President’s message: The last straw!

Did you know that 500 million straws are used and discarded every day in the United States alone.* That is enough straws to wrap around the globe 2.5 times a day. Straws are used only for a few months, but they live much longer than we do - straws take about 200 years to decompose. So let’s take action: when possible, let’s eliminate straws from our events and homes.

Did you know that straws always end up in a landfill? I did not know that plastic straws and other items that are smaller than two by two inches fall through most the machinery used for sorting recycled items. By this definition small plastic items such as straws and plastic utensils cannot be recycled.

Of course straws are only a small portion of plastic waste: 8 million tons of plastic flow into the ocean every year, and straws comprise just 0.025 percent of that. But let’s get started and reduce the use of single-use plastic.

Joy in making our world a little bit better by eliminating even just a straw,

Tuula Westlake

2019-2020 MPI D/FW Chapter President
UPCOMING COMMUNITY SERVICE

January-March CSR: Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center

1 in 10 children will be sexually assaulted before the age of 18. Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center (DCAC) coordinates the investigation, prosecution and healing services for the most severe cases of child abuse in Dallas County - those that rise to the level of a criminal offense.

This year, DCAC served over 7,000 children (and their non-offending family members) who were sexually abused, severely physically abused, or who had witnessed a violent crime. DCAC’s average client is a 9-year-old girl, sexually abused by someone she knows and trusts. Help DCAC save the “Jane Does” and “John Does” experiencing abuse.

3 Ways To Give Back in 2020:

Donate Items for a Family Game Night
Who remembers fun nights playing board games with your family during your childhood? Bring any of the below Family Game Night items to the January 23 lunch and drop off at the CSR table:

1 board game (Candy Land, Trouble, Sorry, etc.)
1 card game (Uno, Old Maid, Go Fish, etc.)
Popcorn (serves family of 4)
Candy (serves family of 4)
1 liter of Coca Cola

Volunteer
Volunteer to serve dinner at DCAC’s group therapy meeting on Tuesday, February 18 from 5:00pm -6:30pm. Feel free to come early at 4:30pm for a quick tour of the facility. Volunteers must be 18 years or older and complete a background check. Email Nicole Chattin to sign up.

Get Involved
Help assemble the donated family game night Bundle of Hope packages at the March 26 lunch. More details to follow. We need donations in order to have packages to assemble so we greatly appreciate those who contribute.
JOIN US!
Emerging Leaders 2020

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Join Melissa Majors and James Pogue, two leading voices and experts on diversity and inclusion, to learn and discuss the following:

- Make the business case for inclusion
- Increase productivity by managing the five most impactful biases in the workplace
- Learn the "newest" bias and its power in your organization
- Gain insight into the habits and tactics of inclusive leaders
- Unlock access to social posts, job aides, and tool kits to help build inclusive habits

Don't miss this important conversation!
CLICK HERE to REGISTER

Early Bird Is Open through February 7, 2020
$20.00 for MPI Members
$30.00 for Non Members

Click to Register
MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Partyfest “Where Great Parties Begin!”

The 32nd Annual Partyfest Extravaganza is a spectacular one-day event featuring over 200 of D/FW's top party & event suppliers.

Check out the hottest industry trends while networking with the Pros.

Date: Wednesday, April 1st, (no fooling) 2020
Time: 11am-4pm
Place: Dallas Market Hall (Main Hall)
Promo Code: PF20 required when registering to attend.

On-line registration is required.

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"A Leader is one who KNOWS the way, GOES the way and SHOWS the way"

~John C. Maxwell

THE COLLEEN RICKENBACHER LEADERSHIP AWARD

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Earning a certification in the meetings industry promotes industry standards, practices and ethics, and shows the world that you are ready to assume a leadership role as a meeting professional. The MPI D/FW chapter has long honored its members who carry industry certifications with a special event – The CMP & CMM Recognition Event. It is here, we present one of our highest leadership awards to an outstanding meeting professional.

Nominations are now being accepted for consideration as this year’s recipient of “The Colleen Rickenbacker Leadership Award” recognizing an MPI member for a career of outstanding leadership contributions, commitment to education and advocacy
in the cause of professional certifications.

The Colleen Rickenbacher Leadership Award Nominating Committee (consisting of past award recipients) seeks your valuable input in this process and is asking all CMP’s and CMM’s to submit a nomination for this esteemed award. Three finalists will be determined based on nominations and the 2019 award recipient will be selected by the Award Nominating Committee.

**Nominations are due no later than February 24, 2020.**

The award will be presented at the 18th Annual CMP & CMM Annual Recognition Event scheduled for

**April 23, 2020. Location to be announced soon.** PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO ATTEND.

*Click [HERE](https://app.cvent.com/Subscribers/Popup/PrinterFriendlyEmailPreview.aspx?from=emktgHTML&type=show&cmpgstub=f03fd704-5cdb-4c75-bc91-f57) to review eligible members.*

*Click [HERE](https://app.cvent.com/Subscribers/Popup/PrinterFriendlyEmailPreview.aspx?from=emktgHTML&type=show&cmpgstub=f03fd704-5cdb-4c75-bc91-f57) to download the Nomination Form. Nominations are due no later than February 24, 2020*

All finalists will be recognized, and this year’s recipient will be named at the 18th Annual CMP & CMM Annual Recognition Event in April. Please direct any questions regarding nominations to Nominations Chair, Tony Cummins.

Tony Cummins, CMP, CMM
2020 CRLA Nominating Committee Chair
Tony.Cummins@TheMeetingDepartment.com

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**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Sponsors are the cornerstone of MPI D/FW. We work directly with you to identify sponsorship opportunities that meet your goals. When you are looking to reach D/FW event and meeting professionals, we have got your target market covered! Chapter website, LinkedIn and Facebook accounts have thousands of followers and the e-Newsletter reaches both members and non-members for maximum reach. For maximum brand awareness combine your social media messages with sponsorship of our monthly events.

With a variety of options from the annual Centurion sponsorship to custom packages and advertising, you will be able to optimize your budget.

Email Roma Giordano at RomaGiordano@gmail.com to learn more about our Sponsorship Packages.
Update Your Contact Information

Your MPI D/FW Chapter leadership team is working diligently to keep you up-to-date on chapter events such as training, luncheons, and leadership meetings. We use your MPI Global Profile to retrieve your contact information and build our chapter directory (scheduled for delivery in the fall), so make sure to record your changes. Updating your MPI Global profile is simple. Just log in at MPIweb.org and access your member profile to update your contact information and manage your email preferences.

Are you following MPI D/FW? If not, you should be!
Click the below icons and start today!
Women in Leadership: Executive Skills Certificate Program

The program presents real-life case studies of women who overcome adversity to excel in the meeting and event industry while maintaining the right balance for their personal and professional lives. You'll examine what skills they possess, the decisions they made and what actions they took to enable their industry leadership. You'll also analyze your own personal leadership skills using a Clifton StrengthFinder 2.0 assessment to discover the areas in which you excel and there you can find gaps with future training and advancement teams.

Cost: $299 members / $399 non-members

Certificate course scholarships are available for members through MPI Foundation and MPI D/FW Chapter.

Program Sponsors: Visit Dallas and American Airlines