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AWARDS

The annual Ohio ORBIE® Awards honors chief information officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Winners in the Super Global, Global, Large Enterprise, Enterprise, Large Corporate & Corporate categories will be announced April 5th at Hyatt Regency Columbus.



KEYNOTE

Technology leader
Becky Blalock's advice
for creating your future



LEADERSHIP RECIPIENT

Amy Brady on diverse teams
and the future of fintech

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CONGRATULATIONS 2024 OHIO ORBIE NOMINEES

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CORRADO AZZARITA The Kraft Heinz Company	JIM CONNOLLY Columbus Blue Jackets	CHRIS FUSS Dealer Tire	RYAN KEAN Total Quality Logistics	JAY NEIDERMEYER Synchrony	VINCENT SHORTER Cardinal Health/Medical Segment
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FROM THE CHAIRS

Connected Leaders Move Faster

Great CIOs know technology moves fast, and connected leaders move faster.

NEOhioCIO and CentralOhioCIO bring together the preeminent CIOs from Ohio's largest organizations to enhance leadership effectiveness, create value, mitigate risks, and share successes. Member-led, non-commercial programs foster meaningful professional relationships, enabling collaboration on shared challenges to gain leadership advantage.

There is no textbook for how to be a great CIO. Leaders sharpen professional acumen through peer collaboration with others facing similar challenges. While industries and organizations vary in NEOhioCIO and CentralOhioCIO, successful leadership approaches are universal.

Members understand the "superpower" of trusted relationships. In any gathering of CIOs, the answer is in the room. Through regular member-led events and interactions, the collective power of executives working together generates immense value. Every-

one wins when ideas, experiences, and best practices are shared in a collaborative and secure group.

NEOhioCIO and CentralOhioCIO connect CIOs to 1,300 lifelong learners across 30 chapters in the Inspire Leadership Network. From public and private companies to government, education, healthcare, and nonprofits, we exist to help members succeed in one of the most demanding C-suite executive roles.

The principles serving CIOs for over 25 years are now available to CISOs as the Inspire Leadership Network expands, with six chapters exclusively for CISOs launching in 2024.

The leadership of CIOs transforming organizations in Ohio is recognized through the ORBIE® Awards. On behalf of NEOhioCIO and CentralOhioCIO, we congratulate all the nominees and finalists for their remarkable achievements. A special thank you to the sponsors, underwriters, and staff for making the Ohio ORBIE® Awards possible.



Sincerely

Amy Brady

2024 Chair, NEOhioCIO
Executive Vice President &
Chief Information Officer, KeyBank

Jim Fowler

2024 Chair, CentralOhioCIO
Chief Information Officer,
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2024 KEYNOTE

Becky Blalock

Former Fortune 500 CIO, Author, Consultant, and Board Member

Ohio ORBIE Awards keynote speaker Becky Blalock: Figure out what you want and surround yourself with good people



By The Business Journals Content Studio

When Becky Blalock graduated from college, a small minority of business majors were women, and female CEOs were extremely few and far between. “I never dreamed I would end up being in the C-suite,” she said.

Blalock spent decades in corporate leadership with the Southern Co. utility provider in Georgia, becoming a well-regarded technology leader who was honored at the state and national levels. Though she retired after serving as senior vice president and chief information officer for more than a decade, she also led the communications and marketing functions during her career.

Blalock started as a financial analyst at the Fortune 200 utility company in 1979. A mentor along her path, a senior executive with whom Blalock had worked on a project, advised her to think about where she wanted to go in her career, and then helped her craft a plan to get there. Though her background was in accounting, she’d always felt like a square peg in a round hole and dreamed of helping lead the marketing function. She went on to serve as vice president of marketing.

Blalock, the author of the bestselling book “DARE: Straight Talk on Confidence, Courage and Career for Women in Charge,” will deliver the keynote for the 2024 Ohio ORBIE Awards this April in Columbus. Here are some of the takeaways she gleaned over a successful career in IT and consulting that has spanned more than four decades.

Finding your path and building your team

Blalock mentored many people throughout her career, and she says there is one crucial question people must ask themselves: “What do I want?” Figuring out what you want to accomplish in your career is paramount to charting a path toward success — and don’t limit yourself. “None of us thinks as big as we should,” Blalock said.

No one person can do it all. Blalock’s philosophy

on succeeding as a business leader is to empower the team around you. Being in a leadership position is demanding, and without that support system, it’s easy to become overwhelmed by stress.

“I always tell people, the higher up the corporate ladder you go, the less the job is about you,” she said. “It’s more about who you surround yourself with. We’re in an environment that’s changing so fast, nobody can know it all. So you have to surround yourself with people who know what you don’t, which means that you’ve got to be open to listening. One of the biggest obstacles that holds senior leaders back is that they can’t let go and they can’t trust other people on their teams to help them.”

One of the achievements Blalock relishes most from her career is seeing people who worked under her rise into leadership positions. “I’m most proud of people who worked on my team who got promoted to CIO positions at other companies,” she said.

Building and growing other leaders is job No. 1 for any leader, she said. “If you can’t look around and say you’ve got three or four people ready to step into your job tomorrow, you haven’t done your job,” she said.

The dynamic landscape of IT

Unlike accounting and engineering, which have been around in some form for hundreds of years, information technology is still very much in its infancy, Blalock said. That represents a tremendous opportunity for professionals to contribute to creating the future, she said.

To stay abreast of the incredible pace of change in technology, leaders must cultivate and maintain relationships across a broad swath of people. s

“You need to be talking to people outside your company, finding out best practices, talking to your suppliers about innovations they see coming so you can be planning for those in your business,” Blalock said. “You certainly need to be talking to people

inside your company, figuring out their biggest challenges, and then looking at what’s coming in the way of technology that can help them solve those challenges. But you can’t do any of that if you’re not out there actively talking to a lot of people.”

“Organizations like InspireCIO are critical for technology professionals, connecting us to the latest best practices, and more importantly, to one another.”

In a time when cyberattacks and hacking are commonplace, IT leaders are forced to take risks because decisions sometimes have to be made with limited information, Blalock said. The stress of that environment is one of the reasons the CIO is one of the shortest-tenured positions in the C-suite, she said.

Blalock is managing partner at Advisory Capital, a strategic consulting firm in the energy and IT industries. She rose through the ranks at Southern, serving in regulatory affairs, business development, corporate communication and as chief of staff to the president and CEO before becoming SVP and CIO. She has testified before the Department of Energy and Federal Communications Commission on behalf of the utility industry about technology, cybersecurity and telecommunications.

She was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award in the 2011 Georgia ORBIE awards and was named the ORBIE Global Winner in 2003.

Blalock holds an MBA from Mercer University and an undergraduate degree in business from University of West Georgia, and earned certification in cybersecurity from Georgia Institute of Technology and NACD. She was an IT Innovation Fellow at Stanford University and is graduate of the program for management development at Harvard Business School. She serves on the boards of Aspen Aerogels, HData, 1910 Legacy Enterprises and is past board member with the Electric Power Research Institute and SolAmerica Energy.



Slalom is proud to support InspireCIO in recognizing innovative technology leaders in Ohio—and beyond.

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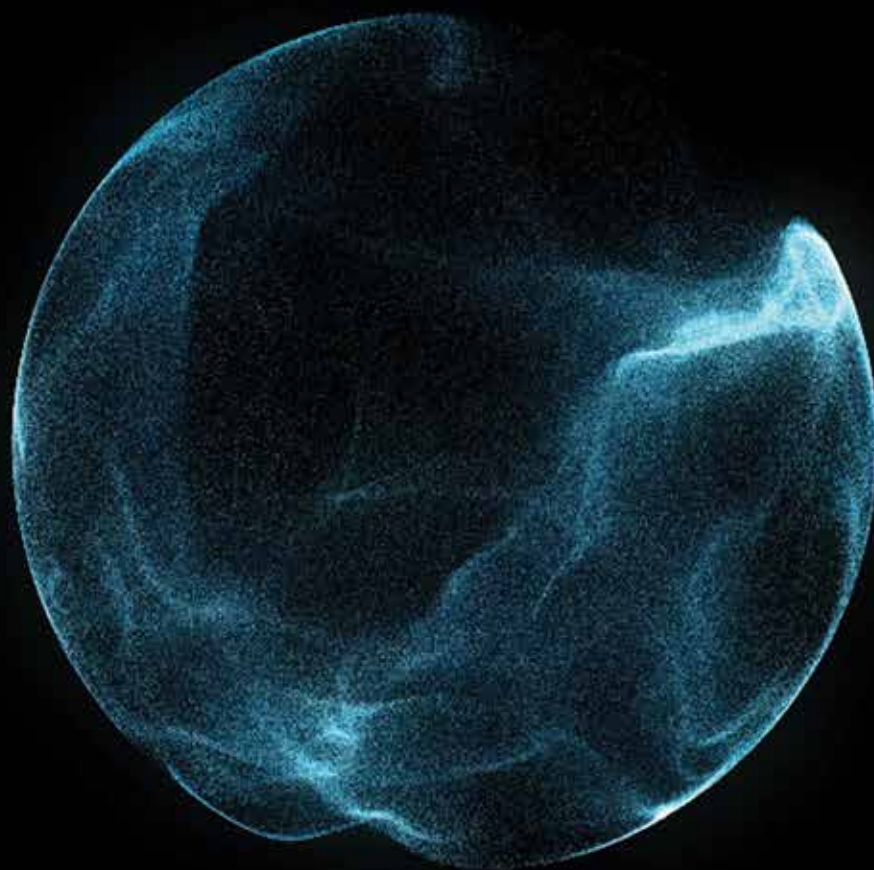
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**Ashok
Chennuru**



**Global Chief Data &
Insights Officer,
Elevance Health**

As the Global Chief Data & Insights Officer at Caredon Digital Platforms, Ashok oversees the responsibility of carrying out the team's vision and bringing to life digital solutions that enhance healthcare outcomes and accelerates the company growth by reimagining care delivery, operations, and customer experiences. He is particularly passionate about using data analytics to drive a digital-first approach across the company's artificial intelligence (AI), exponential technology, service experience, and innovation portfolios.

SUCCESS STORY

In today's world and corporate culture, with highly talented resources in the Digital and AI space, to keep a team together, focused, engaged, and most importantly excited, is my main task as a leader. I am proud to have led a team that improved our Provider Rosters and Directory to be 95% accurate (where the industry standard is 60-65%). Further, I am equally proud to have led the team that deployed in a short span of 3-4 months the first two pilot use cases around Generative AI, which are generating significant value for the enterprise and innovation in the industry.



**Ivy
Chin**



**SVP, Chief Digital &
Technology Officer,
Sherwin-Williams**

Ivy Chin is the SVP, Chief Digital and Technology Officer at The Sherwin-Williams Company. Ivy joined Sherwin-Williams in 2020 to accelerate the Company's digital transformation. She has an extensive digital business and technology background having previously served as a senior digital and/or technology leader at ATD, PetSmart, Belk and QVC. Ivy currently serves on NEOhioCIO and two other advisory boards. She has also served as a board member for REI, Leadership Charlotte, Apparo and others.

SUCCESS STORY

Transforming a 155+ year-old organization by changing mindsets, evolving the culture, instilling digital fluency and driving a shift from "doing digital" to "becoming digital". The transformation includes modernizing legacy systems, adopting a product/platform approach and fostering collaboration across various business units. The journey encompasses moving from waterfall to agile methodologies, integrating global business platforms, implementing composable modern architecture and implementing automation for efficiency. This effort promotes values from AI and Gen AI, upskills/reskills talent, launches innovation pilots and introduces IT sourcing practices. The overall impact is a long-lasting resilient, agile and innovative organization.



**Sherry
Neubert**



**CIO & VP, IT
The Goodyear Tire &
Rubber Company**

Sherry Neubert is the Chief Information Officer and the Vice President of Information Technology at The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio where she has been employed since 2002. A Human-First CIO, community activist, and a Gestalt-certified leadership coach, Sherry has a Bachelor of Science in Management of Information Systems from The University of Akron, an MBA from Case Western Reserve University, and a Masters in Operational Excellence from The Ohio State University.

SUCCESS STORY

Backed by a mature foundation, an enterprise-wide approach, and global delivery teams, IT supported the integration for a \$2B acquired business. IT directly contributed over \$20M of the \$165M total synergies and successfully migrated four disparate ERPs to Goodyear's standard SAP platform in just 18 months. Along with the SAP migrations, IT completed 54 other integration projects including consolidation of the acquired company's Microsoft tenant, Network, Managed Service Providers and Active Directory environment. Completing the technical integration with both speed and elegance enabled the company to achieve its run-rate synergies while enhancing its global reach, product offerings, and financial prospects.



**Katrina
Redmond**



**EVP & CIO,
Eaton Corporation**

Katrina is EVP & CIO for Eaton. Prior to Eaton Katrina worked for GE in various businesses and in varying positions over an 18+ year career. These positions included COO, CIO, Quality Leader, Sourcing and Inventory Leader as well as various positions in Lean Six Sigma. Additionally, Katrina held CIO positions at ABB and Hubbell. Katrina received a BS in biology/psychology from the UGA. She later received a MS degree in industrial engineering from the SPSU.

SUCCESS STORY

We are in a transformational moment in our industry. We are focused on innovating our organization to be more agile, proactive and a business partner driving outcomes. This has driven improved customer satisfaction. We have improved our delivery cycles and quality. As a result of a metrics-based approach, we have driven a change in culture that focuses on the root cause. We have launched a true continuous improvement effort that is revolutionizing how we work. Also, we are delivering advances through innovation that are reducing our cycle times to dramatically improve our cash position and other metrics.



**Vincent
Shorter**



**SVP & CIO,
Cardinal Health/Medical
Segment**

Vincent Shorter is SVP/CIO, Medical Segment at Cardinal Health. A former U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel, he now leads teams that provide global technology solutions to support supply chain, commercial, and enterprise capabilities. Shorter is a STEM and DE&I advocate who is a lifetime member of the Military Officers Association (MOAA), the BDPA, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Shorter earned a bachelor's degree from California State University and a dual master's degree from Webster University.

SUCCESS STORY

I've had the honor to empower a global team of more than 400 IT professionals to drive business growth and improve how we serve our healthcare customers. Our IT team supporting Global Medical Products and Distribution modernized our international medical products platform, implemented warehouse management systems across 9 distribution centers, and implemented robust end-to-end ordering entry for our home healthcare business. These key initiatives drive cost savings, increase operational efficiencies, and most importantly, improve the customer experience and enable them to better serve their patients.

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**Annie
Baymiller**



**SVP & Global CIO,
Owens Corning**

Annie Baymiller is the Senior Vice President and global Chief Information Officer at Owens Corning, a world leader in insulation, roofing, and fiberglass composite materials based in Toledo, Ohio and spanning 33 countries. She is accountable for global information technology with a focus on digital transformation, analytics, cybersecurity, modern enterprise platforms, and business partnerships. She is passionate about culture, inclusion and diversity, and building best-in-class teams and talent.

SUCCESS STORY

I am most proud of the culture of our global IT Team. With the right talent and culture - one that is centered on teamwork, collaboration, authenticity, support - our "small but mighty" internal team and a variety of industry partners propels the business strategies through analytics, enterprise applications with global leverage, fit-for-purpose productivity tools, and digital transformation.



**Matt
Hough**



**VP & CIO,
Cintas**

Matt Hough serves as the CIO for Cintas. Hough is charged with the creation and delivery of strategic IT initiatives that align with Cintas' Business Strategy and long-term goals. Matt has almost three decades of IT experience with deep knowledge of Organizational/Digital Transformations. He has led several Organizations through Global SAP implementations. Matt earned his bachelor's degree from American Sentinel University and served in the U.S. Navy. He resides in Mason, Ohio with his family.

SUCCESS STORY

My Success is the creation of a new IT culture that supports our Enterprise Transformation. An IT organization that matured into an enabler organization. An organization that enables business growth, with higher transparency and trust, that delivers innovative solutions for our field partners and customers. An organization that supports each other and collaborates effectively. The success is measured by how we have brought Business and IT together to continue delivering on our promises to our customers. We believe success is not measured in minor achievements but rather by realizing the larger opportunities that enhance our partner, business, and customer engagements.



**Shuja
Ishrat**



**SVP & CIO,
The Lubrizol Corporation**

Shuja Ishrat is Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer of The Lubrizol Corporation, a Berkshire Hathaway Company. In this role, he drives operational excellence, helping Lubrizol continually innovate and solve its customers' most complex challenges through information solutions. Shuja earned a Master of Science in IT Management from Kelley School of Business, Indiana University, Bloomington and Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Aligarh, India.

SUCCESS STORY

Under Shuja Ishrat's leadership as CIO, Lubrizol's IT organization successfully launched key initiatives that have significantly boosted the company's efficiency and profitability. Lubrizol's digital transformation project, which focused on automating essential processes to transition toward smart manufacturing, led to a measurable increase in operational efficiency and annual cost savings, achieving an impressive 200% ROI within 18 months. He has been instrumental in the establishment of an Artificial Intelligence Center of Excellence (AI CoE) which has fostered innovation in predictive maintenance and personalized customer experiences, improving both product quality and customer engagement.



**Rod
Masney**



**CIO,
O-I Glass Inc.**

Rodney Masney is the Chief Information Officer for O-I Glass Inc., the world's largest producer of glass containers, headquartered in Perrysburg, Ohio. Rod has been with O-I for eighteen years and CIO since 2018. Rod has worked in various industries over his thirty-seven-year career, thirty-one years in manufacturing. During his career, Rod has also served in volunteer leadership roles for the Americas' SAP Users' Group, United Way, University of Toledo and National Association of Manufactures.

SUCCESS STORY

During my tenure at O-I, my team has successfully delivered on projects providing digital enablement throughout the enterprise. We have transformed our IT portfolio from 19 ERP systems to two SAP systems. Consolidated disparate email and collaboration solutions to one platform enabling O-I's Connected Work where an employee has a choice to work where they can be at their best every day. Distributed and disconnected people systems were consolidated to enable 25,000 employees with one common user experience. All of this has been realized while operating IT at a cost significantly below our industrial manufacturing peer group.

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Nada Aried



**EVP & CIO,
Bath & Body Works**

Nada Aried is the executive vice president and chief information officer at Bath & Body Works leading the information technology organization and infrastructure for the business. She has over 30 years of experience in specialty retail serving in various leadership roles supporting both commerce and enterprise functions. Aried earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Toledo, a bachelor's degree in English from The Ohio State University, and an MBA from Ohio University.

SUCCESS STORY

In 2021, Bath & Body Works became an independent, publicly traded company after the separation from Victoria's Secret. The past two years, our technology team's highest priority has been on the formal separation of technology and enhancing our customer-facing solutions. Our technology organization included building a team, establishing technology processes, and ensuring our digital and technology footprint could both sustain and support growth in our organization. Recently, we are excited that we have formerly kicked off our transformation efforts to ensure Bath & Body Works continues to support the best customer experience across all channels.



Jermaine Henson



CIO, Claims, Enterprise Contact Center & Digital Enablement, The Hartford

Jermaine serves as the CIO for Claims, Enterprise Contact Center, and Digital Enablement. In this role, Jermaine partners with John Kinney, The Hartford's head of Claims and Operations, and his leadership team to strategize and formulate a Claims and Contact Center transformation for the next 5 years. The agenda includes a multi-faceted transformational strategy that drives superior claim outcomes and a world class customer experience through cutting edge technology, data, and digital capabilities.

SUCCESS STORY

Congratulations to The Hartford's Claims Medical Record Digestion & Visualization team for winning a 2023 CIO 100 Award. This recognition is a testament to power of The Hartford's culture of innovative, in which IT & the business are collaborating to deliver solutions that drive operational efficiency, improve the customer experience, & create competitive advantage. Our Claims & Operations, Claims IT, & Data Science teams developed processes to deliver end-to-end automated extraction and display of medical record data. This creative solution saves significant time across multiple claim lines & will enable better customer experiences and faster decision-making, helping claimants receive care more quickly & returning to work sooner.



Ryan Kean



**CIO,
Total Quality Logistics**

Ryan Kean, TQL Chief Information Officer, leads the technology organization, which is responsible for delivering innovative solutions that drive value and efficiency. Previously, Ryan was with The Kroger Co. for 14 years. His most recent role was Vice President of Technology Strategy and Operations. Before Kroger, he worked for automotive retailing software company Reynolds & Reynolds Co. Ryan has a BS in Management Information Systems and an MBA in Project Management from Wright State University.

SUCCESS STORY

I am incredibly proud of the strides we have made to develop the team and execute on significant strategic technology investments. We decided to double-down on development by imbedding Learning & Development directly in the Technology Team. They engineer team growth through everyday and game-changing initiatives like our Apprenticeship (incumbent employee coding upskilling) and TechTrek (dedicated hard and soft skill continuous learning) programs. At the same time, our team has executed significant strategic tech investments, replacing the entire core and Wide-Area Networks, modernizing data architecture, using Robotic Process Automation, transforming our core business systems and rolling out a new ERP.



Melanie Kolp



SVP & CTO - Strategy, Data and Innovation, Nationwide Insurance

Melanie currently serves as the CTO for Strategy, Data and Innovation. Her primary accountabilities are developing the Technology Strategy and leading the Enterprise Data Office (strategy, governance, risk, education, tooling and capability). She leads emerging technology including driving GenAI, Integrations (API), Customer Data Management, Supplier Management and Workforce Strategy. Her passion is being a champion for women in technology. Melanie and her husband, Bob, reside in Dublin, with their three sons, Charlie, Ryan, and Brady.

SUCCESS STORY

My greatest accomplishments are the teams I have built, the careers I have influenced and my network. A focus on people started early. My parents owned a nursing home and taught me that caring for others, having empathy, and showing kindness in challenging times at the top of the priority list always. I have been very fortunate to be surrounded by talented leaders, peers, teams and mentors. My dad always said 'it's not what you know, it's who you know' and I took this in the most positive way to say it's important to know people and know them well.



Kendall Kowalski



**CIO,
The Huntington National Bank**

Kendall Kowalski is Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Huntington Bank. He is responsible for leading the bank's technology strategy, execution and operations. Prior to joining Huntington, Kendall served as Chief Technology Officer for JP Morgan Chase's Corporate Internet Group where he was responsible Chase internet and mobile technology platforms. His previous experience includes 10 years in the Accenture financial services practice. Kendall earned his BS in computer science from Michigan State University.

SUCCESS STORY

I am particularly proud of our Elevate program. In partnership with Brooksource, the program is an immersive contract to hire providing a springboard to a IT career for recent college grads. During the program, candidates receive training surrounding professional and career development, banking, leadership and technology while learning through hands on experience. The program began in 2017 with 7 candidates and has expanded to 2 annual cohorts with 313 participants as of December 2023. Highlighted by program diversity averaging 66%, a 95% conversion rate and an 81% retention rate, the program has been key to our growth and culture agendas.



Sandy Rapp



**SVP & CIO
TravelCenters of America**

Sandy Rapp is the SVP, CIO at TravelCenters of America. Sandy serves on the board for the Girl Scouts of America in Northeast Ohio. She was the vice chair of the board of the United Way of Greater Stark County and a board member and president for Stewart's Caring Place in Akron, Ohio. Sandy earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a master's of business administration from The University of Akron.

SUCCESS STORY

My greatest accomplishment was leading a team responsive to the needs of a company undergoing massive growth and radical change during a pandemic and then an acquisition. With significant technical debt we needed to implement new technologies across the organization while maintaining flexibility to manage day to day business needs including aggressive growth through our own acquisitions. The ability to do so played a significant part in TA's turnaround contributing to a 2,392% stock increase from 2019 until our acquisition in May 2023 by international energy giant bp. TA had achieved a stock price of \$86 per share.



Congratulations, Ivy Chin, on being named a 2024 Ohio ORBIE Award Finalist!

Ivy's leadership at The Sherwin-Williams Company is driving a more globally connected enterprise and empowering our people to make better decisions with data and leading edge tools. Sherwin-Williams thanks Ivy and celebrates with her and all this year's ORBIE nominees on this important recognition.



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**Tom
Busby**



VP, IT Operations,
Greif, Inc.

Tom Busby is Vice President, IT at Greif. With over 25 years of IT and leadership experience, Tom is passionate about building teams and capabilities to address complex issues facing organizations. He is focused on continuous improvement and leveraging technology to create solutions to address critical business challenges. Tom has a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky and has attended numerous global leadership programs over the course of his career.

SUCCESS STORY

As an IT executive experienced in mergers and acquisitions, I've successfully integrated complex IT systems, optimizing operations. My team ensures smooth transitions by meticulously planning and executing IT systems integrations. Expertise in data migration, network consolidation, and application integration minimizes downtime and boosts productivity. Leading the merger of disparate IT environments, we ensured seamless data access and collaboration, enhancing efficiency and customer satisfaction. Strategic planning and commitment to minimizing disruption drive successful integrations. Proud of contributions to seamless transitions, I'm passionate about leveraging skills to help companies achieve business goals through technology enablement.



**Mikki
Clancy**



Chief Digital & Information
Officer, Premier Health

Mikki is Premier Health's Chief Digital and Information Officer. She served as Miami Valley Hospital Chief Operating Officer and System CIO. She has an Engineering BS from Vanderbilt University, MBA from University of Phoenix, and is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. Mikki served as National Board Chair of Pink Ribbon Good, OHIP Board, Modern Healthcare magazine's 2003 "Up and Comer in Healthcare", and 2015 Ohio Diversity Council's Glass Ceiling Award.

SUCCESS STORY

My team's greatest accomplishment was the digital transformation work to exceed our \$75M target of annual return to the organization. The digital transformation included a complete transformation from a PMO to an organizational Transformation Office; a shift from traditional waterfall implementation to Agile methodology; and implementation of over 195 initiatives that generated \$100M of value to the organization. The digital transformation required innovative Agile teams led by a mixture of operations, support departments, and technology in a more fluid manner that drove speed to value for operational outcomes.



**Chandana
Kathuria**



SVP & CIO,
Federal Reserve Bank of
Cleveland

Chandana Kathuria is SVP/CIO at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Prior to joining the Bank in 2021, Ms. Kathuria served as VP global IT at Securitas responsible for IT strategy and delivery for Pinkerton. Before Securitas, she was the SVP/CIO at NSF International, a global health and safety company. Ms. Kathuria holds a BE in electrical engineering from Delhi College of Engineering and an MS in computer science and engineering from University of Toledo.

SUCCESS STORY

Chandana Kathuria is SVP/CIO at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. She brought 20+ years of leadership experience to the Cleveland FRB. She has been instrumental in making IT a strategic partner with all Bank business lines. She has built a high-performing team that propels the Federal Reserve System mission forward by bringing new solutions both to the Cleveland Fed and the System. Under her leadership, the Cleveland Fed is contributing significantly to various initiatives. Her team is routinely recognized for their valuable contributions to the FRS. She is a highly regarded member of the Bank's Executive Leadership Team.



**Kishore
Ravilla**



CTO,
OhioHealth Corporation

Kishore is an accomplished technology executive with a track record of spearheading initiatives that untie, strategy, technology and personnel. With extensive background in diverse industries, he excels at establishing and leading high performing teams. Kishore's believes in giving back and engaging with communities. He serves on the Distinguished Alumni Council for the Western Governors University and is often engaging with other community efforts and non-profits such as the American Heart Association.

SUCCESS STORY

Kishore is a transformative leader with the vision to build world class IT teams capable of delivering complex initiatives efficiently. His ability to identify, attract and retain talent is reflected in his achievements. Kishore has successfully established and matured Enterprise Architecture discipline that has become pivotal in helping the business units become comfortable in embracing the ever evolving technology landscape. His ability to connect with the organizational mission, vision and strategy with technical solutions has helped the enterprise reduce IT costs and deliver innovative solutions. He is a continuous learner with a curious and can-do attitude.



**Matt
Weger**



Chief Digital & Technology
Officer, Big Lots

Matt is the Senior Vice President, Chief Digital & Technology Officer of Big Lots, responsible for leading the Digital & Technology teams. He ensures the company's technology is involved in all strategic leadership decisions and helps deliver seamless customer-centric digital and omni capabilities that advance the company's mission. Prior to Big Lots, Matt served as Chief Information Officer at Abercrombie & Fitch, responsible for global IT, including eCommerce and enterprise-wide transformation supporting all business systems.

SUCCESS STORY

The retail industry can be described as a roller coaster ride. Big Lots has been on that ride for the past several years – reaching record business volumes Covid when people couldn't do enough to furnish their houses and patios, to a time when consumers felt the pinch of inflation and rising costs. To combat this Big Lots has transformed its tech teams from a back-office function to a business-driving force by merging ecommerce and technology into one team called Digital & Technology. This has unlocked team productivity and talent to a new level.



**Denise
Zabawski**



CIO,
Nationwide Children's
Hospital

Denise Zabawski is the CIO and Vice President of Information Services at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Denise has worked at Nationwide Children's for 24 years and has been in the CIO role for 10 years. Denise attended Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH as an undergraduate and got her MBA from Franklin University in Columbus, OH. Denise enjoys teaching as an adjunct instructor at Otterbein University and running an equine rescue and sanctuary.

SUCCESS STORY

We have achieved hundreds of accomplishments over the last year. Those successes stem from a high performing leadership team that has created a deliberate culture of excellence, inclusion, engagement and innovation. It is this culture that not only attracts new talent but allows us to engage as one team and deliver outcomes to our customers.



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Bravo, Bharath!

Congratulations to **Bharath Prabhakaran**, the University of Cincinnati's Vice President & Chief Digital Officer, on being named a finalist in the Large Corporate category for the 2024 Ohio ORBIE® Awards. Bharath inspires us to innovate every day as we work together to support digital transformation and student success at UC.



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LARGE CORPORATE FINALISTS

UP TO \$2 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE



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**Tim
Cunningham**



**EVP & CIO,
Grange Mutual Insurance**

Tim Cunningham is EVP, Chief Information Officer at Grange Insurance. He leads major technology investments across all lines of business with the goal of delivering excellent customer service through innovative solutions. Tim has experience managing and implementing technology advancements across an organization to drive positive results. A graduate of The Ohio State University, he currently serves as the Board Chair for the Alzheimer's Association and on the advisory board at the Reeb Avenue Center.

SUCCESS STORY

Under my leadership, Grange Technology Services (GTS) has enhanced its capabilities and culture to support substantial investments in modern infrastructure, application portfolio and innovation best practices. GTS' work been pivotal in company accolades with top industry rankings from A.M. Best, Ward's Top 50 and Demotech. Our transformation and modernization efforts have been occurring at a velocity and scope that challenged previous organizational norms. The level of trust and commitment to deliver against a bold business strategy has been impressive. Our accomplishments reflect our team's dedication to innovation, transformation, operational efficiency and strategic alignment, contributing to the success of our business.



**Liam
Durbin**



**CIO,
T. Marzetti**

Upon graduation from the University of Mississippi, Liam began his career as a Surface Warfare Officer in the US Navy. After twelve year's service Liam resigned his commission and took an IT leadership role at GE Appliances. Liam enjoyed numerous roles with GE culminating with his first CIO position at GE Fanuc. Liam has served as a CIO five times including GE Fanuc, Heinz North America, Block Communications, American Tire Distributors and T. Marzetti.

SUCCESS STORY

Under my leadership, Project Ascent transformed Marzetti over four years. We seamlessly implemented SAP S4 Hana, SAP Trade Promotion Management, and a robust analytics platform. Waves went live in 2022 and 2023 without disruption. Our 85% Clean Core on SAP ensures efficiency. IT spending at 1.5% of revenue aligns with best practices. Amid the pandemic, we embraced remote work using Microsoft O365. Now, transitioning to Microsoft Azure VDI, we enhance user experience while reducing costs. Our vibrant IT team, fueled by modern technology, contributes to Marzetti's positive culture. As an employer of choice, we continue our ascent with unwavering dedication.



**Dave
Fiser**



**SVP & CIO,
MetroHealth System**

David Fiser, MBA FABC, is the Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at the MetroHealth System. Mr. Fiser joined MetroHealth in July 2018, and has over 35 years of experience in the Healthcare Information Technology field delivering leading-edge Information Technology solutions. Prior to MetroHealth, he served in numerous IT leadership roles at Akron General Health System, with progressive levels of responsibility before being appointed CIO, a position he had held for over 10 years.

SUCCESS STORY

Among our highest-profile accomplishments in 2023 was the technology-planning and execution of MetroHealth's 100-bed Women's and Children's Center on main campus. This was phase II of our new flagship hospital, the state-of-the-art, 470-bed Glick Center. We also completed the expansion of services for the 110-bed Behavioral Health Hospital in Cleveland Heights. These developments are part of a \$1 billion Campus Transformation project and include expansions and improvements for multiple MetroHealth satellite locations. We are especially proud of our work to roll out a new lifesaving Stem Cell Transplant program, allowing MetroHealth to offer our patients advanced cancer treatment.



**Elbridge
Locklear**



**SVP & CIO,
Summa Health System**

With over 25 years of experience, Elbridge is an executive known for innovative solutions for both internal and external stakeholders. He forges strategic visions and manages the development, implementation, and scaling of technology. His leadership approach elevates team motivation, boosts innovation, and fosters a culture of accountability. He built extensive experience across Healthcare, Banking, Telecommunications, and Manufacturing. His leads transformative changes, and developing top-tier technology innovation programs, designed to meet the most critical customer needs.

SUCCESS STORY

In 2022/2023, we led Summa Health's transformation by integrating over 40 advanced systems, including EHR and digital engagement, enhancing patient-provider interactions, clinical processes, and financial integration. Streamlining operations and moving to cloud-based solutions, we improved business agility, spurred revenue growth by over \$45 million, and achieved operational savings of \$17 million in 2023. Completing this in just 10 months, our efforts propelled Summa Health into the top 20% of U.S. healthcare digitally, earning recognition from Epic and CHIME, and demonstrating resilience and innovation amidst the global pandemic's challenges. These achievements show my team's resilience and innovative approaches in turbulent times.



**Bharath
Prabhakaran**



**VP & Chief Digital Officer,
University of Cincinnati**

Bharath serves as Vice President and Chief Digital Officer at the University of Cincinnati driving Digital Transformation. Earlier, Bharath served as Deputy Chief Information Officer at University of North Texas System. Bharath has over 26 years leadership experience in Information Technology and has worked at start-ups and large private sector companies. Bharath has a MS in Computer Science from the University of Maryland and a BE from Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India.

SUCCESS STORY

As Chief Digital Officer at University of Cincinnati, have the privilege of leading Digital Transformation towards Next Lives Here. In less than two years, have been able to create the Digital Technology Solutions organization bringing together decentralized IT teams, an Information Security Collaboration Committee towards Excellence in IT operations, and a Digital Transformation COE to increase digital literacy. We have also launched an AI initiative with a symposium and pilot projects underway. Other successes include a new student portal, a chatbot to streamline enrollment and a completely student-staffed Security Operations Center (one of the first in higher education).



**Harun
Rashid**



**VP & CIO,
Akron's Children's**

Harun Rashid joined Akron Children's in 2017. Seasoned IT veteran and 1 of the top CIOs in the country (according to CIO Magazine) has more than 25 years business and IT experience. Have most recently served as vice president for international services, and CIO for specialty hospitals at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. He has led multiple health systems to achieve Himss_Davis and Himss_stage 7, Leapfrog, Most wired, and CIO 100 innovation awards.

SUCCESS STORY

We are relentlessly focused on transforming our healthcare organization using IT as a conduit to improve quality, patient safety and outcomes. We live by the mission to do what is right for our employees, patients, families and community. We have successfully implemented many solutions that adds value to the organization, reduces cost, increases productivity and compliance. Our goal is to play a pivotal role in driving digital health and automation to shape the future success of the organization and be prepared to meet the challenges ahead of us. We are constantly innovating to meet the demands of the future!!

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Denise Zabawski, Chief Information Officer
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Congratulations and thank you, Denise, for your leadership and vision.

You bring forward-thinking to every opportunity. And your efforts make a profound difference in the lives of the people who matter most. Our patients and their families.



CORPORATE FINALISTS

UP TO \$1 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE



2024
ORBIE
AWARDS



**Susan
Carroll-Boser**



**CIO,
White Castle**

Susan has the overall responsibility for the company's technology strategy, leading the tech shared services, IT, and software development departments. Susan has served on the National Restaurant Association, as chairman of both its Cybersecurity and the IT ESG teams. She serves as Board Chair of the CSB. Susan received several awards: Top 30 Women in Food, as well Top Ten Women in Tech (Chain Store Age). She won the Lifetime Achievement Award from Hospitality Technology.

SUCCESS STORY

My success story is we are a small. Small burgers, small budgets, but we compete on innovation, security, and customer experience at a large company level. We do it from utilizing our entire team from Technology to Operations to partner with companies who are at the begins of innovation. These are true a partnership where we share in the challenging work. We believe we can do anything with our collective abilities, it part of our company history and it resonates in our teams.



**Michael
Conley**



**EVP & CIO,
Cavaliers Operating
Company, LLC**

Mike Conley is a member of the Rock Entertainment Group executive team and Chief Information Officer of the Cavaliers, Monsters, Charge, Cavs Legion GC and Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse. Conley oversees information technology, broadcasting, business intelligence and data governance for the franchise. With a quarter of a century of experience, Conley's leadership has set a solid foundation from which the organization has flourished into one of the most technology-driven sports and entertainment teams in the world.

SUCCESS STORY

Mike Conley is an industry-leading innovation leader, change agent, and nationally recognized keynote speaker. Since joining the organization in 2013, Conley's leadership has helped progress the organization's work and the broader field of information technology. Conley spearheaded the \$240 million transformation of Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse, elevating the arena to one of the nation's most tech-forward arenas. The project featured a complete rebuild of the venue's infrastructure and several marquee audio/visual elements, including the Curtain Wall, the building's 77,100-square-foot glass exterior wall that can be illuminated with a spectacle of lights, and the immersive Power Portal, a 2,200-square-foot audiovisual tunnel.



**Liv
Gjestvang**



**VP & CIO,
Denison University**

Liv Gjestvang is VP and CIO at Denison University, where she leads IT strategy and innovation. She was Associate VP for Learning Technology at OSU and led Higher Education Strategy at AWS. Liv served as co-director for the Educause Leadership Institute and has written and presented about transformational leadership for the Global Learning Council, Chronicle of Higher Education, and Ted.com. She was named Educause Rising Star, Apple Distinguished Educator, and President's Council Women's Glass Breaker.

SUCCESS STORY

At Denison, our mission is to inspire and educate students to become autonomous thinkers, discerning moral agents, and active citizens of a democratic society. I am remarkably proud of the work our team does to support learning and teaching at Denison. We invest in our community, build strong relationships, and have advanced the University's technology landscape, impacting systems, data, academic programs and more. We believe that students across every discipline benefit from core literacies in technology and data and are committed to providing tech infrastructure, state-of-the-art classrooms, pedagogical support and campus-wide innovation needed to make this possible.



**Todd
James**



**Chief Data & Technology
Officer, 84.51°**

As the Chief Data & Technology Officer at 84.51°, Todd James spearheads the company's tech and data science initiatives, fostering digital growth and transformation. At Kroger, he drives the data and analytics strategy, enhancing the value from data assets. Todd's experience prior to 84.51° includes AI, operations, IT, and consulting leadership roles at Fidelity Investments, Deloitte, and the U.S. Coast Guard. He holds degrees in mathematics, computer science, and an MBA.

SUCCESS STORY

Todd James has significantly contributed to the growth and transformation of 84.51° and Kroger, leveraging extensive data, science, and technology resources. He has introduced agile models to scale innovation and accelerate value, created 84.51° Labs, and accelerated the unlock and scaling of value through data and analytics. Additionally, Todd oversees Kroger's data and AI strategies, orchestrating the delivery of solutions across a vast 10PB data set and millions of algorithms generating recommendations and insights. His leadership fosters collaboration between analytics teams and business units, enhancing partnerships and driving scalable value.



**Christi
Rowekamp**



**Divisional CIO- Platform
Services,
Driven Brands**

For over 20 years, Christi has bridged the gap between technology and business. Christi is a pragmatic leader, blending strategy, technical prowess, and team building skills. She has enabled many technologies, including ecommerce, infrastructure, applications, and data in the retail sector. Today, Christi is the CIO for Platform Services, a segment of Driven Brands. She is energized by the multiple B2B businesses she serves, and the innovation her team delivers through DrivenAdvantage.com.

SUCCESS STORY

In 6 months, our team transformed a struggling project into a successful revenue stream. We inherited tech and process gaps, and little knowledge transfer from the exiting team. Our biggest success was not the result, it was the experience. Clever reuse of viable components, and empowering autonomous development, simplified and created speed. Embracing business partnership developed a culture of trust, collaboration, and ownership. The transparency shared, fueled human connection to the work. We became shopkeepers, transforming the solution. The achievement so far is a showcase of collective strength, determination, and talent. I am grateful for their unwavering dedication to results.



**Zack
Storer**



**EVP & CTO,
Health Carousel**

Zack Storer is the Founder of Angel Equity and the CTPO at Health Carousel. An expert in scaled value generation, technology innovation, cybersecurity, and executive leadership, Zack is transformative as a Board Member, Chief Digital Officer, and Investor. In pursuit of lifelong transformation, he has attended programs at MIT, Cornell, and Stanford's d. School, has been celebrated as a distinguished alumnus by UC's College of Technology, and was recognized as 'The Most Trusted CTO in America'.

SUCCESS STORY

His leadership has not only generated billions of dollars in value but also improved millions of lives worldwide. Zack Storer's contributions have spurred immeasurable growth and innovation across industries. He credits success to his teammates and those he has had the privilege of learning from and partnering with, across diverse industries and companies of every size, including notable names like The Kroger Co. (NYSE:KR), International Paper (NYSE:IP), News Corp (NYSE:NWSA), Bowery Farming, Grainger (NYSE:GWW), and now Health Carousel. "The most rewarding aspect of Health Carousel is witnessing the daily lifesaving contributions of our healthcare professionals across America."

2024 ORBIE AWARDS

Amy Brady

EVP, Chief Information Officer | KeyBank

Ohio ORBIE Awards Leadership recipient Amy Brady on diverse teams and the future of fintech



2024 LEADERSHIP RECIPIENT

By The Business Journals Content Studio

Amy Brady, who was a voice major in college, will be the first to tell you her career did not follow the traditional path of a banking technology leader and member of the C-suite. However, that path led her to KeyBank where she now oversees more than 5,000 employees across technology, operations, data, servicing, security, and real estate.

Brady, Chief Information Officer for Cleveland-based KeyBank, started her journey on the business side of banking, where she served for 15 years with a predecessor of Bank of America before being asked to build an innovation team for BofA.

The pivot was transformational, Brady said, both for her career and for the way she looked at business. But, she almost didn't take the assignment. When Brady was first asked whether she'd be interested in serving as CIO, she declined, saying she wanted to "go back to the business" side of the organization.

"But then I realized technology was the business," Brady said. "Being in IT was as much a part of the business as somebody who was running a market or (who had responsibility for) profit and loss. I could see technology was going to change the way financial services happened over the coming decades. And I wanted to be a part of creating that change."

Brady has gone on to make meaningful contributions to the field of banking technology. For many reasons, but specifically her vision, her people-first leadership and her commitment to the community, Brady has been named the recipient of the Leadership Award as part of the 2024 Ohio ORBIE Awards.

A business leader and community partner

Brady said her career has been very fulfilling, and one that has constantly kept her challenging the status quo. She began her career with Bank of America in 1987 as a branch manager and ascended through several roles with the organization before being named its Enterprise Functions, Technology, and Operations Chief Information Officer. She joined

KeyBank as its CIO in 2012, and since that time has been active in Ohio's business and philanthropic communities.

Brady, who was named one of the "Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" by American Banker from 2016-2023, was appointed by Lt. Gov. Jon Husted to the InnovateOhio Advisory Board where she works with a coalition of business, government, and nonprofit stakeholders to advance digital readiness and access in the state. She serves as an executive committee member of the Bank Policy Institute's Technology Division and is a member of the DuPont board of directors. She serves as the Nominating and Governance Chair on the board for Playhouse Square, the largest performing arts center in the U.S. outside of New York City, co-chairs the Case Western Reserve University Corporate Visiting Committee, and is the Executive Chair for the American Cancer Society's 2024 Discovery Ball.

"It's a corporate responsibility and a moral responsibility to be active in the community," Brady said. "I'm a believer in the arts — I have a degree in music, and I think the arts help people with creative solutioning and creative thinking. It's a huge economic driver in Cleveland."

Commitment to building diverse teams

The daughter of a Philadelphia-area steel worker who lost his job, Brady went to Rollins College in Florida on a music scholarship. She graduated high school in three years so she could move out and be "less of a burden on my family," she said.

She carried that same sensibility and desire to help into her career.

"It is the job of business leaders to help create jobs in the community," Brady said. "Technology is a dynamic field that constantly demands new skills, and it can be a fulfilling, high-earning career path that provides for families."

Brady and her team recognized the need to fill essential technology roles at KeyBank. Brady launched a tech bootcamp called Tech Ready to give teammates in entry-level operations roles an opportunity to shift their career trajectories by becoming entry-level technologists. This program

not only helped Key build the technology workforce of the future but is diversifying the industry. More than half of those who participated in Tech Ready were women and more than half were persons of color.

"Having a diverse workforce, especially leadership teams, is crucial to drive business results," Brady said. It's a practice she has maintained since her early days as a banker in South Florida, where she built diverse teams to solve tough challenges. "Diversity of thought and experience creates better outcomes and solutions for businesses and for communities," she said.

"There are many rewarding, sorely understaffed fields some young people never consider because they lack exposure to them or assume they're not a fit," Brady said. This includes cybersecurity, data analytics, data engineering, and user design. "People with different backgrounds need to be able to see themselves in those roles."

The future of fintech

According to Brady, the banking tech ecosystem is becoming increasingly complex, with layers of old software expected to dovetail with new, more flexible systems, creating a final product capable of meeting today's customer demands. Especially since the pandemic, Brady believes commercial and retail clients alike have a baseline expectation for frictionless, simple, and secure digital interactions with their financial institutions.

"Security is paramount as fraud and hacking have become commonplace," said Brady. "We have to do a lot of work to stay ahead of the bad actors."

Brady believes Generative AI will transform the industry and ultimately make processes more efficient and effective. She cautions leaders, however, to be wary of the potential for AI to perpetuate biased decision-making and inappropriate use of data.

"I'm a strong believer that you need to have the right controls and understand how you're using these technologies, so you don't have unintended consequences."



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