MOMENTUM
— WOMEN IN INDUSTRY —
CONFERENCE

MHEDA

2026 Women in Industry Conference

November 2nd - 3rd
Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel | Rosemont, IL

DETAILED AGENDA

Monday, November 2

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Connect

Mingle & Merriment Welcome Dinner + Give Back

Kick off the conference with great food, conversation, and games as you connect with fellow attendees at dinner. During the evening, help support Sarah's Inn, a nonprofit empowering survivors of domestic violence, by bringing an unwrapped gift or gift card for a teen or assembling stocking stuffer bags with supplies provided by MHEDA. Dinner is included with registration - RSVP is required.

Tuesday, November 3

7:30 am – 8:30 am

Breakfast & Registration

Stop by the registration desk for your name badge then enjoy a healthy breakfast fueling you for a full day of learning.

8:30 am –8:45 am

Welcome & Introductions

Begin a productive day filled with conversation and connection as we come together to learn.

8:45 am – 10:15 am

Communication

The Signal Gap: How to Boost Believability and Influence in the Age of Doubt

Presented by Henna Pryor, Workplace Performance Expert & Author

Clear, confident communication is one of the most valuable leadership skills in today's workplace. Even the strongest ideas can fall flat if they don't earn trust and inspire action. In this practical session, learn how to close the gap between delivering a message and ensuring it is believed, understood, and acted upon.

10:15 am – 10:30 am

Morning Break

Enjoy refreshments, stretch your legs & network with fellow attendees!

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Presence

Own Your Voice: Mastering Executive Presence

Presented by Henna Pryor, Workplace Performance Expert & Author

Executive presence isn't about fitting a traditional leadership mold. It's about aligning your message, your actions, and your leadership style to build credibility and influence. In this practical, skill-building session, participants will strengthen the skills that elevate their presence and prepare them for greater responsibility.

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Lunch

Enjoy a delicious lunch and continue the conversations with fellow attendees.

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	**Maximize Your Membership** Learn about MHEDA, MHI and WERC Member programs, resources and more during this information packed presentation.
1:15 pm – 2:30 pm	**Perspective** **Tends & Challenges Roundtables** Some of the best ideas come from conversations with peers who understand your challenges. Join this interactive roundtable to discuss the trends shaping our industry, the obstacles you're facing, and the opportunities ahead. Share experiences, exchange practical ideas, and learn how other women are tackling similar issues in their organizations. You'll leave with fresh perspectives, new connections, and actionable insights you can take back to your team.
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	**Afternoon Break** Enjoy refreshments, stretch your legs & network with fellow attendees!
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	**Accountability** **Reckonings: Moments of Truth That Change Everything** *Presented by Kristen Ziman, Leadership expert, former Chief of Police & Author* The ability to navigate change, make sound decisions under pressure, and earn trust through accountability are skills every organization needs, and every professional can develop. In this compelling session, you'll discover a practical framework for making confident decisions under pressure and transforming tough moments into opportunities for growth
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	**Break** Enjoy refreshments, stretch your legs & network with fellow attendees!
4:00 pm – 4:45 pm	**Execution** **Ideas to Action Roundtables** Turn inspiration into action during the Ideas to Action roundtable. You'll reflect on the key insights, identify the ideas that resonated most, and create a personalized action plan to apply what you've learned. Through thoughtful discussion, you'll leave with clear next steps, practical strategies, and renewed accountability to put your new knowledge into practice long after the conference ends.
4:45 pm – 5:00 pm	**Closing Comments** We'll wrap up by reflecting on key takeaways, celebrating new connections, and sharing final inspiration to carry your momentum forward

MHEDA would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our event sponsors for their generous support. Their commitment helps make this event possible and ensures a valuable experience for all attendees.