



The median annual wage for welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers in the US was **\$38,150** in May 2015.
(Source bls.gov)

DETROIT FREE PRESS/TNS FRANK WITSIL

WOMEN WHO WELD

Le soudage au féminin
(to weld souder)

Pourquoi "plombière" ou "puériculteur" sonnent-ils si bizarrement à nos oreilles ? Parce que les clichés liés au genre des métiers nous sont imposés dès le plus jeune âge. Ces stéréotypes nous empêchent parfois d'exercer le métier de nos rêves... Découvrez dans cet article américain les témoignages de femmes qui, envers et contre tous les préjugés, font un "métier d'homme" : les soudeuses !



Jazmond Ravarra of Detroit laughs while trying to learn how to weld with the help of Women Who Weld lead instructor Ralph Taylor at the Addison Iron Fabricators in Detroit. (Ryan Garza/Detroit Free Press/TNS)

DETROIT — A half-dozen women recently sat around a table at a Detroit studio, leaning in as instructor Ralph Taylor taught them how to weld. "It's all right if you try and mess up. Everyone messes up," Taylor told his students, trying to put them at ease and push them to take risks at the same time. "You don't have to become a welder when you finish this program. It might be a springboard to something else."

2. The women in the 12-day welding class — many of them single mothers and living in temporary shelters — are working with a new nonprofit group, Women Who Weld, to teach welding skills, with the intent of increasing the number of women in a

trade in which more than 95 percent of the workers are men, according to the U.S. labor department. Taylor said women who weld deserve the same respect — and pay — as men in the trade.

A NEW DEAL

3. The struggle to add more women to the workforce in certain male-dominated fields has taken on new vigor as a recovering economy demands more skilled workers, and as more women fill top executive positions in business and government. "It is not

an easy trade, but it's not impossible," said Samantha Farr, who founded Women Who Weld while attending the University of Michigan. "In the end, my goal is not just to teach women to weld, but find them jobs that are welding related."

4. Farr, a 29-year-old urban planner, said she became a welder in graduate school. Her great grandfather was a welder. She said she was drawn to welding when she watched male University of Michigan students work on projects in the fabrication lab. She thought she might benefit from learning the skill, so she took a class. "It loved it," she said. "It felt natural, relaxing."

Welding has long been considered a dirty job.

1. to lean, leaned or leant, leaned or leant in se pencher (ici, sur la table) / It's all right if you try and mess up ici, ce n'est pas grave si votre (premier) essai est raté ; to mess up (fam.) foirer / to push pousser, encourager / program (US), programme (GB) ici, formation / springboard tremplin

2. class cours ici, formation / shelter abri, structure d'accueil / nonprofit à but non lucratif / skill aptitude, compétence / with the intent of afin de /

trade profession / Labor Department (US) ministère du Travail / to deserve mériter

3. new deal nouvelle donne (réf. à la politique mise en place dans les années 1930 aux É.-U. pour faire face à la crise économique ; par ext., grand changement) / struggle lutte, efforts / workforce population active, effectifs / field domaine, secteur / to take, took, taken on new vigor trouver un nouvel élan / recovering en voie de redressement / to demand exiger, nécessiter / skilled qualifié / to fill occuper / top executive position poste de direction /

to attend fréquenter / welding related en rapport avec le soudage

4. urban planner urbaniste / in graduate school pendant ses études supérieures / to be drawn to s'intéresser à, être attiré par / lab laboratoire ici, atelier