

Phenomenal Woman

By Lisa Harvey Roach

Are you a phenomenal woman? A phenomenal woman is confident and strong. A phenomenal woman knows her value. A phenomenal woman speaks up, takes action, and gets results.

As a female project manager, especially in a male-dominated industry, you may feel more scrutiny is placed on you. You may feel that you always need be at the top of your game to get the respect you deserve. You are often the “only one” so you are also serving as a role model for others. You are phenomenal and more brilliant than you probably give yourself credit for.

The recent 2020 Olympics gave us examples of other phenomenal women who pushed the boundaries and set world records. Athing Mu, Suni Lee, Sue Bird, and Molly Seidel are just a few. Simone Biles demonstrated the importance of standing up for yourself and protecting your mental health. We all need to learn from that message.

In a recent Forbes article, 50 phenomenal women over 50 were featured. Let me share three of my favorites with you:

- 1) Mary Barra, the CEO of General Motors. She is the first woman to become a CEO of one of the big three automakers.
- 2) Rosalyn Brewer. She started out as a chemist, became the first woman and first African American to serve as COO of Starbucks and now serves as the CEO of Walgreens.
- 3) Aicha Evans, the CEO of Zoox, an autonomous vehicle company. Evans said, growing up in Senegal and Paris she idolized Marie Curie and dreamed of becoming a technologist that would make an impact in the world, and in 2019 she got her chance.

Whether you're a recent college graduate or a more seasoned project manager, it's never too late to make an impact. We all have greatness within us. I challenge you to acknowledge your successes and let your light shine. The world needs more phenomenal women like you!

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