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Two-Time Oscar Winner Geena Davis Headlines TEMPO's 20th Annual Leadership Event Before 900+ Milwaukee Leaders

*** Members of the media invited to attend ***

The Thelma & Louise *star and lifelong champion for women and girls takes the stage Thursday at the Baird Center as TEMPO's signature leadership event marks 20 years*

WHAT:

Two-time Academy Award winner Geena Davis, the star of "Thelma & Louise" and "A League of Their Own" and the actor who played TV's first female U.S. president, will deliver the keynote at TEMPO's 20th Annual Leadership Event on Thursday. She'll address a sold-out crowd of more than 900 executives, entrepreneurs, and rising leaders. Beyond the screen, Davis founded the Geena Davis Institute to push for gender parity in media, and she is the author of the new memoir, *Dying of Politeness*. She is currently starring in Netflix's sci-fi series, "The Boroughs."

Her remarks will speak to leadership, resilience, and the challenges and opportunities shaping today's workplace.

Now in its 20th year, TEMPO's Leadership Event has become one of Milwaukee's largest gatherings of business and community leaders, backed by TEMPO's more than 50 years of advancing women in leadership. Past keynote speakers include Soledad O'Brien, Simone Biles, Allyson Felix, Gabrielle Union, Kendra Scott, Alli Webb, Jenny Fleiss, and Porter Gale.

WHO:

- **Geena Davis**, two-time Oscar winner, Golden Globe winner, author of *Dying of Politeness*, and Founder & Chair of the Geena Davis Institute
- Jen Dirks, President & CEO, TEMPO
- More than 900 attendees from Fortune 500 companies, nonprofits, entrepreneurial ventures, and private firms
- Presenting Sponsor: Baird

WHEN:

Thursday, October 29, 2026
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Recommended media window: [12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m., keynote]

WHERE:

Baird Center
400 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203
Media check-in: Baird Center – 405 W. Kilborne Ave. entrance

INTERVIEW & VISUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Geena Davis delivering keynote
- A ballroom of more than 900 Milwaukee professionals
- Interviews with Jen Dirks, President & CEO, TEMPO
- Story angles: a Hollywood icon on speaking up and gender equity in leadership, 20 years of TEMPO's Leadership Event, TEMPO's 50+ year legacy, and the next generation of women leaders in Milwaukee

RSVP:

Media planning to attend should RSVP to Turkessa McCoy at tmccoy@tempowomen.org by Wednesday, October 28, 3:00 p.m. to reserve press seating.

ABOUT GEENA DAVIS

Geena Davis won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for "The Accidental Tourist" and earned Oscar and Golden Globe nominations for "Thelma & Louise." In 2019 she received a second Oscar, the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award, for her decades of work toward gender parity on screen. She won a 2006 Golden Globe for playing the first female U.S. president in ABC's "Commander in Chief," and her films include "Tootsie," "The Fly," "Beetlejuice," "A League of Their Own," "The Long Kiss Goodnight," and "Stuart Little."

Davis is the Founder and Chair of the Geena Davis Institute, which works with film and television creators to increase female characters and reduce gender stereotyping in children's media. She executive produced the documentary, "This Changes Everything" and the CBS series, "Mission Unstoppable." She is also a former nationally ranked archer, a Mensa member, the author of the memoir *Dying of Politeness* (HarperOne), and holds honorary degrees from Boston University, Bates College, and New England College.

ABOUT TEMPO

TEMPO is a network of more than 500 executive women and nearly 300 emerging women leaders who have spoken up, risen above and defied conventions to succeed. Its mission is to further the impact of women leaders in our community. TEMPO serves its diverse membership of executive, senior, and C-level leaders through educational programming and professional development, networking opportunities, relationship building, and mentoring, with the goal of empowering women to achieve and sustain leadership roles. TEMPO's Emerging Women Leaders group represents the future generation of our organization. In September 2026, TEMPO expanded its impact with the launch of a new chapter in St. Louis, connecting women leaders across both communities. For more information on TEMPO visit www.tempowomen.org.