

AUTOMOTIVE NEWS LEADING WOMEN CONFERENCE

From left: Lia Theodosiou-Pisanelli of Aurora, Chandra Vasser of Nissan Americas and Cheryl Thompson of the Center for Automotive Diversity, Inclusion and Advancement discuss the business benefits of diversity.

PHOTOS BY REBECCA COOK



# PAVING THE WAY

Creating inclusive cultures. Supporting the next generation. Confronting leadership challenges. Those were some themes explored at the annual Automotive News Leading Women Conference Dec. 1 in Dearborn, Mich., as female leaders and women aspiring to be leaders learned from one another.



FutureThink CEO and closing keynote Lisa Bodell said two of her favorite questions to ask people during performance reviews are “What do you want?” and “What’s stopping you?”



MOTORSPORTS pioneer Lyn St. James advised the group “to become comfortable being uncomfortable.”



From left: Moderator Lindsay VanHulle of Automotive News, Fleming Ford of Culture Ignited, Laurie Kelley of JM&A Group and April Stevens of Ford Motor Co. discuss recruitment and retention for multigenerational employees.



Volunteers from Eastern Michigan University's Digital Divas program, which mentors middle and high school girls in science, technology, engineering and math, shared their knowledge with 60 Detroit-area high school girls just before the conference. From left are Sara Tirgui, Kaitlyn Tracy, Nautica Marshall and Destiny Haist.