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LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN'S SUMMIT



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2017 Los Angeles Business Journal Women's Summit



CEO and Publisher, Anna Magzanyan recognized the 2017 Women's Summit honorees

The Los Angeles Business Journal Celebrates LA's Inspirational Women Business Leaders

THE Los Angeles Business Journal was excited to host the 2017 Women's Summit & Awards event at the JW Marriott Los Angeles on Friday, June 23rd.

This year, at our 25th annual celebration of the many great women leaders in our business community, the Business Journal hosted several forum discussions that began with a breakfast and progressed through a series of dynamic speakers.

Attendees were inspired by local women executives sharing their expertise in wealth, wellness and wisdom. The afternoon portion was highlighted by a luncheon awards ceremony where we honored outstanding achievements in business by women throughout Los Angeles County.

Described by attendees as an uplifting and inspirational event, the celebration honored Los Angeles based women who "lead by example," successfully blending effective business vision with a passionate commitment to positively "making a difference," both in the world of business and in the communities they serve.

Hundreds of prestigious nominees were submitted by Los Angeles Business Journal readers this year. Judges had the unenviable task of narrowing the field down to award honorees in six categories as well as five extraordinary women singled out for the "Women Leading the Way" award. The eleven honorees were all celebrated at this year's big event.

It wasn't easy to select just eleven honorees for this year's awards, so we have also taken the time to profile in these pages, for honorable mention, an incredible selection of 29 superb finalists – all examples of women who genuinely make a difference in their own right.

Congratulations to all the honorees, finalists and nominees!

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*Congratulations to all the incredible women celebrated at this year's LABJ Women's Summit.
Thank you for being the role models for future generations.
You inspire us every day to be stronger leaders.*



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LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL
**WOMEN'S
SUMMIT**

SUMMIT SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



DULARI AMIN

Chief Operating Officer, Qello Media

Now serving as the new COO of Qello, Dulari Amin was most recently, co-Founder and President of Phenomenon, a brand strategy and creative agency. From 2006-2017, she bootstrapped Phenomenon to over 120 employees across two offices, and \$30M+ in Revenue. Her firm's clients included some of the most recognized brands in the world. She started her career at Dentsu working in the network's high-growth agencies in New York City and New Delhi. Last year, she received a congressional honor from the House of Representatives for her contributions as entrepreneur in the State of California.



NATASHA CASE

CEO & Co-founder, Coolhaus

Natasha Case founded Coolhaus in 2009 with Freya Estreller, launching their unique ice cream sandwich company from a postal van at the Coachella Music Festival. The company has since become a leading innovative small dessert business, growing to include 4 trucks and 2 storefronts in LA, 2 trucks and one cart in NYC, and 4 trucks in Dallas. Consumers can also find Coolhaus' pre-packaged ice cream products in 5,000 gourmet grocery stores nationally. Case now serves as the CEO of Coolhaus, creating new product opportunities from development to design, building new relationships and innovating ideas as expansion continues.



KATHARINE DESHAW

Managing Director Advancement and External Relations, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures

Katharine DeShaw directs development, marketing and communications for the new Academy Museum of Motion Pictures located in Los Angeles. She is completing a \$388 million capital campaign for the Renzo Piano-designed museum currently under construction. NationBuilder Books will publish her book—The Secrets of Fundraising—in the fall 2017. Previously, in 2005, the presidents of the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations recruited DeShaw to serve as the Founding Director of United States Artists for which she designed its USA Fellowship program, providing 50 artists a year grants of \$50,000 each.



KRISTI FUNK, MD

Co-Founder & Medical Director, Pink Lotus Breast Center

Dr. Kristi Funk is board-certified surgical breast specialist who founded the Pink Lotus Breast Center in 2007 with her husband and business partner Andy Funk. She is an expert in minimally-invasive diagnostic and treatment methods for all types of breast disease. She has helped thousands of women through breast cancer treatment, including well-known celebrities like Angelina Jolie and Sheryl Crow, who have turned to her for her expertise. The Pink Lotus Breast Center fuses state-of-the art screening, diagnosis and treatment with preventive strategies and holistic, compassionate care.



NILOU GHODSI

Owner, Heist

After a decade-long successful career within the financial industry, Nilou Ghodsi took a leap of faith to pursue her dream to open a store that would essentially become a bigger version of her own closet. In 2004, she opened a curated high-end women's boutique located on Abbot Kinney Blvd. in Venice. Heist caters to the worldly woman who wants to explore and celebrate her individual sense of style by avoiding trends. Her keen eye for discovering emerging talent has garnered her a fiercely loyal niche clientele whom she lovingly refers to as "Repeat Offenders."



MICHELE HAVENS

Los Angeles Regional President, Northern Trust

Based in Los Angeles, Michele Havens serves as President of Northern Trust's Los Angeles and Santa Barbara Region with oversight for offices in Century City, Pasadena and Santa Barbara. In this position, she is responsible for the investment management, trust, estate, private and business banking business. She works extensively with high net worth families and their related charitable entities. She has a strong business record and brings an uncompromising focus to clients. In addition, she is a member of the Northern Trust's Western Region Executive Leadership Team and the firm's Global Business Leadership Council.



MARCIA WILSON HOBBS

President & Publisher, The Beverly Hills Courier

Marcia Hobbs is the President of Beverly Hills Publishing, which publishes the newspapers Beverly Hills Courier and the San Marino Tribune. Formerly, Hobbs was a marketing and strategic planning consultant with clients ranging from Smithsonian Institution to Ferrari. Leading by example as a productive contributor to the community, Hobbs is an active board member for a number of organizations, including Los Angeles-Guangzhou Sister City Association, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, Children's Institute International, St. John's Hospital Foundation, and Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children.



JOANNA HUA

Student, Cornell University

Joanna Hua is a rising sophomore attending Cornell University, originally from Temple City. She is currently majoring in government and is also on the pre-med track, and hopes to work in the medical field with a specific focus on public policy. Hua was formerly on the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Girl Advisory Bureau, was named an Emerging Leader in 2014 and 2015, and earned the Gold Award—Girl Scouts highest honor—in 2015 for her sustainable service project promoting good mental health.



MARI-ANNE KEHLER

Chief Marketing & Strategy Officer, Green Hasson Janks

Serving as Chief Marketing and Strategy officer at Green Hasson Janks, Mari-Anne Kehler is a high impact leader who successfully expands business through action, using core skills of teaming, coaching, strategy development, program execution, measurement and innovation. She utilizes an integrated client-centric and industry approach, with experience in professional services, finance, consumer business, entertainment and media. Kehler's social good efforts have focused on organizational problem solving, leadership coaching, capacity building, constituent-development, communications, global and grass roots advocacy. Her passion for developing ideas and people allows her to flourish at Green Hasson Janks in one role, under one roof.



LISE L. LUTTGENS

CEO, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles

Lise L. Luttgens was appointed the first CEO of Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA) in 2008. Since then, she has brought a renewed sense of growth and stability to the movement and a strong sense of community and collaboration to the council serving more than 40,000 girls. She leads with a strategic vision for the organization to play a pivotal and significant role in inspiring young women to reach their greatest potential. Previously, she was principal and founder of Luttgens & Associates, Inc., a firm specializing in nonprofit and health care organizations in transition.



NINA MARINO

Partner, Kaplan Marino, PC

Nina Marino is a 27-year lawyer and a State Bar of California Certified Criminal Law Specialist. Her practice focuses on white collar and complex criminal litigation on both a national and international level. Marino regularly represents individuals in matters involving allegations of all aspects of fraud. She also represents both foreign nationals and U.S. citizens in matters involving extradition and related Interpol notices. Marino's ability to communicate persuasively with government agencies on behalf of each client has served her clients' interests and is only matched by her skills as an effective and aggressive litigator.



ASHLEY MERRILL

Founder & CEO, Lunya

Ashley Merrill is the CEO and Founder of Lunya, sleepwear for the modern woman. Merrill launched Lunya in 2014 with a clear conviction that women's sleepwear was overdue for a fresh, modern perspective. She was a business leader (Merrill launched and managed online lifestyle destination Momtastic for Evolve Media) with no clothing industry experience, but in October of 2012, she decided to take a leap and fulfill her longtime dream of becoming an entrepreneur. She is also passionate about empowering women through education and business opportunity with a keen focus on impact investment in education and female entrepreneurship sector.



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LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL
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CONSTANCE MOONZWE

Executive Director, ITH Staffing, Inc.

Constance Moonzwe is an authority on training and staffing for healthcare and information technology positions. She is the Founder of ITH Staffing, which recruits for over 1,000 healthcare and IT organizations in all 50 states. Moonzwe has over 19 years of experience in the fields of Human Resources, Risk Management, Recruitment, and Compliance. ITH Staffing has served the clinical staffing and training arena for over ten years and the addition of technology staffing was designed to amplify the company's presence in health care technology and associated industries.



KIESHA NIX

Executive Director, Lakers Youth Foundation

Kiesha Nix is currently the Executive Director of the Lakers Youth Foundation where she oversees and directs programming and funding priorities for the charitable arm of the Lakers. She is responsible for implementing the mission of the Foundation, which is to assist underserved youth in our communities to develop and recognize their full potential by providing positive experiences and resources in education, health and wellness, and sports. Formerly Nix served as a Vice President in Enterprise Business & Community Relations at Bank of America.



JUDY OLIAN

Dean, UCLA Anderson School of Management

Judy D. Olian, Ph.D., is dean of UCLA Anderson School of Management and John E. Anderson Chair in Management. She began her appointment in January 2006 after serving more than five years as dean and professor of management at the Smeal College of Business Administration at Pennsylvania State University, and professor and senior associate dean at the Smith School at the University of Maryland. Under her leadership, UCLA Anderson has hired a record number of faculty and raised over \$350 million for students and faculty support and to create innovative programming.



VERONICA OMAR

Los Angeles Business Area Manager, Wells Fargo

Veronica Omar is Los Angeles Business Area Manager for Wells Fargo's Los Angeles Bank. In her current role, Omar supports over 800 team members in 53 stores throughout Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Hollywood Hills, Valley Crossroads and West Valley. A 12-year Wells Fargo veteran, Omar began her career as a credit manager in the Northridge branch. She has held various positions during her tenure at Wells Fargo including assistant and branch manager in various San Fernando Valley area branches. She is active in her community and volunteers at Habitat for Humanity and Meeting Each Need with Dignity (MEND).



STACY PHILLIPS

Partner, Blank Rome LLP

Stacy D. Phillips is a Certified Family Law Specialist and one of the country's most well-known and respected family law practitioners, having achieved virtually every honor available to a lawyer for her work. She is also an author, sought-after commentator, speaker and writer, philanthropist, and a tireless advocate for children and families. Throughout her career, she has given back through active involvement as a leader and volunteer in community and nonprofit organizations and professional associations. At Blank Rome, Phillips represents a wide variety of high-profile clients as they undergo the difficult changes involved in divorce and custody issues.



CARMEN RAD

Founder & President, CR&A Custom Inc.

Carmen Rad's entrepreneurial venture, CR&A Custom, is among only a handful of large-format digital printing and outdoor advertising companies in America that is minority (Hispanic) and woman-owned. CR&A Custom operates out a 25,000 square foot facility in the heart of Downtown LA and is full-service with the capability to design, manufacture, print, and install commercial signage and outdoor advertising formats. Examples are the oversized banners at Staples Center and L.A. Live entertainment campus as well as work for major corporations around the world.



MICHELLE STAFFORD

Actress, Writer, Producer

Michelle Stafford is an American actress, writer and producer. She is one of the most popular actresses in daytime TV and arguably best known for creating the role of Phyllis Summers on *The Young and the Restless*, which she played for 15 years. In 2013, she launched her web series, *The Stafford Project*. She currently portrays the character of Nina Reeves on ABC's *General Hospital*. She also has her own skincare line called *Skin Nation* that she launched in 2016. The skincare products are natural, organic, gluten-free, vegan and cruelty-free.



DR. BETTY URIBE

Executive Vice President, California Bank & Trust

Dr. Betty Uribe is Executive Vice President at California Bank & Trust and author of the international best seller, *#Values, The Secret to Top-Level Performance in Business & Life*. For nearly three decades, Dr. Uribe has been transforming business, culture, and people through values based leadership. At CB&T, Dr. Uribe has P&L responsibility for the Greater Southern California Division, a \$3.5 billion line of business covering retail and business banking. Dr. Uribe is a recognized authority on the psychology of leadership, organizational turnarounds, and peak performance.



FAYE WASHINGTON

President and CEO, YWCA Greater Los Angeles

As President & CEO of the YWCA Greater Los Angeles, Faye Washington is a rainmaker in the world of non-profit. Her 32-year government record of management, personnel administration, legislative and budget policy development, strategic planning and implementing budgets of over \$3 billion created the landscape for her groundbreaking tenure of leading the YWCA GLA in its mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. Washington strategically pursues funding opportunities that result in multi-generational impact and long-term residual value for the community at large. Through meticulous hard work, creative vision, audacity, and persistence, Washington has become known as a "game changer."



TRACY WILLIAMS

President & CEO, Olmstead Williams Communications

Tracy Olmstead Williams has 25 years of experience delivering public relations and crisis communications expertise to businesses. She founded Olmstead Williams Communications in 2008 and has led the company to double-digit growth. Williams partners with company CEOs, attorneys and internal communications teams to build campaigns that achieve business objectives. That focus on maximizing returns and attracting investors has brought the firm clients from private equity, investment banking and global financial and healthcare firms. Her emphasis on mitigating risk has made her a trusted advisor for companies and institutions for crisis management and litigation communications.



KALIKA NACION YAP

CEO, Citrus Studios Inc.

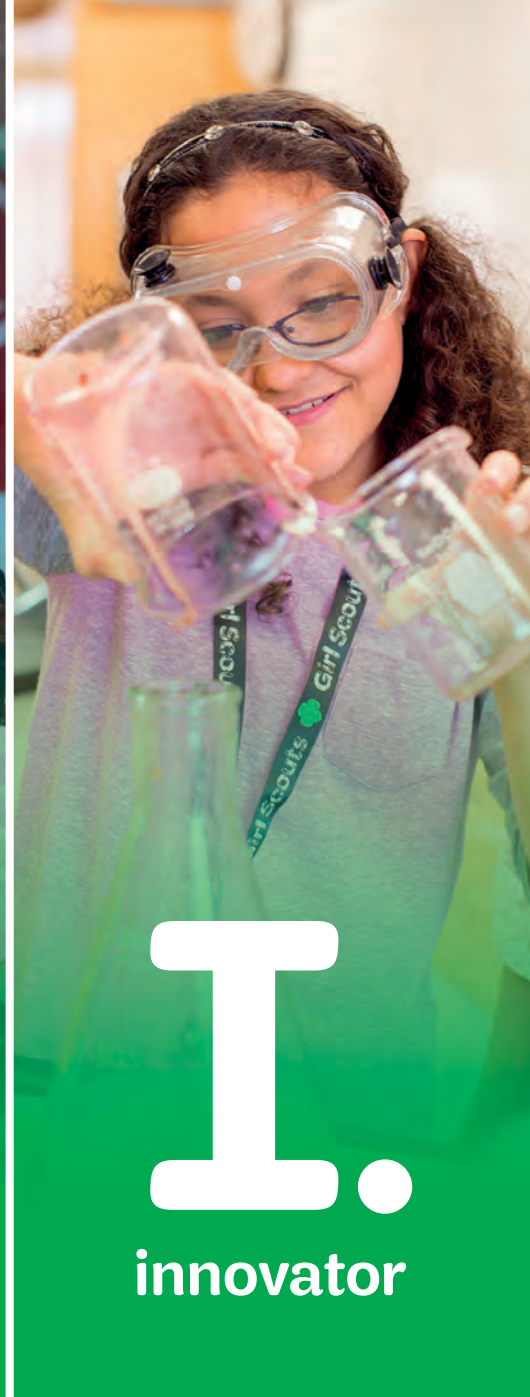
Kalika Yap is a flourishing serial (concurrent) entrepreneur whose businesses include award-winning brand agency Citrus Studios, Luxe Link, the Waxing Co. Her latest start up Orange & Bergamot democratizes branding & marketing for women owned businesses. She is also President-Elect of the Entrepreneurs' Organization, Los Angeles. A native of Honolulu, Hawaii, Yap started out working as a journalist for CNBC and Bloomberg after graduating from NYU, before making the move to the West Coast — the first step on her continuous entrepreneurial journey.

girl scouts
greater los angeles



G.

go-getter



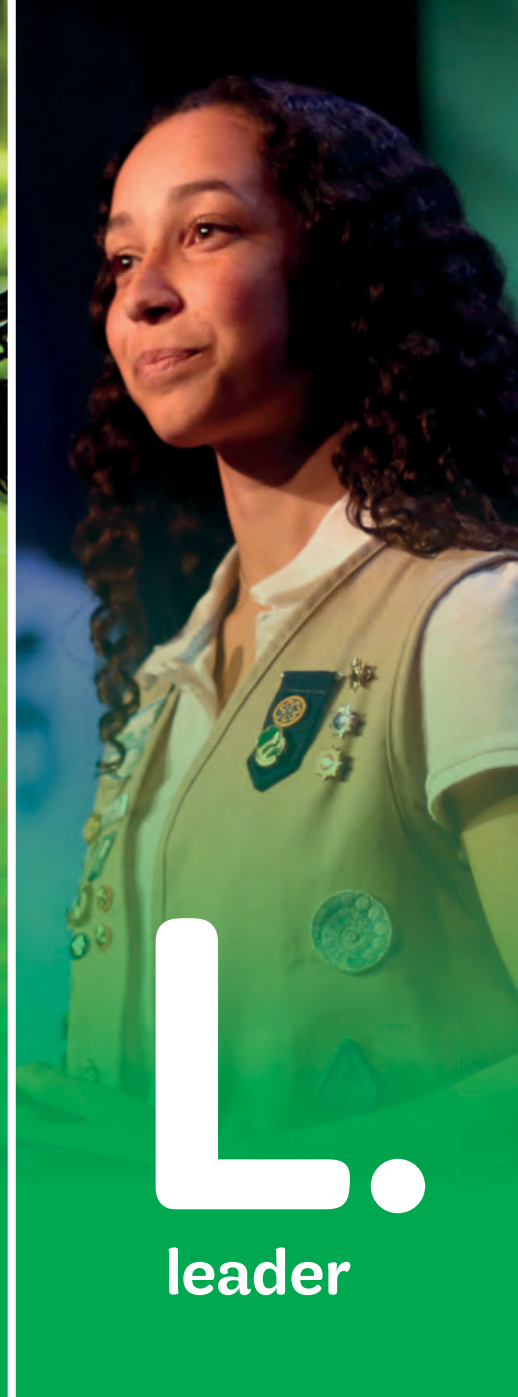
I.

innovator



R.

risk-taker



L.

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HONOREES**BUSINESS OWNER/CEO OF THE YEAR****DR. PEGGY CHERNG***Co-Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer*

Panda Restaurant Group, Inc.

As Co-Chairman and Co-CEO, Peggy Cherng has been a driving force in the success of Panda Restaurant Group since joining the organization in 1982. Cherng never planned on being in the restaurant business, or any other business for that matter. She trained to be an engineer and served in that capacity, first for McDonnell Douglas and then Comtal/3M. Her husband Andrew, whose father was a restaurateur, opened the Panda Inn in Pasadena in 1973, where he worked with his parents and siblings. When he opened the second Panda Inn in 1982, Peggy joined the business, waiting until after the couple's third child was born. For a decade, the business continued to expand, opening Panda Express stores in malls, then Vons grocery stores and finally at street locations. Andrew opened the stores and got them up and running. Peggy customized the restaurant's operating systems to assure the best food and customer experience.

Panda has become an empire, with nearly 2,000 Express locations across the globe, six Panda Inn restaurants, along with the Japanese-themed Wasabi restaurant in Universal City. The company surpassed \$1 billion in annual revenues for the first time in 2010. But what makes Panda stand out is the way it treats its people. Panda treats its workers well, offering higher pay and better benefits than others in the same space.

Peggy is also deeply committed to giving back to the communities in which Panda restaurants operate through Panda Cares, a philanthropic effort that has donated millions of dollars to non-profit organizations, schools and children's hospitals since its founding in 1999.

**EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR****ANNETTE M. WALKER***President, Strategy*

Providence St. Joseph Health

A health care visionary and strategist, Annette Walker is a chief executive with an entrepreneur's heart. The president of Providence St. Joseph Health's (PSJH) Southern Division, she has re-imagined health care services throughout Southern California. She is accountable for all strategy, marketing, sales/outreach/business development and project management offices across the PSJH system, which was formed from Providence Health & Services and St. Joseph Health and now spans seven states and employs 100,000 caregivers.

Well regarded as a straightforward and visionary leader, Walker has a passion for developing teams. She served as interim president and chief executive of St. Joseph Health during the transition to PSJH and, for more than a decade, led St. Joseph Health's strategy, marketing, communications, philanthropy, wellness programs and project management. She was instrumental in collaborating with regional leaders and physicians to develop, support, and implement the health system's strategic objectives and competitive positioning. Thanks to her leadership, St. Joseph Health was a trailblazer for wellness and disease prevention. Her team opened several groundbreaking Wellness Centers and other programs, bringing wellness and health education literally to the doorstep of many. Walker also helped facilitate innovative partnerships to ensure large organizations provide wellness to its employees.

The author of numerous articles on the promotion of health care quality, and a featured speaker for national healthcare organizations, Walker has received national honors for her work, including Modern Healthcare's Innovation in Healthcare Technology Award, the Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development Banner Award, the California Hospital Association's Ritz E. Herman Innovator Award, and the Hospitals and Health Networks Innovator Award.



Stacy D. Phillips

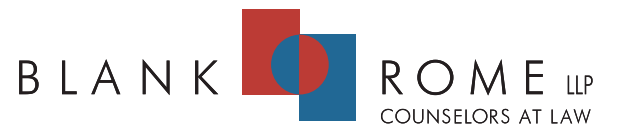
Partner, Matrimonial & Family Law Practice Group

.....

Certified Family Law Specialist, Author, and Philanthropist

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HONOREES**CORPORATE ADVOCACY AWARD****LISA ST. JOHN**

Principal
L.A. Realty Partners

LISA St. John is a founding Principal of L.A. Realty Partners and specializes in Tenant and Landlord Representation, as well as Investment Sales throughout Los Angeles. With a strong background in financial analysis, lease negotiations and strategic consulting, St. John has completed more than 2,000 lease transactions. She has represented some of the highest-profile transactions in Southern California including representation of the Los Angeles Unified School District for its one million square foot headquarters, as well as an additional 600,000 square feet of office lease transactions.

St. John serves as a leader and mentor for countless professional women (and men) whose careers have changed as a result of her advice, experience and perspective. St. John also has a long professional history of changing the Greater LA community for the better.

In 2004 she worked with the Fulfillment Fund, a long standing, youth-serving nonprofit that mentors high risk youth to be first in their families to graduate from high school and go to college. She worked pro bono to identify and coordinate a well-executed move into new and better space at a time the organization unexpectedly lost its lease. After a 30 year history with the Girl Scout Angeles Council where she served on the Board, in 2008 she scoured downtown LA to find affordable space for the headquarters of the newly merged Girl Scout Council, creating a deal at a prime location that now serves 40,000 girls in partnership with 24,000 adult volunteers. She continues to lead transactions for the council to assure girls have safe space aligned with the strategic program priorities of the girls and their leaders.

**PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR****DIANE M. REICHENBERGER**

Vice President of Consumer Products, Global Strategy
Mattel

DIANE M. Reichenberger is a retail and licensing professional with over 30 years of executive leadership experience. She is Mattel's VP of Global Strategy for Consumer Products and Promotional Partnerships. She also happens to be passionate about mentorship and supporting causes that focus on economic independence for women globally. In pursuit of her passion, she co-founded the Women's Accelerator. The Women's Accelerator is a high-touch, management development program experience for women which offers a unique mentoring program, committed to developing high-potential women leaders at key advancement points in their careers.

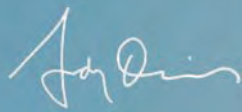
Throughout her professional career, Reichenberger has been a tireless advocate for women's initiatives and women in business. Over the years, she has volunteered her time to mentor countless under-resourced teen girls through Step Up Women's Network and Fulfillment Fund; provided guidance to professional women through Tuesdaynights.org; mentored professional women throughout Mattel, and generously offered her wisdom, advice, and listening ear to women in her professional network.

She is a board member of Women's Leadership Council and is a valued supporter and advocate of True Colors Fund to help end homelessness among LGBTQ youth in the United States. She is also a strenuous supporter of Rescue Train, dedicated to animal rescue and ending animal suffering.

Reichenberger's life has been focused on making the world a better place through giving back to her community in a myriad of ways, from providing mentoring opportunities to under-resourced teens girls, many of whom are first to attend college in their families; to mentoring and developing young professionals and future leaders; to ending LGBTQ youth homelessness; to animal rescue and finally to being good stewards of our environment.

THINK IN THE NEXT

"At UCLA Anderson, we're not content with how things are; instead, we look to the future to discover and chart what will be."



JUDY D. OLIAN
Dean and John E. Anderson
Chair in Management



HONOREES



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

FRANCES MORENO

Partner & Owner
Vaco Los Angeles

FRANCES Moreno is a dynamic entrepreneur who started her company based on the vision that she could help people advance their careers, while building more balanced lives to meet personal goals and priorities -- true work flexibility and work/life balance. Through this driving mission, she has helped thousands of people find gainful employment while leading more fulfilling lives.

Moreno founded Vaco Los Angeles, a leading placement firm for interim consulting and permanent direct hire in accounting, finance, tax, and information technology positions in 2006. Vaco is the largest LA firm in its industry to be founded and operated by a woman. Sixty percent of the professionals Vaco Los Angeles places in finance and accounting interim and consulting positions are women; women make up 70% of the Vaco staff; and five of the seven Vaco partners are women. Under her leadership as managing partner, Vaco Los Angeles has grown to nearly \$30 million, and accomplished this growth in the best possible way -- by putting people to work.

Moreno is deeply committed to the community and demonstrates that commitment through volunteer and philanthropic activities. She serves on the board of directors for Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles and on the Girl Scout Board Development Committee. In addition, she is also involved with Kidsave, a leading child advocacy organization for older foster children in the U.S. and orphans worldwide, and has helped raise over \$800,000 for the organization. Moreno sat on the board of directors for 5 years at Kidsave, and currently serves on its audit committee. She's also an active member of Vistage, Women's Presidents Organization and Financial Executives International.



RISING STAR AWARD

DR. PANTEA HANNAUER

CEO
Pediatric Minds

DR. Pantea Sharifi Hannauer is the South Bay's leading accredited pediatric neurology specialist. She is board-certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology with sub-specialty training in Pediatric Neurology. As a long-time Assistant Clinical Professor at UCLA Medical Center, she is recognized as one of the premier experts in the fields of autism spectrum disorder, pediatric behavioral issues, Autism and epilepsy, developmental delays and learning disabilities. She has had several publications in the field of Autism and has played an active role in the AGRE (Autism Genetic Resource Exchange) research project through Autism Speaks (formerly known as Cure Autism Now).

Dr. Hannauer founded the Pediatric Minds Medical Center in 2011 and in the ensuing six years, has made a significant difference in the lives of more than 300 families with children with autism and special needs. The Pediatric Minds Medical Center is also becoming the model for similar centers across the country and the world.

For the Center, which includes the Early Childhood Treatment Center, Pediatric Neurology Clinic, and Developmental Services, she hired the best and brightest practitioners and therapists, all overseen by an accredited pediatric neurology specialist - herself. She also developed a new, intensive 10-week program where the child is at the center 5 days a week, 3 hours per day. The results were almost instantaneous and the successes quickly mounted as families came from all over the U.S., England, Hong Kong and other countries to be a part of the program. There is now a waiting list to get in the program, and a former patient's family in London is looking to create a similar center in the UK.

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Bank Director Magazine, 2016

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HONOREES



WOMEN LEADING THE WAY AWARD

BETSY BERKHEMER-CREDAIRE

President and Co-Founder
Berkhemer Clayton, Inc.

BETSY Berkhemer-Credaire, CEO and co-founder of Berkhemer Clayton, is the only retained executive search firm owner who previously owned a major public relations agency. Berkhemer-Credaire started her own PR firm in the early 1970s -- something almost unheard of for a woman back then.

While remaining a successful business owner for almost five decades (and counting), her passion for empowering women and minorities through her current search firm and extensive non-profit work - is a theme that weaves throughout her life and career. After training in journalism at UCLA, working in TV News and in PR for Disney, she developed a deep understanding of consumer behavior. Armed with only a typewriter, but confident in her knowledge, she took the bold step to start her own company in 1973 and immediately went after big brands (Knott's Berry Farm and Baskin-Robbins were two of her first clients) to get her company off the ground quickly.

She sold her PR agency in 1990, and remained there as President. With business partner Fred Clayton and a deep understanding of people's behavior, and hoping to help improve the numbers of diverse executives at the top of large companies, the duo launched Berkhemer Clayton with partners and staff in January 1994. Berkhemer Clayton has become an incredible success, handling such clients as Mattel, Gap, Bank of America, United Way of Greater LA, and even placing the new CEO for the Tournament of Roses.

With decades of experience, she has developed the networks, knowledge and judgment to counsel client organizations and find the executives who can help them succeed.



WOMEN LEADING THE WAY AWARD

YVETTE CHAPPELL-INGRAM

President and CEO
African American Board Leadership Institute

YVETTE Chappell-Ingram is President and CEO of the African American Board Leadership Institute (AABLI) whose mission is to strengthen nonprofit, public and private organizations through recruiting, preparing and placing African Americans on a broad range of governing boards. Established in 2011, AABLI is the only organization in the country created exclusively to train and assist with the placement of African American professionals on all types of governing boards and commissions. There are numerous organizations whose mission is to provide board training. There are far fewer that provide training and placement. AABLI does both and at the same time focuses on building a pipeline of eminently qualified African American board candidates in an effort to achieve greater board diversity. In the past five years, AABLI has graduated over 450 African American professionals in its state of the art Board Leadership Program that resulted in the assistance of more than 130 board placements, government commissions and university trustees.

Before joining the AABLI, Yvette was President of the California Legislative Black Caucus Foundation (CLBCF). As President, she was responsible for providing leadership and direction to advance the mission of the CLBCF, which included community outreach and engagement, resource development, strategic leadership development, community workshops, capacity building, media relations, marketing and fundraising.

Appointed State Commissioner by Governor Edmund G. Brown, Chappell-Ingram is a member of the Dental Board of California. She has over 25 years of experience serving nonprofit organizations and has served on numerous boards and committees. She currently serves on the board of Special Needs Network, an organization dedicated to raising public awareness of developmental disabilities and to impact public policy, while providing education and resources to families, children and adults.

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HONOREES

WOMEN LEADING THE WAY AWARD

RENEE FRASER

CEO
Fraser Communications

CEO/Founder Renee Fraser is a social psychologist who has grown Fraser Communications into one of the top independent advertising agencies in Los Angeles and among the 25 largest women-owned Los Angeles County-based businesses.

Dr. Fraser has conducted innovative research with consumers throughout her career and applied psychological analysis to marketing and advertising programs for clients including Chrysler, American Airlines, British Airways, MGM, Procter & Gamble, Sega, Cigna, UCLA Healthcare, Avery Dennison, Giorgio, and Toyota.

She has also served as an Adjunct Professor at USC Annenberg School of Communications. For nearly a decade, she taught a graduate level course entitled "Research and Evaluation in Communications" in the Strategic Marketing and Public Relations Program.

Dr. Fraser has a simple philosophy that guides Fraser Communications: "doing well by doing good." With a history of successful campaigns for non-profits, hospitals, Universities, county and state agencies, green initiatives, and other organizations with goals to improve our quality of life - it is clear she has followed this mantra for years.

In addition to a dedication to her philosophy, she has utilized her amazing business acumen to build Fraser Communications into one of the largest woman-owned advertising agencies in the west. She was incredibly strategic as she built the company over the last twenty years.

Leader, philanthropist, and business owner are just a few terms that describe Renee Fraser. Her amazing career and accomplishments, along with her caring spirit and inordinate amount of time spent giving back, as a teacher, mentor and advocate are what make her an ideal fit for this award.



WOMEN LEADING THE WAY AWARD

CAROLINE NAHAS

Vice Chairman and Senior Client Partner
Korn Ferry

CAROLINE W. Nahas is vice chairman and senior client partner within Korn Ferry's board and CEO services practice, based in Los Angeles. She specializes in recruiting board directors and C-suite executives for a wide range of clients in a variety of industries. She serves as lead director on the board of DineEquity Inc., parent company of IHOP and Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar restaurants. She is the chair of the nominating and corporate governance committee and sits on the compensation committee.

Active in many civic groups, Nahas recently completed a three-year term as chair of the board of the United Way of Greater Los Angeles. She also serves on the board of advisors and executive committee for the UCLA Anderson School of Management.

A seasoned recruiter, Nahas was active and public in the aftermath of the economic downturn, voicing her interest in helping executives succeed amid a financial crisis that affected people working in all sectors and at every level of their profession.

Nahas has served on United Way of Greater Los Angeles' corporate board of directors since the late 1990s and has chaired both its philanthropic Tocqueville Society and its nominating committee. In the midst of the economic crisis, she committed to a three-year term as chair of the board, remarking on her appointment that she felt honored to serve at a "time of unprecedented need."

Nahas was recognized nationally by her peers, receiving the Eleanor H. Raynolds Award from the Association of Executive Search Consultants (AESC), based on a career of excellence in executive search, as well as an ongoing dedication to volunteerism.

HONOREES



WOMEN LEADING THE WAY AWARD

JANE WURWAND

Founder
Dermalogica

DERMALOGICA founder and chief visionary Jane Wurwand demonstrates every day that she still identifies with women at the entry level of their profession. Sitting at the helm of a prestige skin care brand with nearly \$300 million in sales, Wurwand sets an apples-to-apples example of success for every woman who trains in the International Dermal Institute she founded in 1983, when she realized that continuing skin therapy education was practically non-existent in the United States.

She was born and raised by a single mother in the United Kingdom, where her first job was as a “Saturday girl,” sweeping hair cuttings off the floor at a local salon in the neighborhood where she grew up. After working up to a “shampoo girl,” she embarked on a career in skin therapy and cosmetics, becoming a licensed instructor. She worked for U.S. firm Redken, launching its skin care brand in South Africa. In 1983 Wurwand moved to Los Angeles with her now-husband, Raymond Wurwand, a South African business school graduate who sold equipment to the skin care industry. With \$14,000 in savings and no local contacts, the couple founded Dermalogica, whose products are now the number one choice of more than 100,000 professional skin therapists in more than 80 countries worldwide.

In January 2011, Wurwand founded Financial Independence Through Entrepreneurship (FITE), a global women’s entrepreneurial initiative inspired by her three decades of work within the skin care industry, where the vast majority of the ownership and workforce is female. FITE creates pathways to entrepreneurship by providing access to small business loans and supporting education and leadership training.



NKF CAPITAL MARKETS WESTERN REGION

CONGRATULATES

LAURA STUMM

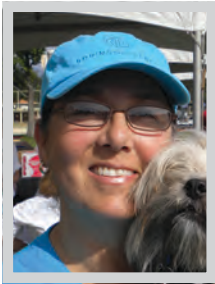
for her selection as a finalist of the
Los Angeles Business Journal's
2017 Women’s Summit Award

KEVIN SHANNON
President, West Coast Capital Markets
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LAURA STUMM
Managing Director
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LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL
**WOMEN'S
 SUMMIT**

FINALISTS



LORRAINE ALDERETTE

Estolia's Food Products

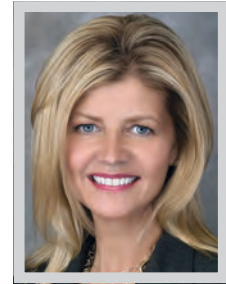
LORRAINE Alderette, a partner in Estolia's Food Products, has recently launched a new line of salsas that donates all profits to charity. The delicious salsa's proceeds go to four causes -- animal rescue, Alzheimer's, leukemia, and hunger. The new line of salsas created to give back is called "Salsa Saves Lives." Alderette has partnered with Leeza's Care Connection, Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles, Alzheimer's Orange County, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, The Rescue Train, Race For The Rescues, and the Neigh Savers Foundation. Throughout the last 20 years she has also renovated many shelters, safe houses for abused women and children, housing for foster kids and a home for teenage girls with both her previous employer and her own company RNY Construction & Specialties.



PATTY ARVIELLO

New American Funding

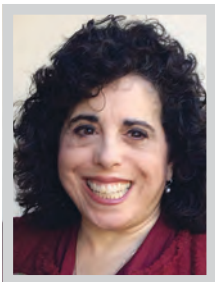
WITH more than 35 years of experience in mortgage, Patty Arvielo has risen to the top executive ranks and has become a source of lending expertise. In an industry where women are in the minority, she has become a role model by taking a seat at the table, letting her voice be heard and taking the lead. She mentors other women in business, and she provides a corporate environment for women to excel on merit at her own company. Her natural leadership and commitment to helping women has fueled New American Funding's success and contributed to her role as an iconic mortgage leader. Arvielo's community involvement includes serving on the Executive Board of Big Brothers Big Sisters Orange County.



NATALIE BAZAREVITCH

CBRE

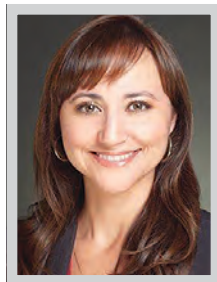
NATALIE Bazarevitch began her career as a summer intern at CBRE's Toronto West Office. In 1991, she moved to California where she transferred to CBRE's headquarters in Los Angeles where she has been an active member of the commercial real estate community ever since. Bazarevitch has an active role within CBRE, the commercial real estate industry, as well as within the local community. From its inception in 2000 and now with over 3,000 members, she has been a member of CBRE's Women's Network National Advisory Board, serves on the AIR Board, a Past President and Board member of NAIOP, and an Executive Committee Member of the Commercial Real Estate Women Los Angeles Chapter, enabling her to mentor and encourage other women to excel in the field of commercial real estate.



NATALIE R. BRILL

City of Los Angeles

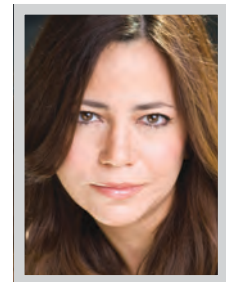
NATALIE Brill has served as the Chief of Debt Management in the Office of the City Administrative Officer, City of Los Angeles, since 2000. Brill manages a \$6.3 billion debt portfolio, consisting of general obligation bonds, judgment obligation bonds, lease revenue obligations as well as special fund debt such as the City's wastewater system revenue bonds, solid waste revenue bonds, and various assessment bonds. In addition, Brill also manages the City's \$505 million general fund lease revenue commercial paper program and the \$200 million wastewater system revenue commercial paper program. Brill had served on the GFOA Debt Committee. She is nationally recognized as a leader in public finance and she has been instrumental in guiding the City of Los Angeles in the public debt markets.



ELSA BURTON

Bank Leumi USA

ELSA Burton is a Group Head for Bank Leumi's commercial and industrial (C&I) team in the Commercial Banking division. In this role, she serves as a relationship manager and team leader, with a focus on cultivating new business opportunities and managing existing relationships. Burton joined Leumi in April 2016, bringing with her 20 years of business development, retail and commercial banking experience. Burton has achieved considerable success in raising the bank's market share and recognition in the C&I banking landscape. With a mandate from the bank to build a strong team and share Leumi's expertise beyond the Jewish-Israeli community, she has excelled. She has increased Leumi's scope of work with existing companies while signing on new firms -- revamping portfolios and bringing major opportunities to the bank.



DINA DEMETRIUS

Television Journalist

DINA Demetrius is a multiple Emmy Award-winning and nominated television journalist, with many other journalism awards on her shelf for her investigative and feature news stories in Los Angeles and statewide. Demetrius knew from a young age that her mission was about storytelling. She began her career broadcasting her own news magazine show in high school for a cable access channel on school district news. At University, she became the youngest news director for the campus' radio station. In the years since, her "community" has expanded to include the world -- specifically, her mission is close the gap in understanding between people on different continents through the news stories she reports, writes, and produces for the news organizations where she has worked.

FINALISTS



LUCIA DIAZ

Mar Vista Family Center

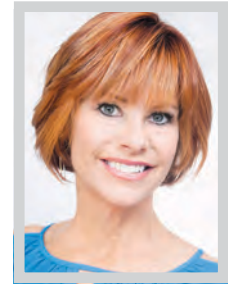
LUCIA Diaz's first step toward her career in teaching and administration began in 1981 when she came to Mar Vista Family Center as a parent participant with her own children in the Preschool Program. In 1985, she began serving as Mar Vista Family Center's Head Teacher and the following year she was promoted to the position of Program Director. In 1995, she became CEO. She has coordinated community clean ups and events for more than 25 years. She has trained over 1000 community leaders including children, youth and adults to take control of their lives and community. As a result of her effort and commitment, community members have established a community board to plan events and address issues affecting their neighborhood.



DORENE DOMINGUEZ

Vanir Group of Companies

DORENE Dominguez is the Chairwoman and CEO of Vanir Group of Companies, Inc. She has been leading the Vanir Group of Companies to incredible heights since she took over upon the sudden passing of her father, the company's founder, in 2004. Under her leadership, the company has grown from approximately \$35.8 million in revenue and 263 people to the 25th largest program and construction management company in the country with more than 360 employees and \$100 million in revenue. In addition, she has taken philanthropy to an all new level. Dominguez actually institutionalized her personal and corporate giving when she founded a non-profit, the Dominguez Dream, to partner with schools in underserved communities by promoting achievement in Math, Science, Language Arts and Engineering.



SUSAN FRIES

Ecola Termite & Pest Management Services

SUE Fries is an award-winning author, public speaker, and syndicated talk radio host. She's also a successful business owner, competitive dancer, and still finds time to be a mom. Known by many as "The Termite Lady" of Ecola Services, Inc., she is the former director and chair of the Pest Control Operators of California. She is also an environmental activist for disadvantaged children with asthma, Director of UAIAP (United Against Indoor Air Pollution), as well as a consultant and national spokesperson for Indoor Allergen Control Network. When Fries took over Ecola in 2000, alternative non-chemical treatments such as the electro gun, Ecola Heat, and microwave methods became a recognized alternative to solving termite and pest problems. The ecological solutions Ecola offers have got the green market cornered.

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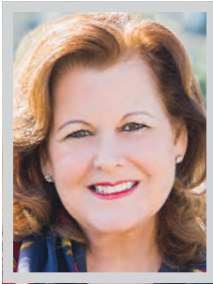
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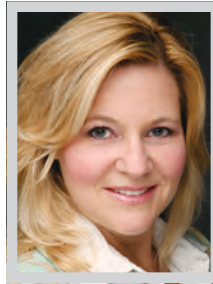
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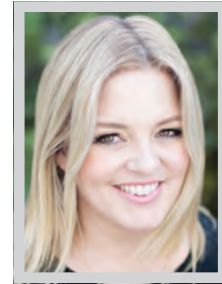


FINALISTS**TERRI HAACK**
Terranea Resort

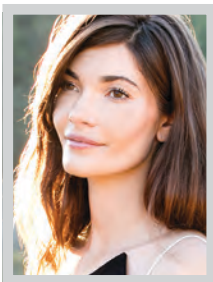
TERRI Haack's distinguished career spans more than 35 years in the hotel industry and resort operations management, with nearly two decades specializing in resort community development, operations and real estate. In her current role as President of Terranea Resort, she is responsible for the overall operating performance of the 102-acre luxury destination, located on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Haack spearheaded pre-construction operations for the \$480 million resort beginning in 2007, guiding start-up through Terranea Resort's acclaimed debut in June 2009. Under her leadership, the resort continues to thrive as a top Destination Hotels property -- renowned for its natural beauty and stewardship, award-winning cuisine, unique enrichment programs and unrivaled guest service. The resulting achievements have been repeatedly acknowledged with dozens of awards and accolades.

**KIRSTEN HELVEY**
Cornerstone OnDemand

KIRSTEN Helvey is the Chief Operating Officer at Cornerstone OnDemand, an LA-based cloud software company that helps organizations recruit, train and manage their people. In this role, she is responsible for overseeing all aspects of global business operations and global client experience, including satisfaction, retention, global industry solutions, professional services delivery and business consulting. She leads a team of more than 300 employees and reports directly to the Founder and CEO. She's been with Cornerstone for 14 years and directly helped it grow from a \$20 million company to \$400 million in 2016. Helvey is a member of Women in Technology International and serves on the board of Junior Achievement of SoCal where she was an original committee member for the annual "Leading Ladies" networking and career development event.

**SHAY HUGHES**
Hughes Marino

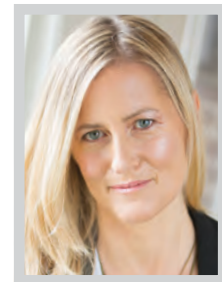
WHEN Shay Hughes and her husband formed Hughes Marino in January 2011, the company quickly took shape as Southern California's leading commercial real estate firm. From the beginning, Hughes boldly took on the responsibility of running the company's major marketing campaigns and day-to-day operations. Her role within the company became critical to its success. As owner and COO, she systematically revamped the company's business strategies and marketing initiatives, grew and cultivated the internal operations of the firm, and revitalized the company culture to what it is today. Her initiative to transform the culture of Hughes Marino has set the company apart from any other in the industry, featuring a set of principals that guide and support the company and represent the true foundation of the Hughes Marino team.

**JULIA JACKSON**
Jackson Family Wines

Aself-described "chameleon" who has worked across numerous areas at Jackson Family Wines, Julia Jackson is the middle daughter of Jess Jackson and Barbara Banke. Helping to rebrand such family-owned international wineries as Arcanum as well as Tenuta di Arceno, for the past year she has been focused on domestic venues including Santa Maria-based Cambria Estate Winery. A natural-born artist, Jackson brings a highly developed aesthetic to her work, helping to shape the look and feel of brands. Philanthropy is an increasing concern for Jackson. In November 2014 she established Seeds of Empowerment, an initiative through Cambria Estate Winery which provides \$100,000 in annual grants to exceptional "warrior women" around the world who have overcome great adversity and are affecting change in their local communities and around the globe.

**DINA KIMMEL**
We Rock the Spectrum Kid's Gym

DINA Kimmel is the CEO and Founder of We Rock the Spectrum. A passionate autism mom, Kimmel has dedicated her life to developing and growing resources for the special needs population, especially children. Kimmel studied business marketing and accounting in college and has always had a keen mind for entrepreneurship, running her own successful retail store for more than 17 years. In 2010, she opened the first We Rock the Spectrum Kid's Gym in Tarzana. The first of its kind, We Rock the Spectrum Kid's Gym features special equipment that is geared towards the sensory-safe input that is imperative for the development of special needs children. Sparking overwhelming support due to its demand in communities all over the world, the gym has since grown to over 60 locations worldwide.

**JUSTINE LASSOFF**
LOVE GOODLY

JUSTINE Lassoff is passionate about making a difference as a social entrepreneur and by supporting startups and entrepreneurs. She is co-founder of LOVE GOODLY, an ecommerce platform for curated eco subscription boxes that with each purchase supports a cause. Backed by a leading angel investor, the organization has featured guest curators such as Alicia Silverstone and Emily Deschanel. Lassoff also co-founded Tuesdaynights, the popular invite-only community of leading female executives and entrepreneurs in Los Angeles with sponsors such as Tory Burch, Silicon Valley Bank and Google. Previously, Lassoff was co-founder and CEO of LovingEco, an angel-backed flash sales site for sustainable beauty and fashion that was acquired a year after launch. Lassoff is also active in nonprofits that include Beagle Freedom Project, New Roads School and Farm Sanctuary.

FINALISTS



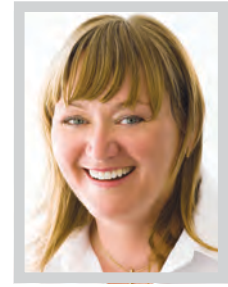
DARLA LONGO
CBRE

CBRE Vice Chairman Darla Longo is one of the most recognized and active investment sales professionals in the industry. In 2016 alone, she and her colleague Barbara Perrier (formerly Emmons) handled more than 382 transactions, exceeding \$10 billion in total consideration. That included 121 deals for a total of \$2.75 billion in the Greater Los Angeles region. Key to their success is their market expertise, diligence, and attention to detail. Longo's passion and work ethic have won her a national award every single year during her career for top performance at CBRE. In her spare time, she volunteers as reserve sheriff near her office. She has shown women that they can be leaders in their companies and committed mothers, wives, friends and citizens.



LESLIE J. MAYER
Cushman Wakefield

As one of the first female retail brokers in Los Angeles to have her own brokerage firm, Leslie J. Mayer was a frontrunner in the industry in tenant representation with her company, The Mayford Group. She represented a number of retail clients both nationally and regionally. Prior to establishing her own brokerage firm, Mayer was involved in the initial leasing and development of innovative and cutting edge retail projects such as The San Francisco Centre in San Francisco's Union Square and The Forum Shops in Las Vegas. In 2005, she joined Cushman & Wakefield to help launch its retail practice in Los Angeles. Since then, Cushman has evolved into one of the top retail firms in Southern California as well as internationally.



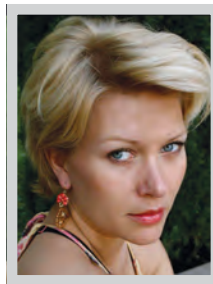
LAURA MCHOLM
NorthStar Moving Company

AFTER a successful early career in marketing and law, Laura McHolm, in the mid-1990s, moved away from the Fortune 500 to fulfill her entrepreneurial spirit and partnered with Ram Katalan to launch NorthStar Moving Company. This year, her fastest growing privately held company has expanded into franchising and continues to be the go-to-mover for The Getty, A-List celebrities, and others. Her company has redefined the moving industry as the first to offer "eco-luxury" moving services, elevating basic moving and storage procedures to a new unparalleled level of customer service, customized care and environmental consciousness, moving over 9,500 families a year and employs over 200 people. Plus, she and her company contribute time, services, and financial support to over a dozen charitable and socially conscious organizations.



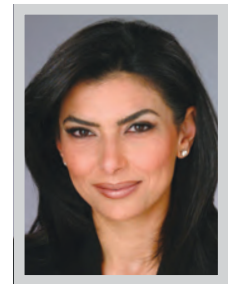
DEANNE MILLER
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius

DEANNE Miller is the leader of the Litigation practice for the Los Angeles, Santa Monica, and Orange County offices of Morgan Lewis. She focuses her practice on mass toxic tort, environmental, product liability, and commercial litigation matters and business disputes. In mass toxic tort and environmental matters, she handles complex, large-scale and high profile cases. Miller represents clients across industries including energy, oil and gas, manufacturing, aerospace, automotive, and life sciences, and her practice includes matters involving federal and state statutes, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and the California Hazardous Substance Account Act, as well as common law claims. She has a track record of strategically resolving matters for her clients through effective case management, motion practice, summary judgment, trial, and favorable settlement.



KRISTINA MITCHELL
The Good Body Project

KRISTINA Mitchell moved to Los Angeles after a successful acting career on the stage in London. Since moving here seven years ago, she has paved a way as a community activist. She directed, produced, and starred in 'The Vagina Monologues' for five years, raising tens of thousands of dollars for charities. She then became an LA area organizer for One Billion Rising, a global movement to end violence against women and girls. She is a member of The New Hollywood, a women's philanthropic goal group, where she met her business partner, Cristen Coppen. Together, they are building The Good Body Project, committed to changing the conversation of negative self-talk, and helping people accept and celebrate themselves and their bodies just as they are.

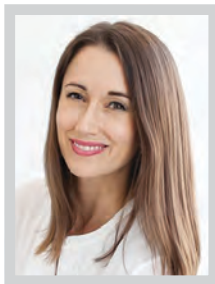


JANET NEMAN
Charles Dunn Company

JANET Neman is one of Southern California's most admired women in the commercial real estate industry. Exceeding over \$1.5 billion in sales transactions throughout the country, Neman has far surpassed many of her colleagues and played a major role in the changing the dynamics of the patriarchal industry. She has represented both buyers and sellers in multifamily, office, retail, and consummated several sizable transactions including some of the largest portfolios in the market. As an invaluable agent of the Charles Dunn Company, Neman consistently ranks among the company's top producers. Neman is also passionate about her commitment to make her local community stronger through her dedication to charitable organizations, such as the Jenesse Center, making a difference for victims of domestic violence.

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FINALISTS



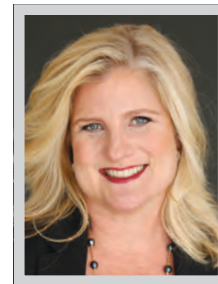
ROSIE O'NEILL
 Sugarfina

IN 2012, successful marketing professional Rosie O'Neill turned what started out as a hobby with her then fiancé, Josh Resnick, traveling and collecting sweets, into Sugarfina, their own luxury candy boutique for grown-ups that brings a fresh and fashionable approach to candy. In 2012, they decided to start working on Sugarfina full-time and eventually launched the website a few months later. The concept and perseverance have paid off. A true disruptor in the \$200B confections industry, O'Neill is reintroducing the lost art of high-quality artisan candies, made by small-batch candy makers around the world and packaged with love. In addition, the company supports schools and charitable organizations in the neighborhoods surrounding the various boutiques and donates net proceeds from gift bag sales to plant trees in the local communities.



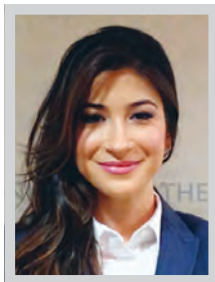
ELAINE PAUL
 Hulu

ELAINE Paul has served as Hulu's CFO during the most pivotal business developments and moments of growth for the company. She works directly alongside CEO Mike Hopkins to advise on and make the biggest business decisions for the company. Paul leads a team of over 100 that drives the complete strategy of Hulu's business. Over the past year, Paul has led numerous business developments, including a new investment from Time Warner. Time Warner announced a new joint agreement with Hulu and its owners that makes the media company an equity owner of Hulu. The announcement also included a new affiliate agreement that guarantees Turner's powerful entertainment, sports, news and kids networks will be available live and on-demand on Hulu's new live-streaming service when it launches later this year.



BARBARA EMMONS PERRIER
 CBRE

CBRE Vice Chairman Barbara Emmons Perrier is one of the most recognized and active investment sales professionals in the industry. Alongside her colleague Darla Longo, the duo is known for their out-of-the-box approach in meetings. Some of the largest deals the team transacted in 2016 include the \$70 million sale of Thoroughbred Farms Business Park for \$70 million to China Lesso Group Holdings, the \$188.2 million Anaheim Concourse sale and the \$62 million Cerritos Corporate Center disposition. Perrier was the winner of CBRE's Endurance of Spirit Award, given to a top professional that focuses on mentoring, philanthropy, professional development and personal enrichment. She actively trains young professionals to take the reins, contributing to one of the reasons why she is an inspiration and mentor to women in commercial real estate.



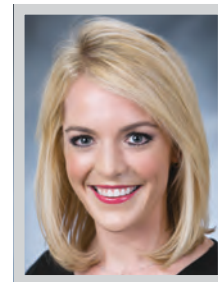
NATALIE RASTEGARI
 Salisian | Lee LLP

NATALIE Rastegari is a litigation associate at Salisian | Lee LLP. Rastegari's practice is focused on representing Southern California-based businesses and individuals in a wide variety of business matters. Prior to joining Salisian | Lee, Rastegari began her career and sharpened her legal skills at a business litigation firm in Orange County. Over these years, she has gained significant experience inside and outside of the courtroom, handling all phases of litigation and settlement negotiations, including pre-trial and jury trial practice. She currently serves as the President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Iranian American Bar Association and worked with many ACLU representatives and attorneys as Public Counsel and private attorneys, in order to assist those detained at LAX Airport and individuals affected by the travel ban.



CHRISTINA LEE STORM
 DreamWorks Animation

CHRISTINA Lee Storm is an award-winning international independent producer who has collaborated with filmmakers from around the world. As an active member of the Producers Guild of America, she has served on its National Board of Directors for six years. She started serving as a council delegate for the AP Council, bringing to light the needs of membership in employment, education, and advancement. She has been Chair for the Producers Guild of America's Power of Diversity Master Workshop for three years. She is also a member of the PGA's China Task Force and Women's Impact Network. She is also part of the core leadership team of the DreamWorks Animation TECH-Women group supporting women in technology. She is even organizing the studio's first-ever unconscious bias workshop and panel this year.



LAURA STUMM
 Newmark Grubb Knight Frank

LAURA Stumm's relentless work ethic and attention to detail coupled with her positive and collaborative attitude are the keys to her success. She is the epitome of a team player, and works tirelessly to ensure that her team continues to improve its relationships, process, and work product. She serves as a broker on NGKF West Coast Capital Markets President Kevin Shannon's office investment sales team. In that capacity, she has closed over \$1.1 billion in office transactions across the west coast including DreamWorks Animation Studios (\$215M), CH2M Campus (\$122M), LNR Warner Center IV (\$147M) and Cottonwood Corporate Center (\$140M). She also makes time to give back to her community and is a member of CREW, ULI, and an active member of American Martyrs Catholic Church.

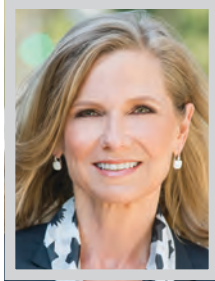
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MONIKA WIELA
Give Back Box

IN 2012, a chance encounter with a homeless man sparked an idea for Monika Wiela, already a successful shoe industry entrepreneur. The man held a sign saying he needed shoes. Wiela returned the next day with footwear for the man, but he was nowhere to be found. Compelled to do more, Give Back Box was born. The platform allows consumers to re-use the cardboard boxes from their e-commerce purchases to forward used clothing, accessories, and household goods to the nearest Goodwill location. Give Back Box also encourages environmentally friendly practices. Everybody has the potential to do good and give back to the poor and the environment; thus, Wiela created this program to help people realize this potential by making donating easy.



LYNN WILLIAMS
CBRE

LYNN Williams is widely regarded as one of the commercial real estate industry's leading advisors to corporate real estate occupiers, including major financial institutions, law firms and professional service firms globally. A CBRE Vice Chairman -- the highest title achievable by the firm's brokerage professionals -- she has completed leasing, sales and consulting assignments totaling over 35 million SF. She has been a consistent top performer for decades, ranking among the top 3% at CBRE last year. Her unique experience as both practicing real estate transactional lawyer and her long career handling sophisticated transactions as a lead broker puts her at the top of the list of brokers sought after by clients engaging in large and complex leasing transactions.

'If you are successful, it is because somewhere, sometime, someone gave you a life or an idea that started you in the right direction. Remember also that you are indebted to life until you help some less fortunate person, just as you were helped.'

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All CEOs Are Driven – The Good Ones Know Where They're Going

By MERCY TOLENTINO STEENWYK

WHEN I came to the United States from the Philippines as a 25 year-old, I had a journalism degree and virtually nothing else. After working for a short time as a marketing consultant in construction, I noticed the need for the construction and legal industries to find reliable, well-informed subject matter specialists, consultants and experts.

Any entrepreneur will recognize this as a classic “aha moment,” the presentation of an opportunity to create my own niche, write my own destiny. But while I pieced together my nascent expert consulting services company, a chorus of naysayers scoffed.

“You’re not an engineer,” they told me. “You’re not a lawyer. You don’t have a business degree. You can’t do this.”

I said nothing. I didn’t have to. I had a goal. After 26 years, my firm is now a national industry leader. I am told frequently that this is a remarkable feat for a woman and a minority who took on a male-dominated industry and thrived.

But I don’t see it that way.

When I walk into a room, I see a level playing field. I have talents, and more importantly, I have vision. All CEOs are driven. The good ones know

where they’re going.

When I look back at the young, undeterred woman I was 26 years ago, I realize that what distinguishes my career trajectory is a centeredness that has served as my roadmap. Each step along that map informed the direction I took as a mother, wife, daughter and business leader. Each step still guides me today.

Step 1. Know yourself.

In 1991 when I started ForensisGroup, certain men expected women to stand back and listen.

‘If you love what you do, are grateful for the gifts you have, and give back, you can turn an idea into an industry.’

The thing is, when you listen, you learn. I learned so much from people who had no idea they were teaching me. I’m still not an engineer, and I’m still not a lawyer. But I am a problem-solver who has a purpose, knows her deep driving desire and has always been able to bend negativity into life lessons.

Step 2. Focus on the big picture.

For me, family has always come first. While growing an idea into a \$10 million company, I

never missed a ballet recital or football game.

One reason I decided to strike out on my own was to gift myself the flexibility to be a working role model and a present mother, daughter and wife.

That often meant putting the kids to bed and then working till sunrise. But I was young and driven. And more importantly, I knew where I was heading.

This devotion was my moral compass. For other women, the overarching motivation might be something else. Whatever it is, it is important that you have a focus. You’re not just making busi-

ness decisions; you’re making life decisions.

Step 3. Believe in yourself, but be humble.

At the age of 62, with three grown, accomplished children, I now look at the growth of my business as underscoring my core belief that if you know yourself and keep that big picture in front of you, you can “predict” your future by writing it.

Remember, no matter how far you get, you don’t get there on your own. I hire people who are

more knowledgeable than me. It’s more than a hiring practice, it is the basis of my company: bringing the best minds together to uncover the truth when something has gone wrong and then, ultimately, making the world a safer and a better place.

Step 4. Never stop learning.

I read everything: newspapers, poetry, and, of course, business books. I am a 15-year member of Vistage Worldwide, a CEO peer advisory group. And even as I mentor younger business leaders, I find myself learning from them as well.

Each month at ForensisGroup, we gather for pizza and watch “TED Talk Fridays” because I believe strongly in cultivating a culture of intellectual curiosity and personal fulfillment.

Whenever I speak to leaders of my generation, I challenge them to adopt a growth mindset and to drive their businesses with purpose.

Step 5. Practice gratitude.

Education was my best gift. It made my world a smaller place and enabled my successes. That is why, in addition to the non-profit organizations that ForensisGroup supports, I personally have a scholarship program in the Philippines.

The road to success for any business leader is far from smooth. But if you love what you do, are grateful for the gifts you have, and give back, you can turn an idea into an industry.

Regardless of what anyone else says.

Mercy Tolentino Steenwyk is President & CEO of ForensisGroup, a nationwide premier expert consulting service based in Pasadena, which abides by the motto “Nothing has More Impact than the Truth.”



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Pay it Forward...But This Time to 'Yourself'

By MARGARET R. PETERSON, PHD

As women, we do so many things for everyone around us. Whether it's working, driving the kids to and from school and sports activities, rushing home to get food on the table for the family, along with a slew of other competing priorities, it's easy to forget about making time to take care of the most important person in your life: YOU.

For women working and/or living in downtown, annual health care checkups are done in a serene, spa-like environment at Dignity Health - California Hospital Medical Center's Los Angeles Center for Women's Health. The Center

provides high-quality services for breast and gynecologic health, heart care, and other wellness and prevention diagnostics. When it's time to schedule your annual mammogram, the Center is an oasis in the heart of downtown with easy access to where you work or live. We offer a variety of women's wellness



Peterson

treatment and management services, including:

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- Female Pelvic Reconstructive Surgery
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- Urodynamics and more

The Center is truly one of the best-kept secrets in downtown LA. Everything about this unique Center of health and wellness is thoughtfully designed with your needs in mind – including convenience to meet the needs of your hectic schedule.



'We are halfway through 2017, and I want to encourage you to be proactive in managing your health. How about doing yourself a favor and pay it forward – to yourself.'

As a woman, I know firsthand how easy it may be for us to ignore our own well-being while dealing with the many other priorities in our lives. On occasion, I'm also guilty of not carving out time from my schedule for some much needed self-care. And as a hospital president, even I need to be reminded to see the doctor.

As women, we cannot ignore our unique health care needs. We must hold each other accountable. Maybe together we can make this world a little healthier and happier. So I challenge you to deliver a dose of kindness, or rather a dose of humankindness, to yourself, and visit the Los Angeles Center for Women's Health.

We are halfway through 2017, and I want to encourage you to be proactive in managing your

health. How about doing yourself a favor and pay it forward – to yourself.

This summer, take a break from social media, drop your dog off at the groomers, and spend some time taking care of YOU. Contact the Center today at (213) 742-6400, or take a virtual

tour by visiting lacwh.org on our website.

Margaret R. Peterson, PhD, serves as President of Dignity Health - California Hospital Medical, a 318-bed community hospital located at 1401 South Grand Avenue in downtown Los Angeles. Peterson

began her career as a registered nurse. She earned a Master of Science in Nursing and a Master of Science degree in Cardiovascular Nursing from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and her Doctor of Philosophy in Administration from Miami University in Ohio.

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