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## **THE OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES GLOBAL CONNECTION EVENT AT 100% OPTICAL**

The Optical Women's Association (OWA) is expanding its international reach, creating even more opportunities for women across the optical industry to connect, inspire, and lead. As part of this exciting initiative, the OWA are delighted to announce a dedicated OWA Global Event taking place at 100% Optical in London 2026.

Titled “**Owning Your Path—Leadership & Resilience**,” the event will feature an inspiring hour of shared insights, meaningful dialogue, and celebration. The session will bring together dynamic women from across the optical community to inspire one another, share practical advice, network, and strengthen the collective community.

Graciously supported by **100% Optical**, the event will open with remarks from **Nancy Gries**, Chair of the OWA International Expansion Committee, followed by a facilitated discussion led by **Dr. Pretty Basra** and a panel of inspiring women. Panelists include **Dr. Caroline Casey** (Global Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Board Member at L'Oréal; President of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness; Diversity Advisory Council member to Sky), **Jayne Abel** (Co-Founder & CEO of Eyespace; Vice-Chair of the Optical Suppliers Association (OSA); and a passionate advocate for sustainability, leading Eyespace to become one of the first optical companies in the UK to achieve B Corp certification), and we are honoured to welcome **Dame Mary Perkins** (co-founder of Specsavers in 1984), a pioneering leader whose impact on the optical industry continues to inspire women globally.

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### **EVENT DETAILS**

- **When:** Saturday, February 28, 2026 at 15:45-16:45
- **Where:** 100% Optical London — 100% Catwalk
- **What:** OWA Global Networking & Connection Event with guest speakers

- **Cost:** Complimentary
- **RSVP:** Please register by **February 28, 2025** (space is limited) [CLICK HERE](#)

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### **ABOUT THE OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

Founded in 1997 as a non-profit, the Optical Women's Association is committed to supporting and promoting the professional development of women involved in all facets of the optical industry.

As the vision of the OWA evolves and expands, it maintains the focus of the OWA's founding principles and core mission: to enhance and promote the leadership role of women in the optical industry through networking, education and peer support. Learn more about the OWA here [www.opticalwomen.com](http://www.opticalwomen.com)

If you have questions about OWA's International Expansion but are not attending 100% Optical London, please reach out to International Expansion Committee Chair, Nancy Gries, at [international@opticalwomen.com](mailto:international@opticalwomen.com)