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**YVONNE MARIE ANDRES**  
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**STACEY ANFUSO**  
La Jolla Logic



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**JANE BISHOP**  
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**REBECCA BODEMANN**  
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**LOUISE BORRELLI**  
TrellisWare Technologies, Inc.



**MARISSA BRAND**  
Naval Information  
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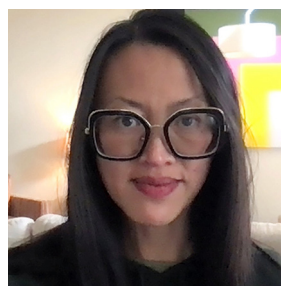
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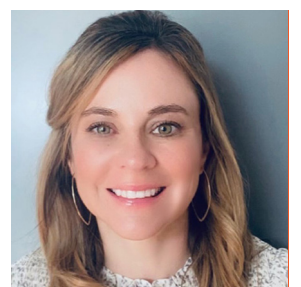
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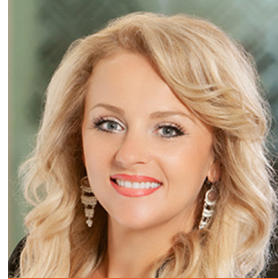
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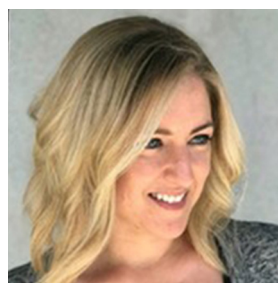
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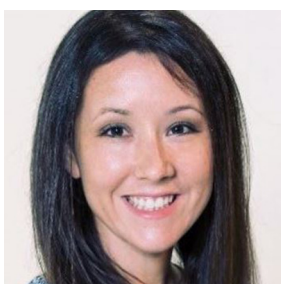
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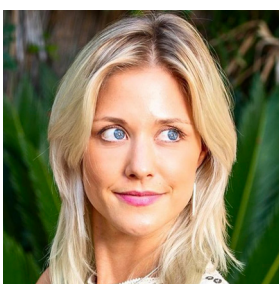
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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



### NINA AHUJA

Business Consultant  
Houston Consulting Solutions

As the owner of Houston Consulting Solutions, Nina Ahuja leads process implementation and improvement projects for local business owners and operators. Her experience overseeing the various phases of work makes her a valuable asset to clients. She excels in strategic leadership, specifically building and leading effective cross-functional teams to deliver positive project outcomes. Ahuja is a talented leader and a mentor who helps individuals with professional development. Through her work, she has helped small businesses transition to e-commerce platforms and streamline their operations.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a master's of science in engineering in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the University of Michigan Dearborn. She is also a certified Scrum Master, a project management professional and Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certified. Currently, Ahuja serves as corresponding secretary for the Society of Women Engineers, San Diego chapter.

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### YVONNE MARIE ANDRES

Executive Director  
GlobalSchoolNet.org

Yvonne Marie Andres is a technology innovator. She was inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame for her work as a pioneer and visionary and was selected by ELearning Magazine as an ELearning champion. Andres has been named one of the 25 most influential people worldwide in education technology. She began her career as a teacher and technology mentor in the Oceanside Unified School District and developed the original Global Schoolhouse Project in 1992 with a grant from NSF. This project digitally brought together youth from three continents to conduct environmental studies and share findings via state-of-the-art internet video conferencing. Andres was invited by President Bush to launch Friendship Through Education, an initiative of the U.S. State Department after 9/11 to foster relationships between American youth and those from other countries and cultures.

She has written many of the guides that educators used during the early days of the internet and produced Dr. Jane Goodall's and Microsoft's first education websites.



### STACEY ANFUSO

CEO and President  
La Jolla Logic

Stacey Anfuso, the founder of La Jolla Logic, has over 20 years of experience in cybersecurity, computing technologies, systems engineering and software design. Prior to establishing La Jolla Logic, she held roles where she directed the development of advanced computing systems, primarily supporting U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and foreign military requirements for command and control, situational awareness, secure information sharing and real-time digital signal processing.

Anfuso and her team engage with engineers, policy makers and program offices to achieve continuity and successful development and implementation of new security directives and processes. Previously, Anfuso was the vice president and general manager for the System Engineering and Integration Operation at Information Systems Laboratories (ISL) leading the execution of system development for U.S. and foreign Navies. Anfuso began her academic career at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) as a deep ocean chemist supporting ocean research and the development of specialized analytic equipment and processing systems.



### PENNY BALDWIN

SVP & Chief Marketing Officer  
Qualcomm Incorporated

With more than 35 years of marketing and branding expertise, Penny Baldwin brings a wealth of experience to Qualcomm Incorporated in her role as Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer. Over the course of her career, she has held prestigious positions at companies such as Microsoft, Intel, Oracle, AMD, NetApp and Hewlett-Packard. Additionally, Baldwin's work has been recognized with numerous creative and industry awards including Clio, Gold Lions and The Emmys.

Prior to joining Qualcomm in 2017, Baldwin was vice president and general manager of Global Brand Management at Intel. With Baldwin's extensive tech-experience and prior position at Intel, her expertise and passion for 5G offered the perfect marriage to propel Qualcomm's mission forward as the world's leading wireless technology innovator and the driving force behind the development, launch and expansion of foundational technologies like, 5G. Baldwin earned her degree from San Francisco State University.



### JANE BISHOP

Sector Vice President and General Manager, Autonomous Systems  
Northrop Grumman

Jane Bishop is the sector vice president and general manager of Autonomous Systems division at Northrop Grumman Aeronautics Systems, a premier provider of military aircraft, autonomous systems, aerospace structures and next-generation solutions. Bishop has served in this role since 2020 at Northrop Grumman's San Diego site, currently overseeing autonomous systems programs including the U.S. Air Force RQ-4 Global Hawk unmanned aircraft system (UAS); U.S. Navy MQ-4C Triton UAS; NATO Alliance Ground Surveillance; Firebird Optionally Piloted Vehicle; and MQ-8 Fire Scout Systems. These High-Altitude Long Endurance and Tactical Autonomous Surveillance programs conduct Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance missions around the globe.

Bishop joined Northrop Grumman in 1986 as an antenna and radio frequency equipment design engineer working on the U.S. Navy E-2 Hawkeye and C-2 Greyhound programs. She advanced into positions of increasing responsibility inclusive of Engineering Specialist in Antennas & RF Equipment design, program manager, program vice president and ultimately program general manager.



### REBECCA BODEMANN

Vice President of Sales  
Xpedient Communications

Rebecca Bodemann is vice president of sales at Xpedient Communications, a premier provider of technology infrastructure solutions in Southern California. She manages client relations, oversees network and system design, coordinates with construction teams and oversees budget and cost management for client projects. Bodemann has over 25 years of experience in construction and technology and is one of the founding partners who launched Xpedient in 2012.

A notable project in her portfolio includes Alphatec Spine, where Bodemann spearheaded design and installation of the network infrastructure and security systems for a 120,000-square-foot office, lab and manufacturing facility in Carlsbad. Another notable project was the design and installation of security systems for BioLegend, a ground-up, \$100 million, award-winning life sciences campus that includes five buildings and a 7-level parking garage. Additionally, one project dear to Bodemann personally and professionally was a Capital Improvements project for the corporate offices of YWCA of San Diego.

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### LOUISE BORRELLI

Director of Advanced Technology and Technology Development  
TrellisWare Technologies, Inc.

Since 2012, Louise Borrelli has worked at TrellisWare Technologies and currently serves as the Director of Advanced Technology and Technology Development. She has led the capture of technology development contracts with the Department of Defense (DoD), and has been instrumental in solidifying TrellisWare as a leader in military wireless communications. Borrelli brings a unique combination of strong technical expertise and astute business strategy to her role that has been critical in TrellisWare's growth and positioning within the defense market.

Borrelli works with many key decision-makers within the various DoD branches and has directly influenced the direction of major initiatives in the wireless communications industry. She is a highly respected expert on communication technology both within TrellisWare and throughout the DoD community. While the defense and communications industry is still overwhelmingly dominated by one gender, Borrelli represents the outnumbered yet powerful community of women who are moving technology forward.



### MARISSA BRAND

Project Manager- Energy Systems  
Technology Evaluation Program  
Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC)  
- Pacific

Marissa Brand has over 25 years of experience working as a scientist and project manager for the Naval Information Warfare Center-Pacific. She currently serves as Program Manager for the Office of Naval Research's \$6.7 million Energy, Systems, Technology, Evaluation Program (ESTEP) — she oversees 50 projects and 35 Principal Investigators from Naval Facilities Expeditionary Warfare Center, Naval Postgraduate School and NIWC-Pacific. She also oversees Broad Agency Announcement awards, collecting and reviewing new technical proposals from a variety of scientific fields and working with military stakeholders to understand operational viability of private and public emerging technologies.

In addition to her core responsibilities, she is leading collaboration with Marine Installations Command modernization group that has resulted in acceptance of \$5M Congressional Add award. Her continued leadership of Principle Investigators from the NIWC-Pacific Innovation Lab and Cyber Security Lab provides other Navy male and female scientists with the resources and ideas necessary for career growth.





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**KIMBRA BROOKSTEIN**  
Staff Program Manager  
Tech Women @ Intuit  
Intuit

**K**imbra Brookstein is Staff Program Manager for Tech Women @ Intuit- an internal initiative focused on attracting, retaining and advancing women in technical roles. At Intuit, she is a strategic staff program manager focused on creating and implementing tools and resources that help advance Intuit's engineers, data scientists, product managers, design technologists, technical program managers, security and IT employees. Brookstein launched the first formalized Mentorship program for TWI, where she successfully ran two San Diego pilots which lead to a global expansion across the company.

Additionally, she is a leader of Intuit's partnership with AnitaB and Grace Hopper, the largest celebration of women in computing in the world and a central program to attracting and retaining tech women for Intuit. Brookstein builds community on and off campus on behalf of the Tech Women @ Intuit team with the goal of creating an inclusive and safe environment for women in tech.



**LOXLEY BROWNE**  
CEO and Founder  
Athena Racing

**L**oxley Browne founded Athena Racing in April 2019 in an effort to turn her love of cars and engineering into an educational program to help young girls launch their own careers in STEM. She began working with students during the 2019-2020 school year and quickly received attention and accolades from the community for the innovative and impactful programming. At the onset of the pandemic, Browne pivoted to virtual instruction, which allowed her to expand Athena to work with female students in middle schools and high schools across the nation.

The program provides specialized training in technology, engineering, and design through workshops and camps that supplement school STEM curricula and give students an opportunity to apply skills in a real world work environment. Throughout the experience, Athena Racing features presentations from transportation employers for students to practice interacting with professionals and to explore the many careers in the transportation industry.



**JULIE BRYANT**  
Founder  
Rancho BioSciences

**J**ulie Bryant leads Rancho BioSciences, a company she started in 2012. She brings years of executive international management experience in the life sciences business: GeneGo (systems biology), Thomson Reuters (scientific content), OminiViz (text mining), Genomatrix (gene expression and genotyping), and Biosym/Accelrys (molecular modeling software). She has also advised and helped fund startups such as: FreedomVoice, aPriori Beauty Company, Simulscribe and Bimini Pet Health. Bryant has also been involved in M&A activity selling GeneGo to Thomson Reuters and more recently supporting the GoDaddy acquisition of FreedomVoice.

Bryant earned her science degree in England, has edited a Pathway book and is listed on several nutritional patents. She also serves on the advisory board for Rady Children's Hospital, Collaborations Pharmaceuticals and the Brain Trust Committee (John Wayne Cancer Institute).

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**ERICA BURLES**  
President  
Equation Technologies, Inc.

**E**rica Burles is president of Equation Technologies, Inc., a technology company that provides business management solutions for mid-sized companies, and founded the San Diego firm in 2001. She is a seasoned Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with deep domain experience accounting, review and tax services experience. As a Senior Sage Consultant, Burles worked with Equation Technologies Toronto, Canada, providing in-depth needs analyses and scoping out customization requirements that resulted in constant business improvements for her clients.

Her combined accounting and business expertise enables her to streamline a company's processes while implementing new accounting, CRM, or ERP systems. Burles holds a bachelor's degree in accounting as well as certifications in NetSuite, Sage 300, HR Office, Project and Job Costing and Sage CRM. She was honored by the National Association of Professional Women (NAPW) as a 2016-2017 inductee into its VIP Woman of the Year Circle and is recognized as an expert in her industry.

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**ELIZABETH CAHILL**  
Enterprise Sales Executive  
NextLevel Internet

**B**eth Cahill is a high-performing technology professional currently working at NextLevel Internet as an Enterprise Sales Executive and has served in this position since Sept. 2020. NextLevel Internet offers cloud-based, hosted voice services that deliver the functionality, scalability and reliability to meet the growing challenges of today's business. She has been an integral part of the San Diego IT landscape for over 11 years in leadership for Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) San Diego — San Diego's oldest IT trade organization. She currently serves as Director, Ambassador and since 2010, has also served as Committee Volunteer, Ambassador and Membership Board Director.

Cahill brings strong relationship skills and a high standard of excellence to her client's success. She is a highly skilled IT Professional that is well respected and has many key contacts in the IT community. Prior to working at NextLevel Beth worked at ATEL Communications and TCR Services in San Diego.

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**REA CARTER-WILLIAMS**  
Director of Marketing  
Technology Integration Group

**R**ea (Carter) Williams is the director of marketing for a \$350 million Global Technology Solutions Provider headquartered in San Diego. The need for technology continues to move at warp speed and Williams understands the hard truth of a challenging battle for women in technology. She never focuses on the disparity of gender but solely on how to be the best in her role. Digital transformation in marketing is her whole new "dragon" to tackle. She has been able to build relationships and model a handful of powerful female mentors over the last 20 plus years at Technology Integration Group.

Williams loves to support the positive changes for women in technology and is grateful to have a seat in the room for several Fortune 500 companies. Her passion is sharing her experience in IT and empowering young professional women as they navigate their career in technology and the fast-paced corporate environment.

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**BO CHEN**  
Senior Director, Process Development  
and Modeling  
Genomatica

**B**o Chen, Ph.D. is the senior director of process development and modeling at San Diego-based clean manufacturing company, Genomatica, and has been with the company since 2018. Chen leads the process development to commercialize Genomatica's technology that creates widely-used chemicals that end up in products (from cosmetics to clothing) from plant-based resources instead of fossil fuels – allowing her to have a direct impact on products touched by millions of consumers.

Chen contributed heavily to two major commercialization milestones — paving the way for 100% renewably-sourced nylon and scaling up a naturally-sourced replacement for a personal care product ingredient with a carcinogenic origin. She is also actively involved in the bioenergy community, where she serves on the Science and Industrial Advisory Board for the U.S. Department of Energy Bioenergy Innovation and the Industrial Advisory Board for BioEnergy Technology Office Separation Consortium. Through these board advisory positions, Chen is helping drive and influence continued innovations in the field.



**YANG CHENG**  
Vice President,  
Imaging Solutions

**Y**ang Cheng is a Sony Electronics employee with 16 years of experience in the consumer electronics industry. After various key roles in product planning and business management, Yang served as Head of the Video and Sound Business Unit and later as Vice President of Imaging Solutions. She is responsible for business results and growth for six financially distinct teams and hundreds of product models in the North American market. Over the past three years, Yang has successfully led the business unit to achieve 40% growth in profit, introducing several "hero" products to the market and building out a diverse, highly-skilled team.

Over the past 12 years at Sony, Yang has held a variety of positions from product planning specialist, marketing manager and senior business manager. These various roles give her a deep understanding of many aspects of the product life cycle in the Consumer Electronics industry.





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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**JOANIE CONNELL**  
Founder  
Flexible Work Solutions

Joanie Connell, Ph.D. is the founder of Flexible Work Solutions, a consulting firm that specializes in leadership assessment, development and retention for all levels – executives, professionals, early career and youth. With more than 20 years of experience coaching technical leaders, works with individuals to improve their success and happiness in their careers. A former engineer, Connell specializes in helping technical leaders develop people strategies to better manage their teams and build stronger relationships across functions and organizations.

Connell had a successful career as an electrical engineer in the Silicon Valley for eight years and has used her breadth of experiences to publish a book called, “Flying without a Helicopter: How to Prepare Young People for Work and Life.” She is also a published contributor in “Handbook of Organizational Consulting Psychology” (Organizational Consulting for Virtual Teams). She earned her bachelor’s degree in engineering from Harvard University and a doctorate degree in psychology from University of California Berkeley.

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**JAYE CONNOLLY-LABELLE**  
Chairman and CEO  
RippleNami, Inc.

Jaye Connolly-LaBelle is the chairman and CEO of RippleNami, Inc., a technology company delivering innovative artificial intelligence and blockchain-based solutions to governments worldwide. She is responsible for developing and executing RippleNami’s long-term strategy to positively impact and accelerate emerging economies in Africa.

Connolly-LaBelle brings more than 35 years of leadership experience to her role at RippleNami, which she garnered from her various professional roles in finance, technology, audit, compliance, business development, strategy, mergers and acquisitions. Her experience includes leadership roles in public, private and start-up companies, including at six publicly traded corporations in the oil and gas, mining, healthcare and technology sectors.

Connolly-LaBelle earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting with minors in computer science, oil and gas from Texas Tech University. Additionally, she is dedicated to her volunteer work with local organizations such as Athena, 1 million women in STEM and Promises2Kids.



**MARITZA DIAZ**  
CEO  
ITJuana

Maritza Diaz is a technology executive with over 25 years of experience and currently operates a private firm, ITJuana, where she serves as the CEO. She has worked with multiple companies in California of different sizes and industries, offering consultancy and management services to create software centers of excellence in Tijuana, Mexico. Prior to becoming the CEO of ITJuana, Maritza served as senior director at Thermo Fisher Scientific where she was responsible for growing the company’s digital capabilities in North America, India and Mexico.

Over the past seven years, Maritza has established herself as a thought leader in the field of cross-border collaboration in the software industry between San Diego and Baja California. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco where she represents San Diego and a recent member of the Forbes Technology Council.



**MONIQUE DUMAIS-CHRISOPE**  
Chief Information Officer  
Encore Capital Group

Since 2019, Monique Dumais-Chrisope has served as Chief Information Officer at Encore Capital Group. She started her technology career at a Help Desk for a financial services company. Understanding what each branch person was experiencing with their system and the frustration of not having an intuitive solution was the start of her passion for delivering solutions that best fit the purpose rather than chasing solutions that were the most technological leading edge.

Prior to her current role, she served as Senior Vice President of Technology at Bank of America. After the mortgage crisis hit, she jumped in to build a technology team that was tasked with creating solutions for consumers who were defaulting on mortgages. During her tenure, she took a one-year journey into operations and eventually leapt back into technology when asked to lead a transformation that enabled enterprise document solutions across the eight business lines.



**LISA EASTERLY**  
CEO  
San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence

Lisa Easterly has been the driving force behind the San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing San Diego’s cyber economy and turning the city into a global hub of cyber innovation. She currently serves as the organization’s first female CEO and president.

Previously, Easterly served as CCOE’s founding chief operating officer and in that role she developed the organization’s infrastructure and operations, creating substantive programs to stand up and grow the organization.

Easterly also established funding strategies for CCOE which continue to seed and diversify the talent pipeline via partnerships with organizations such as the National Foundation for Autism Research, Girl Scouts of America, and San Diego community colleges. To strengthen national security innovation and position San Diego as a global hub for collaborative cyber innovation, she facilitated an FBI executive briefing series that supports the bureau’s industry engagement efforts and educates emergency responders.

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**SWARUPA ELLAMARAJU**  
Director of Product  
Airspace

Swarupa Ellamaraju is a product leader with more than 12 years of experience leading teams in tech companies across diverse industries including logistics, healthcare, consumer electronics, home automation and financial services. Ellamaraju grew up in India in a family of modest means and broke many barriers when she decided to move 9,000 miles away from home to pursue her computer science degree in Southwest Minnesota. She earned her MBA at the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business. She is mom to two little girls and hopes that they can grow up in a world with limitless possibilities.

Ellamaraju is a champion for diversity and inclusion and strongly believes that diverse experiences and perspectives are critical to the success of any business. She co-founded Women (m) Power Network at Mitchell International with a commitment to inspire, educate and empower the future leaders at the company and the network grew to 400+ members in two short years.

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**KRISTIN ELLIOTT**  
CEO  
Aquasend

Kristin Elliott is president and CEO of Precision Measurement Engineering (PME) and Aquasend, a PME enterprise. PME was founded in 1982 by Elliott’s father and today, the two companies are leading manufacturers of oceanographic and freshwater monitoring equipment. After earning her MBA from California State University, San Marcos, Elliott rose to lead the company as CEO and in 2019 alone, PME experienced 115% growth.

Elliott juggles the responsibilities of being a mom to three school-aged children while leading a multimillion-dollar company and launching a startup. Notably, she spearheaded the launch of Aquasend, taking 30 years of research-driven water quality monitoring innovation and focusing it on aqua farms. In four years, she has taken Aquasend from concept to reality, helping to strengthen the food industry and feed the world by increasing yield, one farm at a time. Additionally, she led PME to new heights this year, which marked the 10-year anniversary of the miniDOT Logger.



**CATHERINE ENG**  
Founder  
Design Code Build, Inc.; OurWorlds, Inc.

In 2015, Catherine Eng founded Design Code Build, a coding academy for K-12 students to teach digital media from a project-based perspective that draws from her real-world experiences in design and development. Eng believes that the most impactful lessons in digital media come from projects tailored to the distinctive cultures and interests of each unique student community. It is from this perspective that she has developed curricula for STEM learners at San Diego Girl Scouts and the UCSD Moores Cancer Center.

Additionally, she has coached award-winning middle school and high school Science Olympiad teams, and taught fine art and digital media to elementary school-aged children. She is currently working with a Native American tribal leader on Our Worlds, an innovative AR/VR storytelling platform that serves as both a catalyst for STEM education in Native American communities and as a way to expand public understanding of the Native American experience.

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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**DEBORAH FUKUTOMI**  
Senior Business Analyst  
Gafcon, Inc.

**D**eborah Fukutomi is a senior business analyst with more than 35 years of experience deploying technology solutions to meet clients' needs and deliver successful projects within various industries. From agile custom software deployments to rolling out pre-configured program controls software, Fukutomi has extensive experience with multiple software development lifecycle methods and techniques. Since 2015, she has been a senior business analyst at Gafcon working on numerous construction bond programs for clients such as the San Diego Unified School District.

By leveraging her software engineering and business acumen, she can fully assess operational needs and develop conditions that drive quality software product development. Fukutomi has more than 18 years of experience as a defense contractor supporting Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) and local municipalities. She also spent eight years as a product manager for a Fortune 500 company supporting client hosting center activities and all client-facing software.



**PRAGGYA GARG**  
Sr. Manager, Software Engineering  
Sony Electronics

**P**raggya Garg is a technology leader with over 17 years of industry experience in creating innovative products and customer solutions. She is currently leading an engineering team at Sony Electronics in the Business Exploration group, developing products based on user empathy using cutting-edge R&D technologies for futuristic solutions. These technologies range from AR/VR to AI/ML — creating neural networks algorithms, dataset generation and ML model training, Image Sensors, Motion Capture and 3D Volumetric capture to create 3D models for content creation.

At Sony, she has contributed to the launch of several high-value consumer products that have shaped the entertainment industry and continue to connect with users emotionally. She holds a degree in Software Technology and Systems Management and an MBA in International Management. Garg is an active member of Women In Technology (WIT), Athena and Women In Product (WIP), where she continues her work encouraging and mentoring women in technology with their professional growth through networking and leadership development.



**CHERYL GOODMAN**  
Head of Corporate Communications & CSR  
Sony Electronics

**C**heryl Goodman's mission to drive technology through leadership, teambuilding and demonstrated cognitive diversity is exemplified through her work as Head of Corporate Social Responsibility & CSR at Sony Electronics. An award-winning leader in technology, marketing and business development with more than 20 years of experience, Goodman has pushed boundaries of innovation by expanding cognitive diversity by including more women in technology fields. In her tenure, she created resources for female entrepreneurs in bio and tech, while achieving high levels of fundraising — ultimately being recognized as a leader in the San Diego region.

Goodman started her career in broadcast journalism, creating streamlined communication with the foundation of truth and storytelling. She has demonstrated numerous successful launches while driving corporate initiatives, including women in technology at MP3.com, Qualcomm, Sony Electronics, and notably, Executive Director of Athena, where she served as a spokesperson and leader in trends and diversity.



**NELDA GREEN**  
VP, Data Analysis and Vendor Management  
ATTOM Data Solutions

**N**elda Green serves as Vice President of Data Analysis and Vendor Management at ATTOM Data Solutions, a leading provider of nationwide property data. The company's solution, RealtyTrac is the nation's foremost source of foreclosure data and the leading marketplace for foreclosed and defaulted properties. She has worked throughout her career in data and technology spaces. Following a long career in the U.S. military, Green previously worked as a Data Integration Manager with long-standing San Diego company DataQuick, a firm that delivers advanced information solutions powered by higher-quality data, innovative analytics, and automated decisioning.

After joining ATTOM Data Solutions in 2015, she progressively led various functions, bringing strong leadership to the company. Green drives the day-to-day operations of ATTOM's data analysis team, which supports customer needs around ATTOM's core clientele of data-hungry customers.

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(949) 502-8300



**TIFFANY HUNT**  
Senior Lead Technologist  
Booz Allen Hamilton

**T**iffany Hunt is a Senior Lead Technologist at Booz Allen Hamilton. She has over 20 years of experience in government IT systems delivery as a technology consultant, program manager, project manager, release train engineer (RTE) and Agile Coach. In 2001, she joined Booz Allen Hamilton, supporting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) business intelligence and mission software areas, specifically the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS).

Most recently, Hunt has engaged in large-scale systems delivery as an Agile Coach and RTE, supporting U.S. Navy programs delivering warfighting capabilities to the fleet. In her current role, she mentors, coaches and facilitates Agile adoption across government and contractor teams. She is an Agile Team Facilitator (ICP-ATF), Certified Scrum Master (CSM) and SAFe Program Consultant (SPC), as well as a Project Management Professional (PMP). In addition to her consulting work, Tiffany teaches a variety of Agile courses and leads Booz Allen's San Diego Agile Community of Practice.



**JUNE HUNTER**  
IT Services/Paralegal  
Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP

**E**quipped with a powerful combination of IT expertise and legal experience, June Hunter is the leader of CGS3's technology team — a critical component of the firm's commitment to effectively using leading technology to improve overall efficiencies, attorney flexibility and client responsiveness and to reduce overhead. She works tirelessly to design and maintain systems that deliver maximum efficiency, security and ease-of-access to both attorneys and clients.

The impact of her work also extends to improving the daily experience of CGS3 professionals through enhanced user interfaces and IT solutions that promote work-life balance. For instance, she helped the firm transition to remote-work without any interruption to workflow. In addition to her core responsibilities, Hunter is an active member of the California Alliance of Paralegal Associations (CAPA) Executive Committee and San Diego Paralegal Association (SDPA). She also serves as an adjunct professor of Computers for Legal Assistants in the ABA-approved Paralegal Program at UC San Diego Extension.



**AMY JOHNSON**  
COO  
RippleNami, Inc.

**A**my Johnson is the Chief Operating Officer of RippleNami Inc., a technology company delivering innovative artificial intelligence and blockchain-based solutions to governments worldwide. She is directly responsible for executing RippleNami's long-term strategy to positively impact and accelerate emerging economies in Africa with the current implementation of RippleNami Uganda's rTCS tax compliance project. Prior to her current role as COO, Johnson served as vice president of operations for RippleNami Inc.

As an accomplished leader and people manager, Johnson brings over 20 years of experience managing diverse business functions, including sales, customer service, business retention, collections, operations, outreach and project implementation. Before RippleNami, Johnson worked with small and large global companies throughout the United States, Australia and Asia in senior operations, client service, outsourcing, consumer solutions and sales positions. Johnson is a Certified Project Management Professional (P.M.P.), a Certified PMI Project Manager, and holds a bachelor's degree in Health and Behavioral Sciences, Psychiatric Nursing from Deakin University.



**STEPHANIE KANE**  
Senior Associate  
Booz Allen Hamilton

**S**tephanie Kane has dedicated the past 17 years to developing and implementing a wide range of innovative technical solutions for the U.S. Navy. She joined Booz Allen Hamilton in 2004, initially focused on accelerating data driven decision making across system and application technology lifecycles for the submarine community. She advanced analytics and cost engineering capabilities and developed and managed complex modeling, trade studies, analysis of alternatives, and hardware and software estimating for the U.S. Navy. Over the past six years, Kane has supported the Navy's consolidation of data centers through modernization and migration pathways and the adoption of commercial cloud technologies and services.

Her passion and expertise in IT Service Delivery, Cloud, and Digital Transformation has been critical to successfully deploying secure, fast, automated enterprise cloud services for the Navy. She encourages her team to obtain IT, Cloud, and Agile certifications, recruits and deploys strategic subject matter experts, to continue evolving digital transformation solution sets for her clients.





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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**CHELSEA KAUFMAN**  
CEO  
LEARN Academy

Chelsea Kaufman is the co-founder and CEO of LEARN Academy, a web development bootcamp and training institution. She co-founded the academy in 2015 in response to a local need for more development talent, building on the then-new coding bootcamp concept to create a community-driven educational institution that is going strong six years later.

As the leader of this tech-startup, she sets the strategy and vision for the company, builds and maintains the company culture, provides the tools the staff needs to do their job and manages revenue, expenses and external financing to maintain the consistent growth of the business. Under her direction, LEARN Academy remains agile in its curriculum, responding to trends in technology, and transitioning hundreds of skilled developers into the workforce.

Kaufman currently sits on the leadership committee of San Diego's Chapter of Girls in Tech.

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(619) 208-7224



**BRIDGET KIMBALL**  
Intuit Vice President, Fellow, and  
Chief Architect  
Intuit

Bridget Kimball is an accomplished technology executive with deep product strategy, engineering development, and leadership experience. As Vice President Engineering, Fellow and Chief Architect she leads a diverse team that drives end-to-end architecture across Intuit's Consumer Group and builds the foundational platform services, and tools to enable teams to develop and operate mobile and web applications on a SaaS infrastructure.

Active in the technology community, Kimball is a board member at Evonex, a tech startup incubator, as well as the Board Chair of Athena, a nonprofit focused on empowering women in STEM. At Intuit, she takes an active role in Tech Women @ Intuit initiatives and programs. This includes participating in development workshops, fireside chats, and the formal mentorship program for technical women. Prior to Intuit, Bridget was a Senior Vice President of Engineering at Comcast Communications.

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(858) 472-0242



**RAZELLE KURZROCK, MD**  
Co-Founder/Chief Medical Advisor  
CureMatch

Dr. Razelle Kurzrock is chief medical advisor and co-founder of CureMatch, a leader in precision digital solutions for cancer treatment. She is also director of the Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy at UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center, and is a distinguished professor of medicine, associate director of Clinical Science at UCSD School of Medicine.

Passionate about bringing discoveries to people across the world, Dr. Kurzrock is also a board member of CureMedtrix, a leader in AI for radiology and cancer detection, which is part of the Analytics Ventures portfolio. A well-known innovator in the area of cancer treatment and research, at CureMatch, she put her clinical expertise and leadership skills to work to bring the CureMatch Decision Support System to oncologists and their patients. At Moores Cancer Center, Dr. Kurzrock's charge is broad, including not just growing and innovating the center's clinical trials program, but also heading its newly established Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy.



**VALERIE KWIATKOWSKI**  
EVP, Information Technology  
San Diego County Credit Union

With more than 20 years of experience in information technology management, Valerie Kwiatkowski joined SDCCU in 2018. As executive vice president of information technology, she is responsible for directing, planning, organizing and controlling all activities of the credit union's IT Department to ensure the effective, efficient and secure operation of all automated data processing systems. In the over three years she has been with the credit union, her leadership has drastically improved many areas of SDCCU's overall operations and helped set the stage for continued expansion.

Notably, in 2019, her team implemented a new online banking system with the latest multi-factor security feature to enhance online banking security through a more robust infrastructure. Prior to joining SDCCU, Kwiatkowski served most recently on the Quality Engineering Team within Global IT for Apple, Inc. She earned her master's degree in Management and Public Policy Analysis and her bachelor's degree in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University.



**A. RACHEL LEHENY, PH.D.**  
CEO  
CalciMedica, Inc.

A. Rachel Leheny, Ph.D., has more than 30 years of experience in the life sciences industry as a scientist, a research analyst at several investment banks and as a venture capital investor. She joined CalciMedica's board of directors in March 2019 and took the helm as CEO in September 2019. She leads a team that is developing CRAC channel inhibitors, inflammation blocking drugs that have been shown to reduce the inflammatory cascade seen in COVID-19 and acute pancreatitis, thereby preventing lung damage seen in these patients.

Leheny is also a founding managing director for Valence Advantage Life Sciences, a venture firm based in New York. Prior to Valence, she co-founded Carton Advantage Venture Partners from which Valence Life Sciences emerged. Before that, she was a senior vice president and head of the biotechnology research team at Lehman Brothers. She also led the biotech research team at USBS Warburg.



**ALESSANDRA LEZAMA**  
CEO  
TOOTRiS

Alexandra Lezama's hands-on leadership across industries has earned her a reputation as a rainmaker. As a disruptor and forward-thinker, she has re-engineered the business model at every company she has led and has driven exponential growth transforming local businesses into technology powerhouses. In 2019, she founded TOOTRiS, a platform that helps parents and providers connect to secure quality child care, while allowing providers to unlock their potential and fully monetize their program.

Prior to founding TOOTRiS, she was the CEO for multiple technology companies, including AbacusNext, a San Diego-based company she stepped into with 29 employees and, in less than four years, transformed into a disruptive global technology organization with more than 500 employees across San Diego, Canada and the United Kingdom. Both Lezama and the companies she has led have received local and national recognition for transformative innovation and impact on the community.



**DENA MARRINUCCI**  
Co-founder and Chief Operating Officer  
Truvian Sciences

Dena Marrinucci, Ph.D. is a life science entrepreneur who has co-founded two San Diego-based biotech companies, Truvian Sciences and Epic Sciences, all by the age of 33. She is the co-founder and current Chief Operating Officer for Truvian, a health diagnostics company. Dena leads manufacturing, operations, human resources and program management for Truvian. In the past year, she helped lead Truvian's over-subscribed Series C funding round, which brings the company's total funding to over \$150 million.

Prior to Truvian, Marrinucci co-founded Epic Sciences and served as Chief Scientific Officer. While she left the company to co-found Truvian Sciences in 2015, she continues to be involved in Epic Sciences as a member of their Clinical Advisory Board. She serves as a Board Member for San Diego venture group, Connect, and as an advisor for Lynx Biosciences. Marrinucci received her Ph.D. in Chemical Biology from The Scripps Research Institute.



**MICHELLE MARTINEZ**  
Business Systems Manager  
Artemis Institute for Clinical Research

Michelle Martinez is a business systems manager at Artemis Institute for Clinical Research, an organization that prioritizes patients, advancing medicine and improving the world. Martinez is an ERP expert with NetSuite and Salesforce and has used technology to streamline processes for sales, customer service, operations and accounting teams to scale efficiently and effectively. She is a lean six sigma black belt and has experience increasing return on investments, mainly by reducing cost.

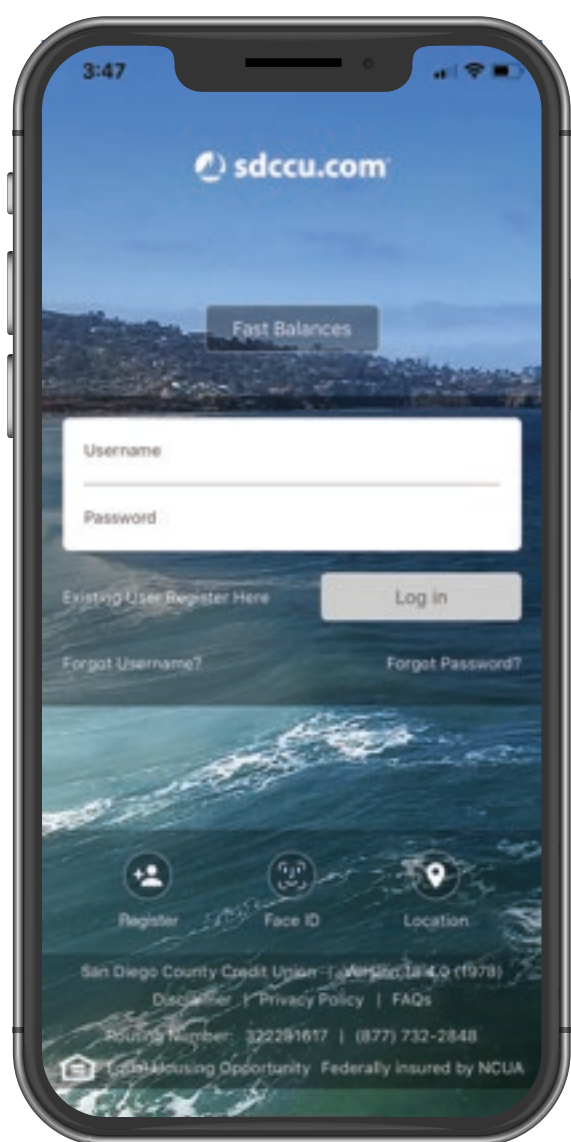
Additionally, she has helped in developing and tracking key performance metrics for different departments that increased their ability to run operations more efficiently and transparently. Notably, she implemented more than five virtual call centers which improved efficiency in sales and customer service teams by 25-50%. In addition to her core responsibilities, mentoring and growing staff by teaching them her project management expertise and helping them grow is a priority for Martinez.

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**AVIVA MCPHERRON**  
Chief Information Officer  
NuVasive

Aviva McPherron serves as NuVasive's Chief Information Officer and is responsible for leading the company's global IT organization. Over the past 10 years at NuVasive, her previous roles included Vice President of enterprise applications and Senior Director of business solutions. Before joining NuVasive, she was Director of Operations for Tapestry Solutions, a Boeing Company, and she holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Stanford University. In 2020, IT turnover has decreased significantly, and under McPherron's leadership, cultural engagement scores have increased. In addition to her contributions leading NuVasive's IT organization, she has also been an incredible advocate for diversity and inclusion (D+I) at NuVasive. Additionally, she was the first Chairperson of the Women In Spine employee resource group, which provides development opportunities for the global organization. She has also partnered with the D+I team and external STEM organizations, including Technovation Girls and Society of Women Engineers.



**NANCY MILLIGAN**  
Senior Integrations Developer  
Mortgage Capital Trading

Nancy Milligan has a decades-long career in software development, system administration, system architecture and computer security. This background positioned her well to develop robust integrations for Mortgage Capital Trading, Inc. (MCT) with many custom proprietary and industry-leading mortgage Loan Origination Software systems. These integrations funnel timely data to the mortgage industry's leading hedging, best execution and MSR Analytics platforms, MCTlive and MSRLive, touching at least one out of every five residential mortgages originated in the United States. Now in her tenth year at MCT, she is one of the secrets of the success behind the nation's largest capital markets software and service firm. Milligan oversees the daily support of 268 data integrations and works with GSEs, correspondent lenders, public and private depositories, credit unions, and independent mortgage banks. Prior to her career with MCT, Milligan spent more than eight years at CAE Solutions as a Senior Consultant.



**KATERINA MILOVANOSKA**  
Director, BIM/VDC  
Gafcon, Inc.

Katerina Milovanoska is director of Building Information Modeling (BIM) and Virtual Design and Construction (VDC) at Gafcon, Inc., one of the companies leading the Digital Twin property technology revolution and a member of the global Digital Twin Consortium. She is a former practicing architect with experience that spans the architecture, construction, and real estate worlds. Some of the notable projects she has worked on include the West Terminal Expansion at San Diego International Airport and the Mid-coast Corridor Transit Project. Milovanoska comes from Macedonia and holds a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Geodesy in Sofia, Bulgaria. She is active in a number of professional organizations including the Education and Programs Committee with the San Diego Chapter of Commercial Real-Estate Women (CREW), the Urban Land Institute (ULI) including their Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI), Design Build Institute of America (DBIA), and the Downtown San Diego Partnership (DSDP).



**DINA MOSKOWITZ**  
CEO and Founder  
SaaS MAX Corp.

Dina Moskowitz is the founder and CEO of PartnerOptimizer by SaaS MAX, the first AI-powered RevTech and MarTech platform to help B2B tech companies discover best-fit resellers and sales partners. She has led or provided consultation to cloud-based, SaaS and other technology companies throughout her career. Prior to PartnerOptimizer by SaaS MAX, she was CEO and founder of Critical Digital Data Solutions Inc., which developed cloud-based data storage solutions. She is a member of Cloud Girls, Board Member of the Cloud Software Association, serial judge and mentor for San Diego Women's Hackathon and other San Diego start-up organizations. Moskowitz regularly presents at Channel conferences, events that recognize technology service providers and she is a strong advocate of advancing women in SaaS and IT. She earned her bachelor's degree in Economics at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, and currently resides in La Jolla with her family.



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**Ksenia Palke**  
Data Science Manager

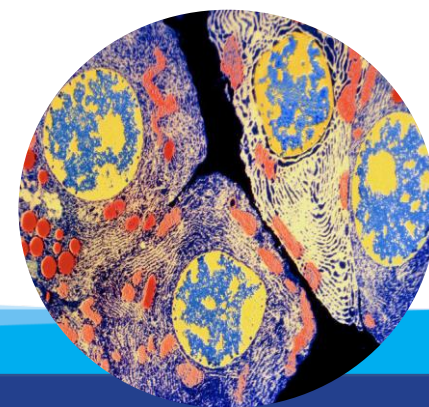


**Swarupa Ellamaraju**  
Head of Product





Leading CRAC Channel Platform Company  
Delivering Drug Candidates For Inflammatory Diseases



**A Rachel Leheny, Ph. D.**  
Chief Executive Officer

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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**JENNELL MOTT**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Managed Solution

Over the years, Jennell Mott has been an integral part of Managed Solution's innovation and growth. As the company's second employee back in 2003, Mott helped shape the technical department and has significantly impacted business revenue and operations. Starting in business development and moving into various vendor and partner management and business operations, her latest achievement is being promoted to Chief Operations Officer. Notably, Mott has grown the company's Azure revenue which has tripled in the past year and grown its Microsoft licensing revenue.

She has implemented many activities to boost morale and company culture including the "Home Run Derby" which is an incentive program for engineers to obtain certifications and bi-weekly bingo for employees that hit certain goals. Outside of work Mott devotes her free time to local charities and she even implemented a philanthropy program at Managed Solution that gets employees excited and involved in local charities.



**GINA O'DONOVAN**  
Sr. Project Manager/Business Analyst  
Gafcon, Inc.

Gina O'Donovan has extensive experience in a breadth of technology services catered to the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry in both the public and private sectors. She utilizes technology, business analysis, program controls, legal, contract management and AEC experience to aide clients with analysis and prioritization of on-going and future technology initiatives. Since 2015, O'Donovan has worked at Gafcon as a senior project manager and business analyst deeply involved in the implementation, maintenance and integration of Primavera Unifier and other District defined systems for San Diego Unified School District's K-12 education capital bond construction program.

O'Donovan began working in the AEC technology space in 2004 with one of the first companies that provided cloud hosting services specifically for the AEC industry. She has worked on numerous projects nationwide throughout her career and is proficient in Oracle Primavera Unifier, Primavera P6, Primavera CM13, PeopleSoft, eBuilder, Meridian Prolog Platform, Crystal Reports and SQL Management Studio.



**KSENIA PALKE**  
Senior Data Scientist  
Airspace

In 2019, Ksenia Palke joined Airspace, a global logistics and tracking company, as a senior data scientist. Since then, she has been working to keep Airspace the leading AI-enabled logistics company by transforming multiple machine learning models within its core technology. These models predict the path, risk and times of the most critical shipments traveling the world. Her team has tripled in size over the past six months and she continues to mentor her team to solve some of the hardest problems in logistics.

Palke is originally from Russia, where she earned a degree in space geodesy engineering. Later she received her master's degree and Ph.D. in geophysics from Stanford University. Palke has been building artificial intelligence at various startups in California since 2015. In addition to her work with Airspace, Palke is also involved with local groups that mentor junior AI practitioners.

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**CHERI PIERRE**  
CEO  
Computers 2 Kids

Cheri R. Pierre owns Pierre and Associates, a consulting firm that specializes in helping under-resourced nonprofit organizations, small businesses, and entrepreneurs implement sustainable solutions usually reserved for large, multinational companies.

For the last 14 years, Pierre has also been serving as CEO of Computers 2 Kids, a nonprofit created to assist the underserved to obtain computers, software, training, and support to help them become computer literate as well as increase their access to educational, occupational and financial resources. Her strong fiscal management of operating the organization with only a 3% combined fundraising and management cost earned C2K the 2014 San Diego County Taxpayer Association's Golden Watchdog Award. In response to COVID-19, Pierre increased staffing during a time of global layoffs, and let her team to provide more than 34,000 computers to struggling to complete their education remotely.

Contact: info@c2sdk.org (760) 518-7879



"Congratulations to **Erica Burles**,  
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# Congratulations to our Intuit Women of Influence in Tech!

As a company that champions diversity, equity, and inclusion, we are honored to have both **Bridget Kimball** and **Kimbra Brookstein** recognized as Women of Influence in Technology by the San Diego Business Journal.

Our Tech Women @ Intuit initiative proudly empowers our Intuit technologists and supports bringing women back into tech with innovative programs enabling career reentry, like Intuit Again. We congratulate these two strong role models and all the women being recognized for their outstanding contributions.

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**Kimbra Brookstein**  
Staff Program Manager,  
Tech Women @ Intuit



**Bridget Kimball**  
Vice President, Fellow,  
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*Named one of San Diego Business Journal's  
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# Congratulations, Aviva McPherron!

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**Aviva McPherron**  
Chief Information Officer,  
NuVasive, Inc.



SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**DENISE PIRROTTI-HUMMEL**  
Founder and CEO  
RevWork, Inc.

**N**ominated Microsoft M12 Female Founder, Denise Pirrotti-Hummel likes to work at the intersection of behavior change, technology and business impact. She was the founder and CEO of Lead Inclusively, Inc., which is now a division of RevWork, Inc., a Learning Experience Platform (LXP) focused on human behavior change. Principle products produced on the platform include the Inclusion Virtual Coach App, Remote Teams Virtual Coach, the Innovation Virtual Coach, the M&A Integration Virtual Coach and Sales Enablement Virtual Coach. The firm has been accepted into the Microsoft Portfolio for its SaaS based technology.

Pirrotti-Hummel is also a member Marshall Goldsmith's Legacy Team of 100 Coaches. She sold her first business, culture firm, Universal Consensus, LLC, to Ernst & Young, where she became a principal in their Human Capital division. There she led a team of 40 PhD's at EY's Innovation Center in Kerala, India to leverage technology to operationalize her I.P. in culture transformation.



**JENNY PLETNER**  
Software Engineer  
gap intelligence

**J**enny Pletner serves as a full stack software engineer for gap intelligence, a market intelligence company, where she is an instrumental part of the Development Team. She has obtained her Scrum Master certification and graduated Cum Laude from UC San Diego with a degree in Management Science. After 15 years of successfully leading teams in all phases of diverse projects ranging from real estate and healthcare to defense industries, she transitioned her focus to software development.

Pletner attended LEARN Academy where she completed an intensive four-month full stack coding bootcamp. Following her bootcamp she took an internship with Parallel 6, a SaaS provider of mobile applications for clinical research, health and public sector organizations. There she supported patient enrollment to drive engagement and quickly joined their team as a full-time software engineer. She has also been featured in the LEARN Academy Alumni Spotlight, detailing her transition to software development and her experience as a woman in tech.

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(619) 302-8187



**JASMINE L. SADLER, MBA**  
CEO  
The STEAM Collaborative

**T**rained as a rocket scientist and ballerina, Jasmine L. Sadler, MBA lives her life on purpose through her company, The STEAM Collaborative, which increases the number of diverse children — of all genders and cultures — pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, alongside artistic endeavors. Since relocating from Detroit to San Diego eight years ago, Sadler specializes in entertainment, engineering, entrepreneurship and education. Collaborating with over 50 organizations, The STEAM Collaborative designs, organizes, and implements STEAM Programs with directors and managers of youth-focused, informal education organizations.

Previously, she worked as a Quality Manager and Design, Test and Quality Engineer. Sadler's background as a 6-Sigma Black Belt has allowed her to serve through Continuous Improvement, Lean Manufacturing and ISO Audits. Her degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Michigan and MBA in Innovation and Entrepreneurship from Point Loma Nazarene University allows her to lead in both manufacturing operations and business metrics.

Contact: [jasmine@STEAMcollab.com](mailto:jasmine@STEAMcollab.com) (619) 512-3676



**TRACEY SANDBERG**  
Director, Information Technology  
Port of San Diego

**T**racey Sandberg is the Port of San Diego's director of information technology. She has been with the Port since February 2018 and has more than 33 years of experience in information technology. Sandberg is responsible for leading the recovery of the Port's infrastructure and applications after a cyber event in late 2018, which she considers the largest and most critical project she has ever worked on. Notably, she also initiated the Microsoft Teams Voice deployment at the Port, which saved the organization about \$750,000 in upgrade costs. She also created a practice for analyzing voice and data network invoices, saving the Port \$450,000 annually.

Prior to joining the Port, Sandberg led large IT operations teams across multiple industries including higher education, mortgage banking and automobile manufacturing. She holds a Juris Doctor degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law, an MBA degree and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from National University.



CONGRATULATIONS  
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Congratulations to our very own  
**Tracey Sandberg**  
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# CONGRATULATIONS

## Louise Borrelli

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# Rancho bio**sciences**

**Congratulations to Julie Bryant  
CEO and Founder of Rancho BioSciences LLC**

**Most Influential Women in Technology 2021  
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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**CYNTHIA SENER**  
Chief Revenue Officer  
Chatmeter

Chief Revenue Officer, Cynthia Sener, brings 25 years of experience in local search engine optimization, product development, strategic marketing, revenue generation and sales to Chatmeter. Sener kick started her career in tech early as a UCSD graduate, where her curiosity and passion sparked her career in the early emergence of dot coms and led to her role as a thought leader today. She joined Chatmeter from a previous role as vice president of operations and product at Rio SEO and has held leadership roles at data-centric organizations such as Acxiom, Hanley Wood and Constellation Software.

Outside of Chatmeter, she has served as a long-time volunteer and advisor in such groups as Girl Scouts of San Diego, Rotary International, Urban Discovery Academy and UC San Diego. Sener is passionate about local youth initiatives that support homeless elementary students, child literacy, female empowerment, youth theater and early introduction of STEM to girls.



**LESLIE SMITH**  
Vice President and Program Manager,  
Autonomous Systems  
Northrop Grumman

Leslie Smith leads the Global Hawk Program in the Autonomous Systems Division of Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems. The program includes the USAF Global Hawk, NATO Alliance Ground Surveillance (AGS) and Foreign Military Sales (FMS) variants for Japan and the Republic of Korea. She directs all phases of Global Hawk autonomous programs from inception through completion and is responsible for cost, schedule and technical performance.

Smith has more than two decades of engineering, production operations, technical program execution and program management experience in the general aviation, defense and aerospace industries focused on program execution and performance. She has worked extensively in the development of program execution strategies focused on technical performance, cost control and financial performance within the Autonomous Systems portfolio of products. Smith began her career at Northrop Grumman on the F/A-18 program as a manufacturing engineer. She joined Autonomous Systems in 2002 where she has held positions of increasing levels of responsibility.



**MEGAN STILLERMAN**  
Vice President of Professional Services and  
Customer Success  
Miva, Inc.

Megan Stillerman is vice president of professional services and customer success for Miva, a unified, end-to-end SaaS e-commerce platform that helps merchants scale revenue and streamline business operations. Stillerman is responsible for cultivating a world-class customer experience across a growing portfolio of customers. She has a passion for helping merchants realize the full power of the Miva platform through a comprehensive service offering that blends strategic consulting, project management, UX/design and web development.

Stillerman has more than 20 years of experience, having held leadership positions in digital and integrated marketing, mobile and SaaS for a variety of businesses from start-ups to large corporations. Prior to joining Miva, she served as vice president of enterprise customer service and success at Verve Mobile. Stillerman has a proven track record of partnering with executive management and C-level partners to develop new ventures, profitable businesses, and successful go-to-market plans.



**TERRA TEAT**  
Chief Marketing Officer  
JLab

Terra Teat is the Chief Marketing Officer at JLab, a leading personal audio company that produces innovative headphones and audio products at accessible prices. She has served as CMO since 2019 and has experience growing small to mid-sized consumer brands. With more than 15 years of diverse business to consumer and B2B marketing experience, Teat managed to lead the company's marketing efforts on a complete brand shift from tech heavy to soft and approachable. She executed a new website, a company name change from JLab Audio to JLab as well as a complete re-hire of the entire team.

In addition to her core responsibilities at JLab, Teat is a dedicated wife and mother and a board member of the Carlsbad Education Foundation and a member of the Forbes Communication Council. She earned her degree in marketing from the W. A. Franke College of Business at Northern Arizona University.



CONGRATULATIONS TO  
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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**MELANIE THOMAS**  
Cybersecurity Professional  
AT&T Cybersecurity

**M**elanie Thomas is a Cybersecurity Professional with AT&T Cybersecurity, currently supporting teams and customers with their Managed Threat, Detection and Response product. Bringing over 11 years of experience and passion in technology, she supports customers as a Security Engineer and provides guidance on securing their environments as well as on-going risk mitigation strategies. In addition to working with clients throughout her career in the field of technology, she also supports development and product teams with operational efficiencies, creation and maintenance of documentation, and ways to further enhance the customer experience.

Using her background in coding and quality assurance, she brings a unique point of view to complex and high visibility projects. Thomas firmly believes that a well-rounded service professional seeks to always learn something new, have the customer experience front of mind at all times and that there is always a solution for every problem.



**LACEY THOMPSON**  
Technical Solutions Architect  
Gafcon, Inc.

**L**acey Thompson has more than 20 years of experience in the technology industry and has worked with Gafcon for nearly 14 years. She is a leading solutions architect in Unifier and four other PMIS systems with extensive experience supporting capital construction programs with program management control solutions. Thompson is an expert in the design and implementation of multiple integrated collaborative management systems. A few of her notable Gafcon projects include the I-405 Highway Expansion, Museum of Contemporary Art La Jolla Campus Expansion and Seaport San Diego.

She has also been assisting the San Diego Unified School District with their districtwide Unifier implementation to further their goal of effectively managing their Props S & Z construction bond programs. She holds a bachelor's degree in International Economics from the University of California at San Diego. Additionally, she holds numerous technology certifications such as Primavera Unifier Certified Implementation Specialist and Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist to name a few.



**MEREDITH TRAVIS**  
Senior Manager,  
Business Process Automation  
Sony Electronics

**M**eredith Travis is a 12-year employee of Sony Electronics, with a career spanning Audit, Finance, Operations and now Robotic Process Automation (RPA). In her current role, she leads by example at the forefront of robotic software technology, overseeing projects and designing and deploying processes (algorithms) that perform tasks and navigate systems just like humans. Travis led the first RPA project exclusive to Sony Electronics in 2017, followed by the first Order-to-Cash cycle RPA project for Sony globally.

Since that time, she has spearheaded many additional RPA projects that earned notable distinctions and she has become certified internally as an RPA developer. In 2017, she was inducted into Sony Electronics' Samurai Society, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon an employee for their individual contribution to the company. She is passionate about helping others transition to RPA, and to navigate the larger evolution of AI.



**SARAH TUAKLI COOPER**  
Executive Director  
The League of Amazing Programmers

**S**arah Tuakli Cooper is the executive director of The League of Amazing Programmers. The league is a nonprofit teaching mastery-based programming. Cooper's commitment to serving diverse communities, global perspective and technical education expertise stem from 20 years of teaching music composition with computers. Her leadership is taking the league to new and exciting heights as they explore ways to create genuine diversity, equity and inclusion in a field that is traditionally exclusive.

The league is designated a Preferred Provider of software talent by the San Diego Regional EDC. It also provides weekly classes across 12 San Diego sites. The group has also introduced Tech Discovery Days for 7th graders. In 2019, this gave students from 15 schools in the San Diego Unified School District without STEM programs their first introduction to algorithmic thinking, web design, electrical engineering and coding robots.

Contact: [sarah.cooper@jointheleague.org](mailto:sarah.cooper@jointheleague.org)  
(619) 721-7696



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### Congratulations to June Hunter!

The leader of our technology team, June contributes her extraordinary IT and legal expertise to design and implement real world tech solutions that allow us to deliver legal services more efficiently and effectively than competing law firms. Our clients greatly appreciate this, and so do we – in fact, it is one of the pillars of CGS3. We are proud of June and her recognition as a 2021 Influential Woman in Technology!

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## SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN TECHNOLOGY 2021



**LAUREN TURTON**  
CEO  
Soul Career Clarity

**L**auren Turton is a business coach that helps women in wellness take their services online and scale their businesses to six figures. She is the creator of Soul Career Clarity, an eight-step formula that helps women breakthrough to their next level of success and she authored a best-selling book by the same name. Additionally, Turton is a partner at Ciao Ciao Piadina, an Italian restaurant located in La Jolla.

By combining her skills in the digital space with her client's business expertise in wellness, she is on a mission to make the world a happier and healthier space. In addition to her primary business ventures, Turton founded At Least One Day A Month, which works with small nonprofits based in San Diego to help them raise awareness for their cause. She is also the vice president of Help The Kani, a volunteer-based nonprofit that helps provide children in India education and essential services.

Contact: hello@laurenturton.com (619) 677-4278



**MELISSA VANPELT**  
Vice President,  
Customer Education  
and Advocacy Seismic

**M**elissa VanPelt is a proven and influential leader, currently serving as Vice President, Customer Education and Advocacy at Seismic. With more than 15 years of experience in the software and medical technology industries, she has an impressive history of developing and managing large-scale programs and teams that support key strategic initiatives within local technology companies. Her career has been focused on customer and sales enablement, driving product adoption and ensuring customer satisfaction and retention at scale.

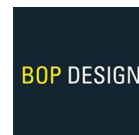
During her tenure at Seismic, VanPelt has made a tremendous impact on her fellow employees, executive leadership, customers and partners. Melissa, or "MVP" as she is affectionately known, leads Seismic's community, advocacy and customer education programs. MVP also single-handedly created Seismic University, a growing online learning and knowledge portal offering on-demand, live, virtual, and blended learning, plus certification opportunities. Launched in 2019, Seismic University has already earned awards for excellence in customer education and built a loyal following of Seismic experts.



**EMILY VONSYDOW**  
Web Development Director  
Bop Design

**S**ince 2019, Emily VonSydow has served as web development director and is Bop Design's longest tenured employee. She started as a college intern and has been promoted from project coordinator to technical project manager to web development manager. VonSydow oversees all of Bop Design's technical side of website development and manages all partnerships with the company's offshore development teams across the globe in addition to its technical lead Aivaras. She ensures the seamless transition between design and development with clients on website projects to guarantee goals are met from a functionality standpoint.

Prior to using her business acumen for the benefit of Bop Design clients, she applied her literary and organizational skills at Yellow Line Studio, a thriving new media production company in San Diego. She has also worked for her alma mater, writing institutional reports and coordinating projects with faculty and administration. VonSydow holds a bachelor's degree in Entrepreneurial Business.



**LILY ZHANG**  
Member  
Mintz

**A**s a member of the Mintz law firm, Lily Zhang is dedicated to protecting intellectual property arising from ground-breaking research being performed at a variety of institutions, including the University of California campuses in San Diego, San Francisco and Berkeley, as well as Stanford University. Her work spans a wide range of technical areas including but not limited to: machine learning, optics, nanorobotics, medical devices, diagnostics, wireless communication and networks.

Currently, she leads machine learning and artificial intelligence aspects for 10x Genomics, a public biotech company, guides Glowforge, a producer of smart laser engraving machines and represents software company SAP, in identifying patentable innovations and inventions to name a few of her clients. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as a patent attorney at one of the largest business law firms in California, and gained experience in prosecuting U.S. and foreign patent applications.

Contact: LZhang@mintz.com (858) 314-1577



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