Ironworkers Union Creates Apprenticeship Opportunities for Women

In a continued effort to create opportunities for women, the Ironworkers International Union and Caltrans have sponsored another ironwork pre-apprenticeship training course this past February. Applicants from Fresno, Sacramento and the Bay Area made up the 20-woman cohort who participated in the 12-day training at the Ironworkers Union training center in Benicia.

Training consisted of classroom instruction and hands-on work to enable these women to jump-start their careers as ironworkers. Thanks to the partnership with Caltrans, participants were provided tools, books and lodging along with reimbursement for supplies, childcare and travel expenses. Following completion of the training course in March, all participants went directly into an ironwork apprenticeship program.

To date, the Ironworkers International Union has funded 6 pre-apprenticeship trainings for women, providing 115 woman an opportunity to apprentice in the ironwork trade.

For more information about the ironworker’s apprenticeship program visit www.universityofiron.org

Photos courtesy of Dick Zampa

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