

T C W P R E S E N T S

100 WOMEN TO WATCH 2012

When *Today's Chicago Woman* revived our popular 100 Women Making a Difference feature in July 2011, the cultivated list was an instant hit. This year, we decided to mix it up. We asked each of the 100 Women Making a Difference 2011 to recommend a Woman to Watch, setting no parameters on age, profession or affiliation. Instead, we simply asked that the woman they named be "a high-potential woman who is on track to make major waves in Chicago."

What resulted is an eclectic list of names both familiar and new on the scene. Some have already made their mark in Chicago, others are well on their way toward doing so. Each is committed, passionate, dedicated, generous and impressive. Due to space constraints, we've only printed a snippet of their resumes, but rest assured their professional and philanthropic involvements go well beyond what's listed here.

For understandable reasons, some of our 100 Women Making a Difference were unable to single out just one stellar woman in their inner circle. For this reason, you'll see that some women have submitted more than one nomination and, where necessary, an outside advisory panel was asked for further recommendations to round out this year's list of 100 Women to Watch 2012.



STEF SAFRAN

Founder, Stef and the City

NOMINATED BY: *Carrie Hightman, Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, NiSource Inc.* "Stef is well-connected in the Chicagoland area and uses her networking skills to bring people together."

Stef Safran has been in the matchmaking industry for over 10 years and is referred to as "Chicago's Introductionista," for her work revitalizing the social lives of Chicago's singles. Getting her start as a contestant coordinator on *The Dating Game*, Ms. Safran learned what it takes to find people for both romantic and television pursuits.