

## Frances Riggs

Tradeswomen Heroes Award

Winner - May 2025



**Level of Experience:** Apprentice

**Years in Trade:** 4 years

**Union:** Ironworkers

**Local:** 28

**City:** Williamsburg, VA

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### Bio

Born in Somerset, Pennsylvania, Frances relocated to Williamsburg, Virginia, at the age of 10. She made a name for herself as an esteemed cross-country runner and soccer player at Walsingham Academy. After a brief stint at college, Frankie realized the traditional academic life was not for her. Inspired by family tradition, Frankie embarked on a journey to become a fourth-generation ironworker.

Frankie finds the most gratification in seeing the fruits of her labor materialize into completed projects after weeks of diligent work. Throughout her journey in this trade, Frankie is grateful for the supportive male colleagues who have welcomed her as an equal in a profession historically dominated by men. She hopes her experience will motivate other young women to consider a career in the building trades.

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### Why Nominate Frances?

I am nominating Frankie because she is hard-working, dependable, and easy to get along with. Frankie does a fantastic job at Somerset Steel Erection and is a proud member of Iron Workers Local #28 Apprenticeship. She is always happy to



complete any task with a smile. There is no  
doubt about it, Frankie is a Tradeswomen  
Hero!