

NEW Times

GREEN
EDITION

Nontraditional Employment for Women



**Nontraditional Employment
for Women**

Hard Hats. Strong Women. Building the Future.

Be the first to answer this question correctly and win a NEW sweatshirt!

Who was the first woman named to a presidential cabinet position? Name the position she was appointed to, when and by which President.

Send your answer to Jmerino@new-nyc.org with your answer

Greening the Trades

This edition of NEW Times brings you stories of NEW graduates who are working and volunteering in green collar trades. As we all come to recognize our impact on the environment, individuals and firms are taking action to build more efficiently or retrofit existing buildings. The trades are adapting to the changing landscape by offering green focused trainings. In this way, women in the trades are participating at the forefront of the green revolution.

Cerise Bunch, a 2009 NEW graduate, works at PSEG as an Energy Assistant in the Whole House Efficiency Program. Cerise explains, "My entire department exists because of the green movement. We help our customers convert their old homes to be more energy efficient and thereby decrease their carbon footprint." PSEG is also expanding to include alternative energies like solar and wind power and is converting some of its truck fleet to hybrid vehicles.

Christina Sanchez, a 2009 NEW graduate and member of Laborers' Local 10, works with a weatherization crew for Community Environmental Center (C.E.C.) in Queens. Weatherization is a process designed to make homes more energy efficient, save families' money on heating and cooling, and keep homes comfortable year-round.

Christina believes the green movement helps us understand how we can help ourselves and our communities. Since weatherizing homes helps low income families minimize their energy bills, she explains, "There is a sense of accomplishment that you feel when you help someone cut their electric bill in half."



Cool Roofs

by Rochelle James, Journey level Electrician, NEW graduate - 2001

This past Fall, NEW offered a specialized workshop on Cool Roofs. The workshop offered me a fresh new way to look at green collar industries. In this workshop, NEW graduates applied a special coating to the roof of the MOMA storage facility in Queens. The coating helps to make the building more energy efficient for years to come and as a result keeps air conditioning and heating costs down. Throughout New York City, decision-makers are talking about the potential to make all City buildings cool roofs in the near future. With all the talk and attention that green energy has been getting lately, I thought this workshop would give me a shot at checking out what all the buzz is about.

NEW graduates in attendance included laborers, painters, tin knockers, and many other tradeswomen and soon-to-be tradeswomen. These NEW women worked together successfully and we finished in record time! I've never seen another organization like NEW putting people together for this kind of event, with various tradespeople working on the same project in harmony. As an unemployed electrician, this project also gave me a sense of giving back to my city on my own time, while learning about the newest trend in construction. I recommend that every out-of-work tradeswoman seek out these kinds of workshops and events to strengthen her resume and learn new skills.



Introducing New Staff Members at NEW



Name: Jully Meriño
Title: Coordinator of Special Initiatives

Started at NEW: September 2009

What do you most enjoy about working at NEW? I like that NEW makes a real difference in women's lives. NEW empowers women and gives women the necessary tools in order to lead independent and self sufficient lives.

Why should graduates reach out to you? I want our graduates to stay involved with NEW after they are placed. During their first year on the job, graduates can bring me their initial paystub and a paystub once every three months. In exchange, I will give them a weekly unlimited metro card and some small gifts. There are also plenty of events that I will be coordinating for graduates, as well as opportunities for graduates to apply for financial assistance for classes that help them advance their careers in the trades.

Graduates can also reach out to me to become class tradespeakers once they have been out in the field and gained experience at jobsites. They can also become mentors to recent NEW graduates.

What do you most enjoy doing after work? I enjoy spending time with my family, friends and cat.

Contact Jully at 646-257-5097 or jmerino@new-nyc.org.



Name: Anjali Munjal
Title: ReNEW Program Coordinator

Started at NEW: November 2009

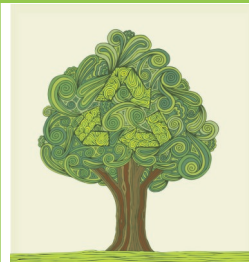
What do you most enjoy about working at NEW? The women of NEW work extremely hard to overcome challenges and empower themselves to make decisions for their futures. The effort of both the staff and the students is inspiring and indicative of positive change.

Why should graduates reach out to you? The number of Green Jobs available is quickly expanding into a 'Green Economy'. Transportation, home weatherization, green building and salvage and fields in alternative energy can require specialized training and background. Graduates can reach out to me to learn about opportunities and access information regarding green collar jobs and training at NEW.

What do you most enjoy doing after work? I listen to music constantly. I also like to send real mail to my friends and family, my invaluable support network.

Contact Anjali at 646-291-2373 or amunjal@new-nyc.org.

In the U.S.,
buildings account
for 38% of all
carbon dioxide
emissions.



Green Training. Green Future.

NEW is pleased to announce the launch of ReNEW, a 6 week pre-apprenticeship training program for women interested in gaining hands-on experience and an understanding of the building and construction trades in New York City, focusing on green construction and green collar careers.

NEW will continue to offer one-day hands-on workshops to any NEW graduate interested in learning more about green collar industries.

My First Week on the Job

by Colette McCready, 1st year Dockbuilder, NEW Graduate - 2008

It all happened so quickly. I received a call on Tuesday, October 13, 2009. I was told to be ready for work the next day. I had tickets to see a show on Tuesday night, so luckily I was distracted and had no time to be nervous, but I did lose a little sleep the night before because of my fear of the unknown!!

On my first day on the job I had a 2 hour orientation, and then went to work! At first I was just getting the gang supplies, and before I knew it I was told to take out my hammer and get to work. I assumed I would be cleaning up, watching the men work and getting supplies, but I was very happy to find that I got to break in my shiny new hammer right away.

I was working hard on my first week, so the days flew by. I learned new things every day. The guys I work for and with are great. They are knowledgeable, helpful, always ready to answer my questions, and always eager to teach me new things!

NEW helped me on the jobsite by teaching me how to dress, how to behave, and which tools to have with me on my first day. I arrived on the jobsite very prepared.

My advice to anyone starting a career in the construction field would be: 1) Be on time. I am at the job site every day in my shanty at 6:30. I'm the first one there and I have already earned my own key! 2) Always listen very carefully to what your coworkers have to say and ask lots of questions! 3) Always be ready to work safely. Pay attention and always wear your safety gear. Your safety gear is provided to you to keep you safe on the job. You would be surprised about how many accidents can be avoided when you take the time to think before you act.



You've read Colette's advice, now share your first week on the job experience with other NEW graduates. Email or call Jully.

Claudia Mladovich: Pursuit of a Green Collar Career

Name: Claudia Mladovich **Trade:** Energy Auditor, Association for Energy Affordability (AEA)

Why green construction: I've always been taught to be happy with as little as possible and to respect everything, from the air you breathe to the clothes you wear.

Best part of the job: I love training because every day I'm learning something new. AEA allows me the opportunity to educate my children and the community about green opportunities.

Key to Success: Determination, motivation, opportunity, networking and never taking no for an answer.

Describe your first day on the job: Overwhelming and ecstatic.

Typical Day: I go to peoples' homes and conduct energy audits. I look for areas in the home where there are energy inefficiencies. I also attend trainings and conduct calculations back at the office.

Industry Achievements: I'm certified as a Building Analyst and Envelope, Bicsi, A+ and Network +.

Suggestion you have for someone interested in the field: Research is paramount because you might find just what you're looking for or you might have to create your own path.

Looking forward to: A time where green opportunities are available to our community with political encouragement.

Wacky Fact: Buildings use 85% of the energy in New York City. **Favorite Tool:** My hands. My hammer is my best friend.

Before NEW: I worked in IT and residential construction and I also traveled a lot.

Home Life: I like to go to the beach with my children.



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NEW has partnered with We-Care.com. Go to <http://new-nyc.we-care.com/> and shop online from hundreds of merchants – a percentage is automatically donated to NEW. Your purchase through this site helps us train women in the trades; helping women achieve economic independence and a secure future.



Food For Thought... By Doniesea D'Andrade, 4th year Carpenter, NEW Graduate, 2006



Historically, women have fought for equality in the workplace and safer working conditions. There are laws that protect women's rights and labor laws were created in order to protect workers. So much has been achieved, yet it was not accomplished by one woman alone, but by many women like us who struggled their way through unfair working conditions. Because of the hard work of women in the past a lot has changed for the better for this generation of workers.

Unfortunately, often women are still underpaid and make less than men do in the same job with the same qualifications. This is why unions and unity is so important amongst women in the field, no matter your trade. I believe that our hard work, unity, and perseverance will continue paving the way for a better future. We need each other out there; it is great to have other women on the construction site. Not only do you have someone to relate to and give moral support but you can network with each other. There is strength in numbers and we cannot accomplish anything alone, so let's help each other stay strong and united by simply acknowledging one another on jobsites, attending events for graduates at NEW and exchanging contact information so we can stay connected.

Did you know: Green Buildings can reduce 70% of solid waste, 24-50% of energy use, 40% of water use!





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243 West 20th Street New York, NY 10011
(212) 627-6252 www.new-nyc.org



Social Services

The Social Services Department at NEW is here to help you. If you need assistance with childcare, housing, legal, health, mental health, benefits, or other issues, call **Linda Young**, LMSW, Director of Social Services at **(646) 257-5208**.

We refer women to various service providers including, but not limited to:

Child Care, Inc. — Referrals to childcare providers, daycare centers, schools, summer programs as well as information/consultation on applying for subsidized childcare in New York City.

New York Legal Assistance Group — Free civil legal services to low income New Yorkers.

Ali Forney Center — Emergency and transitional housing for LGBT youth.

Safe Horizon — Emergency, legal and clinical services to crime victims and domestic violence survivors.

Attention NEW Graduates

Weekly MetroCard For Your Pay Stub

Have you been working in the field for less than a year? Please return to NEW with a recent paystub and we'll give you a week-long unlimited MetroCard. You can exchange a copy of your paystub for a MetroCard once every three months during your first year. You also have the chance to win other gifts when you do so.

Online Community for NEW Graduates

NEW graduates can go online to learn about events and connect with classmates and union sisters. Contact July to be invited to sign up for the latest news and opportunities at:

www.NYCtradeswomen.Ning.com

For more information on opportunities mentioned in this newsletter call July at (646) 257-5097 or e-mail jmerino@new-nyc.org

Update Your Contact Information

NEW is interested in updating your contact information.

Please let us know how we can best reach you.

NEW offers grants to graduates in unions who want to go back to school to advance their careers in construction. If you know of a program you want to enroll in, if you're interested in starting your own construction business, or if you want to start exploring opportunities for your future in construction, contact us!