

## Carrie Crosby

Tradeswomen Heroes Award

Winner - January 2023



**Level of Experience:** Journeyworker

**Years in Trade:** 8 years

**Union:** UA

**Local:** 23

**City:** Rockford, IL

---

### Bio

Carrie came into Local 23 as the 1st female member in over 20 years, after completing an apprenticeship readiness program with a community college. Prior to starting her apprenticeship as a pipefitter, she was a hairdresser for which she taught classes and provided training.

Carrie spent most of her entire apprenticeship at the same contractor working in a fab shop. While serving her apprenticeship, Carrie achieved numerous certifications in welding, valve, and fusion, and is currently in the process of attaining her Illinois State Plumbing License.

In addition to working out in the field, Carrie has continued with her education following her five-year apprenticeship and works part-time at the apprentice training center, teaching OSHA along with several other apprenticeship classes.

Carrie represented Local 23 in the 2017 Illinois State Pipe Trades Apprentice Contest. Carrie has served in multiple capacities including Delegate multiple times at the Illinois State Pipe Trades Convention, Delegate at the 40th UA General Convention as the first female from Local 23, Served on Finance Committee,



and currently is Recording Secretary for Local 23.

---

### Why Carrie Was Nominated

I nominated Carrie for this award for multiple reasons. I am the Training Director at Local 23 and Carrie has served as a pioneer in our program. As the first female member in an industry primarily dominated by men, Carrie has provided insight and leadership to help improve our program for all apprentices, especially the underserved populations.

Carrie has helped identify barriers that may be preventing apprentice success or applicant access. We ask our members to be involved and Carrie has answered that call by serving on committees, walking for Labor-friendly politicians, being in our commercials, and calling in and checking on members who may be experiencing difficult times.

Carrie became an instructor and is now heading up our apprenticeship safety program. In the past three weeks alone, I have seen Carrie at multiple Local 23 volunteer events. I often think about how different our program would look if it wasn't for Carrie Crosby being

there to help guide me and help us diversify this program. I am pleased to say we have steadily grown our female membership taking at least one and often multiple women each year. Carrie reaches out welcomes and offers guidance in ways that I may not have been able to. So when it comes to Tradeswomen Heroes, I cannot think of one I hold in higher regard than my sister Carrie Crosby.