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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - **January 13, 2026**

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THE OPTICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES GLOBAL CONNECTION EVENT AT MIDO in Milan

The **Optical Women's Association (OWA)** continues to expand its international presence, creating new opportunities for women across the optical industry to connect, inspire, and lead. As part of this global expansion, OWA is delighted to announce a dedicated **OWA Global Event at MIDO in Milan**.

Titled **“Leading with Courage: Inspiring Stories of Authenticity,”** the event will feature a dynamic 45-minute panel discussion followed by a networking opportunity. It will bring together visionary leaders from across the industry to share insights, exchange perspectives, and spark meaningful dialogue within the global optical community.

Graciously sponsored by MIDO, the event will open with remarks from **Lorraine Berton**, President of MIDO and ANFAO, followed by a facilitated discussion led by **Erminia Monzo**, Leader of the Connection & Enrichment team for the OWA International Expansion Committee, Senior Education Manger at EssilorLuxottica alongside a panel of inspiring leaders:

- **Rossana Loperfido**, General Manager Transitions Optical, EssilorLuxottica
- **Leo Mac Canna**, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Ocuco Ltd
- **Amanda Bogers**, Global Key Account Manager – Commercial Execution, CooperVision

This panel will explore the power of authentic leadership through real-life stories from diverse industry leaders. It will highlight how courage and a distinctive perspective shape impactful decisions, foster trust, and cultivate inclusive, high-performing teams, driving innovation and shared success. Attendees will gain practical insights and inspiration for leading with empathy and championing integrity, while embracing authenticity as a cornerstone of leadership.

EVENT DETAILS

- **When:** Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 5pm
- **Where:** Mido – The Vision Stage
- **What:** OWA Global Networking & Connection Event with guest speakers
- **Cost:** Complimentary
- **RSVP:** Please register at the following link [CLICK HERE](#)

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with inspiring women in optical!

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

If you have questions about OWA's International Expansion but are not attending MIDO, please reach out to International Expansion Committee Chair, Nancy Gries, at international@opticalwomen.com