section of the Croatian Society of Chemical Engineers and Technologists in the organization of many projects, most notably in the role of Editor-in-chief of the scientific and popular magazine Reaktor Ideja, which she ran for two years and she wrote articles for five years. Dubravka participated in scientific works

at the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology, at the Department for Industrial Ecology, mostly in the field of ecotoxicology. She is the winner of two Rector's awards. Throughout her studies, and following graduation she has been dedicated to highlighting the issue of environmental protection to the general public, especially when working with children. In the summer of 2022, she participated in the Work & Travel USA program spending four months working throughout the USA.



Future Leader

MARIJA KUŠTRO, CROATIA

Teacher, at Pavao Belas elementary school

Marija Kuštro was born in Zagreb where she graduated from the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology (FCET) with a master's degree in Environmental engineering, from the University of Zagreb in September 2023. During her studies, she was an active organizer and project manager in the Student Section of Chemical Engineers and Technologists. She is the winner of the Rector's Award for individual and artistic work, "Tomislav Cvitaš" Award for the best poster presentation and won 3rd

place at the International Scientific and Sports Competition „Technology 2022“ in the scientific part of the competition. With her work, she contributes to the scientific research work at the Department of Industrial Ecology at FCET and participates in professional meetings and congresses with poster presentations. Her field of work is related to the biodegradation of microplastics and the toxicity of xenobiotics to organisms. She participated in several international and national scientific meetings, as well as in workshops for children.

2024
CROATIAN
OF WOMEN
INFLUENCE





Leadership & Innovation

RAFAELLA ARAPOVIĆ, CANADA

Lawyer, Associate, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Rafaella is a lawyer practicing in the Real Property and Planning at McCarthy Tétrault LLP (Montreal, Canada).

With degrees in Economics and Political Sciences, as well as Law from the University of Montreal, her expertise spans legal and academic domains. She interned at the European Parliament where she worked on environmental, energy, and trade matters. During her student years, Rafaella founded a group supporting UN Women and engaged in social causes through a legal clinic and volunteered as a writer for

the Young Bar of Montreal. Her commitment continues through pro bono cases at McCarthy Tétrault LLP and active participation in CREW, advocating women's success in real estate as an Events Committee member. Beyond law, Rafaella dedicated over a decade to Montreal's Croatian community, teaching folklore, fundraising, and mentoring youth. Her multifaceted engagement reflects a blend of legal prowess, advocacy, and community service.



Leadership & Innovation

ANA BAČIĆ, CANADA

Coordinator for Croatian Language Programs in Canada, Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia
Educational leadership role, Department Head at St. Marguerite d'Youville Secondary School, Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

Ana Bačić is well-known for her passion for preserving and promoting Croatian heritage and language through her teaching, writing and community work. Ana holds a teaching degree from the University of Zagreb and a Masters of Education from York University in Toronto. Ana has positively represented and impacted the Croatian-Canadian community as a published author, writer and editor. In 2011, her historical novel Time Machine was voted and awarded the best novel published in the diaspora, by Matica, the Croatian Heritage Foundation. She served as an editor of Gaudeamus - an annual journal of Association of Alumni and Friends of Croatian Universities as part of

AMCA Toronto where she also serves as Vice-President. She continues to regularly write for a number of news portals mainly focused on diaspora topics. Ana has participated in numerous symposiums on Croatian culture, language and literature throughout Canada organized by the Croatian Academy of North America. She has served as a Board Member of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce. On the basis of her experience, dedication and community work in the Greater Toronto Area, Bačić was appointed by the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia to serve as the Coordinator of Croatian Language Programs in Canada. Her mission is to preserve Croatian culture, traditions and language in Canada.



Leadership & Innovation

ANA BARJAŠIĆ, UNITED KINGDOM

Board Member, European Innovation Council

Ana Barjašić is an entrepreneur, angel investor, policy adviser and ecosystem builder, with over a decade of experience in the European startup ecosystem. She is an Obama Leader Europe, Executive Committee Member of Global Entrepreneurship Network Europe and a Board Member of the European Innovation Council, largest innovation fund for deep tech in Europe with investment capacity of \$10 billion Euros. Ana is the Chair of the Widening Countries Working Group of the EIC Board, recommending concrete actions

across EU to increase participation and success rates of all European innovators. Combining her hands-on experience and knowledge of startup and innovation ecosystems and investment communities across EMEA region, Ana founded Connectology, an international boutique agency for access to finance, investment readiness and behavioural science. Ana is frequently invited to speak on topics of investment readiness, innovation, female entrepreneurship, investment, sustainability, and behavioural science.



Science & Technology

Doc. dr. sc. MORANA BRKLJAČIĆ, DR. MED., CROATIA

Principal & Specialist in clinical radiology AGRAM Special Hospital - Rijeka Polyclinic

Morana Brkljačić, M.D.Ph.D. is a graduate of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Rijeka, has trained at Harvard University, teaches at three universities in the Republic of Croatia and has published over 80 scientific papers. Morana is the author of the first Croatian University textbook on palliative medicine and has worked in medical ethics for 30 years. She has been a lecturer at over a hundred scientific and professional congresses in Croatia and the world. She is president of the Committee for Medical Ethics and Deontology of the Croatian Medical Association; editor of medical ethics at the journal Medicina

Fluminensis; specialist in clinical radiology and a member of the Croatian and European Society of Radiologists. A member of numerous domestic and foreign scientific and professional societies in medicine, Morana is a delegate of the Croatian Medical Association for the European Association of Medical Specialists, the Federation for Medical Ethics. A member of the Fair Play Committee of the Croatian Olympic Committee. Director of the AGRAM Special Hospital - Polyclinic Rijeka. The Croatian Medical Association recognized her with an award for her special contribution in fostering the honorable tradition of HLZ of medical science and healthcare in the Republic of Croatia.



SANDA ERDELEZ, USA

Professor and Dean, School of Library and Information Science,
Simmons University, Boston, USA

Dr. Sandra Erdelez is a Professor and Dean of the School of Library and Information Science at

Simmons University in Boston, USA. Following graduation from her undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Osijek Law School, she furthered her academic journey with a Ph.D. in information science from Syracuse University, supported by a Fulbright Scholarship in 1995. Dr. Erdelez's research is centered on human information behavior, human-computer interaction, and the evaluation of usability in online environments. She has published and

presented more than 180 research papers. For her scientific work she was recognized in 2015 with the Outstanding Contribution to Information Behavior Research Award from the Association of Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) SIG USE, and inducted into the Academy of Fellows. Currently, she presides over an international iSchools Organization. Sandra's commitment extends to the Croatian academic community, where she was honored with the Fulbright Specialist Program award, contributing through lectures on library and information science at the University of Osijek Information Science Program.



PETRA HEISINGER, CROATIA

Petra Heisinger holds a master's degree in political science, is a flautist musician, a certified nutritionist and a certified fitness

trainer. She is a public relations and advertising specialist as well as an entrepreneur and mother of two. For several years, she volunteered at a home in Nazorova, teaching children music as part of a private music school program "Glazbaonica Ljubav", which she founded. It was declared the best entrepreneurial project in 2013. She is the co-host and personal trainer of the DeeP Fitness brand and the creator of the Clean Your Head program. She is the author of two books. The first is

Story to Music, which is a reflection of her patented method of Musical Animations verified by the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports and internationally recognized and introduced at Harvard University in 2017. The second book, I'm Petra, you won't break me, explains one girl's disobedience to imposed beliefs and her path of growth and maturation, in which she uses every adversity as a training ground for personal growth. The book's continuation comes in the form of a program called Get your head straight, which Petra created for the purpose of everyone's most important beauty tool - their internal self.



MATEJA-ANGELINA KRAMAR, CROATIA

CEO, Green Fusion - the first Croatian stock exchange for investing in ecological projects - Eco Stock Market Sales and marketing manager, In Wood sustainable mobile houses - for production of mobile houses. President and Founder of "Plant a tree, don't don't be a stump!"- national tree planting campaign

Mateja-Angelina Kramar is a project manager and consultant for sustainable financing,

owner of Green Fusion, the first Croatian stock exchange for investing in green and social transition, stands out as a passionate advocate of sustainability and environmental protection through innovative approaches to creative entrepreneurship. She is a single mother of four children. Angelina is also the manager of the national project "Plant a tree, don't be a stump!", in addition to all of the above, she holds the role of sales and marketing manager in the family company "InWood sustainable mobile homes". With extensive experience in socially

responsible business, sustainable development and permaculture environmental design, Angelina strives for a holistic approach to solving the challenges of the business environment, taking into account the sustainability of green investments. Aware of the importance of contributing to the community and the world through the development of new ideas and innovations, she redesigns the environment by redesigning the destructive habits of people. Activist and entrepreneurial activities help her in her personal and spiritual development, and her emotions as a mother are a response to the society in which she wants to raise her children.



VESNA KREZICH KITTELSON, USA

Professional Independent artist Traffic Zone Center for Visual Arts, Minneapolis, MN, USA

Croatian-American artist Vesna Krezich Kittelson grew up in Split, Croatia. After graduating from law

school there, she went to Cambridge-England to study English where Vesna met and married David Kittelson. They moved to Minneapolis, where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in fine arts and a master's degree in design, from the University of Minnesota. She became a part time professor at the private Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Vesna Kittelson has lived and exhibited in three cultures, represented by

three cities: Minneapolis-Minnesota, Cambridge-England, and Split-Croatia. As an international artist, she is represented by famous museums: Victoria and Albert Museum, and Tate Britain, London; Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles; Smithsonian Libraries Washington, D.C.; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Yale University, New Heaven; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn; Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis. In collaboration with the Weisman Art Museum, and Afton Press publishing house, Minnesota state published a book about Vesna's career and her contributions to art and culture - "Synthesis, Lost and Found in America: The Art of Vesna Kittelson", 2020.



Leadership & Innovation

JUDITH KRIZMANIĆ ŽIVIĆ USA

Co-Founder, CROPEL Group

Following an administrative career in the U.S. federal service and diverse businesses, Judi pursues her passions in “retirement”. Together with her husband, Ron, she formed CROPEL Group which enables collaboration with technologically advanced Croatia-based businesses that want to enter the U.S. market. The daughter of a Croatian immigrant, Judi has a direct personal connection to Croatia and her American-Croatia mother encouraged Judi and her siblings to play tambura at

the Croatian Fraternal Union’s Cultural Federation. As a member of the Association of Croatian American Professionals and the National Federation of Croatian Americans Cultural Foundation, Judi promotes Croatian business and culture at every opportunity. Seeing that many Croatians in the diaspora grew up building ties to our homeland while playing tambura with little command of the language and almost no knowledge of Croatian history. Thus Judi inceptioned and manages the NFCACF’s Croatian history Speakers Series and the Overview of Croatian History course which will begin on July 1, 2024 in Zagreb.



Science & Technology

DR. FRANCES KRTULIĆ ŠEPAROVIĆ, AO, FAA, AUSTRALIA

Distinguished Professor Emeritus, School of Chemistry, University of Melbourne
Foreign Secretary, Australian Academy of Science

Professor Frances Šeparović is a biophysical chemist at the University of Melbourne and Foreign Secretary of the Australian Academy of Science. Her research area is the study of molecules in biological membranes, with a focus on peptide antibiotics and toxins. Frances was the first woman professor of chemistry (2005) and Head of School (2010) at Melbourne and the first female chemist elected to the Australian Academy of Science (2012). She was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of

Women (2018) and appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (2019). Frances has served as President of the Biophysical Society (USA); President of Australian New Zealand Society for Magnetic Resonance; General Treasurer of Royal Australian Chemical Institute; and Council member of International Union of Pure & Applied Biophysics. She is a member of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) Advisory Committee, and the International Union of Pure & Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) Science Board.



Business

VEDRANA LIKAN, CROATIA

Managing Partner, Colliers - Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Vedrana Likan is synonymous with real estate and investments, sustainable economy, intellectual entrepreneurship and women's leadership across the business world in Croatia and the broader Adriatic region. Over the last 15 years, Vedrana has held positions as President and Board of Director in various organisations including: British Croatian Chamber of Commerce, American Chamber of Commerce, Croatia Green Building Council and Academy for political development. A frequent guest lecturer at universities; Vedrana also participates as an

advisory and program board member, moderator and panellist at leading conferences and has served as a jury member of prestigious European awards. For her professional achievements and commitment to the empowerment of women in business, Vedrana was recognized as "The Woman of the Year" in 2012. After which she launched her "21 paths to success" and LeaderSHE conferences. In Brussels, in 2022 Vedrana was named "Female Business Leader" among women from across 23 European countries, for significant and inspirational contributions and long-lasting commitment and systematic efforts to advocate and empower women in business.



Philanthropy

CATALINA LONAC, ARGENTINA

Founder, San Pablo University
Honorary Consul of Croatia for the seven provinces of northern Argentina based in Tucumán

Catalina Lonac Domijan is the daughter of Croatian parents and was proudly raised in that culture. Her father was from Trnčina, a town in Bosnia & Herzegovina and her mother from Dramalj, on the Dalmatian coast. A trained lawyer, Catalina serves as the Honorary Consul of Croatia for the seven provinces of northern Argentina based in Tucumán. Professionally, she is dedicated to the sugar and alcohol (ethanol) industry, with her company being the largest producer in Argentina. Owing to her penchant for the tourism

industry, Catalina owns three hotels in her province. She is the founder of the first private and secular University in northern Argentina: University of San Pablo -TUCUMÁN, which has 42 undergraduate courses and several postgraduate courses. Together with the provincial Secretary of Culture, she organizes an International Piano Competition, every four years, which features Goran Filipec from Croatia as one of the judges. She names all of her companies, projects and ventures after Croatian cities. She considers Croatia her homeland and has dedicated her entire life to making Croatia known in Argentina and has committed her life to working for Croatia.



Leadership & Innovation

LLUVITZA LOPÉZ GOLAC, BOLIVIA

Psychologist

Vice president, Croatian Society of Cochabamba, Bolivia and Representative of the Croatian Community in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Starting in 2016, Lluvitza managed to regroup the Croatian community both locally in Cochabamba and nationally, encouraging all descendants to gather together to recover the legacy of our parents and grandparents. Much has been achieved subsequent to this activation. From increased participation of the community in cultural, social and educational and sports fairs to the creation of Croatian language courses at the private Franz Tamayo University and encouraging and organizing youth to

attend croaticum courses, organizing Croatian cooking courses, and recreational activities on national holidays and traditional festivals such as Christmas and Easter. This extends to support of the Croatian consulate and the organization of consular visits from which more than 300 people have obtained their Croatian nationality and passports. As an active Croatian woman, Lluvitza is responsible for the maintenance of our Croatian heritage in Bolivia, through the Croatian social club and through the management of the only Croatian cemetery in Latin America.



Leadership & Innovation

Prof. Ph. D. Sc. MIRJANA MILIĆEVIĆ BOSNIA & HERCEGOVINA

Head of Department, University of Mostar

Mirjana received her doctorate at the Faculty of Science and Mathematics, University of Zagreb. During her 19 years of work at the University of Mostar, she held the positions of assistant dean for project coordination and development, head of the University's Center for Projects and EU Integration, and today, is head of Tourism and Environmental Protection studies and university coordinator of the CEEPUS program, she works to promote education and science. As a project consultant, Mirjana builds solid professional relationships between the academic and business communities. She is the only woman in the presidency of UBH Croats Prsten in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since 2016, as a

member, and then the first woman of the management of the Federal Fund for Environmental Protection, she provides a significant contribution to the community through the implementation of projects of basic, vital infrastructure and energy efficiency. Mirjana's favorite thing is to work with young people. She implemented over 20 additional education and retraining projects for young people and women. She led the creation of the first Demographic Strategy of Croats in BiH, organized the first women's entrepreneurship fair for rural women in Mostar, and is currently working on training young people in project management in order to encourage self-employment and stay in their homeland.



BRANKA PAVIĆ BLAŽETIN, HUNGARY

Teacher, Croatian language and literature
Journalist, editor-in-chief and publicist, at the weekly newspaper Croatian Herald, Pécs

Branka Pavić Blažetin was born in Sukošan near the city of Zadar, Croatia. She holds a law degree

from the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, a diploma in Croatian studies from University of Pécs, and obtained a degree in journalism in Budapest. Since May 2005 Branka has been editor-in-chief of “Hrvatski glasnik” the weekly newspaper of Croats in Hungary, and is employed within the framework of the nonprofit organization “Croatica”, which is responsible for cultural, informative and publishing activities and projects of Croats in Hungary. She has incepted and edited a vast number of memoirs and monographies about Croatian settlements in Baranya County of Hungary. Since 2003 she

has been the editor of the yearbook of Croats in Hungary “Hrvatski kalendar”. She worked at the Croatian school of “Miroslav Krleža” in Pécs and was employed as editor of the TV program “Hrvatska kronika”. Branka launched the annual observance of the Day of the Croatian Press in Hungary and the founded the Croatica Media Center itself, an organizational unit within NPO “Croatica” and was its chief editor between 2014 and 2022. Branka is a member of a number of Croatian associations and unions in Hungary. She is a proponent of preserving and cherishing the Croatian language, the writing, the culture and Croatian identity in Hungary.



MARIJANA PETIR, CROATIA

Member of Croatian Parliament and President, Committee for Agriculture, Croatian Parliament

Marijana Petir is a politician and an independent member of Croatian Parliament.

Her focus is on helping those whose voices are not heard. She managed to secure work-free Sundays and dignified working hours for women employed in the retail sector. Her efforts ensured that Croatia provides equal education and scholarships for young persecuted Christians. Mirjana championes the challenges of rural women at the European level and continuously works to empower them. She received the

EU Oscar for her work in the European Parliament and was declared the best European representative for agriculture, rural development and fisheries. She led an anti-nuclear campaign in Croatia that prevented the construction of a nuclear waste repository in Moslavina, as well as a campaign that declared Croatia a GMO-free country. In her political and public work, she advocates for the development of rural areas and family farms, as well as for the protection of traditional, Christian and universal human values. Mirjana recently walked the 900 km-long Camino de Santiago in Spain in 29 days.



Arts & Culture

DRINA RENDIĆ, CHILE

President, National Museum of Women in the Arts

Drina Victoria Rendić is President of IWF International Women's Forum dedicated to bringing together world leaders already considered in their leadership with the objective of exchanging relationships and good practices related to female equality. Drina is President of NMWA, National Museum of Women in the arts,



Leadership & Innovation

ANA MARIA ŠONJIĆ, ARGENTINA

Founder, Friends of Nature (1991) an ecological non-governmental organization in Croatia, Facebook group: Social And Cultural Croatia

Ana Maria is creator of the Facebook group: Social And Cultural Croatia, a network that led her to direct, facilitate and monitor Croatian relative search queries and connect with consular issues. She was a producer and host of radio shows promoting Croatian tradition. Ana Maria has participated in various local and national level events organizing and leading festive events for the Croatian community. Her persistence led her, together with fellow Croats, to carry out the enthronement

of Maria Bistrica in the cathedral of Rosario, the town where she lives, and to arrange for the naming of a street in another town as "Republika Hrvatska". During the COVID-19 pandemic, she, together with local children and a Rotary director, founded the first Rotary ROTAKIDS CHOIR. Ana Maria manages projects for Rotary and is responsible for convening experts for Ecological Forums dedicated to coordinating alliances and actions for women's empowerment programs.



Science & Technology

KATHERINE C. SREDL, PhD, USA

Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing, Quinlan School of Business, Loyola University Chicago,
Director, 385 LLC Digital Marketing, Senior Advisor, Vlahovic Group

Katherine C. Sredl, PhD
(University of Illinois,
Communications),

Senior Lecturer, Marketing, Quinlan School of Business, Loyola University Chicago, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Economics and Business, Visiting Scholar, University of Rijeka, Faculty of Economics and Business, International Advisory Board Member, 385 LLC Digital Marketing Consultancy Founder and Director, Vlahovic Group LLC, Senior Advisor, Association for Croatian American Professionals Chicago Chapter Vice President, Veslamo od 925 (rowing

recreational and sports association) Founding Member and Treasurer. Katherine grew up in Paducah, Kentucky, on the banks of the Ohio River. As a child spent time listening to her parents' stories of life in Osijek, Zagreb, Fermo, Buenos Aires, and Lisbon (Katherine's birth city). As a scholar of gender and marketing, she publishes regularly in international, peer-reviewed scientific journals on the impacts of globalization on women's equality in Croatia, post-socialist states in Europe, and the US. Her loves are dogs, sports, nature, art, and writing.



Arts & Culture

ANDREA STANIĆ, CROATIA

Artist, Rijeka, Croatia

Andrea Stanić, born in 1974 in Rijeka, Croatia, stands out as a self-taught artist in abstract expressionism. Her work is globally recognized, with exhibitions worldwide, including museums in South Korea, participating in biennials, and winning awards such as 2nd place in the global Pop Art Biennale competition. She is a member of prestigious art organizations and president of several international art associations /HDLU-Zagreb, UNOTA, Consell Internacional de les Artes, United Nations Arts@Sciences-Paris, VIPPA N.York,

Realizar la Paz Argentina, ambassador Vision Art Media NY., / . Her art, ranging from abstractions to figures and landscapes, Andrea's art stimulates individual emotions and viewers' imaginations. In her paintings, one can feel strength, freedom, and tenderness, emphasizing the need for inner peace and relaxation. Andrea creates intuitively, surrendering to the moment of feeling, and her work has been reviewed by renowned art critics such as Marta Lock and Sonia Demurtas.



Arts & Culture

MIRA TEMUNOVIĆ, SERBIA

Professor of Musical Culture and Tambura, Subotica Music School

Mira Temunović is a tambura player, conductor, musical pedagogue, leader of tambura orchestras, tambura teacher at the Music School in Subotica, a respected Croatian musician in Vojvodina, Republic of Serbia. Her tambura students have won some 150 awards and in 2022 she performed at a gala concert in the Subotica Synagogue on the occasion of her 50th anniversary of playing the tambura. She is one of the founders of the Croatian music association “Festival of Bunjevački Pisama” in Subotica, which is a gathering of

tambura players and has hosted several musical events for almost 25 years. She founded the Large and Small Tambura Orchestra, of which she is the director. Mira has served as an organizer of music competitions and as a judge in numerous musical competitions, both in Vojvodina and in Croatia. She is the co-author of the textbook for musical culture and Croatian language classes from 1st to 8th grade. Mira is the recipient of significant awards for her work, from the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia and the “Pajo Kujundžić” award from the Croatian National Council in the Republic of Serbia for her contribution to teaching in the Croatian language.



Science & Technology

KATHERINE VLASICA, DO FACEP, USA

DO FACECore Faculty, Emergency Medicine Residency, St Joseph's Health Medical Director of Emergency Medicine Pain Management, Acute Pain Management Fellowship Director, Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine RowanSOM Chair, Pain and Addiction Care in the Emergency Department, American College of Emergency Physicians

Dr. Katherine Vlasica is a dedicated emergency medicine physician with a passion for teaching and advancing innovations in acute pain management. She is a prominent figure in the Emergency Medicine Summer School in Zadar, Croatia where she imparts her trauma skills to international medical students. As a well known figure in emergency medicine pain management, Dr. Vlasica expanded the pain management program to a national level of engagement, focusing on ultrasound

guided regional anesthesia applications in the emergency department. Dr. Vlasica has authored several publications on alternatives to opioids in pain management and has lectured and co-chaired conferences, nationally and internationally, on alternative analgesia methods in the emergency department. She is the Chair of Pain and Addiction Care in the Emergency Department, a national accreditation program aiming to improve the pain management and care for patients with substance use disorder.



Arts & Culture

BLANKA ŽAKULA, CROATIA

President and Manager, Cultural Center “Gatalinka” Vinkovci

Blanka Žakula is a graduate from high school in Vinkovci and the Faculty of Economics in Osijek in 1980. After graduating, she was employed at ŽTP Vinkovci. She progressed in her profession to the position of head of bookkeeping at HŽ Vinkovci Labor Union and head of payment transactions at HŽ Vinkovci. In 1994, she moved to “Vibrobeton d.d.” Vinkovci, to the position of financial director. She is now retired. She graduated from the Elementary Music School “Josip Runjanin” in Vinkovci. Since 1978, she has been systematically researching

the traditional folklore dance culture of Croatia, particularly the region of Vukovar-Srijem County. She founded the cultural center “Gatalinka” in 1994 for the purpose of educating children and adults in the area of traditional heritage. This is a unique program in Croatia, where all participants are concurrently musicians and dancers and know notation and dance script. She is the author of fifteen choreographies for children and adults, from the dance heritage of the Vukovar-Srijem County. Blanka is the originator of several projects in Croatia, and the author and editor of a number of professional books.



Philanthropy

TAMARA ŽIVKOVIĆ IVANOVIĆ, CROATIA

Speech therapist, Zagreb Clinical Hospital

Tamara Živković Ivanović, a prominent speech therapist, scientist and activist, strives to increase the quality of life of people without vocal cords with her work and acts in accordance with the motto: **“Together we are louder and we are heard better.”** As the President of the Croatian Association of Laryngectomized Persons and expert leader of the Club of Laryngectomized Persons in Zagreb, Tamara has become the voice and support for those who need it the most. Her contribution to

society is visible through the founding of the choir “Optimists” and the authorship of the film “Life without vocal cords”, which explores the challenges and hopes of people without vocal cords. The study of speech therapy represents the foundation of her education, and the acquisition of a scientific Master’s degree and the completion of her doctoral studies, the crown of her academic growth and development.



DOBRODOŠLI

[@CWNLeaders](https://twitter.com/CWNLeaders)//croatianswomensnetwork.org



CAROLINE SPIVAK - OSNIVAČICA

Sa zadovoljstvom vam želimo dobrodošlicu na sedmu svečanu dodjelu nagrada Utjecajne hrvatske žene i Buduće liderice u organizaciji Croatian Women's Network™/Mreže hrvatskih žena/La Red Mujeres Croatas. Ove godine odajemo počast i slavimo 26 nove dobitnice nagrade Utjecajne hrvatske žene i dvije Buduće liderice iz 11 zemalja. Želimo im dobrodošlicu u redove prestižne skupine koja se sastoji od ukupno 146 dobitnica nagrade Utjecajne hrvatske žene izabranih među 550 nominiranih kandidatkinja iz cijeloga svijeta.

Večeras slavimo izvanredne žene koje često ostaju u sjeni, no ipak osvjetljaju put budućim generacijama. Naš je cilj skrenuti pozornost na Utjecajne hrvatske žene, one iznimne žene koje glatko plove između voda profesionalne karijere i osobnog života te pritom ostavljaju neizbrisiv trag u objema sferama. Slaveći te neopjevane junakinje, želimo odati počast svim ženama koje su se svojim iznimnim naporima i odlučnošću izborile za vlastito mjesto u povijesti.

Kako bismo predstavili svoju nevjerojatnu zajednicu vizionarki, umjetnica, poslovnih žena, poduzetnica, influencerica, filantropkinja, znanstvenica i drugih, skrećemo pozornost na žene koje se, iz dana u dan, probijaju kroz neistražena područja, ostvarujući znatan napredak u poljima u kojima njihova postignuća često produ neopaženo.

Nagrada Utjecajne hrvatske žene odaje počast ženama koje redefinišu pojam vodstva. Njihova su putovanja nadahnjujuća svjedočanstva o hrabrosti, odlučnosti i nepokolebljivoj predanosti njihovoj viziji. Ovo su priče o uspjehu žena koje utjelovljuju duh ustrajnosti i otpornosti te održavaju ravnotežu između potreba karijere i obitelji dok razbijaju predrasude o tome što žene mogu postići. Naše dobitnice nagrade lučonoše su osnaživanja, žene koje svojim životom pokazuju što to znači činiti razliku i za sobom ostaviti trajno naslijeđe.

Od soba za sastanke do dnevnih soba, njihov se utjecaj proteže na različita područja; one pomiču granice i djeluju kao predvodnici u industrijama u kojima im se obično ne odaje puno priznanje. Večeras slavimo i dijelimo njihove priče o uspjehu - pripovijesti o trijumfu, rušenju prepreka i plovidbi neistraženim vodama. U svojoj neumornoj težnji za izvrsnošću, naše su dobitnice nagrade Utjecajne hrvatske žene preobrazile svoje industrije i zajednice.

Slaveći ove izvanredne žene, također se nadamo da ćemo nadahnuti druge da dovedu u pitanje status quo, pomiču postojeće granice i vjeruju u moć vlastitog potencijala.

U ime CWN-a™/MHŽ-a, organizacije žena koje podržavaju žene, radujemo se nastavku suradnje s ciljem pružanja prilika hrvatskim ženama da slave, bore se i povezuju na putu do zajedničkog uspjeha.

Čestitke svim našim Utjecajnim hrvatskim ženama.

Caroline Spivak
Osnivačica,

Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža Hrvatskih Žena/La Red Mujeres Croatas
Suosnivač, Croatian Women's Alliance/Savez Hrvatskih Žena

O NAGRADI



*Odajmo počasti prošlost.
Slavimo sadašnjost.
Stvarajmo budućnost.*

Kroz hrvatsku povijest, hrabre i snažne žene igrale su sastavnu ulogu poticanju djelovanja, očuvanju kulture, vjere i baštine, a čak su i hrabro štatile naše granice – kao što to čine i danas. Pri osmišljavanju ove nagrade cilj nam je bio odati počast baštini koja nas povezuje i prepoznati snagu i upornost naših Utjecajnih hrvatskih žena.

Simbol za prvo slovo „ž“ u riječi „žena“ iz drevnog i izvornog hrvatskog glagoljaškog pisma igrao je važnu ulogu u hrvatskoj povijesti, a sama je nagrada izrađena upravo u obliku tog simbola. Glagoljaško pismo (poznato i kao glagoljica) najstarije je poznatoslavensko pismo. U 9. ga je stoljeću sastavio sv. Ćiril, bizantski redovnik iz Soluna. 863. godine bizantski car Mihael III. poslao je njega i njegovog brata, sv. Metoda, u Veliku Moravsku kako bi tamo širili kršćanstvo među Slavenima tog područja.

Braća su odlučila prevesti liturgijske knjige na staroslavenski jezik koji je bio razumljiv općoj populaciji, no kako se riječi tog jezika nisu mogle lako napisati korištenjem grčkog ili latinskog pisma, Ćiril je odlučio izmisliti novo pismo, glagoljicu, temeljeno na jeziku makedonskih Slavena iz solunske regije. Nakon smrti Ćirila i Metoda glagoljaško pismo prestalo se koristiti u Moravskoj, ali su ga njihovi učenici nastavili širiti na zapad i jug.

Glagoljica je očuvana samo kod Hrvata, koji su je koristili od 12. do 20. stoljeća, ponajviše u liturgiji. Naziv je skovan tek mnogo stoljeća nakon njegova nastanka, a dolazi od starocrkvenog slavenskog glagola „glagoljati“ (ujedno i podrijetlo slavenskog naziva za slovo G). Glagol glagoljati znači „govoriti“. Pretpostavlja se da je naziv glagoljica nastao u Hrvatskoj oko 14. stoljeća i to od glagola glagoljati, koji su koristili sljedbenici liturgije na slavenskim jezicima.



BAŠĆANSKA PLOČA KRALJA ZVONIMIRA

Bašćanska ploča jedan je od prvih spomenika s natpisom na prijelaznom obliku glagoljice iz oko 1100. godine.

Hrvati koji su koristili glagoljicu su bili jedini narod u Europi koji je dobio posebno dopuštenje pape Inocenta IV. (1248. godine) da koristi vlastiti jezik i ovo pismo u liturgiji. Točnije, ovo je dopuštenje formalno dano senjskom biskupu Filipu. Međutim, posebna pažnja koju je Vatikan pridavao glagoljaškoj liturgiji u narednim stoljećima (čak i objavljivanjem nekolicine glagoljaških misala u Rimu) pokazuje da se ova privilegija odnosila na sve hrvatske zemlje koje su koristile glagoljašku liturgiju, u glavnom na područjima uz Jadranku obalu. Kao što je poznato, latinski je bio privilegirani jezik u vjerskim obredima u Katoličkoj crkvi do 2. Vatikanske sinode održane 1962.-1965. kada je odlučeno da će se umjesto latinskog u katoličkoj liturgiji dopustiti korištenje narodnih nacionalnih jezika. Zanimljivo je da se čak i danas glagoljaška liturgija koristi u nekim hrvatskim crkvama.

Nagrada predstavlja modernu interpretaciju i način obilježavanja naše prošlosti, sadašnjosti i budućnosti. Zaštitnički, postojani i bezvremenski, stupovi njenog slova „ž“ simbol su snage i otpornosti žena; ovom nagradom slavimo utjecajne hrvatske žene današnjice i potvrđujemo svojim ženama vizionarkama da jedne drugima stojimo na ramenima zajedno gradeći budućnost.

Izrađena u Kanadi od aluminija i kamena, ova prekrasna nagrada može na prvi pogled nalikovati umotanom daru. Možda je i to podsjetnik da su sve žene dar društvu i zajednici i da bi svijet uvijek trebao cijeniti njihove brojne doprinose.

2024
**BUDUĆE
LIDERICE**





Buduća liderica

DUBRAVKA DATKOVIĆ, HRVATSKA

Nastavnica matematike u OŠ Vladimir Nazor, Zagreb

Dubravka Datković je odnedavno diplomirana magistra inženjerka ekoinženjerstva. Na

Fakultetu Kemijskog inženjerstva i tehnologije u Zagrebu se isticala u radu u Studentskoj sekciji Hrvatskog društva kemijskih inženjera i tehnologa u organizaciji mnogih projekata, a ponajviše u ulozi glavne urednice znanstveno-popularnog časopisa „Reaktor ideja“ kojeg je vodila dvije godine, a pisala za isti pet godina tijekom studiranja. Također je sudjelovala i u znanstvenim radovima na Fakultetu kemijskog inženjerstva i

tehnologije, na Zavodu za industrijsku ekologiju, ponajviše u području ekotoksikologije. Dobitnica je dvije Rektorove nagrade. Kroz cijelo studiranje, a i nakon završetka Fakulteta trudi se široj javnosti približiti problematiku zaštite okoliša, osobito u radu s djecom. U ljeto 2022. sudjelovala je i na Work & Travel USA programu te je četiri mjeseca provela radeći u SADu



Buduća liderica

MARIJA KUŠTRO, HRVATSKA

Učiteljica informatike, Osnovna škola Pavao Belas

Marija Kuštro rođena je u Zagrebu gde je završila u rujnu 2023. Fakultet kemijskog inženjerstva i tehnologije (FKIT) kao magistra inženjerka ekoinženjerstva, Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. Tijekom studiranja bila je aktivna organizatorica i voditeljica projekata u Studentskoj sekciji kemijskih inženjera i tehnologa. Dobitnica je Rektorove nagrade za individualni i umjetnički rad, Nagrade „Tomislav Cvitaš“ za najbolju poster prezentaciju i osvojila je 3. mjesto na Međunarodnom znanstveno-sportskom

natjecanju „Tehnologijada 2022.“ u znanstvenom djelu natjecanja. Svojim radom pridonosi znanstveno-istraživačkom radu na Zavodu za industrijsku ekologiju na FKIT-u te sudjeluje na stručnim skupovima i kongresima posterskim priopćenjima. Njezino područje rada vezano je uz biorazgradnju mikroplastike i toksičnost ksenobiotika na organizme. Sudjelovala je na više međunarodnih i domaćih znanstvenih skupova, kao i na radionicama za djecu.

2024
DOBITNICE
NAGRADE **UTJECAJNE**
HRVATSKE ŽENE





Vodstvo i Inovacija

RAFAELLA ARAPOVIĆ, KANADA

Odvjetnica; Suradnica, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Rafaella je odvjetnica za nekretnine i urbanizam u odvjetničkom društvu McCarthy Tétrault LLP (Montreal, Kanada). Diplomirala je ekonomiju, političke znanosti i pravo na Sveučilištu u Montrealu, a njezino stručno znanje seže na pravno i akademsko područje. Stažirala je u Europskom parlamentu gdje je radila na područjima okoliša, energije i trgovine. Tijekom studiranja, Rafaella je pokrenula inicijativu podrške UN Women i uključila se u društvene aktivnosti kroz pravnu kliniku, te volontirala kao autorica za Young Bar

of Montreal. Njezin angažman se nastavlja kroz pružanje pravne pomoći u McCarthy Tétrault LLP-u i aktivno sudjelovanje u CREW-u, zagovarajući uspjeh žena u nekretninama kao članica Odbora za događaje. Pored profesionalnog angažmana u pravu, Rafaella je posvetila više od desetljeća Montrealskoj hrvatskoj zajednici, poučavajući folklor, prikupljajući sredstva i mentorirajući mlade. Njezin višestruki angažman odražava spoj pravne stručnosti, zagovaranja i volonterskog rada.



Vodstvo i Inovacija

ANNA BAČIĆ, KANADA

Koordinator za programe hrvatskoga jezika u Kanadi, Ministarstvo znanosti i obrazovanja Republike Hrvatske

Ravnateljica odjela za djecu s posebnim potrebama u St. M. d'Youville katoličkoj srednjoj školi
Voditeljska uloga u obrazovanju, voditeljica odjela u srednjoj školi St. Marguerite d'Youville, školski odbor katoličkog okruga Dufferin-Peel

Anna Bačić poznata je po svojoj strasti za očuvanjem i promicanjem hrvatske baštine i jezika kroz podučavanje, pisanje i društveni rad. Ana je diplomirala profesora na Sveučilištu u Zagrebu i magistrirala na Sveučilištu York u Torontu. Ana je pozitivno predstavljala i utjecala na hrvatsko-kanadsku zajednicu kao objavljena autorica, spisateljica i urednica. Godine 2011. njezin je povijesni roman Vremeplov proglašen i nagrađen najboljim romanom objavljenim u dijaspori u izdanju Maticе Hrvatske matice iseljenika. Radila je kao urednica Gaudeamusa - godišnjeg časopisa Udruge bivših studenata i prijatelja hrvatskih sveučilišta u sklopu AMCA Toronto gdje je

i potpredsjednica. I dalje redovito piše za brojne portale koji se uglavnom bave temama dijaspore. Ana je sudjelovala na brojnim simpozijima o hrvatskoj kulturi, jeziku i književnosti diljem Kanade u organizaciji Hrvatske akademije Sjeverne Amerike. Bila je članica Upravnog odbora Kanadsko-hrvatske gospodarske komore. Na temelju njezina iskustva, predanosti i društvenog rada na širem području Toronta, Bačić je imenovana od strane Ministarstva znanosti i obrazovanja Republike Hrvatske za koordinatoricu programa hrvatskoga jezika u Kanadi. Njezina misija je očuvanje hrvatske kulture, tradicije i jezika u Kanadi.



Vodstvo i Inovacija

ANA BARJAŠIĆ, UJEDINJENO KRALJEVSTVO

Član uprave Europskog vijeća za inovacije

Ana Barjašić je članica odbora Europskog vijeća za inovacije, najvećeg europskog fonda za duboke tehnologije od 10 milijardi eura. Unutar EIC-a predsjedava radnom skupinom zemalja u proširenju koja preporučuje konkretne akcije za značajnije sudjelovanje inovatora iz tih zemalja članica EU. Također je prva hrvatska predstavnica u Obama Leader programu, te članica izvršnog odbora Global Entrepreneurship Network Europe. Kombinirajući praktično iskustvo i znanje o startup i inovacijskim ekosustavima i investicijskim zajednicama

diljem EMEA regije, osnovala je Connectology, međunarodnu agenciju za financiranje, investicijsku spremnost i biheviouralnu znanost. Osim poduzetništvom i investicijama, bavi se i društvenim znanostima, a obrazovala se na Sveučilištu u Zagrebu, Sveučilištu u Beču i London School of Economics and Political Science. Često govori o investicijskoj spremnosti, inovacijama, ženskom poduzetništvu i ulaganju, financiranju očuvanja okoliša, održivosti i bihevioralnoj znanosti. Sudjelovala je kao govornica, panelistica i članica žirija na konferencijama u više od 30 zemalja svijeta.



Science & Technology

Doc. dr. sc. MORANA BRKLJAČIĆ, DR. MED., HRVATSKA

Ravnateljica i Specijalist kliničke radiologije Specijalna bolnica AGRAM - Poliklinika Rijeka

Morana Brkljačić, diplomirala, magistrirala i doktorirala na Medicinskom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Rijeci.

Objavila je preko 80 znanstvenih radova te bila predavač na preko stotinu znanstvenih i stručnih kongresa u Hrvatskoj i svijetu, na 23 kao pozvani predavač. Autorica je prvog hrvatskog sveučilišnog udžbenika iz palijativne medicine. Medicinskom etikom bavi se 30 godina, iz koje se usavršavala na sveučilištu Harvard. Predaje na tri sveučilišta u Republici Hrvatskoj. Predsjednica je Povjerenstva za medicinsku etiku i deontologiju Hrvatskog liječničkog zbora. Urednica je za medicinsku etiku

časopisa Medicina Fluminensis. Specijalistica je kliničke radiologije te članica Hrvatskog i Europskog društva radiologa. Članica je brojnih domaćih i stranih znanstvenih i stručnih društava u medicini. Delegat je Hrvatskog liječničkog zbora za Europsko Udruženje liječnika specijalista, federacija za medicinsku etiku. Članica je Fair Play odbora Hrvatskog olimpijskog odbora. Ravnateljica je Specijalne bolnice AGRAM - Poliklinika Rijeka. Hrvatski liječnički zbor dodjeljuje joj priznanje za osobit doprinos u njegovanju časne tradicije HLZ-a medicinske znanosti i zdravstva u Republici Hrvatskoj.



Znanost

SANDA ERDELEZ, SAD

Redovna Profesorica i Dekanica na Fakultetu Knjižničarstva i Informacijskih Znanosti na Sveučilištu Simmons u Bostonu, SAD

Dr. Sanda Erdelez je redovna profesorica i dekanica na Fakultetu Knjižničarstva i Informacijskih Znanosti na Sveučilištu Simmons u Bostonu, SAD. Nakon što je diplomirala i magistrirala na Pravnom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Osijeku, doktorirala je 1995. godine kao Fulbrightov stipendista iz područja informacijskih znanosti na Sveučilištu Syracuse, SAD. Istraživački rad Dr. Erdelez usmjeren je na ljudsko ponašanje u vezi s informacijama, interakciju čovjeka s računalom i upotrebljivost informacijskih sustava u online

okruženjima. Objavila je više od 180 israživačkih članaka i prezentacija a njen znanstveni rad priznat je 2015. godine s Nagradom za Izuzetan Doprinos Istraživanju Ponašanja Korisnika Informacijama od strane Udruženja za Znanost i Informacijske Tehnologije (ASIS&T) SIG USE, te je postala članicom Akademije Znanstvenika iz te oblasti. Dr. Erdelez trenutno predsjedava međunarodnom organizacijom iSchools a znanstveno je angažirana i u hrvatskoj akademskoj zajednici gdje je u okviru Fulbrightovog specijalističkog programa predavala o knjižničarstvu i informacijskim znanostima na Odsjeku Informacijskih Znanosti Sveučilišta u Osijeku.



Poduzetništvo

PETRA HEISINGER, HRVATSKA

Petra Heisinger magistra je političkih znanosti, glazbenica flautistica, certificirana nutricionistkinja i certificirana fitness trenerica. Specijalistica je za odnose s javnošću i javno oglašavanje, te poduzetnica i majka dvoje djece. Niz godina volontirala je u Domu u Nazorovoj, podučavajući djecu glazbi u sklopu programa privatne glazbene škole "Glazbaonica Ljubav", koju je utemeljila. Ista je bila proglašena najboljim projektom samozaposljavanja 2013. Suvoditeljica je, kao i osobni trener brenda DeeP Fitness te kreatorica programa Pospremi glavu. Autorica je dviju

knjiga. Prva je stručna knjiga Pričom do glazbe, koja je odraz njene patentirane metode Glazbenih animacija verificirane u Ministarstvu znanosti, obrazovanja i športa te međunarodno prepoznata i predstavljena na Sveučilištu Harvard 2017. godine. Druga knjiga, Ja sam Petra nećete me slomiti objašnjava nepristajanje jedne djevojčice na nametnuta uvjerenja te njezinu putanju rasta i sazrijevanja u kojem svaku nevolju koristi kao poligon za osobni rast. Nastavak knjige u obliku je programa imena Pospremi glavu kojeg je Petra kreirala u svrhu one za svakog najvažnije kozmetike, to jest, one unutrašnje.



Vodstvo i Inovacija

MATEJA-ANGELINA KRAMAR, HRVATSKA

Savjetnica za društvene i ekološke projekte
Vlasnica i direktorica, Green Fusion

Voditeljica i savjetnica projekata za održivo financiranje, vlasnica Green Fusion-a, odnosno prve hrvatske burze za investiranje u zelenu i društvenu tranziciju, ističe se kao strastvena zagovornica održivosti i zaštite okoliša kroz inovativne pristupe kreativnom poduzetništvu. Ona je samohrana majka četvero djece, a njeno ime je Mateja-Angelina Kramar. Angelina je također voditeljica nacionalnog projekta “Zasadi stablo, ne budi panj!”, uz sve navedeno, obnaša ulogu voditelja prodaje i marketinga u obiteljskoj tvrtci

“InWood sustainable mobile homes”. Sa bogatim iskustvom u društveno odgovornom poslovanju, održivom razvoju i permakulturnom dizajniranju okoliša, Angelina teži holističkom pristupu rješavanju izazova poslovnog okruženja, uzimajući u obzir održivost zelenih ulaganja. Svjesna važnosti doprinosa zajednici i svijetu kroz razvoj novih ideja i inovacija redizajnira okoliš zajedno redizajnirajući destruktivne navike ljudi. Aktivističko i poduzetno djelovanje joj pomaže u osobnom i duhovnom razvoju, a njene emocije kao majke su odgovor na društvo u kojem želi odgajati djecu.



Kultura i Umjetnost

VESNA KREZICH KITTELSON, SAD

Profesionalna umjetnica (samostalna)
Traffic Zone Center for Visual Arts, Minneapolis, MN, USA

Hrvatsko-američka umjetnica Vesna Krezich Kittelson odrasla je u Splitu, Hrvatska. Nakon što je tamo diplomirala pravo, otišla je u Cambridge-England studirati engleski jezik. Vesna je upoznala i udala se za Davida Kittelzona. Preselili su se u Minneapolis, gdje je diplomirala studij likovne umjetnosti i magistrirala dizajn, na Sveučilištu u Minnesoti. Postala je izvanredna profesorica na privatnom fakultetu Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Vesna živjela je i izlagala u tri kulture, koje predstavljaju tri grada:

Minneapolis-Minnesota, Cambridge-Engleska, i Split-Hrvatska. Kao međunarodnu umjetnicu predstavljaju je poznati muzeji: Victoria i Albert, i Tate Britain, London; Istraživački institut Getty, Los Angeles; Smithsonian knjižnice Washington, D.C.; Umjetnički centar Walker, Minneapolis; Sveučilište Yale, New Heaven; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn; Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis. Država Minnesota, u suradnji s Muzejom umjetnosti Weisman Art Museum i izdavačkom kućom Afton Press, objavila je knjigu o Vesninoj karijeri i doprinosu umjetnosti i kulturi - “Sinteza, izgubljena i pronađena u Americi: Umjetnost Vesne Kittelson”, 2020. godine.



Vodstvo i Inovacija



JUDITH KRIZMANIĆ ŽIVIĆ, SAD

Suosnivačica, CROPEL Group

Nakon administrativne karijere u saveznoj službi SAD-a i raznih poslova, Judi se bavi svojim strastima u "mirovini". Zajedno sa suprugom Ronom osnovala je CROPEL Grupu koja omogućuje suradnju s tehnološki naprednim hrvatskim tvrtkama koje žele ući na tržište SAD-a. Kći hrvatskog imigranta, Judi ima izravnu osobnu vezu s Hrvatskom, a njezina majka Amerikanka-Hrvatska potaknula je Judi i njezinu braću i sestre da sviraju tamburu u Kulturnom savezu Hrvatske bratske zajednice. Kao članica Udruge hrvatskih američkih

profesionalaca i Nacionalne federacije hrvatskih američkih kulturnih zaklada, Judi u svakoj prilici promiče hrvatsko poslovanje i kulturu. Vidjevši da su mnogi Hrvati u iseljeništvu odrastali na tamburaškim sviranjima gradeći veze s našom domovinom uz malo poznavanja jezika i gotovo bez poznavanja hrvatske povijesti. Tako je Judi pokrenuo i vodi NFCACF-ov niz predavača hrvatske povijesti i tečaj Pregled hrvatske povijesti koji će započeti 1. srpnja 2024. u Zagrebu.



Znanost



Dr. FRANCES KRTULIĆ ŠEPAROVIĆ, AO, FAA, AUSTRALIJA

Uvažena profesorica emeritus, Fakultet kemije, Sveučilište u Melbourneu
Ministar vanjskih poslova, Australaska akademija znanosti

Profesorica Frances Šeparović je biofizička kemičarka na Sveučilištu u Melbourneu i ministrica vanjskih poslova Australске akademije znanosti. Njezino područje istraživanja je proučavanje molekula u biološkim membranama, s fokusom na peptidne antibiotike i toksine. Frances je bila prva žena profesorica kemije (2005.) i voditeljica škole (2010.) u Melbourneu te prva žena kemičarka izabrana u Australску akademiju znanosti (2012.). Uvedena je u Victorian Honor Roll of Women (2018.) i

imenovana službenicom Reda Australije (2019.). Frances je bila predsjednica Biofizičkog društva (SAD); predsjednik Australsko novozelandskog društva za magnetsku rezonancu; Glavni blagajnik Kraljevskog australskog kemijskog instituta; i član Vijeća Međunarodne unije čiste i primijenjene biofizike. Članica je Savjetodavnog odbora InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) i Znanstvenog odbora Međunarodne unije za čistu i primijenjenu kemiju (IUPAC).



Poslovanje

VEDRANA LIKAN, HRVATSKA

Direktorica i partnerica, Colliers – Hrvatska, Slovenija, Bosna i Hercegovina

Vedrana Likan sinonim je za nekretnine i investicije, održivo gospodarstvo, i n t e l e k t u a l n o poduzetništvo i žensko vodstvo u poslovnom svijetu u Hrvatskoj i široj jadranskoj regiji. Tijekom posljednjih 15 godina, Vedrana je bila predsjednica i direktorica u raznim organizacijama uključujući: Britansko-hrvatsku gospodarsku komoru, Američku gospodarsku komoru, Hrvatsko vijeće za zelenu gradnju i Akademiju za politički razvoj. Čest gost predavač na sveučilištima; Vedrana također sudjeluje kao savjetodavna i programska članica, moderatorica

i panelistica na vodećim konferencijama te je bila članica žirija prestižnih europskih nagrada. Za svoja profesionalna postignuća i predanost osnaživanju žena u poslovanju, Vedrana je 2012. godine proglašena “Ženom godine”. Nakon toga je pokrenula svoje konferencije “21 put do uspjeha” i LeaderSHE. U Bruxellesu je 2022. Vedrana bila proglašena “Female Business Leader” među ženama iz 23 europske zemlje, za značajan i inspirativan doprinos te dugotrajnu predanost i sistavne napore u zagovaranju i osnaživanju žena u poslovanju.



Humanitarni Rad

CATALINA LONAC, ARGENTINA

Osnivačica, Sveučilišta San Pablo
Počasna konzulica Hrvatske za sedam provincija sjeverne Argentine sa sjedištem u

Catalina Lonac Domijan kći je hrvatskih roditelja i ponosno je odgojena u toj kulturi. Otac joj je bio iz Trnčine, grada u Bosni i Hercegovini, a majka iz Dramlja, na dalmatinskoj obali. Priučena pravnica, Catalina služi kao počasna konzulica Hrvatske za sedam provincija sjeverne Argentine sa sjedištem u Tucumanu. Profesionalno je posvećena industriji šećera i alkohola (etanola), i njezina je tvrtka najveći proizvođač u Argentini. Radi sklonosti turističkoj industriji ima vlasništvo nad tri hotela u svojoj pokrajini. Utemeljiteljica

je prvog privatnog i sekularnog sveučilišta u sjevernoj Argentini: UNIVERSIDAD DE SAN PABLO-TUCUMÁN, koje ima 42 dodiplomska i nekoliko poslijediplomskih kolegija. Zajedno s pokrajinskim tajnikom za kulturu svake četvrte godine organizira Međunarodno pijanističko natjecanje na kojem je Goran Filipec iz Hrvatske jedan od članova žirija. Sve svoje tvrtke, projekte i pothvate naziva po hrvatskim gradovima. Hrvatsku smatra svojom domovinom i cijeli svoj život posvetila je promoviranju Hrvatske u Argentini i te je cijeli život predana radu za Hrvatsku.



Vodstvo i Inovacija

LLUVITZA LOPÉZ GOLAC, BOLIVIJA

Psiholog

Potpredsjednica, Hrvatsko društvo Cochabamba, Bolivija i predstavnica Hrvatske zajednice u Cochabambi, Bolivija.

Počevši od 2016., Lluitza je uspjela ponovno okupiti hrvatsku zajednicu,

kako lokalno u Cochabambi, tako i nacionalno u Boliviji, potičući sve potomke da se okupe kako bi povratili ostavštinu naših roditelja i djedova. Mnogo je postignuto nakon ove aktivacije. Od povećanog sudjelovanja zajednice u kulturnim, društvenim i obrazovnim i sportskim sajmovima do stvaranja tečajeva hrvatskog jezika na privatnom Sveučilištu Franz Tamayo i poticanja i organiziranja mladih

da pohađaju tečajeve Croaticuma, organiziranja tečajeva hrvatskog kuhanja i rekreacijskih aktivnosti za državne praznike i tradicionalne svetkovine poput Božića i Uskrsa. To se odnosi i na podršku hrvatskom konzulatu i organizaciju konzularnih posjeta iz kojih je više od 300 osoba dobilo hrvatsko državljanstvo i putovnicu. Lluitza je kao aktivna Hrvatica zaslužna za očuvanje naše hrvatske baštine u Boliviji, kroz Hrvatski društveni klub i kroz upravljanje jednim hrvatskim grobljem u Latinskoj Americi



Znanost

Prof. dr. sc. MIRJANA MILIĆEVIĆ, BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA

Pročelnica, Sveučilište u Mostaru

Mirjana Milićević doktorirala je na Prirodoslovnom matematičkom fakultetu Sveučilišta u

Zagrebu. Tijekom 19 godina rada na Sveučilištu u Mostaru obnašala je dužnosti pomoćnice dekana za koordinaciju i razvoj projekata, voditeljice Centra za projekte i EU integracije Sveučilišta, te danas kao pročelnica studija Turizma i zaštite okoliša i sveučilišna koordinatorica programa CEEPUS predano radi na promicanju obrazovanja i znanosti. Kao projekt konzultant izgradila je čvrste profesionalne odnose akademske i poslovne

zajednice. Jedina je žena u predsjedništvu UBH Hrvata Prsten u BiH. Od 2016. godine kao član, a poslije prva žena uprave Federalnog Fonda za zaštitu okoliša do danas osigurava značajan doprinos zajednici kroz realizaciju projekata osnovne, životno važne infrastrukture i energetske učinkovitosti. Najdraži joj je rad sa mladima. Realizirala je preko 20 projekata dodatnog obrazovanja i prekvalifikacije za mlade i žene. Vodila izradu prve Demografske strategije Hrvata u BiH, organizirala prvi sajam ženskog poduzetništva za ruralne žene u Mostaru, a trenutno radi na osposobljavanju mladih za upravljanje projektima kako bi potaknuli samozapošljavanje i ostali živjeti u domovini.



Kultura i Umjetnost

BRANKA PAVIĆ BLAŽETIN, MAĐARSKA

Učiteljica hrvatskog jezika i književnosti
Novinarka, glavna urednica i publicista, za tjednik, Hrvatski vjesnik, Pečuh

Branka Pavić Blažetin rođena je u Sukošanu kraj Zadra. Diplomirala je na Pravnom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, Filozofskom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Pečuhu i studiju novinarstvo u Budimpešti. Glavna je urednica tjednika Hrvata u Mađarskoj „Hrvatski glasnik“ u Neprofitnom poduzeću za kulturnu, informativnu i izdavačku djelatnost „Croatica“ od svibnja 2005. godine. Osmislila je i uredila niz monografija o naseljima u kojima žive Hrvati u Baranjskoj županiji. Od 2003. godine uređuje godišnjak Hrvata u Mađarskoj „Hrvatski kalendar“. Radila je u Hrvatskoj školi

„Miroslav Krleža“, na Mađarskoj televiziji uređivala emisiju na hrvatskom jeziku „Hrvatska kronika“, inicirala utemeljenje Dana hrvatskog tiska u Mađarskoj te utemeljenje Medijskog centra „Croatica“, organizacijske cjeline unutar poduzeća „Croatica“. Bila je glavna i odgovorna urednica Medijskog centra Croatica od 2014. do 2022. godine. Organizirala je niz novinarskih susreta i konferencija te sudjelovala na njima. Članica je više hrvatskih udruga u Mađarskoj. Zalaže se za promoviranje i očuvanje hrvatskog jezika i pisma te hrvatske kulture i hrvatskog identiteta u Mađarskoj.



Vodstvo i Inovacija

MARIJANA PETIR, HRVATSKA

Zastupnica u Hrvatskom saboru i predsjednica Odbora za poljoprivredu Hrvatskog sabora
Zanimanje: profesorica biologije, teologinja, sveučilišna specijalistica managementa
neprofitnih organizacija i socijalnog zagovaranja

Marijana Petir je političarka i nezavisna zastupnica u Hrvatskom saboru. Kroz svoje djelovanje usmjerena je na pomaganje onima čiji se glas ne čuje. Za žene zaposlene u trgovini izborila je slobodnu nedjelju i dostojanstveno radno vrijeme, za mlade progonjene kršćane osigurala je stipendije i školovanje u Hrvatskoj, a problematiku seoskih žena podigla je na europsku razinu i kontinuirano radi na njihovom osnaživanju. Za svoj je rad u Europskom parlamentu primila EU Oscara te je proglašena najboljom europskom

zastupnicom za poljoprivredu, ruralni razvoj i ribarstvo. Vodila je antinuklearnu kampanju u Hrvatskoj kojom je spriječena izgradnja odlagališta nuklearnog otpada u Moslavini kao i kampanju kojom je Hrvatska proglašena državom slobodnom od GMO-a. U svom se političkom i javnom radu zalaže za razvoj ruralnih područja i obiteljskih poljoprivrednih gospodarstava, kao i za zaštitu tradicionalnih, kršćanskih i općeljudskih vrijednosti. Prohodala je u 29 dana Camino u Španjolskoj (Put sv. Jakova) dug 900 km.



Kultura i Umjetnost

DRINA RENDIĆ, ČILE

Predsjednica, National Museum of Women in the Arts

Drina Victoria Rendić je predsjednica Međunarodnog ženskog foruma IWF posvećenog

okupljanju svjetskih lidera koji su već smatrani svojim vodstvom s ciljem razmjene odnosa i dobrih praksi vezanih uz ravnopravnost žena. Drina je predsjednica NMWA, Nacionalnog muzeja žena u umjetnosti, entiteta koji nastoji promovirati i učiniti vidljivim čileanske žene u svim disciplinama umjetnosti.



Vodstvo i Inovacija

ANA MARIA ŠONJIĆ, ARGENTINA

DO FACECore Faculty, Emergency Medicine Residency, St Joseph's Health
Medical Director of Emergency Medicine Pain Management

Ana Maria je kreator Facebook grupe: Društvena i kulturna Hrvatska, mreža koja

ju je dovela do usmjeravanja, olakšavanja i praćenja upita za pretraživanje hrvatskih rođaka i povezivanja s konzularnim pitanjima. Bila je producentica i voditeljica radijskih emisija u kojima se promicala hrvatska tradicija. Sudjelovao je u različitim zajednicama na lokalnoj i nacionalnoj razini, organizirajući i vodeći svečana događanja za hrvatsku zajednicu. Njezina ustrajnost dovela ju je do toga da zajedno s ostalim Hrvatima

provede ustoličenje Marije Bistrice u katedrali grada u kojem živi (Rosario) te da u drugom gradu uredi naziv jedne ulice kao: "Republika Hrvatska". Tijekom pandemije pozvala je djecu i ravnatelja da osnuju prvi Rotaryjev ROTAKIDS ZBOR. U ovoj međunarodnoj instituciji - ROTARY - upravlja projektima i odgovoran je za sazivanje stručnjaka za „Ekološke forume“, koordinaciju akcija i saveza u programima za osnaživanje žena.



Znanost

dr. sc. KATHERINE C. SREDL, SAD

Viša predavačica, Odjel za marketing, Quinlan School of Business, Sveučilište Loyola u Chicagu
Direktorica, 385 LLC Digital Marketing
Viša Savjetnica, Vlahovic Group

Katherine C. Sredl, dr. sc (Sveučilište u Illinoisu, komunikacije), viša predavačica, Marketing, Quinlan School of Business, Loyola University Chicago, Sveučilište u Zagrebu, Fakultet ekonomije i menadžmenta, gostujuća profesorica, Sveučilište u Rijeci, Fakultet za ekonomiju i menadžment, član međunarodnog Savjetodavnog vijeća. Utemeljiteljica i direktorica 385 LLC - Digitalni marketing consultancy. Senior Advisor, Vlahovic Group LLC. dopredsjednica Udruge hrvatsko-američkih profesionalaca u Chicagu, utemeljiteljica

i rizničarica "Veslamo 925" (Sportsko Rekreativna Udruga). Katherine je odrasla u Paducah u Kentuckyju, na obalama rijeke Ohio. Kao dijete slušala je o sjećanjima svojih roditelja na život u Osijeku, Zagrebu, Fermu, Buenos Airesu i Lisabonu (Katherininom rodnom gradu). Kao znanstvenica koja se istražuje odnosom roda i marketing, redovito objavljuje u međunarodnim, recenziranim znanstvenim časopisima o utjecajima globalizacije na ravnopravnost žena u Hrvatskoj, postsocijalističkim državama u Europi te u SAD-u. Njeneljubavisupsi,sport,priroda,umjetnostipisanje.



Kultura i Umjetnost

ANDREA STANIĆ, HRVATSKA

Umjetnica, Rijeka, Croatia

Andrea Stanić, rođena 1974. u Rijeci, Hrvatska, ističe se kao samouka umjetnica apstraktnog ekspresionizma.

Njezin rad je globalno priznat, s izložbama diljem svijeta, uključujući muzeje u Južnoj Koreji te sudjelovanje na bijenalima i osvajanje nagrada poput 2. mjesta na globalnom Pop Art Biennale natječaju. Članica je uglednih umjetničkih organizacija i predsjednica nekoliko međunarodnih umjetničkih udruženja/HDLU-Zagreb, UNOTA, Consell Internacional de les Artes, United Nations Arts@Sciences-Paris, VIPPA

N.York, Realizar la Paz Argentina, ambasador Vision Art Media NY i dr./ Njezina umjetnost, koja se proteže od apstrakcija do figura i pejzaža, potiče individualne emocije i maštu gledatelja. U njezinim slikama osjeti se snaga, sloboda i nježnost, naglašavajući potrebu za unutarnjim mirom i opuštanjem. Andrea stvara intuitivno, prepuštajući se trenutku osjećaja, a o njezinom radu su pisale poznate kritičarke umjetnosti, poput Marte Lock i Sonie Demurtas.



MIRA TEMUNOVIĆ, SRBIJA

Profesor glazbene kulture itambure, Glazbena škola Subotica

Mira Temunović je tamburašica, dirigentica, glazbena pedagoginja, voditeljica tamburaških orkestrara, profesorica tambure u Glazbenoj školi u Subotici, cijenjena hrvatska glazbenica u Vojvodini, u Republici Srbiji. Njezini su učenici tambure osvojili oko 150 nagrada, a svoje muziciranje 2022. godine predstavila je na gala-koncertu u Subotičkoj sinagogi povodom pedesete obljetnice sviranja na tamburi. Jedna je od osnivača Hrvatske glazbene udruge „Festival bunjevački pisama“ u Subotici koja okuplja tamburaše i priređuje više glazbenih manifestacija već skoro 25 godina.

Osnovala je Veliki i Mali tamburaški orkestar čija je ravnateljica. Sudjelovala je u brojnim natjecanjima kao članica ocjenjivačkih povjerenstava, ali i kao organizator natjecanja, kako u Vojvodini, tako i u Hrvatskoj. Koautorica je udžbenika za glazbenu kulturu u nastavi na hrvatskom jeziku od 1. do 8. razreda. Dobitnica je velikih priznanja za svoj rad, kako onog Ministarstva obrazovanja Republike Srbije tako i priznanja „Pajo Kujundžić“ Hrvatskoga nacionalnog vijeća u Republici Srbiji za doprinos u nastavi na hrvatskom jeziku.



KATHERINE VLASICA, USA

DO FACECore Faculty, Emergency Medicine Residency, St Joseph's Health
Medical Director of Emergency Medicine Pain Management

Dr. Katherine Vlasica je liječnica hitne medicine sa strašću prema podučavanju i unaprjeđenju inovacija u liječenju akutne boli. Dr. Vlasica je istaknuta osoba u Ljetnoj školi hitne medicine u Zadru, Hrvatska, gdje prenosi svoje vještine traumatologije međunarodnim studentima medicine. Kao dobro poznata osoba u hitnoj medicini za liječenje akutne boli, dr. Vlasica je proširila program za liječenje boli na nacionalnu razinu angažmana, fokusirajući se na primjene regionalne anestezije vodene

ultrazvukom na hitnom odjelu. Dr Vlasica je autor nekoliko publikacija o alternativama opioidima u liječenju boli te je predavala i supredsjedala na nacionalnim i međunarodnim konferencijama o alternativnim metodama analgezije u hitnoj službi. Voditeljica je nacionalnog Odjela za liječenje boli i ovisnosti u Odjelu za hitnu medicinu, nacionalnom akreditacijskom programu čiji je cilj poboljšati liječenje boli i skrb za pacijente s poremećajem ovisnosti o drogama.



Kultura i Umjetnost

BLANKA ŽAKULA, DIPL. OEC, HRVATSKA

Predsjednica i voditeljica Kulturnog centra „Gatalinka“ Vinkovci

Blanka Žakula, dipl. oec. završila je gimnaziju u Vinkovcima i ekonomski fakultet u Osijeku 1980. godine. Nakon diplomiranja zapošljava se u ŽTP Vinkovci, U struci napreduje na mjesto šefice knjigovodstva Radne zajednice HŽ Vinkovci, te voditeljice platnog prometa HŽ Vinkovci. 1994. godine prelazi u „Vibrobeton d.d.“ Vinkovci, na mjesto financijske direktorice. Sada je u mirovini. Završila je Osnovnu glazbenu školu „Josip Runjanin“ u Vinkovcima. Od 1978. godine sustavno istražuje plesnu tradicijsku kulturu

Hrvatske, a posebno području Vukovarsko srijemske županije. Kulturni centar „Gatalinka“ osnovala je 1994. godine u svrhu obrazovanja djece i odraslih na području tradicijske baštine po jedinstvenom programu u Hrvatskoj, gdje su svi polaznici istovremeno svirači i plesači, te poznaju notno i plesno pismo. Autorica je petnaest koreografija za djecu i odrasle, iz područja plesne baštine Vukovarsko srijemske županije. Idejna je začetnica više projekata u Hrvatskoj, te autorica i urednica niza stručnih knjiga.



Humanitarni Rad

Prof. dr.sc. TAMARA ŽIVKOVIĆ IVANOVIĆ, HRVATSKA

Logoped u Kliničkom bolničkom centru Zagreb

Tamara Živković Ivanović, istaknuta logopedinja, znanstvenica i aktivistica, svojim radom nastoji povećati kvalitetu života osoba bez glasnica i djeluje u skladu s motom: „Zajedno smo glasniji i bolje nas se čuje.“ Kao predsjednica Hrvatske zajednice laringektomiranih osoba i stručna voditeljica Kluba Laringektomiranih osoba u Zagrebu, Tamara je postala glas i podrška za one kojima je to najpotrebnije. Njen doprinos društvu vidljiv je kroz osnivanje zbora „Optimisti“ i autorstvo filma „Život bez

glasnica“, koji istražuje izazove i nadanja osoba bez glasnica. Studij logopedije predstavlja temelj njenog obrazovanja, a stjecanje znanstvenog magisterija i završetak doktorskog studija, krunu njenog akademskog rasta i razvoja. Danas, kao autorica brojnih stručnih radova, primjenjuje svoje multidisciplinarno znanje u Kliničkom bolničkom centru Zagreb, svakodnevno radeći na poboljšanju kvalitete života svojih pacijenata. Njen rad simbolizira strast, posvećenost i inovativnost u logopediji i znanosti, čineći je pravom inspiracijom i lidericom u svom polju.



BIENVENIDOS

[@CWNLeaders](https://twitter.com/CWNLeaders)//croatianswomensnetwork.org



CAROLINE SPIVAK - FUNDADORA

Nos complace darle la bienvenida a la séptima gala de los premios “Mujeres Croatas Influyentes” de la Red de Mujeres Croatas/ Mreža Hrvatskih Žena / Croatian Women’s Network. Este año celebramos y honramos a 26 nuevas ganadoras del premio “Mujeres Croatas Influyentes”, y a dos futuras líderes entre 11 países. Les damos la bienvenida a la lista del prestigioso grupo de 146 ganadoras del CWol elegidas de entre más de 550 nominaciones de todo el mundo.

Esta noche celebramos a la mujer notable, quien a menudo permanece en las sombras, iluminando el camino a las futuras generaciones. Nuestro objetivo es destacar en el “Mujeres Croatas Influyentes”, la influencia de aquellas mujeres excepcionales que navegan sin problemas entre las carreras profesionales y sus vidas personales, dejando una marca indeleble en ambas esferas. Al celebrar heroínas anónimas, esperamos honrar a toda mujer que a través de su esfuerzo y determinación excepcional ha tallado un espacio propio en la historia.

Para mostrar nuestra increíble comunidad de mujeres pioneras: artistas, empresarias, influyentes, filántropas, científicas y otras, nosotros arrojamos luz sobre estas, quienes día a día avanzan a través de territorios inexplorados en campos donde sus logros pasan desapercibidos.

Los premios “Mujeres Croaras Influyentes” honran a mujeres que redefinen el liderazgo. Sus viajes son testimonios inspiradores de coraje, determinación y una visión de compromiso inquebrantable. Estas son historias de mujeres exitosas que encarnan un espíritu de persistencia y resiliencia, balanceando las demandas de la carrera y la familia, y al mismo tiempo rompiendo nociones preconcebidas de lo que las mujeres pueden lograr. Las ganadoras de nuestros premios son faros de empoderamiento, mujeres que ejemplifican lo que significa marcar la diferencia y dejar un legado duradero. Desde las salas de juntas hasta las salas de estar, su influencia abarca distintos ámbitos, traspasando fronteras y liderando la carga en industrias que tradicionalmente les ofrecen un reconocimiento limitado. Esta noche celebramos y compartimos sus exitosas historias: narraciones de triunfos, ruptura de barreras y la navegación en aguas inexploradas. En la búsqueda incansante de la excelencia, nuestros ganadores del premio CWol, han transformado los paisajes de sus industrias y comunidades.

Al celebrar a estas destacadas mujeres, esperamos inspirar también a otras a desafiar el statu quo, a ir más allá de los límites existentes y creer en el poder de su propio potencial. En nombre de CWNTM / MHŽ, una organización de mujeres que apoyan mujeres, esperamos continuar trabajando juntas para brindar oportunidades a las mujeres croatas, para celebrar, difundir y conectar caminos hacia el éxito colectivo. Felicitaciones a todas las mujeres croatas influyentes.

Caroline Spivak
Fundadora,
Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža Hrvatskih Žena/La Red
de Mujeres Croatas

SOBRE EL PREMIO



*Honrando el pasado.
Celebrando el presente.
Creando el futuro.*

A lo largo de la historia de Croacia, las mujeres valientes y fuertes han desempeñado un papel constituyente en la estimulación de la acción, la preservación de la cultura, la religión y el patrimonio, e incluso protegido valientemente nuestras fronteras, tal como lo hacen hoy. Al idear este premio, nuestro objetivo era rendir homenaje al patrimonio que nos une, reconocer la fuerza y la perseverancia de nuestras Influentes mujeres croatas.

El símbolo de la inicial “ž” en la palabra žena (‘mujer’) de la escritura glagolítica croata original y antigua ha desempeñado un importante papel en la historia de Croacia, y el premio mismo se ha realizado con la forma de ese símbolo. La escritura glagolítica (también conocida como glagoljica) es la escritura eslava más antigua conocida. Fue creada en el siglo IX por San Cirilo, un monje bizantino de Salónica. En 863, el emperador bizantino Miguel III lo envió a él y a su hermano, San Metodio, a la Magna Moravia para difundir allí el cristianismo entre los eslavos de ese territorio.

Los hermanos decidieron traducir los libros litúrgicos a la lengua paleoeslava, que era comprensible para la población en general, pero como las palabras de esa lengua no se podían escribir fácilmente usando la escritura griega o latina, Cirilo decidió inventar una nueva escritura, el glagolítico, basado en la lengua de los eslavos macedonios de la región de Salónica.

Después de la muerte de Cirilo y Metodio, el alfabeto glagolítico dejó de usarse en Moravia, pero sus discípulos siguieron difundiéndolo hacia el oeste y el sur. El glagolítico se ha conservado sólo entre los croatas, que lo usaron desde el siglo XII hasta el siglo XX, sobre todo en la liturgia. El nombre fue acuñado sólo muchos siglos después de



PLATO DE BASKA RAY ZVONIMIR

Baška tablet is one of the first monuments with an inscription in the Croatian recension of the Church Slavonic language, dating from c. 1100.

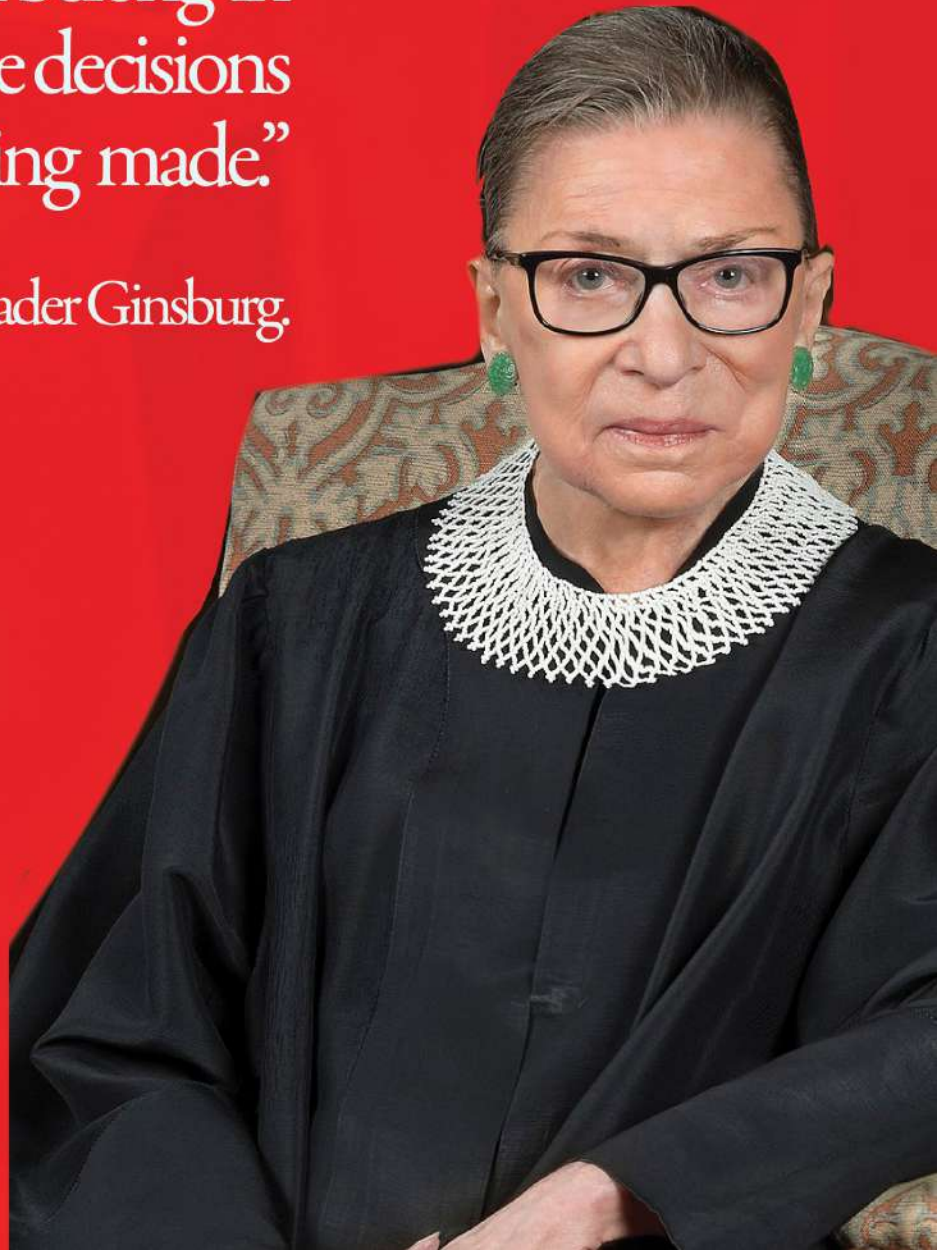
su creación, y proviene del verbo eslavo eclesiástico antiguo glagol “glagoljati” (también el origen del nombre eslavo de la letra G). El verbo glagoljati significa “hablar”. Se supone que el nombre glagoljica surgió en Croacia alrededor del siglo XIV a partir del verbo glagoljati, que usaban los seguidores de la liturgia en lenguas eslavas. Los croatas que usaban el glagolítico fueron la única nación de Europa que recibió un permiso especial del Papa Inocencio IV (en 1248) para usar su propia lengua y esta escritura en la liturgia. Más exactamente, este permiso le fue otorgado formalmente al obispo Filip de Senj. Sin embargo, la especial atención que el Vaticano prestaba a la liturgia glagolítica en los siglos siguientes (incluso publicando algunos misales glagolíticos en Roma) muestra que este privilegio se aplicaba a todas las tierras croatas que usaban la liturgia glagolítica, principalmente en los territorios costeros del Adriático. Como es sabido, el latín fue la lengua privilegiada en las ceremonias religiosas de la Iglesia católica hasta el Concilio Vaticano II, celebrado entre 1962 y 1965, cuando se decidió que en lugar del latín en la liturgia católica se permitiría el uso de las lenguas nacionales. Es interesante que incluso hoy en día la liturgia glagolítica se utilice en algunas iglesias Croatas.

El premio representa una moderna interpretación y reconocimiento de nuestro pasado, presente y futuro. Los pilares de la letra “ž”, son un tributo a la fuerza y resiliencia de las mujeres; protectoras, estables y atemporales. Con este premio celebramos a las mujeres influyentes de hoy y es una confirmación para nuestras pioneras, de que nos apoyamos unas a otras para la construcción del futuro.

Fabricado en Canadá de aluminio y piedra, este hermoso premio puede semejar a primera vista un regalo envuelto. Quizás también sea un recordatorio de que todas las mujeres son un regalo para la sociedad y la comunidad y que el mundo siempre debería apreciar sus muchas contribuciones.

“Women belong in
all places where decisions
are being made.”

-Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



2024

**PREMIO
AL FUTURAS
LÍDERES**





Un futuro líder

DUBRAVKA DATKOVIĆ, CROACIA

Profesora de matemáticas, escuela primaria Vladimir Nazor, Zagreb

Dubravka Datković se graduó recientemente con una maestría en ingeniería ecológica. En la Facultad de Ingeniería y Tecnología Química de Zagreb destacó por su trabajo en la Sección de Estudiantes de la Sociedad Croata de Ingenieros Químicos y Tecnólogos en la organización de numerosos proyectos, en particular como editora jefe de la revista científica y popular “Reaktor ideja”. , que dirigió durante dos años y escribió durante cinco años. También participó en trabajos científicos en la Facultad de Ingeniería y Tecnología Química, en el Instituto de Ecología

Industrial, principalmente en el campo de la ecotoxicología. Es ganadora de 2 premios del Rector. A lo largo de sus estudios, e incluso después de graduarse en la Facultad, intenta acercar el tema de la protección del medio ambiente al público en general, especialmente cuando se trabaja con niños. En el verano de 2022 también participó en el programa Work & Travel USA y pasó 4 meses trabajando y conociendo Estados Unidos.



Un futuro líder

MARIJA KUŠTRO, CROACIA

Educación primaria Pavao Belas

Marija Kuštro nació en Zagreb donde se graduó en septiembre de 2023 en la Facultad de Ingeniería y Tecnología Químicas (FITQ) con una maestría en Ingeniería Ambiental de la Universidad de Zagreb. Durante sus estudios fue activa organizadora y gestora de proyectos en la Sección Estudiantil de Ingenieros y Tecnólogos Químicos. Ganó el Premio del Rector por su trabajo individual y artístico, el Premio “Tomislav Cvitaš” a la mejor presentación de carteles y obtuvo el 3er lugar en el Concurso

Científico y Deportivo Internacional “Tecnología 2022” en la parte científica del concurso. Con su trabajo contribuye a la labor de investigación científica del Departamento de Ecología Industrial de la FITQ y participa en reuniones y congresos profesionales con presentaciones de carteles. Su campo de trabajo está relacionado con la biodegradación de microplásticos y la toxicidad de los xenobióticos para los organismos. Participó en varios encuentros científicos internacionales y nacionales, así como en talleres para niños.

2024
**PREMIO
MUJERES
INFLUYENTES**





Liderazgo e Innovación

RAFAELLA ARAPOVIĆ, CANADÁ

Abogada; Asociada en McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Rafaella es abogada especializada en derecho inmobiliario en McCarthy Tétrault LLP (Montreal, Canadá). Con títulos en Economía, Ciencias Políticas y Derecho de la Universidad de Montreal, su experiencia abarca los ámbitos legales y académicos. Realizó prácticas en el Parlamento Europeo, donde trabajó en asuntos ambientales, energéticos y comerciales. Durante su etapa estudiantil, Rafaella fundó un grupo en apoyo a UN Women y se involucró en causas sociales a través de una clínica legal, además de colaborar

como escritora para el Joven Colegio de Abogados de Montreal. Su compromiso persiste con casos pro bono en McCarthy Tétrault LLP y su activa participación en CREW, abogando por el éxito de las mujeres en bienes raíces como miembro del Comité de Eventos. Más allá del derecho, Rafaella ha dedicado más de una década a la comunidad croata de Montreal, enseñando folklore, recaudando fondos y orientando a jóvenes. Su compromiso multifacético refleja una combinación de habilidades legales, defensa y servicio comunitario.



Liderazgo e Innovación

ANNA BAČIĆ, CANADÁ

Coordinadora de programas de idioma croata en Canadá - Ministerio de Ciencia y Educación de la República de Croacia
Función de liderazgo educativo, jefe de departamento de la escuela secundaria St. Marguerite d'Youville, junta escolar del distrito católico de Dufferin-Peel

Anna Bačić es conocida por su pasión por la preservación y promoción del patrimonio croata y el idioma a través de la enseñanza, la escritura y el trabajo social. Ana se graduó como profesora en la Universidad de Zagreb y obtuvo un máster en la Universidad de York en Toronto. Ana ha representado de manera positiva y ha influido en la comunidad croata-canadiense como autora publicada, escritora y editora. En 2011, su novela histórica "Vremeplov" fue reconocida y premiada como la mejor novela publicada en la diáspora por la Matica Hrvatska matice iseljenika. Trabajó como editora en Gaudeamus, la revista anual de la Asociación de antiguos estudiantes y amigos de las universidades croatas en AMCA Toronto, donde también

es vicepresidenta. Todavía escribe regularmente para numerosos portales que tratan principalmente temas de la diáspora. Ana ha participado en numerosos simposios sobre la cultura, el idioma y la literatura croata en todo Canadá, organizados por la Academia Croata de América del Norte. Fue miembro de la Junta Directiva de la Cámara de Comercio Canadá-Croacia. Basándose en su experiencia, dedicación y trabajo social en el área metropolitana de Toronto, Bačić fue nombrada por el Ministerio de Ciencia y Educación de la República de Croacia como coordinadora del programa de idioma croata en Canadá. Su misión es preservar la cultura, la tradición y el idioma croata en Canadá.



Liderazgo e Innovación

ANA BARJAŠIĆ, REINO UNIDO

Miembro de la Junta Directiva, Consejo Europeo de Innovación

Con una trayectoria de más de una década en el ecosistema de startups europeo, Ana Barjašić destaca como emprendedora, inversora ángel, asesora de políticas y

constructora de ecosistemas. Asimismo, Ana ostenta el título de Obama Leader Europe, desempeñando un papel crucial como miembro del Comité Ejecutivo de Global Entrepreneurship Network Europe, así como en la junta directiva del Consejo Europeo de Innovación, el principal fondo de innovación para tecnologías avanzadas en Europa, con una capacidad de inversión de 10 mil millones de euros. En calidad de presidenta del grupo de trabajo de Países en Expansión de la Junta del EIC (Widening Countries), Ana lidera iniciativas en toda la Unión Europea

para impulsar la participación e incrementar las tasas de éxito de los innovadores europeos procedentes de dichos países. Su profundo conocimiento de los ecosistemas de startups, la innovación y las comunidades de inversión en la región EMEA le llevaron a crear Connectology, una agencia boutique internacional dedicada al acceso a la financiación, la preparación para la inversión y ciencias del comportamiento. Frecuentemente solicitada como ponente en conferencias internacionales, Ana comparte su experiencia y visión en temas clave como acceso a financiación, innovación, emprendimiento femenino, inversión, sostenibilidad y ciencias del comportamiento. Su compromiso con el avance de la innovación en Europa y su capacidad para traducir conocimientos prácticos en acciones concretas hacen de Ana una figura influyente en el panorama internacional.



Tecnología científica

Doc. dr. sc. MORANA BRKLJAČIĆ, DR. MED. CROACIA

Principal y Especialista en radiología clínica.
Hospital Especial AGRAM - Policlínico de Rijeka

Morana Brkljačić, M.D. Ph.D. se graduó en la Facultad de Medicina de la Universidad de Rijeka. Publicó más de

80 artículos científicos y fue conferenciante en más de cien congresos científicos y profesionales en Croacia y en el mundo, a los 23 años como conferenciante invitada. Es autora del primer libro de texto universitario croata sobre medicina paliativa. Se ocupa de la ética médica desde hace 30 años, de los cuales se formó en la Universidad de Harvard. Enseña en tres universidades de la República de Croacia. Es la presidenta del Comité de Ética Médica y Deontología de la Asociación Médica de Croacia. Es editora de ética médica de

la revista Medicina Fluminensis. Es especialista en radiología clínica y miembro de la Sociedad Croata y Europea de Radiólogos. Es miembro de numerosas sociedades científicas y profesionales de medicina nacionales y extranjeras. Es delegado de la Asociación Médica Croata ante la Asociación Europea de Médicos Especialistas, la Federación para la Ética Médica. Es miembro del Comité de Juego Limpio del Comité Olímpico Croata. Es la directora del Hospital Especial AGRAM - Policlínico Rijeka. La Asociación Médica Croata le otorga un premio por su contribución especial al fomento de la honorable tradición de HLZ en ciencia médica y atención sanitaria en la República de Croacia.



Tecnología Científica

SANDA ERDELEZ, ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA

Profesora y Decana de la Facultad de Biblioteconomía y Ciencias de la Información de la Universidad Simmons en Boston, EE. UU.

La Dra. Sandra Erdelez es Profesora y Decana de la Facultad de Biblioteconomía y Ciencias de la Información de la Universidad Simmons en Boston, EE. UU. Después de obtener sus títulos de grado y máster en la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de Osijek, amplió su trayectoria académica con un doctorado en ciencias de la información de la Universidad de Syracuse, respaldado por una beca Fulbright en 1995. La investigación de la Dra. Erdelez se centra en el comportamiento humano ante la información, la interacción humano-computadora y la evaluación de la usabilidad en entornos en línea. Ha publicado

y presentado más de 180 trabajos de investigación. En 2015, fue reconocida por su labor científica con el Premio a la Destacada Contribución a la Investigación del Comportamiento de la Información otorgado por la Asociación de Ciencia e Tecnología de la Información (ASIS&T) SIG USE y fue incorporada a la Academia de Miembros. Actualmente, preside una Organización Internacional de iSchools. El compromiso de la Dra. Erdelez se extiende a la comunidad académica croata, donde fue honrada con el premio Fulbright Specialist Program, contribuyendo mediante conferencias sobre biblioteconomía y ciencias de la información en el Programa de Ciencias de la Información de la Universidad de Osijek.



Emprendimiento

PETRA HEISINGER, CROACIA

Petra Heisinger tiene una maestría en ciencias políticas, es músico flautista, nutricionista certificada y entrenadora física certificada. Es especialista en relaciones públicas y publicidad, además de emprendedora y madre de dos hijos. Durante varios años, trabajó como voluntaria en una casa de Nazorova, enseñando música a niños como parte de un programa de escuela de música privada "Glazbaonica Ljubav", que ella fundó. Fue declarado mejor proyecto emprendedor en 2013. Es copresentadora y entrenadora personal de la marca DeeP Fitness y creadora del programa Clear Your Head. Es autora de dos libros. El primero es

Story to Music, que es un reflejo de su método patentado de animaciones musicales verificado por el Ministerio de Ciencia, Educación y Deportes de Croacia y reconocido internacionalmente e introducido en la Universidad de Harvard en 2017. El segundo libro, Soy Petra, tú, no me doblegará, explica la desobediencia de una niña a las creencias impuestas y su camino de crecimiento y maduración, en el que utiliza cada adversidad como campo de entrenamiento para el crecimiento personal. La continuación del libro viene en forma de un programa llamado Endereza la cabeza, que Petra creó con el propósito de la herramienta de belleza más importante de todos: su yo interior.



Liderazgo e Innovación

MATEJA-ANGELINA KRAMAR, CROACIA

Consultora de proyectos sociales y ambientales.
Propietaria y directora, Green Fusion

Mateja-Angelina Kramar es director de proyectos y consultor en financiación sostenible, propietario de Green Fusion, es decir, la

primera bolsa croata para invertir en transición verde y social, destaca como un apasionado defensor de la sostenibilidad y la protección del medio ambiente a través de enfoques innovadores para el emprendimiento creativo. Es madre soltera de cuatro hijos. Angelina también es responsable del proyecto nacional “¡Planta un árbol, no seas un tocón!”, además de todo lo anterior, ocupa el cargo de responsable de ventas y marketing en la empresa familiar “InWood casas móviles sostenibles”. Con amplia experiencia

en negocios socialmente responsables, desarrollo sostenible y diseño ambiental de permacultura, Angelina se esfuerza por lograr un enfoque holístico para resolver los desafíos del entorno empresarial, teniendo en cuenta la sostenibilidad de las inversiones verdes. Consciente de la importancia de contribuir a la comunidad y al mundo a través del desarrollo de nuevas ideas e innovaciones, rediseña juntos el medio ambiente rediseñando los hábitos destructivos de las personas. Las actividades activistas y emprendedoras la ayudan en su desarrollo personal y espiritual, y sus emociones como madre son una respuesta a la sociedad en la que quiere criar a sus hijos.



Arte y Cultura

VESNA KREZICH KITTELSON, ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA

Artista profesional independiente
Centro de artes visuales Traffic Zone, Minneapolis, MN, EE. UU

La artista croata-estadounidense Vesna Krezich Kittelson creció en Split, Croacia. Después

de graduarse de derecho allí, se fue a Cambridge-Inglaterra para estudiar inglés. Vesna conoció y se casó con David Kittelson. Se mudaron a Minneapolis, donde se graduó con una licenciatura en bellas artes y una maestría en diseño, de la Universidad de Minnesota. Se convirtió en profesora asociada en el Colegio de Arte y Diseño de Minneapolis. Vesna Kittelson ha vivido y expuesto en tres culturas, representadas por tres ciudades: Minneapolis-Minnesota, Cambridge-Inglaterra y Split-Croacia.

Como artista internacional, está representada por famosos museos: Victoria and Albert, y Tate Britain, Londres; Instituto de Investigación Getty, Los Ángeles; Bibliotecas Smithsonian Washington, D.C.; Centro de Arte Walker, Minneapolis; Universidad de Yale, Nuevo Cielo; Museo de Brooklyn, Brooklyn; Museo de Arte Weisman, Minneapolis. El estado de Minnesota, en colaboración con el Museo de Arte, el Museo de Arte Weisman y la editorial Afton Press, ha publicado un libro sobre la carrera de Vesna y sus contribuciones al arte y la cultura: “Synthesis, Lost and Found in America: Vesna Kittelson’s Art”, 2020.



Liderazgo e Innovación

JUDITH KRIZMANIĆ ŽIVIĆ, ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA

Cofundadora, CROPEL Group

Después de una carrera administrativa en el servicio federal de los EE. UU. y en diversas empresas,

Judi persigue su pasión en la “jubilación”. Junto con su esposo, Ron, formó CROPEL Group, que permite la colaboración con empresas croatas tecnológicamente avanzadas que desean ingresar al mercado estadounidense. Judi, hija de un inmigrante croata, tiene una conexión personal directa con Croacia y su madre croata estadounidense animó a Judi y a sus hermanos a tocar tambura en la Federación Cultural de

la Unión Fraternal Croata. Como miembro de la Asociación de Profesionales Croata-Americanos y de la Fundación Cultural de la Federación Nacional de Croatas-Americanos, Judi promueve los negocios y la cultura croatas en cada oportunidad. Ver que muchos croatas en la diáspora crecieron construyendo vínculos con nuestra patria mientras tocaban tambura con poco dominio del idioma y casi ningún conocimiento de la historia croata. Así, Judi inició y dirige la Serie de Oradores sobre Historia de Croacia de la NFCACF y el curso Panorama de la Historia de Croacia, que comenzará el 1 de julio de 2024 en Zagreb.



Tecnología Científica

Dr. FRANCES KRTULIĆ ŠEPAROVIĆ, AO, FAA, AUSTRALIA

Profesora Emérita Distinguida, Facultad de Química, Universidad de Melbourne
Secretaria de Asuntos Exteriores, Academia Australiana de Ciencias

El profesora Frances Šeparović es químico biofísico

de la Universidad de Melbourne y secretaria de Asuntos Exteriores de la Academia Australiana de Ciencias. Su área de investigación es el estudio de moléculas en membranas biológicas, con especial atención a antibióticos peptídicos y toxinas. Frances fue la primera profesora de química (2005) y directora de escuela (2010) en Melbourne y la primera química elegida para la Academia Australiana de Ciencias (2012). Fue incluida en el Cuadro de Honor de Mujeres de

Victoria (2018) y nombrada Oficial de la Orden de Australia (2019). Frances se ha desempeñado como presidenta de la Sociedad Biofísica (EE. UU.); Presidente de la Sociedad Australiana-Nueva Zelanda de Resonancia Magnética; Tesorero General del Real Instituto Químico Australiano; y miembro del Consejo de la Unión Internacional de Biofísica Pura y Aplicada. Es miembro del Comité Asesor de la Asociación InterAcademia (IAP) y de la Junta Científica de la Unión Internacional de Química Pura y Aplicada (IUPAC).



Negocio

VEDRANA LIKAN, CROACIA

Socio directora, Colliers: Croacia, Eslovenia, Bosnia y Herzegovina

Vedrana Likan es sinónimo de bienes raíces e inversiones, economía sostenible, espíritu empresarial intelectual y liderazgo de las mujeres en todo el mundo empresarial de Croacia y la región del Adriático en general. Durante los últimos 15 años, Vedrana ha ocupado cargos como presidente y junta directiva en varias organizaciones, entre ellas: la Cámara de Comercio Croata Británica, la Cámara de Comercio Estadounidense, el Consejo de Construcción Ecológica de Croacia y la Academia para el desarrollo político. Profesor invitado frecuente en universidades; Vedrana

también participa como miembro de la junta asesora y de programas, moderador y panelista en importantes conferencias y ha sido miembro del jurado de prestigiosos premios europeos. Por sus logros profesionales y su compromiso con el empoderamiento de las mujeres en los negocios, Vedrana fue reconocida como “La Mujer del Año” en 2012. Después de lo cual lanzó sus conferencias “21 caminos hacia el éxito” y LeaderSHE. En Bruselas, en 2022, Vedrana fue nombrada “Mujer líder empresarial” entre mujeres de 23 países europeos, por sus contribuciones significativas e inspiradoras, su compromiso duradero y sus esfuerzos sistemáticos para defender y empoderar a las mujeres en los negocios.



Filantropía

CATALINA LONAC, ARGENTINA

Fundadora, Universidad San Pablo
Cónsul honoraria de Croacia para las siete provincias del norte argentino con sede en

Catalina Lonac Domijan es hija de padre y madre croatas, y ha sido criada en esa cultura. Su padre era de un pueblo de Bosnia-Herzegovina llamado Trnčina, y su madre de Dramalj, en la costa Dálmata. Es abogada pero tiene también otras actividades. Es Cónsul honoraria de Croacia para siete provincias del norte argentino, con sede en Tucumán. Se dedica a la industria del azúcar y del alcohol (etanol), siendo su empresa la más grande de Argentina. También incursiona en el mundo del turismo, y posee tres hoteles en su provincia. Ha fundado la primera Universidad privada y laica

del norte argentino: UNIVERSIDAD DE SAN PABLO -TUCUMÁN que posee 42 carreras de grado, y varios posgrados. Juntamente con la Secretaría de Cultura de la Provincia, organiza cada cuatro años el Concurso Internacional de Piano, y siempre lleva como uno de los jurados a Goran Filipec de Croacia. Todas sus empresas y emprendimientos llevan nombres de ciudades croatas. Ha dedicado su vida entera a hacer conocer Croacia en Argentina, y trabaja por ella, ya que la considera también su patria. También ha convocado a su Universidad al Dr.Allan Uzelac, que es un gran investigador croata del Derecho Civil. Es su voluntad seguir trabajando por Croacia toda su vida.



Liderazgo e Innovación

LLUVITZA LOPÉZ GOLAC, BOLIVIA

Psicóloga

Vice presidente de la Sociedad Croata de Cochabamba, Bolivia y Representante de la Comunidad Croata en Cochabamba, Bolivia.

A partir de 2016, Lluvitza logró reagrupar a la comunidad croata tanto a nivel local en Cochabamba como a nivel nacional en Bolivia, impulsando a todos los descendientes a unirse para recuperar el legado de nuestros padres y abuelos. Se ha logrado mucho después de esta activación. Desde una mayor participación de la comunidad en ferias culturales, sociales, educativas y deportivas hasta la creación de cursos de idioma croata en la Universidad privada Franz Tamayo y el estímulo y organización de los jóvenes para que asistan a cursos de

croaticum, la organización de cursos de cocina croata y actividades recreativas en días festivos nacionales y Fiestas tradicionales como Navidad y Semana Santa. Esto se extiende al apoyo al consulado croata y a la organización de visitas consulares, gracias a las cuales más de 300 personas obtuvieron su nacionalidad croata y su pasaporte. Como mujer croata activa, Lluvitza es responsable del mantenimiento de nuestra herencia croata en Bolivia, a través del club social croata y de la gestión del único cementerio croata en América Latina.



Liderazgo e Innovación

Prof. Ph.D. Sc. MIRJANA MILIĆEVIĆ, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Directora, Universidad de Mostar

Mirjana Milićević recibió su doctorado en la Facultad de Ciencias y Matemáticas de la Universidad de Zagreb. Durante sus 19 años de trabajo en la Universidad de Mostar, ocupó los cargos de vicedecana de coordinación y desarrollo de proyectos, directora del Centro de Proyectos e Integración de la UE de la Universidad y, hoy en día, directora de estudios y estudios universitarios de Turismo y Protección del Medio Ambiente. Coordinadora del programa CEEPUS, trabaja con dedicación para promover la educación y la ciencia. Como consultora de proyectos, construyó sólidas relaciones profesionales entre la comunidad académica y empresarial. Es la única mujer que ocupa

la presidencia de UBH Hrvata Prsten en Bosnia y Herzegovina. Desde 2016, como miembro y luego primera mujer del directorio del Fondo Federal de Protección al Ambiente, brinda un aporte significativo a la comunidad a través de la implementación de proyectos de infraestructura básica, vital y eficiencia energética. Lo que más le gusta es trabajar con gente joven. Realizó más de 20 proyectos adicionales de educación y reciclaje para jóvenes y mujeres. Lideró la creación de la primera Estrategia Demográfica de los croatas en Bosnia y Herzegovina, organizó la primera feria empresarial femenina para mujeres rurales en Mostar y actualmente trabaja en la formación de jóvenes en gestión de proyectos para fomentar el autoempleo y la permanencia en sus hogares. patria.



Arte y Cultura

BRANKA PAVIĆ BLAŽETIN, HUNGRÍA

Profesora de lengua y literatura croatas.

Periodista, redactor jefe y publicista del semanario de los croatas en Hungría Hrvatski glasnik en Pécs.

Branka Pavić Blažetin nació en Sukošan cerca de Zadar. Se graduó en la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de Zagreb,

en la Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales de la Universidad de Pécs y en Periodismo en Budapest. Desde mayo de 2005 es la editora en jefe del semanario de los croatas en Hungría Hrvatski glasnik en Croacia, una empresa sin ánimo de lucro de actividades culturales, informativas y editoriales. Ha concebido y editado una serie de monografías sobre los asentamientos en los que viven los croatas en el condado de Baranya. Desde 2003

edita el anuario de los croatas en Hungría Hrvatski kalendar. Trabajó en la Escuela Croata Miroslav Krleža en Hungría, dirigió el programa en croata Hrvatska kronika en la Televisión húngara, inició la fundación del Día de la Prensa Croata en Hungría y la fundación del Centro de Medios Croatica, una unidad dentro de la empresa Croatica. Fue la editora jefe y responsable de Centro de Medios Croatica de 2014 a 2022. Organizó una serie de encuentros y ruedas de prensa y participó en ellos. Es miembro de varias asociaciones croatas en Hungría. Aboga por la promoción y preservación de la lengua y la escritura croata, así como de la cultura y la identidad croata en Hungría.



Liderazgo e Innovación

MARIJANA PETIR, CROACIA

Representante en el Parlamento croata y presidente de la Comisión de Agricultura del Parlamento Croata

Marijana Petir es política y miembro independiente del Parlamento Croata. Su objetivo es ayudar

a aquellos cuyas voces no son escuchadas. Logró garantizar domingos libres y horarios de trabajo dignos para las mujeres empleadas en el sector minorista. Sus esfuerzos aseguraron que Croacia proporcione igualdad de educación y becas a los jóvenes cristianos perseguidos. Mirjana defiende los desafíos de las mujeres rurales a nivel europeo y trabaja continuamente para empoderarlas. Recibió el Oscar de la UE

por su trabajo en el Parlamento Europeo y fue declarada mejor representante europea para la agricultura, el desarrollo rural y la pesca. Lideró una campaña antinuclear en Croacia que impidió la construcción de un depósito de desechos nucleares en Moslavina, así como una campaña que declaró a Croacia un país libre de OGM. En su labor política y pública aboga por el desarrollo de las zonas rurales y la explotación familiar, así como por la protección de los valores humanos tradicionales, cristianos y universales. Mirjana recorrió recientemente el Camino de Santiago de España, de 900 kilómetros de longitud, en 29 días.



Arte y Cultura

DRINA RENDIĆ, CHILE

Presidenta, Museo Nacional de la Mujer en las Artes

Drina Victoria Rendić es Presidenta del Foro Internacional de

Mujeres de la IWF dedicado a reunir a líderes mundiales ya considerados en su liderazgo con el objetivo de intercambiar relaciones y buenas prácticas relacionadas con la igualdad femenina. Drina es Presidenta de NMWA, Museo Nacional de la Mujer en las Artes, entidad que busca promover y visibilizar a la mujer chilena en todas las disciplinas de las artes.



Liderazgo e Innovación

ANA MARIA ŠONJIĆ, ARGENTINA

Fundadora de la ONG ecologista Amigos de la Naturaleza (1991)

Creadora, grupo de Facebook: Croacia social y cultural

Ana María es la creadora de grupo de Facebook: Croacia

Creadora, grupo de Facebook: Croacia social y cultural

Ana María es la creadora de grupo de Facebook: Croacia social y cultural, red que la llevó a guiar, facilitar y acompañar a las consultas de búsquedas de familiares croatas y conectarlos con cuestiones consulares. Estuvo como productora y conductora de programas radiales donde se fomenta las tradiciones croatas. Participó en distintas entidades de la colectividad a nivel local y nacional, organizando y conduciendo eventos festivos de la colectividad croata. Su

perseverancia la llevó a concretar junto a otros croatas, la entronización de Marija Bistrica en la Iglesia Catedral de la ciudad donde vive (Rosario) y gestionar el nombre de una calle como : "República de Croacia" en otra ciudad. Durante la pandemia convocó a niños y a un director para formar el primer CORO ROTAKIDS de Rotary. En esta institución internacional - ROTARY - gestiona proyectos y es la responsable en convocar especialistas para "Foros Ambientales", coordinando acciones y alianzas en programas para el empoderamiento de la mujer.



Tecnología Científica

KATHERINE C. SREDL, PHD, EE.UU.

Profesora titular, Departamento de Marketing, Quinlan School of Business,
Loyola University Chicago
Directora, 385 LLC Digital Marketing
Asesora Senior, Vlahovic Group

Katherine C. Sredl, PhD
(Universidad de Illinois,
Comunicaciones),
Senior Lecturer,

Marketing, Quinlan School of Business, Loyola University Chicago, Universidad de Zagreb, Facultad de Economía y Negocios, Académica visitante, Universidad de Rijeka, Facultad de Economía y Negocios, Miembro del Consejo Asesor Internacional. 385 LLC Digital Marketing Consultancy Fundador y Director, Vlahovic Group LLC, Senior Advisor, Asociación de Profesionales Croatas Americanos Capítulo de Chicago

Vicepresidente, Veslamo od 925 (asociación deportiva y recreativa de remo) Miembro fundador y Tesorero. Katherine Sredl creció en Paducah, Kentucky, en las orillas del río Ohio. Durante su niñez escuchó de sus padres historias de su vida en Osijek, Zagreb, Fermo, Buenos Aires y Lisboa (el lugar de nacimiento de Katherine). Como científica en marketing y género (sexo) regularmente ha publicado en revistas científicas a nivel internacional y de revisión paritaria sobre el impacto de la globalización y igualdad de mujeres en Croacia, en países postsocialistas de Europa y en los Estados Unidos. Sus áreas de interés son:



Arte y Cultura

ANDREA STANIĆ, CROACIA

Artista, Rijeka, Croatia

Andrea Stanić, nacida en 1974 en Rijeka, Croacia, se destaca como una artista autodidacta en el expresionismo abstracto. Su trabajo es reconocido a nivel mundial, con exposiciones en todo el mundo, incluyendo museos en Corea del Sur, participación en bienales y ganando premios como el segundo lugar en la Bienale Global de Arte Pop. Es miembro de prestigiosas organizaciones artísticas y presidenta de varias asociaciones artísticas internacionales/HDLU-Zagreb, UNOTA, Consell Internacional de les Artes, United Nations Arts@

Sciences-Paris, VIPPA N.York, Realizar la Paz Argentina, embajador Vision Art Media NY./ Su arte, que va desde abstracciones hasta figuras y paisajes, estimula las emociones individuales y la imaginación de los espectadores. En sus pinturas se percibe fuerza, libertad y ternura, enfatizando la necesidad de paz interior y relajación. Andrea crea de manera intuitiva, entregándose al momento del sentimiento, y su trabajo ha sido discutido por renombrados críticos de arte como Marta Lock y Sonia Demurtas.



Arte y Cultura

MIRA TEMUNOVIĆ, SERBIA

Profesora de cultura musical y tambura, Escuela de Música de Subotica

Mira Temunović es tambura, directora, pedagoga musical, líder de orquestas de tambura, profesora de tambura en la Escuela de Música de Subotica y un respetado músico croata en Vojvodina, República de Serbia. Sus alumnos de tambura han ganado unos 150 premios y en 2022 actuó en un concierto de gala en la sinagoga de Subotica con motivo de su 50 aniversario tocando el tambura. Es una de las fundadoras de la asociación de música croata “Festival Bunjevački Pisama” en Subotica, que reúne a intérpretes de tambura y organiza varios

eventos musicales desde hace casi 25 años. Fundó la Orquesta Grande y Pequeña Tambura, de la que es directora. Mira se ha desempeñado como organizadora de concursos musicales y como juez en numerosos concursos musicales, tanto en Vojvodina como en Croacia. Es coautora del libro de texto para la cultura musical y las clases de idioma croata de 1º a 8º grado. Mira ha recibido importantes premios por su trabajo del Ministerio de Educación de la República de Serbia y el premio “Pajo Kujundžić” del Consejo Nacional Croata de la República de Serbia por su contribución a la enseñanza del idioma croata.



Tecnología científica

KATHERINE VLASICA, USA

DO FACECore Faculty, Emergency Medicine Residency, St Joseph's Health
Medical Director of Emergency Medicine Pain Management

Como una figura ampliamente reconocida en el manejo del dolor en el Departamento de Emergencia, la Dra. Vlasica amplió el programa de manejo del dolor a un nivel de participación nacional, enfocándose en la aplicación de anestesia regional guiada por ultrasonido en el Departamento de Emergencias. La Dra. Vlasica también ha sido autora de varias publicaciones sobre alternativas a los opioides en el tratamiento del dolor y ha impartido conferencias y co-presidido congresos

a nivel nacional e internacional sobre métodos analgésicos alternativos en el Departamento de Emergencias. Adicionalmente, es la Presidenta de Atención del Dolor y las Adicciones en el Departamento de Emergencias, un programa de acreditación nacional que tiene como objetivo mejorar el manejo del dolor y la atención de los pacientes con trastornos por uso de sustancias.



Arte y Cultura

BLANKA ŽAKULA, CROACIA

Presidenta y directora del Centro Cultural “Gatalinka” Vinkovci

Blanka Žakula se graduó en el bachillerato de Vinkovci y en la Facultad de Economía de Osijek en 1980.

Después de graduarse, trabajó en ŽTP Vinkovci. Progresó en su profesión hasta el puesto de jefa de contabilidad en el Sindicato de Trabajadores de HŽ Vinkovci y jefa de transacciones de pago en HŽ Vinkovci. En 1994 se trasladó a “Vibrobeton d.d.” Vinkovci, al cargo de director financiero. Ahora está jubilada. Se graduó en la Escuela Primaria de Música “Josip Runjanin” en Vinkovci. Desde 1978 investiga sistemáticamente la cultura

de la danza folclórica tradicional de Croacia, en particular la región del condado de Vukovar-Srijem. Fundó el centro cultural “Gatalinka” en 1994 con el objetivo de educar a niños y adultos en el ámbito del patrimonio tradicional. Se trata de un programa único en Croacia, en el que todos los participantes son al mismo tiempo músicos y bailarines y conocen la notación y la escritura de danza. Es autora de quince coreografías para niños y adultos, del patrimonio de la danza del condado de Vukovar-Srijem. Blanka es la creadora de varios proyectos en Croacia y autora y editora de varios libros profesionales.



Filantropía

TAMARA ŽIVKOVIĆ IVANOVIĆ, CROACIA

Logopeda del Hospital Clínico de Zagreb

Tamara Živković Ivanović, destacada logopeda, científica y activista, busca aumentar la calidad

de vida de las personas sin cuerdas vocales, y actúa de acuerdo con el lema: “Juntos somos más fuertes y se nos oye mejor”. Como presidenta de la Asociación Croata de Personas Laringectomizadas, y experta gestora del Club de Personas Laringectomizadas en Zagreb, Tamara se ha convertido en una voz y apoyo para quienes más lo necesitan. Su contribución a la sociedad es visible a través del establecimiento del coro “Optimistas” y la autoría de la película “La vida

sin cuerdas vocales”, que explora los desafíos y esperanzas de las personas sin cuerdas vocales.

El estudio de la patología del habla representa base de su formación, y la adquisición de una maestría científica y finalización de estudios de doctorado, corona de su crecimiento y desarrollo académico. Hoy en día, como autora de numerosos artículos profesionales, aplica sus conocimientos multidisciplinares en el Centro Hospitalario Universitario de Zagreb, trabajando diariamente para mejorar la calidad de vida de sus pacientes. Su trabajo simboliza pasión, dedicación e innovación en logopedia y ciencia, lo que la convierte en una verdadera inspiración y líder en su campo.

Ženska solidarnost

Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža hrvatskih žena i Hrvatska matica iseljenika pozivaju vas na promociju rada i dijela dobitnica nagrade "Utjecajne hrvatske žene".



**PETRA
HEISINGER**



**VESNA KREZIČ
KITTELSON**



**ANDREA
STANIĆ**

PETRA HEISINGER: PREDAVANJE "KAKO ISKORISTITI ŽIVOTNE IZAZOVE KAO POLIGON ZA OSOBNI RAST"

VESNA KITTELSON: PROMOCIJA KNJIGE "SYNTHESIS, LOST AND FOUND IN AMERICA: THE ART OF VESNA KITTELSON"

ANDREA STANIĆ: IZLOŽBA "BOJE ŽENSKÉ SOLIDARNOSTI"

8. ožujka u 14 sati

Hrvatska matica iseljenika, Trg Stjepana Radića 3



CONGRATULATIONS!
ČESTITKE!
FELICIDADES!

[@CWNLeaders](https://twitter.com/CWNLeaders)//croatianswomensnetwork.org



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
URED PREDsjedNIKA

KLASA: 053-02/24-03/08
URBROJ: 71-06/6-24-02
Zagreb, 31. siječnja 2024.

CROATIAN WOMEN'S NETWORK
MREŽA HRVATSKIH ŽENA
gđa **Caroline Spivak**
osnivačica

Poštovana gospođo Spivak,

zahvaljujemo na Vašoj zamolbi za pokroviteljstvom predsjednika Republike Hrvatske Zorana Milanovića nad međunarodnom konferencijom „Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!“ koja će biti održana 8. ožujka 2024. u Hrvatskoj matici iseljenika u Zagrebu te Vam upućujemo ovo pismo potpore.

Pozdravljamo održavanje manifestacije koja omogućava hrvatskim poduzetnicama i znanstvenicama mjesto susreta, nagrađuje ih za ostvarene rezultate te pridonosi njihovom umrežavanju.

Budući da Predsjednik Republike nije u mogućnosti odazvati se Vašem pozivu svojom izaslanicom na otvorenju konferencije „Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!“ imenovao je mr. sc. Martinu Ciglević, pomoćnicu savjetnika Predsjednika Republike za ekonomiju.

Primite srdačne pozdrave Predsjednika Republike i iskrene želje za uspjeh u pripremi i organizaciji spomenute konferencije.

S poštovanjem,


2
PREDSTOJNIK

dr. sc. Orsat Miljenić



SREDIŠNJI DRŽAVNI URED ZA HRVATE IZVAN REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE
DRŽAVNI TAJNIK

Zagreb, 26. veljače 2024.

Poštovani organizatori, cijenjene dobitnice nagrada *Utjecajne hrvatske žene* i *Buduće liderice*,

s velikim zadovoljstvom prihvatili smo pokroviteljstvo nad konferencijom „Napredak žena, napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!“ koja potiče svijest o utjecaju i položaju žena u Hrvatskoj i u svijetu te slavi njihove izvanredne doprinose u znanosti, politici, obrazovanju, kulturi, medicini, poduzetništvu, ekonomiji, umjetnosti i mnogim drugim životnim sferama.

Žene predstavljaju neiscrpan izvor talenata, snage i inovacija koje svojom požrtvovnošću, predanošću i osobnim zalaganjem svakodnevno oplemenjuju i unaprjeđuju društvo. Upravo je iz navedenih razloga važno osigurati da imaju jednake mogućnosti za osobni i profesionalni razvoj, a to možemo učiniti tako što ćemo osvijestiti širu zajednicu provedbom brojnih projekata i aktivnosti u kojima će se promovirati da su žene bile i da su ključne za napredak društva.

Jedna od hvalevrijednih manifestacija svakako je i ova međunarodna konferencija čiji je cilj promovirati i povezati žene hrvatskog podrijetla koje su svojim aktivnostima i postignućima velika inspiracija za sve žene u Hrvatskoj i iseljeništvu. Potaknuti oduševljenjem i zahvalnošću onima što radite, Središnji državni ured za Hrvate izvan Republike Hrvatske bio je i ostaje vaš partner u svim nastojanjima i aktivnostima koje će unaprijediti povezanost hrvatskih žena u domovini i iseljeništvu te tako poticati i promovirati hrvatsko zajedništvo u svijetu.

Čestitam vam na organizaciji ovog događaja i želim vam puno uspjeha u svim budućim inicijativama koje će pridonijeti jačanju uloge žena u društvu i promovirati hrvatsko ime izvan granica Lijepe Naše.

S poštovanjem,



Pantovčak 258, 10000 Zagreb, Republika Hrvatska



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
MINISTARSTVO GOSPODARSTVA
I ODRŽIVOG RAZVOJA

KLASA: 053-01/24-01/5
URBROJ: 517-02-3-4-2-24-2
Zagreb, 31. siječnja 2024.

MREŽA HRVATSKIH ŽENA
n/p gđa Caroline Spivak, osnivačica

15 Stafford St., LPH 17, Toronto, ON M5V 3X6

PREDMET: Zamolba za pokroviteljstvo međunarodne konferencije "Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!"
- odgovor, dostavlja se

Poštovana,

u ime Ministarstva gospodarstva i održivog razvoja (u daljnjem tekstu: Ministarstvo) ovim putem zahvaljujemo na Vašoj zamolbi za pokroviteljstvo "Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!" koja će se održati 8. ožujka, 2024. godine u Zagrebu te Vas obavještavamo kako Ministarstvo, bez financijskog sudjelovanja, prihvaća pokroviteljstvo nad istom.

Također, želimo izraziti podršku, kako u ovoj, tako i u svim aktivnostima koje provodite te Vam želimo puno uspjeha.

S poštovanjem,

GLAVNA TAJNICA MINISTARSTVA



DOSTAVITI:

1. Naslovu,
2. Pismohrani.



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
MINISTARSTVO ZNANOSTI I OBRAZOVANJA
mzo.gov.hr

KLASA: 130-04/24-03/00002
URBROJ: 533-01-24-0002

Zagreb, 17. siječnja 2024.

CROATIAN WOMEN'S NETWORK /
MREŽA HRVATSKIH ŽENA
n/p gospođi Caroline Spivak, osnivačici
15 Stafford St., LPH 17,
Toronto ON M5V 3X6
info@croatianwomensnetwork.org

PREDMET: 7. međunarodna konferencija "Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!"
- *pokroviteljstvo, daje se*

Poštovana gospodo Spivak,

nastavno na Vaš upit od 14. siječnja 2024. godine, želimo Vas obavijestiti kako Ministarstvo znanosti i obrazovanja prihvaća pokroviteljstvo nad tradicionalnom međunarodnom konferencijom „Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!“ koja će se održati 8. ožujka 2024. godine u Zagrebu.

Ovogodišnja konferencija „Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!“ sedmo je izdanje tradicionalne međunarodne konferencije u organizaciji Mreže hrvatskih žena koje okuplja oko 100 sudionica i sudionika iz Republike Hrvatske i hrvatskih zajednica u inozemstvu. Mreža hrvatskih žena svojim aktivnostima podiže svijest društva o angažiranosti, inovativnosti i utjecaju žena hrvatskog podrijetla koje svojim uspjesima i postignućima nadahnjuju i predstavljaju značajan potencijal u zemljama u kojima žive. Ova međunarodna konferencija etablirala se svojom kvalitetom kao jedan od pozitivnih primjera povezivanja i angažiranja hrvatske dijaspore diljem svijeta čiji ishodi doprinose promociji Republike Hrvatske u inozemstvu.

Prihvaćanjem pokroviteljstva Ministarstvo znanosti i obrazovanja ne preuzima financijske i organizacijske obveze vezane uz održavanje konferencije.

S poštovanjem,

MINISTAR

prof. dr. sc. Radovan Fuchs


Dostaviti:
1) Naslovu putem elektroničke pošte na info@croatianwomensnetwork.org
2) Pismohrani, ovdje.





The Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža hrvatskih žena

The Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža hrvatskih žena sedmi put u Zagrebu, dodjeljuje nagrade "Utjecajne hrvatske žene" i "Buduće liderice" uglednim dobitnicama iz svijeta.

Nagrade u kategorijama: vodstvo i inovacije, kultura i umjetnost, poduzetništvo, znanost, sport i humanitarni rad jasno poručuju da je vrijeme žena već odavno stiglo. Žene se sve više uključuju u gospodarstveni i poduzetnički život, politiku i diplomaciju i sve više dolaze do izražaja. A to je važno jer tako potiču jedna drugu, ulazeći u društvene sfere kako bi postigle promjene. I jesu. Definitivno!

Hrvatska matica iseljenika ponosni je pokrovitelj ovog lijepog događanja. Zato vam dragi organizatori i drage Hrvatice diljem svijeta, čestitam na svim postignućima i na svemu što činite za svoju domovinu, a na dobrobit svijetu nas. Žene su bile i bit će pokretači promjena.

Prava žena, njihovo osnaživanje i ravnopravnost, pitanja su temeljnih civilizacijskih vrijednosti, važna kako za Republiku Hrvatsku, tako i za sve članice Europske Unije, a The Croatian Women's Network™/Mreža hrvatskih žena na tom putu čini veliku stvar.



Mijo Marić, ravnatelj



**HRVATSKI SABOR
URED PREDSEDNIKA**

Klasa: 021-06/24-05/12

Urbroj: 6511-1-24-2

Zagreb, 22. veljače 2024.

**Mreža Hrvatskih Žena
gđa Carolina Spivak, osnivačica**

Poštovana gđo Spivak,

Ured predsjednika Hrvatskoga sabora zaprimio je Vašu zamolbu za pokroviteljstvo predsjednika Hrvatskoga sabora nad međunarodnom konferencijom "Napredak žena. Napredak ekonomije. Ostvari potencijal!", koja će se održati 8. ožujka 2024. godine.

Dopustite mi izvijestiti Vas da je predsjednik Hrvatskoga sabora gospodin Gordan Jandroković sa zadovoljstvom prihvatio pokroviteljstvo, te Vam se iskreno zahvaljuje na ukazanom povjerenju.

Za sve daljnje informacije molimo da se izravno obratite ovom Uredu i Uredu za protokol Hrvatskoga sabora, na telefon br. 01/6303 – 522.

Srdačno Vas pozdravljam,

PREDSTOJNIK

Tomislav Šimičević

Na znanje:
- Ured za protokol Hrvatskoga
sabora



*U ime upravnog odbora i svih
članova čestitamo Ani Bačić,
dopredsjednici AMCA-e Toronto
na dodijeljenoj nagradi
Utjecajne Hrvatske Žene!*



U ime učitelja i profesora hrvatskog jezika u Ontariju, na osnovnom i srednjoskolskom nivou, te u vecernjim razredima, i moje osobno ime dugogodišnje prijateljice upućujem izuzetne čestitke

prof. Ani Bacic

glede primitka nagrade Utjecajne hrvatske žene i Liderice. Kao bivša, prva slobodno izabrana koordinatorica programa za hrvatski jezik za Kanadu (Hrvatski Kongres, 1993, Zagreb), te dugogodnjeg predavanja hrvatskog jezika, preko 30 godina, osjećam duboko postivanje i zahvalnost prema prof. Bacic za neumoran rad na daljnjem usavršavanju programa i proširenju istoga na kanadsko Sveučilište Britanske Kolumbije, jer znam koliko obiteljskog žrtvovanja i nebrojenih odricanja iziskuje dobrotvorni rad. Dio bezcijena su postale neprospavane noci, i p oklonjeni vikendi za pripremu lekcija i usavršavanja programa, te priprema predstava ili koncerata učenika, ili izleta. Prof. Bacic, postala je epitome promidžbe hrvatskog jezika kroz predavanja, objavljivanje članaka i novele, te izvjesca u Vecernjem listu.

Duša mi je ispunjena nadom jer mlađe hrvaticice, kao Predsjednica Spivak i Prof. Bacic, i brojne druge diljem svijeta, kao što je vidljivo i u ovoj brošuri ozbiljno prihvaćaju moto “što znači biti hrvatskog podrijetla”. Nastavite i dalje inspirirati nove hrvatske generacije u usavršavanju hrvatskog jezika, i sirenju hrvatske bastine i kulture.

Ana Ganza, BA. BEd. Mag. Eco.,
Dobitnica nagrade Utjecajne hrvatske žene, 2020



Congratulations
Anna Bačić

Winner of a Croatian Women of Influence, 2024, Leadership and Innovation Award

We are inspired by your passionate advocacy for teaching and preserving our Croatian language and cultural heritage in Canada.

An entire generation of young people in Ontario and our Croatian-Canadian community as a whole have greatly benefited from your selfless dedication and we are proud of all that you have achieved.

Your wholehearted dedication and leadership serves as a positive role model to your students and a new generation of Croatian language teachers to come.

Congratulations on this much deserved recognition!

Heartfelt wishes to you and your family many more years of success,

Kumovi John, Diana, Kristian, Mateas and Alpeza Family



240 Brunel Road
Mississauga, ON L4Z-1T5

Tel: (905) 658-9995
Fax: (905) 568-9996

www.alpeza.com

Dear Ana,

Congratulations on the amazing news! This is an incredible milestone and you deserve the spotlight to celebrate the moment. I saw you work so hard over the years every day to achieve this accomplishment & you LOVED every moment of it. I can't think of anyone who deserves this award more. Your passion & dedication for preserving & enriching our Croatian cultural traditions here in Canada, an ocean away from our homeland is what makes you an amazing leader in your field. By sharing your knowledge & love of the Croatian language & culture, you have helped empower & mold future generations of young Croatians here in Canada. Thank you!

With Gratitude,
Vesna Kolakovic

*Cestitam Ani Bacic na zasluzenom priznanju za njezin marljiv rad u hrvatskoj zajednici.
..Mnogo sreće i uspjeha u daljnjem radu zeli*

Dr. Davorka Krizaj- Kapljic

Dear Ana,

From the bottom of our hearts we congratulate you on receiving a Croatian Woman of Influence, 2024 Award for Arts & Culture by the Croatian Women's Network™. You are absolutely deserving of this award which you have earned through the years of your hard work and perseverance in our community, particularly in the Croatian community. Also, you are doing the job you love at the English high school and continuously inspiring everyone around you and sharing an exemplary life of love, knowledge and kindness.

I can personally attest how empowering your presence is and how many lives you touched and made better. With this title we are letting you know how much appreciation we have for your being Ana Bacic, one and only.

Please continue doing the right thing and thank you ones again.

Sandra Drobac (forever friend)



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🎁
Congratulations
Judi
 on your Croatian Woman of
 Influence Award and induction
 into the Croatian Women's
 Network from Kruno, Donna,
 Alan, Ken, Terri, Nick, Dani,
 Cookie, Joe, Randy, Adolph and
 your business family

Contributions Judi



on your Croatian Woman of Influence Award! Croatian Community in Cleveland is very proud of you!

Many thanks to the Croatian Women's Network for recognizing your life-long efforts to promote Croatian Culture and wish you successful conference in Zagreb!



**AMERICAN CROATIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION,
CLEVELAND, OHIO**



Contratualtions Judi!

on your well-deserved Croatian Woman of Influence Award! We wish you continued success in all your efforts.



NFCACF

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CROATIAN
AMERICANS' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

www.nfcacf.org

Your NFCACF members and past CWoI award winners:
Bernadette Luketich-Sikaras (CWoI 2016),
Andrea Novak Neumann (CWoI 2017), Tatjana Mustac (2018)
and Biljana Abel (Lovrinovic) CWoI 2019
welcome you to this special club!

Congratulations



Katica!

Dear Katherine congratulations on your well-deserved Croatian Woman of Influence Award and welcome to this very special club of extraordinary women!

We wish you success in everything you do! We know your grand parents would be so proud!

Biljana Abel (Lovrinović), CWoI 2019 and Neda Rosandić Šarić, CWoI 2023

*Bravo!
Čestitamo!
Svaka Čast!*

Čestitamo

dr. sc. Mirjani Miličević,

dobitnice nagrade
Utjecajne hrvatske žene, 2024, za Vodstvo i Inovaciju.

Za tvoj značajan doprinos zajednici kroz realizaciju projekata osnovne, životno važne infrastrukture i energetske učinkovitosti i posebice rad sa mladima i ženama poduzetnicama iz ruralnih mjesta, te žena u Mostaru i šire diljem Bosne i Hercegovine, veliko hvala!

Tvoj rad na projektima koji potaknuju samozapošljavanje kako bi nove generacije ostale živjeti u domovini među ostalim su nam svima na ponos.
Zasluzna ste svakog priznanja!

Vaše kolege iz Sveučilišta u Mostaru, obitelj i prijatelji.

LANCÔME
PARIS



Parfemska voda

La vie
est belle

Život je lijep. Živi ga na svoj način.

Croatian Women's Network™/
Mreža Hrvatskih Žena/La Red de Mujeres
Croatas is celebrating it's 10th anniversary.

10 *Anniversary*

10 wonderful years of connecting, championing and celebrating Croatian women the world over.

As we kick off our 10th anniversary celebrations in October 2024 we invite you to:

- Become a member
- Become a strategic partner
- Become a sponsor
- Become a volunteer

We look forward to hearing from you at info@croatianwomensnetwork.org.

Thank you for an incredible first 10 years.

We can't wait to see what we can create together in the next 10!

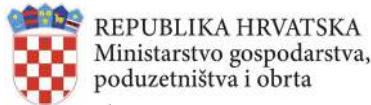


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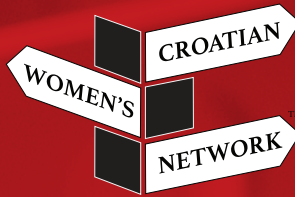


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MREŽA HRVATSKIH ŽENA
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