NAWIC
The National Association of Women in Construction
Silicon Valley, CA

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President
NAWIC Silicon Valley, CA 99

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Dear Members:

The 2024 Joint Pacific Southwest/Northwest Spring Forum was hosted by the Hawaii Chapter in Honolulu, Hawaii with the theme: Women in Construction Unite. The Hawaii chapter did an amazing job hosting this event! Our chapter was well represented! Alyanna Espina, Angie Ramos, Brenda Trejo, Joan Bremer, Kayla Alvarado, Laura Grabar, Marlene O'Donnell, Misha Homara, Monica Sanchez, Pam Henley, Sarah Thorvund and Shawna Alvarado attended. Myself and Laura Grabar served on the planning committee so we could learn some best practices when it is our turn to host the 2024 PNW Fall Conference.Additionally, our chapter sponsored three one-page ads that were a great way to showcase our annual and WIC Week sponsors and our upcoming Fall Conference.

I had the privilege of attending great presentations, which included:

- Mayor Rick Blangiardi: His off-the-cuff speech was interesting. He spoke about Hawaii and the challenges of building additional housing. I am glad to see a major who is supportive of more housing!
- "Overcoming Adversity" was presented by Christine Camp. This presentation was inspiring as Christine did not come from money or means. She has thrived building her own business to become one of the major developers in the area. Her story was captivating, and her resilience is truly admiring.
- "What is Your Superpower?" by Alice Inoue was my personal favorite. We were asked to take an assessment before the presentation started so we could be more engaged. It was intriguing to discover my personal classification as an "Efficient Producer", composed of Wood and Metal elements. I loved how she tied people back to the earth's elements. The fun part was hearing all the different combinations and what our chapter attendees comprised of. If anyone was wondering, Brenda is FIRE!🔥
- The Friday evening event featured a thrilling performance involving taiko drums and a Lion Dance, adding a cultural flavor to the event. We were all dressed in our Hawaiian best and enjoyed feeding the lion and moving to the beats of the drum.
- The Chapter President's meeting was interesting as we focused on engaging our Board and chapter members. A lot of the chapters are struggling with the same things and it was good to hear their perspectives
- The region-specific meeting was also interesting. Each region committee presented on their work to date. I have been acting as the PNW WIC Week Chair this year and I presented two awards for chapter excellence. The two awardees were the Spokane and Montana chapters.

Overall, the conference provided an enriching experience, offering an opportunity to learn, engage, and network. I found the presentations insightful and inspiring, particularly Christine Camp's talk on Overcoming Adversity, and the personal assessment session – "What is Your Superpower?" - a fun

exercise in self-discovery. The conference, with its blend of wisdom from presentations, insights from colleagues, and entertainment, made for a memorable experience.

It is so great that our Chapter is able to support member's attendance at these events. I hope more members of our chapter can attend future NAWIC conferences at the Region and National level. If you are interested, please reach out myself or any of the board officers.

Thank you to the Chapter for sending me to a great PNW Fall Conference!

April Vicchrilli