

BACKGROUND AND PERSONAL DATA
CAROLE R. VALADE
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Community and professional leadership have been recognized on state and national levels, including induction to the Michigan Business Hall of Fame in February 2018 and presentation of the International Athena Award in 2012. Sustained top level management and broad board experience, the result of creative and active participation and innovation. Big picture orientation with great respect for detail, like commas.

As Editor of Gemini Publications, Carole R. Valade is responsible for editorial policy, planning and development of publications and the editorial staffs of all Gemini publications, Grand Rapids Magazine, Grand Rapids Business Journal, www.GRBJ.com and Michigan Blue Magazine. She writes columns and editorials for each publication. Valade joined Gemini Publications in 1987, and was one of the first women in the U.S. to be named editor of a regional business newspaper.

She has received first place awards for news writing and feature writing from the Associated Press, three first-place national awards for column writing and a first-place newspaper design award from the Michigan Press Association. In the time in which she has been Editor of Gemini Publications, both Grand Rapids Business Journal and Grand Rapids Magazine have been cited with more than 90 national honors, including 8 awards for overall excellence for both publications and national awards for digital media awards and investigative reporting in Grand Rapids Business Journal. In 2011 the Michigan Business and Professional Association honored her with an award for Outstanding Professional and Community leadership. She was honored in May 1996, by the U.S. Small Business Administration, which cited Valade with the Michigan and then the U.S. Regional Media Advocate of the Year Award. She was one of 10 finalists for the national award. She was inducted in 1999 as the Distinguished Fellow of the Grand Rapids Community College Hospitality Hall of Fame, recognizing the work related to Grand Rapids Magazine annual dining awards and influence on industry professionalism. Valade writes and delivers a dozen speeches by invitation every year, which included an annual speech to the Economics Club of Grand Rapids for more than 10 years.

She has served the Grand Rapids community variously:

Provided the Business Journal News Report segment Mondays for ABC affiliate WZZM Channel 13; conducts a live on-air Business Reports on WGUV/NPR affiliate

*YMCA Metropolitan Governing Board; appointed to board governance

*State Bar of Michigan Access to Justice steering committee;

*A panelist on PBS affiliate WGUV/WGVK West Michigan Week through 2017;

*Three-term Past President of the Press Club of Grand Rapids and co-leader of its 2005 relocation;

*Alliance For Health Board member (former)

The Grand Valley State University Seidman School of Business Honorary Committee/ Women's History Month Scholarship Dinner;

The Executive Committee for Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration for children;

The Coalition for Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Grand Valley State University School of Communications Advisory Committee

She also serves as speaker for journalism and business management students at Grand Valley State University, Aquinas and Grand Rapids Community College.

She has assisted or advised community groups such as YWCA Tribute Awards Steering Committee, the former Kent County Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Grand Rapids Direction Center, Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Grand Rapids. She also has served as a panel member for several other community award and recognition programs, advocated on behalf of Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women, and as mentor for Calvin and Aquinas College women. She has worked with middle school and high school girls in job shadow programs.

Before joining Gemini Publications, Valade worked for Knight-Ridder Newspapers in Niles and Detroit and for Thomson Newspapers in Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania as a reporter, editor and management trainee. She covered the 1980 GOP National Convention, the House of Representatives and David Stockman's Office of Management & Budget for Thomson's Washington, D.C., bureau.