

Subrina Sandefur

Tradeswomen Heroes Award
Winner - November 2024



Level of Experience: Journeyworker

Years in Trade: 24 years

Union: SMART

Local: 20

City: Indianapolis, IN

Bio

Subrina Sandefur has been a dedicated member of SMART Local 20 for 24 years. Over the years, she has worked hard to become a respected leader and trailblazer in her trade. In 2020, Subrina achieved the rank of journeyworker and earned her flux core welding certification, adding to her list of professional accomplishments.

She is currently the chair of the Local 20 Women's Committee and is an active member of the International Women's Committee, where she plays a key role in supporting and empowering women in the trade. One of Subrina's proudest achievements is following in her father's footsteps as the shop foreperson at Tarpenning Lafollette Co., where she became the first woman to ever hold that position.

As a leader, Subrina has been instrumental in organizing women's conferences for Local 20, and she also coordinates social events for the women's committee. Her contributions extend to the international level, where she helps lead webinars for the International Women's Committee. Additionally, Subrina's passion for helping others was demonstrated when she spoke at a women's shelter in Indianapolis, where she and her team handed out T-shirts and goodie bags. Her efforts made a lasting



impact on the community, and the shelter expressed deep gratitude for her support. Subrina's commitment to excellence began early in life when she received the Presidential Academic Fitness Award in sixth grade.

Throughout her career, she has continued to push herself and inspire those around her. In 2022, Subrina made history by becoming the first woman in Local 20 to win the SMACNA Excellence Award, which is one of the most prestigious honors in the industry. She is also proud to have been appointed to serve on the International Women's Committee, where her leadership continues to make a difference.

Why Subrina Was Nominated

At work, Subrina is known for her positive attitude and willingness to help her co-workers. She greets everyone with a "good morning" and makes it a point to brighten the day of those around her. Whether she's training others, offering a helping hand, or cracking a joke to lift someone's spirits, Subrina's co-workers know they can count on her. She treats everyone with respect and goes out of her way to make the workplace a better, more supportive environment for all.

When she's not at work, Subrina enjoys learning new things, fixing broken items, and

spending time with her family. She's passionate about fitness and wellness and always finds ways to bring happiness to others. Her hobbies include cooking, crafting, attending car events with her boyfriend, and staying active.

Subrina's strengths are her patience, ability to multitask, and attention to detail. She remains calm under pressure and is highly passionate about everything she does. Her leadership and mentoring have earned her the respect of both men and women in her trade, and she takes great pride in offering advice and guidance to the next generation of workers. Many look up to her as a role model, and her influence reaches far beyond the shop floor.

Sister Sandefur's commitment to excellence, her trailblazing achievements as a woman in a male-dominated industry, and her ongoing efforts to uplift and support her peers and fellow tradeswomen make her a perfect candidate for the NABTU Tradeswomen Heroes Award. Her leadership, dedication, and passion have made a lasting impact on her community, making her a true hero in the trades.