

OAKLAND COUNTY

MAY 2025

# REAL PRODUCERS<sup>®</sup>

Renee  
Jadan



Broker Spotlight:  
Corbin Gearhart

Agent on the Rise:  
James Gillen III

Agent Spotlight:  
Tereza Djeljosevic

Agent Spotlight:  
Christina Hogan

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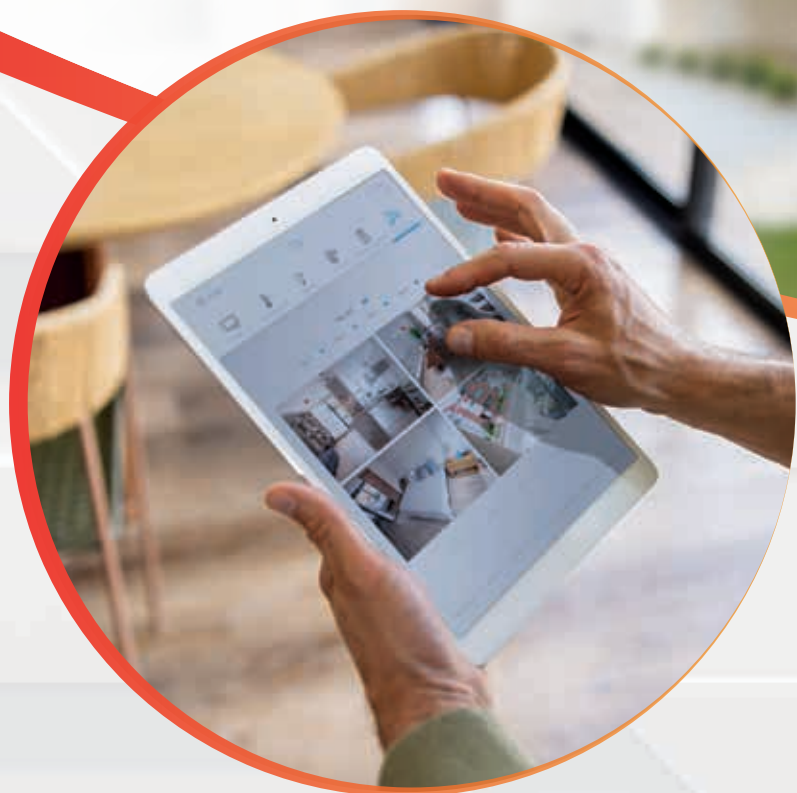
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# Contents



Renee Jadan **38**  
TOP PRODUCER

## PROFILES



**28** Tereza Djeljosevic



**32** Christina Hogan



**16**  
Corbin Gearhart



**22**  
James Gillen III

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 6 Preferred Partners
- 10 Meet the Team
- 14 Event Announcement: Breakfast of Champions
- 16 Broker Spotlight: Corbin Gearhart
- 22 Agent on the Rise: James Gillen III
- 28 Agent Spotlight: Tereza Djeljosevic
- 32 Agent Spotlight: Christina Hogan
- 38 Top Producer: Renee Jadan
- 44 Event Recap: Toast to the Top
- 50 Tribute: Darla Rowley



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Real Producers magazine started in Indianapolis in 2015 and is now in more than 130 markets across the nation.

**Q: WHO RECEIVES THE MAGAZINE?**  
A: The top 500 real estate agents in Oakland County. We update our mailing list annually to ensure Real Producers reaches our area's top-producing agents.

**Q: WHAT IS REAL PRODUCERS ALL ABOUT?**  
A: Real Producers is a platform that brings together the most elite individuals and affiliates in Oakland County real estate. Every month we share stories of some of the area's most recognizable names in real estate, as well as the rising stars in the industry and the preferred partners that are highly recommended by top agents. Beyond the magazine, we host exclusive events that bring titans of real estate together.

**Q: HOW DO YOU GET FEATURED IN THIS MAGAZINE?**  
A: You have to be on the top 500 list to be a featured agent. We welcome nominations for other real estate agents, businesses, brokers, owners, or yourself. Office leaders can also nominate real estate agents. Though we can't guarantee a feature, we strongly encourage you to meet our team and attend our private events so we can get to know your story.

**Q: HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BE FEATURED AGENT?**  
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**Q: WHO ARE THE PREFERRED PARTNERS SHOWN IN THE MAGAZINE AND AT EVENTS?**  
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# Corbin

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# Gearhart

Corbin Gearhart, a driven and ambitious real estate professional, is not an average broker. In just six years, she has made an impact on the real estate world, and in two years, her brokerage, Full Circle Real Estate, has reached a remarkable \$100 million in sales. Her path to success, however, is not marked by a glamorous start but by grit, hustle, and, above all, heart.

Corbin's foray into real estate wasn't a straight line. "I first got my real estate license in 2018 when I had a cleaning company," she explained. "I had two small kids at home and needed to make some extra money around my husband's schedule." She soon realized that her passion lay elsewhere, so she made the leap from scrubbing floors to selling homes. "I knew there was something more out there for me," Corbin said, "something I could be passionate about."

Corbin's desire for something more ignited a fire in her that fueled her rapid rise. She balanced cleaning homes and building her real estate career, working tirelessly to replace one career with another. Her journey was not easy, but it was driven by the knowledge that she had no choice but to prevail. "I became a mom at just 19, and those early years were a tough financial struggle," Corbin shared. "I knew with real estate, I had no option but to succeed!"

Corbin's hard work paid off when she founded her own real estate team. "I started a real estate team in just two

years of being in real estate, which grew very quickly with no recruiting," she explained. Corbin's success wasn't by chance, however: Her work ethic, paired with her passion for helping others, propelled her forward. Soon after, she opened her own brokerage — Full Circle Real Estate — in Holly, Michigan, within four years of being licensed. "To be able to build a business naturally, and see it grow, has been incredible," she said proudly.

Now at the helm of Full Circle Real Estate, Corbin has 50 agents and three full-time employees working under her. The brokerage's slogan, "Hustle & Heart Set Us Apart," perfectly encapsulates the culture she has cultivated — a family-like environment where collaboration and mutual support are key. "The culture, family, and friendship we have are very unique," Corbin shared. "We all collaborate and cheer each other on."

When it comes to her accomplishments, Corbin measures it by the success of her agents. "For me, success as a broker isn't about

awards or even sales: It's all about the people I'm able to help," she said. This attitude has paid off in more ways than one, as Corbin has already achieved several notable awards, including being named a "20 Under 30" honoree by Real Producers of Oakland County.

Corbin continues to remain humble and laser-focused on helping her agents achieve their goals. "I'm passionate about helping each one of my agents reach their goals and grow their business," she explained. Her enthusiasm for mentorship is what drove her to become a broker in the first place, after all. "My passion for teaching, mentoring, coaching, and helping agents grow really took hold of my heart," Corbin added. "Being a broker means being a part of other people's journeys and shaping the industry into something better."

For Corbin, her time in the real estate industry hasn't been without its challenges, though. As the sole owner of her brokerage, Corbin feels the weight of responsibility. "The biggest challenge as

“

For me, success as a broker isn't about awards or even sales: It's all about the people I'm able to help.”







a broker and business owner has been the pressure of it all,” she admitted. “I have a lot of people relying on me, and I never want to let anyone down.”

Outside of work, Corbin leads a full and busy life with her husband, Cody, and their three boys — Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Ezra. Family movie nights, trips to

Disney, and golf cart rides around the neighborhood are just a few of the ways they unwind.

Corbin’s love for life shines through in her hobbies, too. She has a passion for reading and can devour a novel in a day. “I like feel-good romance books as well as psychological thrillers,” she said with

a laugh. “I’ve also been very into quantum physics lately!”

In the future, Corbin plans to start her own charity. “I’m very passionate about helping homeless people and kids in difficult situations,” she said. Her main goal is to make a tangible difference in the world.

At the end of the day, Corbin wants to be remembered for more than just her successes. “I want to be remembered for my kindness and my heart — someone who’s not your typical salesperson or broker,”

she shared. In her mind, success isn’t about personal gain. “Success to me is freedom,” she explained. “It’s about creating a meaningful and fulfilling life for me and my family.”

In an industry that’s often focused on numbers, Corbin is proving that hustle and heart truly do set her apart.



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# 2024

## BY THE NUMBERS

Here's what the top agents in OAKLAND COUNTY sold in 2024

 <p><b>31</b> AVERAGE TRANSACTIONS PER AGENT</p>	 <p><b>\$7,182,771,404</b> SALES VOLUME</p>	 <p><b>15,316</b> TOTAL TRANSACTIONS</p>
 <p><b>\$14,365,543</b> AVERAGE SALES VOLUME PER AGENT</p>		



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# JAMES GILLEN III

## TRANSFORMING FAMILY LEGACY INTO REAL ESTATE SUCCESS

PHOTOS BY RENAE FRANCES PHOTOGRAPHY

In the competitive world of real estate, James Gillen III stands out as a rising star who has seamlessly blended his family's entrepreneurial spirit with his own drive for success. As an agent and associate broker with Liberty Way Realty, James has quickly made a name for himself in Oakland County, leveraging his unique background and passion for the industry to build a thriving career.

James' journey into real estate began early, which was influenced by his parents' successful careers in the field. At just 19 years old, James obtained his initial license and started showing properties at his parents' brokerage. However, his path took a brief detour when he transferred to Michigan State University to pursue a degree in advertising with a minor in sales leadership. As a first-generation college student, James' academic achievements laid a strong foundation for his future success.

After graduation, James' career in real estate took

shape through a position as a senior loan officer assistant at Flagstar Bank. This experience provided valuable insights into the mortgage business and allowed him to work alongside industry professionals. James always knew that real estate was his true calling, however, so he seamlessly transitioned into full-time real estate work — bringing a wealth of knowledge to the industry and a fresh perspective.

James' accomplishments in the field are impressive, particularly for someone early in their career. He was named to the Oakland County Top 500 REALTOR® list in 2023, a testament to

his dedication and skill. His success is reflected in his sales figures as well, with a remarkable \$30 million in total sales volume and \$6 million in buyer sales volume over the past year. These numbers not only showcase James' ability to close deals but also highlight the trust his clients place in him.

What sets James apart from others in the industry is his multifaceted approach to real estate. He views the profession as a perfect blend of finance, marketing, sales, advertising, and contract work. This comprehensive outlook allows him to provide clients with a well-rounded service that goes beyond simply buying or selling properties. "No two days are the same, and although some days I'm at the office, I'm always on the road or doing something different!" James shared.

Despite his rapid rise, James has faced challenges along







“THE BEST PART OF BEING AN AGENT IS ALWAYS SEEING YOUR CLIENT SATISFIED WITH THE END RESULT.”

the way. He admits that his lack of experience was initially daunting. “It’s easy to get overwhelmed when you’re in an unfamiliar position,” he said. James overcame these obstacles by relying on the supportive team at Liberty Way Realty and consistently pushing himself to learn and grow.

Looking to the future, James has ambitious goals. He aims to elevate his personal brand and leverage his growing network to execute larger transactions. He’s also always seeking new ways to innovate and expand his reach, and has plans to delve into video marketing in 2025. His long-term vision includes starting his own small team and eventually running his own brokerage, ensuring that real estate remains a significant part of his life and family legacy.

For aspiring agents, James emphasizes the importance of staying consistent and finding a mentor who can provide guidance and support. “Structure is important, and you need to be proactive in meeting new clients,” he said. James also stresses the value of being detail-oriented, particularly when it comes to contracts and listing presentations.

According to James, success is about the relationships he builds and the lives he has impacted. He finds great satisfaction in helping

clients achieve their specific goals, recognizing that every situation is unique. “The best part of being an agent is always seeing your client satisfied with the end result,” James shared.

Beyond his professional life, James maintains an active lifestyle that includes soccer, gym workouts, and pickleball games in Royal Oak, where he currently resides. He values family time, often enjoying outings to their favorite restaurant — Mexican Village — or boating on Lake St. Clair. James’ commitment to his community is evident through his involvement with the Lake Orion Lions Club.

As James continues to make his mark in the real estate industry, he remains grounded in the values instilled by his parents and is driven by a desire to bring positive energy to every situation. His journey from a first-generation college student to a top-performing agent is a testament to his work ethic, adaptability, and genuine passion for helping others achieve their real estate dreams. With his combination of youthful energy, professional acumen, and deep-rooted industry knowledge, James is poised to become a lasting force in Michigan’s real estate landscape.







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# Tereza

## Djeljosevic

## A Positive Outlook on Real Estate

PHOTOS BY STYLISH DETROIT

PHOTOS TAKEN AT LOMBARDO HOMES MODEL AT STILLWATER CROSSING IN MACOMB TOWNSHIP

Tereza Djeljosevic, a principal broker at A.V.A. Real Estate, has seen an impressive rise in the real estate industry over her eight-year career. Her journey to success wasn't a straight path, however. Born in Montenegro, Europe, and of Albanian descent, Tereza immigrated to the United States at the tender age of 5. With a high school diploma and a stint in waitressing, she was no stranger to hard work and perseverance.

"I was working two shifts at a restaurant, struggling to make ends meet," Tereza recalled. "I've always had a strong interest in interior design and the home construction process. Becoming an agent was the best way for me to experience both while also making a good profit."

Tereza got her real estate license in 2015 and transitioned into full-time in 2018. Since then, she has achieved significant milestones. In 2022, she obtained \$14 million in sales, and the following year, she accumulated \$12 million. She is considered a Top 300 agent from Real Producers of Oakland County and was once featured in Top Agent Magazine. Tereza even earned the 7 Star Award from Broker Agent Advisor in 2023.

Tereza's optimism shines through in each client interaction — no matter the challenges. "The biggest challenge is knowing that deals can fall apart at any moment," she said. "I overcome these obstacles by staying positive and encouraging my clients to do the same. Being optimistic, even if it falls through, means something better will come along."

Tereza operates without a team, but her unique approach as a solo broker makes her stand out. "I am extremely





passionate about having the knowledge and strength it takes to operate my own brokerage,” she said. “The appreciation my clients have for the work I’ve done for them is the most rewarding part of my business.”

A source of inspiration and support, Tereza’s family plays a significant role in her life. She speaks fondly of her parents, two brothers, and one sister, along with her four nephews and two nieces. “At the time when I opened my own brokerage, Ava was my only niece, and I named my brokerage after her,” Tereza shared. She travels to New York several times a year to spend time with her nieces and nephews, which bring joy and balance to her busy life.

As for Tereza’s interests, they extend beyond real estate. “I love Hallmark movies year-round, and I read a lot of books on success and religious topics,” she said with a laugh. Her hobbies include swimming and traveling. “I absolutely love the ocean,” she added. Tereza is also strong in her Catholic faith and enjoys visiting new churches.

Tereza is motivated by the desire to give back to her community, and she supports charities such as the Knights of Columbus and the Gjergj Kastrioti Scholarship Fund. “One hosts events for children, and the other is a scholarship program awarded to those in need. They’re both worthy causes,” she explained.

When it comes to advice for up-and-coming real estate agents, Tereza emphasizes perseverance. “Never give up! Follow-up is huge. Have a lot of patience to get through the first year,” she said. “If I did not push through the struggles, it would have been extremely easy for me to quit my first two years in this business.”

Success, for Tereza, is defined not by numbers but by the integrity and effort that is put into every task. “To me, success is anything that is done with honesty and integrity, and by always putting in your best efforts,” she said.

“I want to be remembered for never giving up, for doing my job to the best of my ability, for always working for my clients, and for having their best interests at heart.”

From waitressing to leading a successful real estate business, Tereza is a remarkable example of what can be achieved with dedication and a positive outlook.



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# Christina HOGAN



PHOTOS BY RENAE FRANCES PHOTOGRAPHY



## PUTTING CLIENTS *First*

In the dynamic world of real estate, some agents stand out not just for their sales figures but for their genuine passion for helping people. Christina Hogan, an agent with Real Estate One in Rochester, Michigan, embodies this spirit, turning her love for connecting with others into a thriving career that allows her to balance professional success with personal fulfillment.

Christina has a decade of experience in the industry, but her journey to become an agent wasn't a direct path. She received her bachelor's degree in English from Oakland University, and after graduation, she spent time in various sales roles. "I was always selling something!" Christina recalled. She began to desire a more flexible career so that she could prioritize her most

important job — being a mom — which led her to consider real estate.

Christina's decision to enter the field was influenced by family and friends who were already in the industry. She was drawn to the work-life balance they seemed to enjoy, despite the challenges of the job. "I love being able to work from home — mainly, my car! And my office," Christina said. "I have to have a change of scenery, and I love that every day is never the same."

Since Christina obtained her license in 2014, she has quickly made her mark. Her accomplishments include being named a Rising Star and earning both the President's Circle and Diamond awards. In 2024, she closed an impressive \$7.4 million in sales, contributing to her career total of \$69 million.

Christina is passionate about her role as an agent, and it's evident in her approach to client relationships. "My job is utterly fulfilling," she said. "I am able to help clients make one of the biggest financial decisions of their lives and help them make the right decision." Christina is always striving to put her clients' interests first, and her dedication to helping them achieve their goals is unmatched. "I always say to them, 'I sleep very well at night!'" she added.

As a one-woman show, Christina handles every aspect of her business from start to finish. This hands-on method allows her to maintain the high standards of service she sets for herself. She credits her background as one of six children for honing her negotiation skills, a crucial asset in real estate transactions.

Christina embraces the unique experiences that come with her chosen career. "I have the best stories," she said. For instance, she has encountered hissing cats, discovered sleeping teenagers, and stumbled upon sellers who were showering while showing houses to clients.

Like any career, real estate comes with its challenges. Christina emphasizes the importance of managing client expectations and having clear





communication throughout the buying or selling process. “It is key for everyone’s expectations to be met,” she said. Christina’s passion for her work remains consistent, which drives her to provide the best service possible for her clients.

Looking to the future, Christina is excited about the prospects her career holds. “I cannot imagine not doing this job, so I hope to continue to serve my clients for years to come,” she shared. Christina especially values the work-life balance her career affords her, allowing her to provide for her family while still being present for her two sons — Charley and Wyatt.

“YOU CAN BE A SMALL PART OF ANYTHING, AND IT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”

Beyond her professional life, Christina is deeply committed to giving back to her community. She supports organizations such as Neighborhood House and the Rochester Community Schools Foundation. “You can be a small part of anything, and it does make a difference,” she said.

For those considering a career in real estate, Christina reminds them to be genuine. “Of course, we do this to make money like anyone else does for work, but we are not doctors, we are not celebrities — our job is to provide a service and bring everyone to the closing with a smile,” she said. “When we do that successfully, we will always thrive.”

Christina’s success in real estate is a testament to her passion, dedication, and genuine care for her clients. Her ability to balance a thriving career with a fulfilling personal life serves as an encouragement to others in the industry. As Christina continues to navigate the ever-changing real estate landscape, one thing remains constant — her commitment to putting her clients first.



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## A Visionary in the Luxury Market

When Renee Jaden was last featured in Real Producers as a Rising Star in the December 2022 issue, she was proving herself as a passionate trailblazer in Michigan’s luxury real estate market. Today, she is a true leader who continues to inspire with her success and commitment, and has the results to prove it.

# Renee JADAN

BY ROBBYN MOORE  
PHOTOS BY MELISSA DOUGLAS CO.



As a luxury agent and REALTOR® with Z Real Estate Experts, Renee has solidified her status as a powerhouse in the competitive real estate landscape. Since launching her career in 2021, she has achieved remarkable milestones, including a career volume totaling over \$60 million and more than

150 homes sold within just four years. Her dedication and excellence have earned her accolades such as the 2021 Leadership Award, 2022 and 2023 Platinum Club Winner, and 2023, 2024, and 2025 Hour Detroit Real Estate All-Star.

Renee credits her continued success to unwavering

discipline and consistency. “I have created a more consistent schedule that sets me up for success,” she explained. By implementing daily, weekly, and monthly plans, she has fine-tuned her work-life balance and has ensured that every task aligns with her long-term goals. “Understanding that simple actions — when

done consistently — can yield extraordinary results has been a game-changer,” Renee added.

Renee’s business growth over the past year has been fueled by a robust social media presence. She uses platforms as a digital diary to showcase her life beyond the transaction. “I believe in sharing my personal and professional journey — from daily workouts to family life,” Renee said. “I want people to know that I am more than just transactional. It’s about building relationships, being relatable, and showing people that, beyond real estate, I’m also a wife, a mom and a friend.” Furthermore, Renee believes that in order to reach the results she is looking for, it’s important to measure results daily. “Get obsessed with your goal,” she said. “This means talk it, walk it, live it and breathe it.”

As a luxury-certified agent, Renee combines her real estate expertise with her passion for fashion. She spent more than 25 years in high-end retail at Nordstrom and Saks Fifth Avenue, which have shaped her into what she is today. Renee has exceptional service skills and knows how important it is that her clients receive this type of experience. Additionally, her focus on building and maintaining relationships has increased her sphere of influence and has deepened client trust. “People are my passion,” she said. “The relationships I build are the foundation of my success.”

To stay current on industry trends, Renee invests heavily in her business through



networking, attending events and staying educated. She also attributes her success to staying calm and focused, even in challenging situations. “It’s the challenges and failures I have experienced that have made me stronger today,” Renee shared. “I approach any obstacle with positivity and use my problem-solving skills to create the best outcomes for my clients.”

For Renee, the Z Real Estate Experts team has been instrumental in her career journey. “As a team, we not only work together to reach our goals, but we also travel, learn and win together,” she explained. “The sense of family and collaboration drives my productivity and reinforces my commitment to excellence.”

Outside of real estate, Renee cherishes quality time with her own family. Whether it’s attending weekly mass, having dinner together or traveling, family is a priority in her life. She has also recently added pickleball and golf to her active lifestyle.

Four years ago, an unexpected event occurred that positively changed Renee’s perspective on life. “When my husband’s near-fatal cardiac arrest happened, his life was saved by the quick actions of a cardiologist and an athletic trainer who happened to be present at a local restaurant,” she recalled. “This experience reinforced the immeasurable value of health and happiness. It serves as a constant reminder to cherish every moment, prioritize well-

being, and embrace life with a mindset of providing love, living life to its fullest, and finding ways to be happy by laughing more because tomorrow is not promised.”

Renee stands behind the phrase: “Anything you want is possible — you just have to make it a priority.” This perfectly encapsulates her determination and drive.

“Set a plan, stay focused, and make it non-negotiable,” she said. “By being consistent, you will achieve what you thought was unexpected.”

Looking ahead, Renee dreams of further expanding her presence in the luxury market. She aspires to combine her retail background with her real estate expertise to educate

others and help more clients achieve their dreams.

“With my relentless passion and focus, I want to continue to inspire others and build a legacy grounded in relationships and service,” Renee said. “Success is not just getting a deal done: It’s the long-lasting relationships and the drive we have to help others along the way.”



**“Anything you want is possible — you just have to make it a priority.”**







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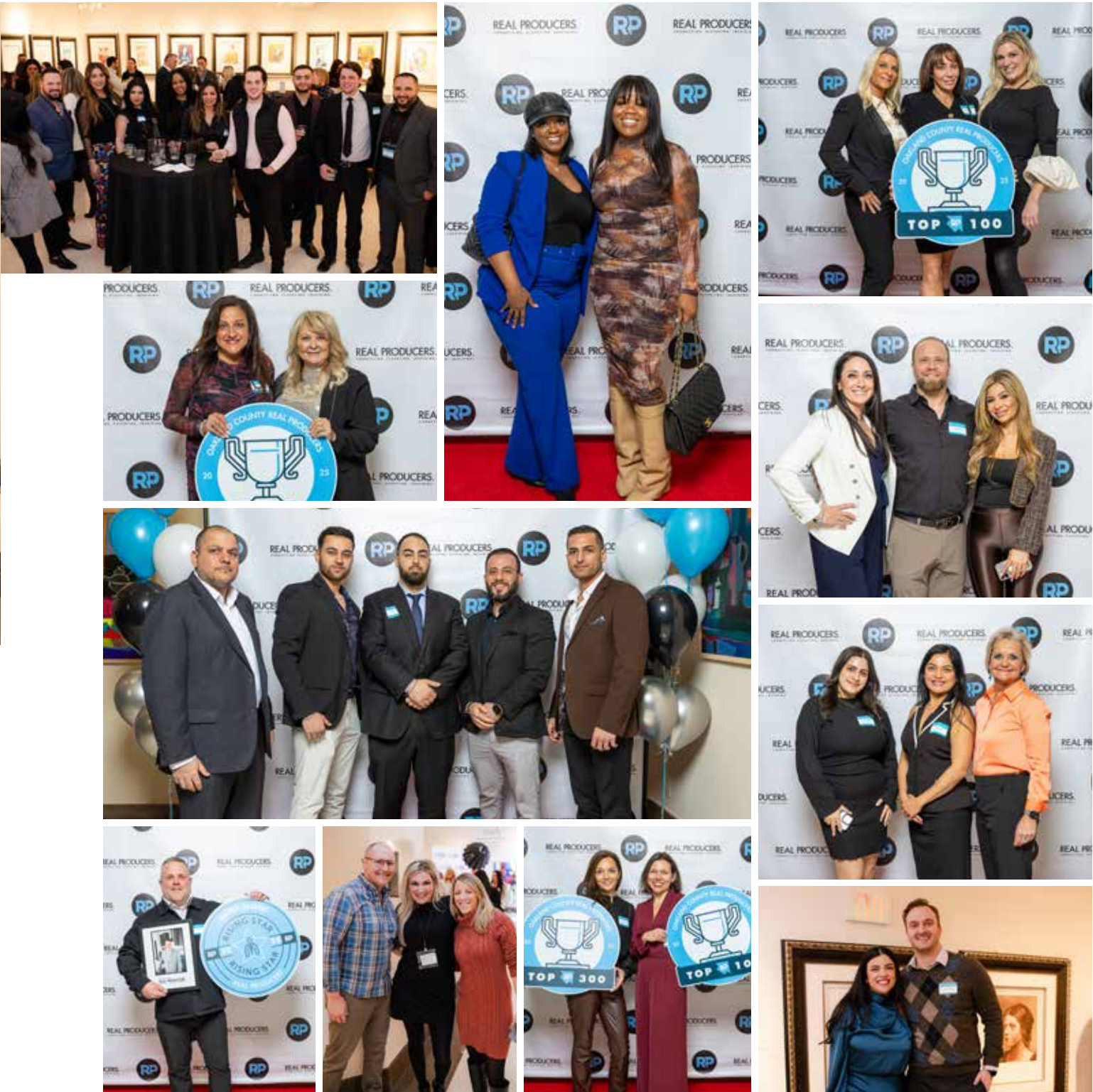
Thank You for Attending Our Muse & Mingle:  
**A Toast to the Top!**

BACKDROP PHOTOS BY ANDY SCHWARTZ WITH STYLISH DETROIT  
PHOTOS BY RENAE FRANCES PHOTOGRAPHY

Our first event of 2025 for Real Producers of Oakland County — Muse & Mingle: A Toast to the Top — kicked off at the beautiful Park West Gallery in Southfield, MI. Top real estate agents in Oakland County and our Preferred Partners joined together to mingle, connect, celebrate and toast to the best

of the best! Attendees enjoyed great food, drinks, music, and incredible artwork while making connections with colleagues across the real estate industry. Thank you to our partners, without whom these events and this publication would not be possible!

When asked about the event, Stacey Taylor from Quest Realty said, “This is always one of my favorites because I love to look at the art! We have gone back to the gallery a few times since the first time I attended an event and even bought a painting the first year!”



At the event, Park West Gallery provided seven lucky attendees with incredible prizes! Five of the winners received a beautiful piece of artwork and two winners won a vacation to New York and Las Vegas! Congratulations to our art winners: Maria Kopicki with Coldwell Banker Professionals, Matt

Pindera with Oakland Real Estate Group, Victoria Safran with RE/MAX Eclipse Lake Orion, Yelena Nisnevich with Keller Williams Domain, and Elizabeth Schlum with Max Broock, REALTORS®. Congratulations to our Las Vegas vacation winner Samantha

Jones with Mortgage Center, and our New York vacation winner Alondra Gutierrez with Golden Key Group!

We also included a small add-on option for this event in which we raised \$200 for one lucky individual to donate



to a charity of their choice! Bernard Shamow from eXp Realty was our winner, and he decided to donate the winnings to Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County Women Build! This is an organization that Real Producers of Oakland County is also involved with — thank you, and congratulations Bernard!

Special thanks to our HOST & Sponsor — Park West Gallery — for providing this incredible space! Thank you to our Food Sponsors — Morse Moving & Storage, Becky Alley with Capital Mortgage Funding, and Golden Key Realty Group

— for providing the delicious food from Two Unique. We'd also like to thank our Bar Sponsors — Changing Places Moving and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Kee Realty — for providing the beverages for the event! Thank you to our Music Sponsor — Lombardo Homes — as well as our Decor Sponsor — DFCU Financial — for helping make the atmosphere at this event spectacular! A special shout-out to the valet by Elite Parking Solutions, which provided easy access into the event. Thank you Bernard Shamow and Dominic Shaba with eXp Realty and RealPush Podcast

for interviewing individuals on their podcast while guests arrived! Thank you to Renae Frances Photography for taking photos of the event to provide lasting memories! Thank you to Stylish Detroit for taking photos and videos of the event for our attendees to relive this amazing experience!

We are so grateful to all of you who joined us, and we look forward to making more memories with you at our next event — Breakfast of Champions — on May 8!







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- Kyle Matta



# Darla Rowley



Photo by Dawn Townsend Photography

## You will be remembered

“Darla was one of the first people I met when I embarked on real estate investing. She was there for my first flip, the day I received the keys. She pointed out things that only an expert would notice. With her invaluable design direction and staging support, the house sold quickly and for the asking price. I was instantly hooked. Since then, I’ve used her company numerous times and also recommend her company to my clients.” - Brenda Loveday

“One of my favorite memories was lunching with Darla and talking about the ‘what’s next.’ She was open, bold and very sure of herself. Loved having our conversations!” - Johnna Struck

“I met Darla about 10 years ago when I had a client who wanted to do a quick flip of a Bloomfield property. Darla was such a valuable resource and helped us with contractors and gave wonderful advice about what needed to be done and what to avoid. She was so passionate and knowledgeable about her business. As we worked through the project, I learned what a wonderful, kind, and smart individual Darla was. I have a deep respect and admiration for her.” - Rob H.

“Darla is a truly gifted artist when it comes to staging. Her tastes are reflective of the times, and often



Darla with Tina Stratton from Impact Home Staging Experts. They have been a Preferred Partner in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb for seven years now.



The Impact Home Staging Experts team

times, buyers want to buy her stuff because it is so great. She is always there to help, too.” - Gwen Schultz

“I will miss her smiling face, and she really had the knack for making you feel like you were her most important client. I love that we connected through Women Build as well — all the great memories will not be forgotten.” - Jennifer Zardus

“I loved that she got into boating. We met a couple of times on Lake St. Clair, rafting our boats together. She really enjoyed being on the water.” - Melinda Nagler

“We are heartbroken to learn of the passing of Darla Hunter Rowley. Darla was not only a valued Preferred Partner of the Women’s Council but also a true advocate for women in real estate and

a generous supporter of our mission. She once received our Partner of the Year award — just one reflection of the impact she made on our board and members over the years. Darla’s passion, warmth, and leadership left a mark on all of us. Her legacy lives on through the incredible team at Impact Home Staging Experts, and she will be deeply missed. Our thoughts are with her family, friends, and everyone at Impact during this time.” - Women’s Council of REALTORS® Birmingham-Bloomfield

“I had the privilege of working closely with Darla for many years, where she served as my mentor. For the better part of two years (2021-2023), she was my constant guide, shaping me into the person I am today. That time being by her side — learning, growing, getting on each other’s nerves, drinking too much at the airport, and simply being present

— are deeply etched into my heart forever. She saw potential in me that I couldn’t see in myself and nurtured it with infectious energy. Even in her hardest hours and difficult moments, I was honored to be there to offer a hand and to share those times together. What a privilege it was to offer support. The gratitude I feel is immeasurable that words can barely touch.” - Tina Stratton

“From the very beginning, Darla believed in Real Producers when we launched our publication seven years ago. It was truly a joy to be in her presence — her confidence, determination, and strength were incredibly inspiring. She will be deeply missed by so many. Our thoughts are with the entire Impact Home Staging team and her family during this time.” - Chris & Terra Csotty



Darla was featured in our publication for writing a book about home staging.



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