

## Mara Sakac

Tradeswomen Heroes Award  
Winner - September 2024



**Level of Experience:** Apprentice

**Years in Trade:** 1 year

**Union:** UA

**Local:** 601

**City:** Milwaukee, WI

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### Bio

Mara applied to the Accelerated Welding Program at Steamfitters Local 601 while working as a welder at Manitowoc Crane. After coming in for a weld assessment she was selected from a large pool of candidates to take part in the 18-week unpaid welding program. She quit her good-paying welding job to pursue becoming a Union Steamfitter. She currently works for JF Ahern and is on the path to becoming a skilled journeyworker.

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### Why Mara Was Nominated

Mara was a standout student in the Accelerated Welding Program at Local 601. She had perfect attendance and worked hard every day during the 18-week program.

Using the welding knowledge and techniques learned during the program she was able to overcome every challenge we put in front of her. She achieved five UA pipe welding certifications in multiple welding processes (SMAW, GTAW, GMAW and FCAW), as well as a state structural certification (SMAW). After successfully completing the program, she was hired by and currently works for JF Ahern.



I have heard nothing but positive feedback from both her employer and coworkers about her personality, work ethic, production, and welding skills. Not only does she excel in the field, but Mara is also doing outstanding in the classroom during night school apprentice classes.

Mara is well on her way to having a very successful career as a steamfitter and serves as a role model for anyone aspiring to join a skilled trade union.