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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's been an honor to serve as President of the IIA Twin Cities Chapter. This community continues to reflect the best of our profession—thoughtful, engaged, and committed to growth.

Our mission—to serve, connect, and elevate internal audit professionals—guides everything we do. Whether through impactful programming, professional development, or peer connections, our focus remains on supporting members and advancing the field.

This year, Governor Tim Walz issued an official proclamation recognizing May as Internal Audit Awareness Month—a meaningful recognition of the vital role internal auditors serve. It highlights the broader value of internal audit—not just as a critical role within organizations, but as a driver of trust, ethical culture, and accountability. Internal audit informs decisions that affect people, shapes how organizations show up in their communities, and helps ensure that actions align with values.

As we look ahead, I'm energized by the momentum we've built and the leadership stepping in. There are countless ways to stay engaged and contribute—no matter your role or stage in your career.

Thank you for helping this chapter grow with purpose, stay resilient, and remain member-driven.

Kristyn Bell, IIA - Twin Cities Chapter



## Newsletter – May 2025 Issue 2024-2025 CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

This year, the IIA Twin Cities Chapter demonstrated meaningful impact, strategic growth, and a strong commitment to the internal audit profession:

- Sapphire Chapter Status maintained 15+ consecutive years of achieving maximum CAP points from The IIA!
- Reached 1,200+ participants across 15+ educational programs, including:
  - 8 Insight Series sessions
  - 4 CAE/Audit Leader events
  - 3 Rising Audit Professional events (including Breakfast Clubs, networking, and social activities)
- Partnered with:
  - The IIA to deliver training on the new Global Internal Audit Standards
  - IIA Central lowa to expand regional training reach
  - MNCPA to host a hybrid MBAC attended by 75+ IIA TC members
- 37 new certifications earned by members
- Launched a CAE/Director Mentorship Program to strengthen executive connections
- \*Awarded \$4,500 in scholarships to 3 students across 2 universities
- Distributed an \$800 CIA grant to support certification access
- Received a Governor's Proclamation from Tim Walz recognizing May 2025 as Internal Audit Awareness Month in Minnesota

#### Click here for the 2024/2025 IIA Twin Cities Annual Report

#### **Get Connected & Stay Informed**

Stay up to date on chapter events, programs, and opportunities by connecting and following us on LinkedIn. It's the best way to stay engaged with our internal audit community throughout the year.

Have **ideas** or **feedback**? Reach out anytime via <u>email</u> or send us a message on LinkedIn. We'd love to hear from you.

**IIA Twin Cities LinkedIn Page** 



# Internal Audit Awareness Month

We proudly recognize the official proclamation by Governor Tim Walz designating May 2025 as Internal Audit Awareness Month in Minnesota!

#### **View the Official Proclamation Here**

Now more than ever, internal audit plays a critical role in helping organizations and communities navigate uncertainty, strengthen trust, and drive accountability. From emerging risks like Al and cybersecurity to evolving regulations and stakeholder expectations, the profession continues to rise to the moment.

This proclamation is not just symbolic — it affirms the essential value that internal auditors bring to public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Throughout May, we amplify our purpose:

- Safeguarding organizations through independent assurance
- Delivering insights that strengthen operations and support sound decision-making
- Oriving ethical culture, transparency, and long-term resilience

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May.

5 2. WW.
GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE



#### **RECOGNITION SPOTLIGHT**

We are proud to recognize our chapter's most recent IIA certification and scholarship recipients.

Your dedication to growth strengthens the profession and our community.



## Certification Recipients

Robert Anderson, Certified Internal Auditor
Molly Axen, Certified Internal Auditor
Kim Buck, Certified Internal Auditor
Claire Chhettri, Certified Internal Auditor
Justin Fahse, Certified Internal Auditor
Mathias Int-Veen, Certified Internal Auditor
Sydney Kloster, Certified Internal Auditor
Ann Marie Lynch, Certified Internal Auditor
Arnold Orantes, Certified Internal Auditor
Caitlin Paulilis, Certified Internal Auditor
Nancy Piga, Certified Internal Auditor
Ashley Roemhild, Certified Internal Auditor
William Tester, Certified Internal Auditor
Antonio Vigliaturo, Certified Internal Auditor
Chad Gorski, Certified in Risk Management Assurance



## Scholarship Recipients

Alexander Lorenz, St. Cloud State University Reese Holzhueter, St. Cloud State University

**Thank you** to our members for their continued pursuit of excellence—we're honored to celebrate your achievements!



## THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

We are **deeply grateful** for the time, energy, and leadership our volunteers bring to the IIA Twin Cities Chapter — your commitment drives our collective impact across the profession and community.

The following individuals are completing their roles at the end of this Chapter year.

Whether continuing in a new role or concluding your service, your contributions are recognized and appreciated.

- Kristyn Bell President
- Carah Blythe, Medtronic Board Member
- Jon Caracci, Protiviti RAP
- Sergio Carrillo, CHS Board Member
- Jeremiah Champ, Wells Fargo Past President
- Brenda Drehmel, UNFI Member Relations
- Teri Dullnig, Old Republic Academic Relations
- Tyler Graffunder, The Toro Company Past President
- Jill Helms, UnitedHealth Group Treasurer
- Josh Hultgren, API Group CAE Relations
- Joe Joseph, Target Academic Relations
- David Lubin, Old National Bank CAE Relations
- Jenna Niedz, Protiviti President Elect
- Garrett Schmidt, US Bank Assistant Treasurer

## Introducing 2025-2026 Leadership

Chapter Board and Governors

The 2025–2026 leadership team brings diverse perspectives, deep experience, and a clear focus on advancing internal audit across our region.

Together, we are committed to delivering meaningful programs, strengthening member connections, and elevating the profession.

Meet the 2025-2026 IIATC Leadership Team



**LEADER SPOTLIGHT** 

## Jenna Niedz

#### **Incoming President**

Protiviti, Internal Audit & Financial Advisory Practice Director



#### Tell us about yourself:

I'm a Director with Protiviti's Internal Audit and Financial Advisory Practice and have been with the firm for 11 years with prior experience in governmental and external audit. I got the coolest new promotion this past January to "Mom" to a little girl and was already dog momma to a couple of doodles. One of these doodles was rescued through RAGOM (Retrieve a Golden of the Midwest), where I serve as Board Treasurer.

#### What inspired you to get involved with the IIA Twin Cities Chapter?:

I was recruited in 2019 by an old coworker friend to take on the role of EQA coordination lead. That role was eliminated during my tenure, so I assumed the Treasurer position from 2020 - 2023. I have served this past year as the Vice Chair and will assume the President / Chair role for the upcoming year.

#### How has being part of the internal audit community shaped your career?:

One of the reasons I love internal audit is the ability to continually innovate and evolve the risk landscape. I've worked with many clients over the years, and bearing witness to the growth and evolution of change leveraging the recommendations that our teams deliver through audit procedures is exciting to me. I'm also energized to see how AI can help enhance and transform what we already do.

#### What's one piece of advice you'd give to someone new to the profession?:

"Be curious."-Ted Lasso; Ask great questions, and take good notes. Never stop learning.

#### What's your go to way to recharge or stay grounded during a busy time?:

It's important to have things outside of work that keep you grounded - your whole life can't be about work. Engaging in hobbies - even if for an hour a day - keeps my cup full so that I can pour into others and show up each day as my best self. Reading books, walking outside, exercising, time with Jesus, playing the piano, and time with family are a few of mine.

#### What's one professional accomplishment that you are proud of?:

I'm Protiviti's Global Co-Lead of our Women's Employee Network Group called iGroww. I get to help cultivate growth, recruitment, and retention of women in the workforce through the initiatives our ENG provides.



## **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!**

The IIA Twin Cities Chapter thrives because of engaged, committed volunteers.

Whether you're looking for a short-term project or a longer-term leadership role, there's a place for you to contribute and grow.

Flexible ways to contribute. Real value for you and the community.



Flexible ways to contribute



Real value for you & the Chapter



Meaningful fit for your time & interests

### Why Volunteer?

Gain meaningful leadership experience
Invest in your own personal and professional growth
Expand your network of peers and leaders
Give back to the profession that's helped shape your career

Interested in learning more or getting matched to an opportunity?

Reach out to <u>IIA.TwinCities@tciia.org</u>
We'd love to connect with you!



## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE IIA

Join a global network of 260,000+ professionals gaining access to authoritative guidance, cross-industry insights, and growth through mentorship and volunteerism.

#### Join the IIA today!







Learn alongside peers and leaders



Insights that elevate your impact

## Maximize Your Membership Join the IIA Twin Cities Insight Series

Are you looking to stretch your training budget while boosting your team's expertise?

Invest in your team's growth and development with **the IIA Twin Cities Chapter's Insight Series Annual Subscription**—a <u>cost-effective training solution</u> designed for internal audit professionals and their broader business teams.

#### What's Included:

- 12 CPE-eligible internal audit hot topics sessions.
   (1 to 2 CPE credits/session can be earned!)
- 4 exclusive events for CAEs, Audit Leaders, and Directors.
- Networking opportunities with peers across the Twin Cities.
- A mix of virtual and in-person formats to fit your schedule.

#### Value Per Person (For 12 Sessions) **Participants Total Fee** 1 – 4 \$125 \$10.42 5 - 9 \$500 As low as \$5.56 per person/session As low as \$3.81 per person/session 10 - 19 \$915 20 - 39 \$1,260 As low as \$2.69 per person/session As low as \$1.47 per person/session 40 - 99 \$1,470 100+ \$1,675 As low as \$1.40 per person/session

#### Who Can Participate?

- IIA Members and Non-Members
- Internal audit members and other departments in your company including IT, Compliance and Risk Management!

#### <u>Incredible Value at Every Tier!</u>

Train more, spend less! Your investment goes further with tiered pricing that drives down the cost per participant as your team grows.

Join the IIA Twin Cities
Insight Series



## CAE & AUDIT DIRECTOR MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The IIA Twin Cities Chapter is proud to continue the CAE & Audit Director Mentorship Program designed specifically to help local audit leaders grow through connection, collaboration, and shared insight.

This unique program pairs CAEs with audit directors and emerging leaders to foster professional development, meaningful dialogue, and trusted relationships in a supportive, confidential environment.

#### Mentorship Tailored to You.



Be thoughtfully matched based on strengths, goals, and mentorship preferences.

#### Connections That Last. Community That Grows.



Engage in monthly discussions, virtual networking, and professional development opportunities with CAEs across the Twin Cities.

#### Mutual Support. Meaningful Growth.



Build a trusting relationship to exchange feedback and expand perspectives in a safe, supportive environment.

#### **HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

#### Ready to mentor / be mentored?

Complete the <u>CAE Mentoring Program</u>
<u>Participant Questionnaire</u> by Tuesday, **June 10th** to express your interest.
Pairings will begin shortly after.

#### Save the Date:

Mentorship Kickoff & Celebration – **June 18th** at Grant Thornton!
Connect in person and strengthen community ties.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

#### **Kickoff Call (June):**

Outline expectations, roles, and goals.

#### **Monthly Mentorship Meetings:**

1-on-1 conversations focused on leadership growth and development.

#### Continuous Feedback & Reflection:

Share insights to help evolve and improve the program's impact.

Let's grow together—one conversation at a time.



#### Newsletter - May 2025 Issue MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## Webinars & Conferences: Learn, Connect, Lead.

Explore upcoming professional development opportunities offered by the IIA Twin Cities Chapter and IIA Global.



#### **CHAPTER EVENTS**

<u>July 15–17</u>
Skills for the New Internal Auditor Presented by Jim Roth, **AuditTrends** 

June 23-25 MBAC

Interactive + happy hour Use code TCIIA25 for discount

Registration opens soon!
CAE/Audit Leader

Mentorship Program



#### **IIA CONFERENCES**

**June 17** 

AuditSphere: A Conference for Small Audit Teams

July 14-16 2025 International Conference

<u>August 18–20</u> 2025 GRC Conference (Hybrid)

### MEMBERS ONLY

June 4: Visualization Best Practices for Internal Auditors June 5: The Future of Audit Analytics: Working Smarter, Not Harder June 24: Demystifying Enterprise Risk Management July 8: Building a Culture of Psychological Safety July 31: Introducing the New Internal Auditing Competency Framework



**MBAC 2025 - TCIIA25** 



The MNCPA Management & Business Advisers Conference, in partnership with the IIA Twin Cities Chapter, is your opportunity to explore, energize, and empower your professional journey.



#### CONFERENCE DETAILS

#### **JUNE 23 | BROOKLYN CENTER**

Interactive sessions + Happy hour **Sold Out - Waitlist Available!** 

#### JUNE 24-25 | VIRTUAL

Actionable insights for real-world audit and advisory professionals.

#### **CPE CREDITS**

Earn up to 24 NASBA-certified CPE credits, including nine ethics credits. Group registration available.



#### TWIN CITIES MEMBERS

Use code <u>TCIIA25</u> for exclusive savings when you <u>register!</u>





## IIA QUALITY SERVICES / QAIP

Elevate your internal audit quality and effectiveness with IIA Quality Services



Quality Assessments



Benchmarking Tools



Best Practices Repository

IIA Quality Services provides world-class internal audit experts, a comprehensive benchmarking database, and a repository of successful practices to elevate internal audit quality, effectiveness, performance, and stakeholder perception internationally.

Visit us for more information!



## **CHAPTER CONTACT INFO**



#### Emails - please add for updates

<u>iia.twincities@tciia.org</u> AND <u>chapter16@iiachaptercommunications.org</u>



#### **IIA Twin Cities Phone**

(612) 210.1736



#### Connect and Follow us on LinkedIn

**IIA Twin Cities LinkedIn** 



#### **IIA Twin Cities Website**

**IIA Twin Cities Website** 

## Your Chapter. Your Community. Stay Connected.