



JENNIFER BARNES
Optima Office



TREVOR BLAIR
Blair Search Partners



ELIZABETH BRANN
Paul Hastings



SHARI BRASHER
Fresh Start Surgical Gifts



THOMAS L. BROWN
Sierra Pacific West



ADRIANA BRUNNER
MyPoint Credit Union



MELANIE COHN
Biocom California



KAY COLEMAN
Del Mar Venture Group, LLC



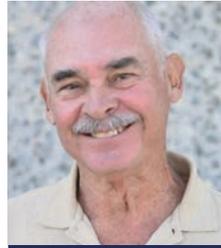
RICK DAHLEID
PBO Advisory Group



CLARISSA FALCON
Falcon Strategies



GRAEME GABRIEL
ColRich



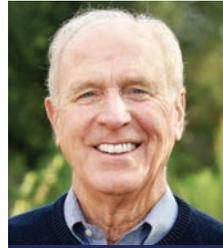
ROBERT GOUGH
RJ Gough Design



DR. HELEN V. GRIFFITH
The Preuss School UC San Diego



JONATHAN GRISSOM
Partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, LLP



RICHARD B. GULLEY
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance



JAMES T. HARRIS III, DED
University of San Diego



JAMAAL JACKSON
U.S. Bank



JOHN JENKINS
Asset Preservation Strategies



LINDA JENNINGS
SMACNA, Inc.



SHAI KALANSKY
Morrison Foerster



STATH KARRAS
University of San Diego - Burnham Moores Center for Real Estate



GREG KERSHAW
WD-40 Company



GARY LEVITT
Sea Breeze Properties, LLC



ROSEMARY LINDEN
Momentum CFO

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
NONPROFIT BOARD LEADERS of INFLUENCE
TOP 50
2023
HONOREES



WILLIAM LOPEZ
Alternative Strategies



TERRY MAGEE
Magee Enterprises



DAVID MAJCHRZAK
Klinedinst



DARLENE MARCOS SHILEY
Philanthropist



JEFFREY W. MARTIN
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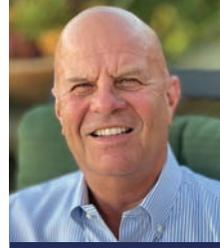
ALEX RODRIGUEZ
Enterprise Bank & Trust



TONY R. RUSSELL
United Way of San Diego County



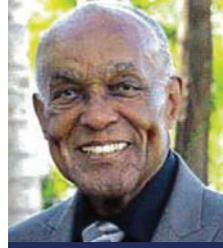
PETER SEIDLER
Padres



JIM SKEEN JR.
Lockton



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CECIL H. STEPPE
Vista Hill Foundation



PAT SULLIVAN
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Ambassadorial Roundtable



EVAN WAHL
Catalent Pharma Solutions



ROBIN WATKINS
San Diego Community College



DAN YATES
Endeavor Bank



BREE WONG
PCL Construction Services, Inc.



JENNIFER BARNES
CEO
Optima Office

Jennifer Barnes is the CEO of Optima Office, which provides fractional CFO and COO services along with outsourced accounting and human resource solutions to businesses of all sizes, including startups and not for profit organizations. She currently sits on the boards of Junior Achievement and the Better Business Bureau; her tenure with both organizations exceeds five years. She also sits on the board of Presidio Property Trust, a publicly traded, diversified REIT (real estate investment trust). Barnes volunteers time for numerous student mentor programs including the Lavin Entrepreneurship Center at SDSU and The REC Lab at Miramar College. She is a member of Rotary 33, Tech Coast Angels, NAWBO, CWI, WBENC, Vistage, ACG, Entrepreneurs Organization and Young Executives Council. She is treasurer for Nufund Angel Group and a partner for SVP - Social Venture Partners.



TREVOR BLAIR
Founder & CEO
Blair Search Partners

Trevor Blair is founder and CEO of Blair Search Partners. He is a San Diego native with nearly 20 years of experience in executive search, recruiting and workforce development. He began his career with Manpower and was initially based in Sydney, Australia. In 2016, he leveraged his experience to launch a new firm, Blair Search Partners, specializing in search engagements for nonprofit and public-sector clients.

Blair's community engagement is centered on education and employment issues. Current board and committee positions include LEAD San Diego, Zero8hundred (formerly the Military Transition Support Project), the Barrio Logan College Institute, San Diego Rotary, Catalyst (formerly San Diego Grantmakers) and Mission Driven Finance. Blair is a graduate of two LEAD San Diego programs (Impact in 2007 and Influence in 2017). He is an avid endurance athlete, having competed in over 200 triathlons around the world. He can be reached at trevor@blairsearchpartners.com.



ELIZABETH BRANN
Partner, Litigation Department
Paul Hastings

Elizabeth Brann, partner at law firm Paul Hastings, guides complex litigation for many of the world's largest technology and life sciences companies. She has a strong background in electrical and biomedical engineering, computer hardware and software, medical devices, telecommunications, semiconductors and consumer electronics. In addition to her demanding work as a partner, Brann serves as chair of the San Diego office pro bono committee and is committed to numerous local causes. She has served as chair of the board of the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program and on the board of the Emilio Nares Foundation, which helps families dealing with childhood cancer. She contributes time to the Casa Cornelia Law Center, a nonprofit public interest law firm. She has helped refugees seeking asylum in the United States and domestic violence victims seeking permanent restraining orders. She can be reached at elizabethbrann@paulhastings.com or 858-458-3000.



SHARI BRASHER
Chief Executive Officer
Fresh Start Surgical Gifts

Shari Brasher, CEO of Fresh Start Surgical Gifts, has been involved in the organization since its beginning in 1991, as a volunteer, serving on the board and dedicating over 30 years to improving lives of children. Under her leadership, Fresh Start Surgical Gifts has grown to multiple locations in the United States, including San Diego, Chicago and San Antonio and has transformed the lives of over 8,800 patients. Brasher feels she has grown up with many of these patients, who always greet her with a smile and a hug. Fresh Start patients become successful adults and often attribute their self-confidence and self-esteem to Fresh Start. Since 1991 Fresh Start has donated over \$56 million in value of medical care. In addition, Brasher serves on the board of the San Diego Sports Medicine Foundation.



THOMAS L. BROWN
President
Sierra Pacific West

Thomas L. Brown is president of Sierra Pacific West. He has been associated with the construction industry since 1972 and is an active member of the Associated General Contractors of America. Since 2006 he has volunteered as chairman of the San Diego AGC Apprenticeship and Training Trust. He also volunteers as vice president for the national AGC organization. He is currently the chair for AGC Charities and has been active since its inception. He is a member of the Consulting Constructors Council of America (CCC). Community service and involvement are extremely important to Brown as he has served as president of the San Diego Family Justice Center Foundation, a nonprofit organization established to combat domestic violence. He was also instrumental in the development and organization of Camp Hope, which serves as a refuge and place of healing for the children of families torn by domestic abuse.



ADRIANA BRUNNER
VP of External Affairs
MyPoint Credit Union

Adriana "Adri" Brunner is the business development manager for MyPoint Credit Union (formerly Point Loma Credit Union). A native of Medellin, Colombia, Brunner has over 25 years of experience in banking, business and partnership development. For the past 15 years she has championed the business development, community relations and partnership development for the credit union. During her career, she has offered over 500 financial literacy workshops in English and Spanish. Brunner volunteers on several boards of directors and committees. One of her biggest passions has been to mentor and positively influence Latina middle and high school students through her role at MANA of North County, where she is vice president of external affairs. Brunner is the recipient of numerous awards, including National City Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year Award in 2021. She can be reached at abrunner@mypointcu.com or 858-243-7471.



MELANIE COHN
Senior Director of Regional Policy
and Government Affairs
Biocom California

Melanie Cohn, senior director of regional policy and government affairs at Biocom California, has been with the organization for nine years. In her current role, she manages and implements Biocom California's city and county policy agendas in the San Diego, greater Los Angeles and Bay Area regions. She proactively lobbies public officials to advance the interests of Biocom California members and ensure consideration for the life science industry in new and existing regulations. Her extensive board service includes Mid-City CAN board member (co-chair), 2013 – present; LISC local advisory committee member (co-chair), 2019 – present; and Circulate San Diego board member (vice chair) 2021 – present. Prior to joining Biocom California, she managed government and community relations for several San Diego nonprofits and worked in the local office of a state Assembly member from 2005 until 2009. She can be reached at mcohn@biocom.org.



KAY COLEMAN
President
Del Mar Venture Group, LLC

Kay Coleman, president and CEO of Del Mar Venture Group LLC, serves as the chair of the board of directors and executive committee chair for the San Diego Regional Policy & Innovation Center. The nonprofit organization works to solve the region's biggest challenges—such as climate change, lack of affordable housing, community wealth inequities and aging/inefficient infrastructure—by building strong working relationships among San Diego's regional leaders and community stakeholders; conducting equity-centered research and policy analysis; and piloting programs that improve the lives of all San Diegans. In addition, she is vice chair and immediate past chair of the board of governors for the San Diego Foundation. She has held a number of positions with the American Cancer Society. Her numerous other board memberships have included that of the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Advisory Board, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



A NEW HORIZON

CELEBRATING USD'S TOP 50 NONPROFIT BOARD LEADERS OF INFLUENCE



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The University of San Diego is proud to recognize the achievements of its trustees for their outstanding leadership and contributions to USD and to the San Diego community.

*Dedicated to opening doors, expanding horizons, aiming higher,
pursuing a greater good and serving a higher purpose.*



RICK DAHLSEID
Consulting CFO
PBO Advisory Group

Rick Dahlseid, consulting CFO, PBO Advisory Group, is a financial expert with a passion for leveraging his talents and expertise to serve local nonprofit organizations. For over 20 years, Dahlseid has improved the financial management of national companies in industries including agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare and philanthropy. In his unique role at PBO Advisory Group, he serves many nonprofit organizations in a variety of ways. Dahlseid is a board member and the vice president of career services for Financial Executives International, where he helps financial professionals in transition find their next assignment. He has also served on the board of Press Pause Ministries and the Alpha Council. He has been deeply involved with the University of San Diego for the past five years, volunteering his time and presenting informative content at the university's Nonprofit Governance Symposium. He can be reached at rick@pboadvisory.com or 858-935-4855.



CLARISSA FALCON
Principal Consultant
Falcon Strategies

Clarissa Reyes Falcon, principal consultant, Falcon Strategies, is a government and public relations professional with more than 27 years of unique experience in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. In 2010, she founded Falcon Strategies, a firm that specializes in strategic communications, project and issue advocacy, coalition building and public policy analysis. She serves a broad spectrum of private, nonprofit and public sector clients. Her extensive community involvement includes serving on the board of Circulate San Diego, an organization with a mission to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods. Falcon has played a crucial role in formulating its short-term and long-term strategy, expanding its reach through her clientele, and elevating the level of statewide and regional representation on its board. Nonprofit board members are asked to contribute time, talent and treasure. Rarely does one excel at all three. Clarissa Falcon is that example. She can be reached at crf@falconstrategies.net.



GRAEME GABRIEL
Co-Chairman
ColRich

Graeme Gabriel is president of the Jewish Community Foundation and director for Hebrew Free Loan of San Diego. Professionally, he serves as co-chairman for ColRich, a leading real estate development and investment company in San Diego.

In addition to his work at ColRich, Jewish Community Foundation and Hebrew Free Loan, Gabriel serves on the boards of Congregation Beth El and Frances Parker School.

Gabriel's commitment to community service is unmatched and his counsel, encouragement and advice are invaluable to the organizations he serves. He goes above and beyond to support the organizations he serves, attending events and encouraging others to join him.

As a leader, Gabriel is both strategic and tactical. He collaborates with organizations on a range of projects, from developing new initiatives to ensuring physical security. Gabriel is innovative and always willing to brainstorm new ideas, keeping organizations focused on their missions.



ROBERT GOUGH
Owner
RJ Gough Design

Robert Gough is board president of Wounded Warrior Homes, a local nonprofit that helps homeless veterans transition into stable and healthy lifestyles. With his expertise as an architect, he has made significant contributions to the organization's efforts in housing homeless veterans.

With Gough's support and leadership, Wounded Warrior Homes has successfully transitioned over 100 homeless veterans to a healthy lifestyle.

Gough works closely with the board members, serving on various committees that cover housing, finance, programs and events. He participates in organizing fundraisers, including the annual golf event and numerous third-party events, and meets with major donors to secure the necessary funds for the organization's initiatives.

Gough is particularly proud of his role in designing a conceptual plan for the future Wounded Warrior Homes campus, which includes doubling the existing transitional housing capacity as per the organization's strategic plan.

CONGRATULATIONS Chairman Thomas L. Brown

**Congratulations on being selected as one of the
2023 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence**



We're thankful for your many years of leadership and for your commitment to training San Diego's Future Construction Skilled and Trained Workforce.





DR. HELEN V. GRIFFITH
Executive Director, The Preuss School UC San Diego
The Preuss School UC San Diego

Dr. Helen V. Griffith is executive director of The Preuss School at UC San Diego. She is committed to serving on boards to improve communities across San Diego.

As a member of the UC San Diego Teacher Education Program, Griffith helped the program gain recent WASC accreditation.

Last year, she helped the Urban Youth Collaborative with an \$810,000 grant to implement a healthy relationships curriculum in middle and high schools in San Diego County and helped UYC raise \$98,000 to support faith-based, student-led leadership clubs.

She is also a dedicated advocate for charter schools, serving on both the San Diego Unified Charter Leaders Advisory Board and the San Diego Unified Charter Schools Facilities Board, where she has oversight and approval for multi-million dollar bond measure applications.

She is also a trustee of the United Way of San Diego and involved with the Ebony Pearls Foundation of San Diego.



JONATHAN GRISSOM
Partner
Partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, LLP

Jonathan Grissom is a partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, with over 20 years of experience providing legal counsel to nonprofits and private foundations.

Grissom's commitment to public service is evident in his decade-long tenure on the board of 211 San Diego, a nonprofit organization that provides information and referrals for social services. He played a pivotal role in helping 211 San Diego grow its budget to \$24 million.

As board chair from 2018 through 2020, Grissom led 211 San Diego through one of its most challenging periods, when the agency was activated to serve as the public health hotline for COVID-19 in partnership with the county's Public Health Department. During this time, he oversaw a doubling in the organization's size and helped to ensure that 211 San Diego was able to answer a million calls from residents impacted by the pandemic.

He can be reached at jgrissom@higgs-law.com or 619-236-1551.



RICHARD B. GULLEY
Secretary, Board of Trustees
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

Richard B. Gulley is the secretary of San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance's board of trustees, having served a variety of roles on the board for 20 years, including treasurer, vice president and chair.

As a key connector and advocate for San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, Gulley has supported the organization philanthropically and led key events, including its annual fundraising gala, Rendezvous In The Zoo.

He is also the president of the Torrey Pines Conservancy, dedicated to preserving the natural habitat of North America's rarest pine tree. From 2021 to 2022, the TPC planted over 350 Torrey pines, and under Gulley's presidency, plans on planting an additional 500 trees in the next two years.

Gulley's service extends across San Diego and around the nation. He is a board member for the National Marine Mammal Foundation, National Recreation and Park Association, Torrey Pines Association, and Directors Cabinet of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography.



Congratulations!



CLAUDIA REMPEL

Government & Community Affairs, Operations and CSA-17 Program Manager

AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE

American Medical Response is proud to recognize Claudia Rempel, who was selected by the San Diego Business Journal as a 2023 Top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence honoree.

Rempel has more than 17 years of workforce management and operations experience in the Emergency Medical Services industry, plus 12 years serving as a nonprofit Executive Board of Director. She is an exemplary leader who aims to develop all leaders within EMS and the community of San Diego. She fosters workplace belonging by driving diversity, equity and inclusion at AMR.

Thank you, Claudia, for your leadership and service to our communities.

From Your AMR Family

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A Global Medical Response Solution



JAMES T. HARRIS III, DED
President of the University of San Diego
 University of San Diego

Dr. James T. Harris III is president of the University of San Diego. In addition, Harris serves as chair of the board of the Monarch School Project in San Diego, an organization which supports unhoused youth in the region.

In 2022, Harris finished his term on the NCAA board of governors, but remains on the NCAA board of directors for Division I, serving as the vice chair. The NAACP of Northwest Ohio has recognized him for his work on civil rights issues.

Last year, he was elected by his peers to serve as the chair of the board of LEAD California, a statewide nonprofit organization supporting a half a million college students dedicated to building a healthy, just and democratic society.

He also was chair of the West Coast Athletic Conference and served on the board of directors of the national ACCU (Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities).



JAMAAL JACKSON
Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager
 U.S. Bank

Jamaal Jackson is assistant vice president and branch manager for U.S. Bank in Mission Hills. A respected leader, he has dedicated time and expertise to organizations and initiatives benefiting the community.

Jackson served on the board of the Jackie Robinson YMCA, where he mentored youth and encouraged them to pursue education. In addition, he served on the board of the Diamond Business District, where he played an important role in promoting economic development in the area.

For Groundwork San Diego, Jackson helped establish Earth Lab, an outdoor climate action park that serves over 3,000 students and families each year from underserved communities and Title 1 schools.

Jackson serves as vice president of the Mission Hills Business Improvement District where he helped bring back the Taste of Mission Hills event and spearheaded an “access to capital” program connecting small business owners to resources.

He can be reached at jamaal.jackson1@usbank.com.



JOHN JENKINS
Founder and Chairman
 Asset Preservation Strategies

John Jenkins is founder and chairman of Asset Prevention Strategies where he has earned a reputation for his service-first approach and assists clients in becoming effective stewards of their wealth.

He has served on numerous boards throughout his career, including the San Diego chapter of the Financial Planning Association (FPA) and the board of the San Diego Estate Planning Council.

Jenkins has served on the Estates and Trusts Committee of Rady Children’s Hospital for over 20 years. His guidance has helped the hospital expand its services and care for more children in need.

Jenkins is also a dedicated philanthropist who supports charitable organizations such as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the Michael J. Fox Foundation. He has personally overcome lymphoma twice, and his wife has been battling Parkinson’s for many years.

He can be reached at johnjenkins@asset-preservation.com or 858-455-1825.



Congratulations

to our CEO

Dan Yates

Your nonprofit board leadership as Executive Vice Chairman of the Board of the **Conrad Prebys Foundation**, and your committee/board related service to **The Entrepreneurs Organization, California Community Banking Network** and the **American Bankers Association Community Bankers Council**, inspires all of us.

Our gratitude goes out to all the Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence for your selfless service to our community.



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LINDA JENNINGS

Executive Director of Market Sectors and Construction Technology SMACNA, Inc.

Linda Jennings is executive director of market sectors and construction technology at Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA), Inc. She is a results-driven executive with over 30 years of diverse labor management and leadership experience. Her experience includes health and welfare plans governed by California public sector law and federal Taft-Hartley regulation. Prior to joining SMACNA National, Jennings spent a majority of her career serving as the executive vice president for SMACNA San Diego. Through this experience, she cultivated a unique understanding of healthcare dynamics and compliance regulations.

Jennings has been recognized for her contributions in her community by serving as a board member and chairperson across 12 different committees. Her contributions and success have been publicly recognized. Her awards include SMACNA Chapter Executive of the Year, SMACNA Chapter Executive Legislative Advocate of the Year, and induction into SMACNA's College of Fellows.

She can be reached at ljennings@smacna.org.



SHAI KALANSKY

Partner Morrison Foerster

Shai Kalansky is a partner at Morrison Foerster and is also board member and Impact Investment Committee Chair of the Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego. He leverages his significant legal expertise advising clients on impact investing and social enterprise to inform his roles at JCF – the first Jewish community foundation to offer an Impact Investment Pool option that allows individuals to apply Jewish values to investments that support environmental and social impact while earning a competitive financial return.

Kalansky's recent impact work includes advising Generate Capital, a sustainable infrastructure and investment company, in connection with its \$2 billion fundraiser from leading institutional investors and its conversion to a public benefit corporation to align its fiduciary duty with its mission to support sustainability. He also advised Xpansiv Limited, a market-infrastructure platform for global carbon and environmental commodities, in obtaining a \$400 million convertible debt financing.

He can be reached at skalansky@mof.com or 858-314-7603.



STATH KARRAS

Executive Director University of San Diego - Burnham Moores Center for Real Estate

Stath Karras is executive director of the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate at the University of San Diego Knauss School of Business. Karras was instrumental in endowing the center and in helping the real estate program grow to become one of the top programs in the country. He previously spent seven years as an executive managing director with Cushman & Wakefield and served as president and CEO at Burnham Real Estate. He is past chairman of the board of CONNECT, the San Diego Regional EDC and LEAD San Diego. He has served on numerous community boards including Challenged Athletes Foundation, SD Chamber of Commerce, SD Downtown Partnership and SD Theater League. He was instrumental in developing the Real Estate Awareness and Diversity Initiative (READI), a program to expose high school students in underserved communities to real estate as a career. Karras can be reached at sjkarras@sandiego.edu or 858-204-5085.

CONGRATULATIONS ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Recognized by the San Diego Business Journal as one of their top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence



Thank you for partnering with clients and associates to help Enterprise grow and thrive.



MEMBER FDIC



GREG KERSHAW
 Director of Experience & Engagement
 WD-40 Company

Greg Kershaw is director of experience and engagement at WD-40 Company, where he has served in a variety of marketing roles since 2016. Kershaw has also been an active board member at Fred Finch Youth and Family Services since 2014 and has served as board chair since 2021. He learned about Fred Finch through LEAD San Diego's Impact program, where his leadership action team developed a marketing plan for the organization. Kershaw is a generous and dedicated volunteer who participates in meetings, events and agency functions and demonstrates a personal connection to the mission of Fred Finch. He was instrumental in leading the Fred Finch board of directors through significant strategic planning shifts in response to industry shifts because of the COVID pandemic. His marketing expertise was instrumental in a major re-branding and update of the Fred Finch website over the past two years.



GARY LEVITT
 Founder & President
 Sea Breeze Properties, LLC

Gary Levitt is founder and president of Sea Breeze Properties, LLC, a full-service real estate development, investment and management firm, specializing in creating unique opportunities through the entitlement process. He has been involved in real estate development since 1984, overseeing projects from early conception through design, entitlement, financing, construction and lease up or sale. Levitt has served on the Boys & Girls Club of San Marcos board of directors since 2012. Over the last 10 years while serving on the board, he both led and volunteered on several committees within BGCSM, including the Finance Committee, Annual Auction Committee, and Capital Improvements Committee. He currently serves on the Executive Committee and is the Board Treasurer. Under his guidance, BGCSM has doubled its operating budget in the last three years and, most notably, added a second permanent clubhouse to serve more San Marcos youth and teens in the summer of 2022.



ROSEMARY LINDEN
 President & Fractional CFO
 Momentum CFO

Rosemary Linden is chair of the board of San Diego Civic Youth Ballet (SDCYB) and president of Momentum CFO, a firm that provides fractional CFO services to small and mid-size businesses. Linden took her first ballet class at age 4 and joined the board of SDCYB in 2018. She is a passionate advocate of arts education, which helps children develop valuable life skills such as creativity, confidence, perseverance and self-expression. In her capacity as board chair, Linden steered SDCYB through significant financial challenges and helped obtain large COVID-related financial grants and assistance to keep the 78-year-old organization afloat when in-person classes and productions were impossible. Last year, Linden recommended financial initiatives that resulted in the ballet's highest-grossing "Nutcracker" performances, enabling SDCYB to invest additional resources in arts education programs, including the "Ballet for Me!" program designed for students with unique physical needs. She can be reached at 858-284-0314.



Kay Coleman has served as the founding Board of Directors Chair, leading the San Diego Regional Policy & Innovation Center's launch, strategic insight, and progress.



"Your governance expertise, generosity of spirit, and steadfast leadership are valued and deeply appreciated."

— **Susan Guinn**
 PRESIDENT & CEO, SAN DIEGO REGIONAL POLICY & INNOVATION CENTER

BROOKINGS



SDRPIC.ORG

San Diego Regional Policy & Innovation Center's mission is to unlock the region's full potential by cultivating and building partnerships, with a niche for addressing complex issues that can only be solved with cross-sector, multijurisdictional collaborations. We work to forge strong alliances that build a thriving and equitable region.



WILLIAM LOPEZ
Principal
Alternative Strategies

William Lopez is principal of Alternative Strategies, a full-service marketing and communications firm.

In addition to his work as a marketer, Lopez is active in many community events and organizations. Last year, he volunteered and served as interim executive director for North Park Main Street as the organization searched for a new executive director. Over the course of three months, Lopez volunteered more than 25 hours per week putting together an executive director search committee, which he chaired, ultimately selecting a professional agency to assist in recruiting the new executive director and office manager for North Park Main Street.

Lopez also provided pro bono marketing services last year to the Taste of North Park, North Park Music Fest, Corazon de Vida Annual Noche de Vida gala and Paws4Thought Animal Rescue Adoption events.

He can be reached at william@alt-strategies.com or 619-858-0322.



TERRY MAGEE
President and CEO
Magee Enterprises

Terry Magee is CEO of Magee Enterprises. He is a retired U.S. Navy captain who has spent more than 50 years in service to our nation and the San Diego military and nonprofit communities.

Magee is an energizing force on the Support the Enlisted Project (STEP) Board of Directors who has driven the organization to achieve many goals and milestones in 2022 – including the board’s 10-year visioning exercise determining STEP should have a national presence by 2032 and serve all young military and transitioning veteran families. Magee served as chair of the STEP Development Committee, which increased organizational revenue by 33% in the past year and founded and served as co-chair of STEP’s annual combined Golf Tournament that raised \$62,000. In addition to his service to STEP, Magee helped the USS Midway Museum develop the planned Freedom Park to be built on the pier next to the USS Midway.



DAVID MAJCHRZAK
Shareholder and Deputy General Counsel
Klinedinst

David Majchrzak is Immediate Past President of the San Diego County Bar Association.

As San Diego County Bar Association president, Majchrzak steered the organization through purchase of a new home for the bar and establishment of a new DEI division.

He currently serves as treasurer of the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers, where wrote the organization’s first policy manual.

Majchrzak is also the current chair of the American Bar Association working group on Model Rule 5.5, and participated in drafting the organization’s proposal to modify the rule as well as an amicus brief for matter recently argued before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Majchrzak also recently served as co-chair of California Lawyers Association’s first Ethics Committee ; as co-chair of the 2022 annual meeting; and served for four years as president of the William L. Todd, Jr. American Inn of Court.

He can be reached at dmajchrzak@klinedinstlaw.com or 619-400-8000.

CONGRATULATIONS ROBIN WATKINS!

With great pride, we recognize Robin Watkins for being selected as one of the San Diego Business Journal’s 2023 Top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence!

As California Schools VEBA’s Co-Chair and Representative (Classified) for the American Federation of Teachers, Local 1931, Robin’s dynamic leadership has been instrumental to VEBA’s success throughout her seven years of service.

Thank you for all your contributions, Robin!



California Schools VEBA is a 501c(9) non-profit trust that delivers high-quality, affordable, and accessible health care for education, municipal, and public agency employees.

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DARLENE MARCOS SHILEY
Philanthropist

Darlene Marcos Shiley serves on the University of San Diego's Board of Trustees. She is also the President of The Shiley Foundation.

Shiley and her late husband, Donald, a pioneer in the medical device field, are recognized as community supporters. Their generosity has benefited the Old Globe Theatre, KPBS, Scripps Clinic, University of Portland's Shiley School of Engineering, Shiley CSU Institute of Palliative Care and San Diego Library.

Marking its 30th anniversary and her enduring interest and support, Shiley recently gave a \$10 million gift for the clinical space expansion of the Shiley Eye Institute at UC San Diego Health.

Shiley also recently broadened the scope of her foundation's support to include Voices for Children, Serving Seniors, medical equipment and research funding, Ukrainian relief, March of Dimes, Reins Therapeutic Riding Program, Mama's Kitchen, North Coast Rep, Las Patronas, St. Rita's School, International Medical Corps, California Mission Foundation and others.



JEFFREY W. MARTIN
CEO
Sempra

Jeffrey W. Martin is CEO and Chairman of Sempra Energy and a member of the University of San Diego Board of Trustees.

Martin leads Sempra's employees and partners through its purpose-driven mission to advance sustainability and the transition to cleaner forms of energy. He also promotes the importance of a high-performing culture and the company's values to do the right thing, champion people and shape the future.

Martin is passionate about education and providing equal opportunities for growth as evidenced by his membership on the Board of Trustees at USD and his ongoing support and sponsorship of Monarch School, where his wife Lisa serves as vice chair of the school's board. This passion for education and personal growth is also seen within Sempra, where Sempra sponsors a successful financial leadership program for new local university graduates, as well as a mentorship program for employees to grow and continue learning.



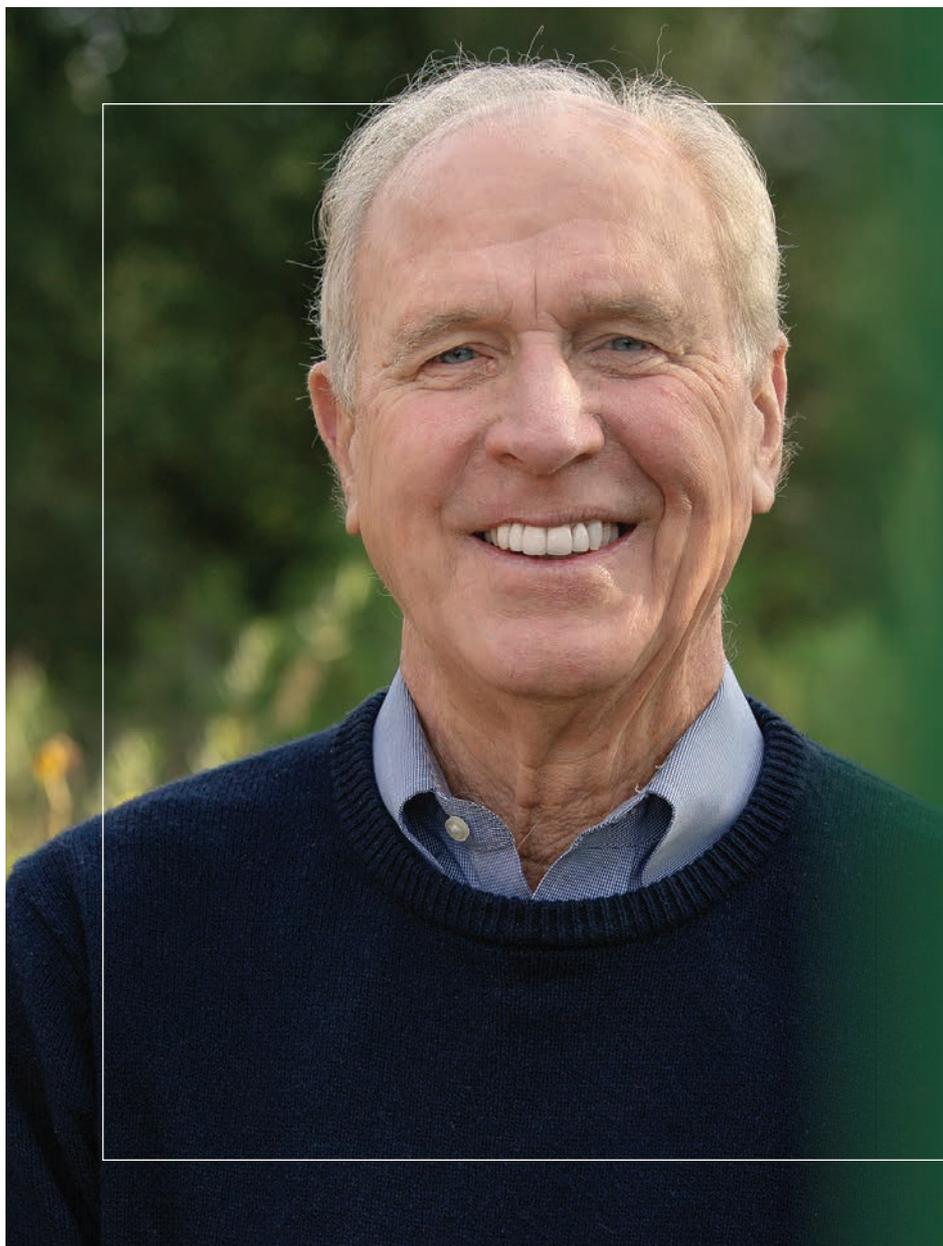
MERRILEE NEAL
Creator
1st Impressions Parties

Merrilee Neal is Immediate Past Chair on the Promises2Kids Board of Directors. She is a highly driven professional with several years of non-profit board member experience and has over 12 years of experience as a small business owner.

Under Neal's leadership, Promises2Kids remained in good financial health and we surpassed the fiscal budget for the 2021-22 year. From May-July 2022, Neal provided critical guidance, leadership, and support to Promises2Kids while CEO Tonya Torosian participated in the Clare Rose Sabbatical Program.

Neal is a 2013 graduate of LEAD San Diego, and a most recent graduate of 2021 LEAD Advance. She holds certificates in both public speaking and non-profit management. A longtime San Diego resident, she and her husband Mike, have been active philanthropists, supporting Promises2Kids since 2013.

Neal is a 10-year breast cancer survivor and avid supporter and fundraiser for Susan G. Komen San Diego's Race for the Cure.



CONGRATULATIONS
Rick Gulley!

On behalf of the entire San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance team, the wildlife you help protect, and the larger San Diego community, we thank you and celebrate all you make possible for America's Finest City. The leadership you show and passion you bring has helped create transformative change in our organization and in our city, supporting a brighter future for all San Diegans.

We have been deeply honored by your commitment to serve on our Board of Trustees for nearly two decades. You are among our greatest allies for wildlife, and leave a powerful legacy to inspire all who follow.



GARY PAYNE
Principal
Gary Payne Photography

Gary Payne is Principal at Gary Payne Photography. He is a professional photographer with a multi-decade freelance career, including five years as a Latin America correspondent for Getty Images.

Payne is the current board president of the Bach Collegium San Diego, a local performing arts orchestra and chorus. In 2022, he was integral in BCSD's performance of a Spanish translation of Handel's Messiah in San Diego and Tijuana. He worked with musicians, venues, and U.S. Consulate officials in Mexico to secure a production at the CECUT in Tijuana. BCSD has been invited back as a part of the bicentennial celebrations of U.S. and Mexico relations later this year.

In addition to his work for Bach Collegium in the last year, Payne also advised, helped fund, and went in person to photograph and support Opera NEO's performance this last summer with the Hungarian State Opera in Budapest.

He can be reached at garypaynephotomac.com.



VICTOR RAMSAUER
President & Shareholder
LevitZacks

Victor Ramsauer is president and shareholder at LevitZacks Certified Public Accountants. During his 30 years in public accounting, Ramsauer has honed a broad range of skills in auditing, merger and acquisition, as well as in general business consulting services. He advises clients with the sale, acquisition and divestiture of businesses with values exceeding \$175 million. His skills include deal structuring and negotiation, financial reporting research and the design and performance of due diligence procedures. He has extensive knowledge of the federal acquisition regulations.

Ramsauer is involved with numerous civic, accounting and defense industry groups. He also serves as CFO and treasurer of the Cyber Center of Excellence (CCOE). During his time with CCOE, the organization achieved many goals. One notable accomplishment was partnering with the city of San Diego to open the San Diego Regional Cyber Lab.



CLAUDIA REMPEL
IFT Operations Manager
American Medical Response

Claudia Rempel is the CSA-17 program manager, government and community affairs manager and operations manager for American Medical Response San Diego. As a servant leader, she is passionate about civic engagement, nurturing community partnerships and breaking barriers to provide opportunity for the underexposed.

She is board president of the Ambulance Association of San Diego (AASDC) and board president of MANA de San Diego. She was fundamental in creating and implementing a board development committee at MANA in 2022 and successfully onboarded four new board members in a fair and transparent process. Her expertise and task-oriented strengths drive dedication, motivation and a cohesive environment. She challenges complacency and continuously aims to improve systems by cultivating and encouraging creativity and innovation. She is a San Diego native and a graduate of the University of California, Riverside. She can be reached at claudia.rempel@gmr.net or 619-787-3840.



Congratulations to
Jon Grissom
Partner
Higgs Fletcher & Mack



211 San Diego would like to congratulate Jon Grissom for being recognized as one of the **Top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence!**

Serving more than 12 years on the 211 San Diego Board of Directors, Jon's leadership and championship of the 211 mission and staff reflects his priceless commitment to building a strong and healthy community for all!



Congratulations to
Trevor Blair
on recognition as one of San Diego's top nonprofit board leaders!

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CINI ROBB
Board President
FACE Foundation

Cini Robb is board president of the FACE Foundation. She is a resident of Rancho Santa Fe. Her passion is animals; her animal family includes 11 birds and 10 dogs. She has been a long supporter of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, Downtown Dog Rescue, Stray Cat Alliance, Last Chance at Life, Frosted Faces, Soi Dog Foundation and various other organizations benefiting animals. She co-founded the FACE Foundation in 2006 and has served on its board since its inception. The FACE Foundation funds lifesaving veterinary care for animals. Robb believes passionately in its commitment to “saving pets and helping families.” She is committed to serving the underserved pet parents in our community. She also works actively in the field of addiction and has served on the board of directors of the Hazelden Betty Ford Center for 19 years. She is married to Ira, who supports her in all her endeavors.



ALEX RODRIGUEZ
SVP, Relationship Manager
Enterprise Bank & Trust

Alex Rodriguez, senior vice president, relationship manager at Enterprise Bank & Trust, has a long history of working in the banking industry. He serves on the board and credit committee for Accessity San Diego, a nonprofit that opens doors of financial opportunity for entrepreneurs through access to small business loans and a community of support and resources. Through Accessity, Rodriguez helped facilitate \$9.1 million in small business loans going out to local low to moderate income and diverse-owned businesses. In addition, Rodriguez serves on the credit committee for the California Southern Small Business Development Corporation, a nonprofit financial development corporation helping businesses get the financial assistance they need to become productive, successful, contributing partners in their communities. This can be especially important to nonprofit organizations and partnering small businesses, which often operate with limited budgets and resources to achieve meaningful and impactful services for the local community.



TONY R. RUSSELL
Past Board of Directors Chair, Current Board Member, Current Policy Committee Chair
United Way of San Diego County

Tony R. Russell, past chair and current policy committee chair with the United Way of San Diego County (UWSD) board of directors, joined the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority in 2003 to serve as the director, board services/authority clerk. He has over 35 years of experience in local and municipal government. Russell joined UWSD's board in 2017 and held positions as vice chair (2018-2020) and chair (2020-2022). He also serves on the executive committee. As UWSD board chair, Russell was responsible for linking the board to the airport authority to support the nonprofit and the EDICT 2030 campaign. Russell has served on the board of advisors at the Jackie Robinson Family YMCA since 2011, and served as chair from 2016 to 2020. He was appointed to the board of directors for the YMCA of San Diego County in 2021. He is currently the chair of the organizational culture committee.

CYBER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (CCOE) CONGRATULATES



Kris Virtue
Co-Chairman of the Board



Pat Sullivan
Co-Chairman of the Board



Victor Ramsauer
CFO & Treasurer



Jim Skeen
Secretary

For their inspirational leadership and dedication to growing the regional cyber economy and creating a more secure digital community for all!

Learn more about CCOE at sdccoe.org.



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SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL'S NONPROFIT BOARD LEADERS OF INFLUENCE

Congratulations to our Partner, **Jonathan Grissom**, on his selection as one of the “Top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence.” Jon – Thank you for your leadership in serving as Chairman of the Board of 211 San Diego. Through your commitment and service, San Diego families and individuals have greater access to essential health and social services.



JONATHAN GRISSOM



Higgs Fletcher & Mack is a full-service law firm that serves diverse individuals and industries and has successfully represented companies and people in need of exceptional legal counsel for over 80 years.

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PETER SEIDLER
Owner
Padres

Peter Seidler is a member of the board of trustees at the University of San Diego, having served in that role since 2014. He is the owner and chairman of the San Diego Padres baseball organization. Seidler is the founder and co-managing partner of Seidler Equity Partners, a family-oriented private equity firm that provides capital and management support to growing entrepreneurial companies across the United States and Australia.

Seidler is co-founder of the Tuesday Group, which brings together successful business people to help San Diego's homeless. The Tuesday Group and the Lucky Duck Foundation used industrial tents to provide "bridge shelters" to house the homeless, providing 300 beds in the downtown area for five years and 150 beds in the Midway District. He is a board member (and one of two private citizens) on the San Diego Housing Commission Community Action Plan on Homelessness Leadership Council.



JIM SKEEN JR.
Founder
Lockton

Jim Skeen Jr. is the founder of Lockton San Diego. He long served as a member of the Lockton Pacific Series Executive Committee, accountable for its sustained growth and profitability through its West Coast offices. He has provided decades of continuous board service, for both corporate and nonprofit organizations, focused on enterprise opportunity and results. He has over 40 years of experience successfully navigating complex risk and resiliency solutions.

Skeen dedicates significant time and expertise to cyber risk awareness, education, collaboration and workforce development between corporate, government and academic partners. He is a founding board member of San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence and currently serves as secretary of the board of directors. In addition, Skeen serves as private sector engagement partner to FBI Cyber; on the board of advisors to MiraCosta College, CSIT; and as a member of the DHS Area Maritime Security Committee and San Diego CISO Roundtable.



ALLISON D.H. SOARES
partner
Vanst Law LLP

Allison Soares is a tax attorney at Vanst Law, where she helps business owners when they are facing audits, collections and international compliance issues. Soares also teaches a course on tax procedures, practice and ethics at SDSU's Lamden School of Accountancy and is active in leadership roles in Balboa Park. Soares has been the treasurer for Forever Balboa Park since it was created in 2021, supervising financial oversight for the organization that runs the House of Hospitality, visitor center and carousel. Soares is an active board member and a leader on Forever Balboa Park board initiatives, including a year end 2022 board challenge that raised more than \$200,000. Behind the scenes, Soares engages with individual board members to discuss financial issues with knowledge. When Forever Balboa Park staff members have questions about financial and tax decisions, Soares is a valuable consultant. Soares can be reached at allison@vanstlawfirm.com or 619-618-6648

CONGRATULATIONS

Shari Brasher



CEO, Fresh Start Surgical Gifts



Top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence



FreshStart.org

Congratulations

Graeme Gabriel

Thank you for your extraordinary service!



At the **Jewish Community Foundation San Diego (JCF)**, we believe that every individual can make a difference; together we change the world. JCF combines donor-driven philanthropy, investing, and education for maximum benefit in the community.

Hebrew Free Loan of San Diego empowers members of the San Diego Jewish community to help themselves by providing cost free, interest-free loans to support those who are facing financial challenges or investing in their life dreams.



Jewish Community Foundation (858) 279-2740 | info@jcfsandiego.org | www.jcfsandiego.org



CECIL H. STEPPE
Board Chairman
Vista Hill Foundation

Cecil Steppe currently serves as chairman of local nonprofit organizations, providing steady, insightful leadership that allows each organization's unique governance structure to optimally function. Steppe keeps the focus on mission, ethical governance and solid fiduciary practices by listening to each perspective, summarizes what's been stated and sets out a course based on consensus. At Vista Hill Foundation, Steppe has overseen a period of stable, steady growth in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder treatment and support for children, teens and families. At Mental Health America San Diego, Steppe championed the Father2Child program to members of underserved communities, including Southeast San Diego. As board chairman at Gompers Preparatory Academy, Steppe has maintained a lead role with students, parents and faculty. Steppe has always been forthright and a constant warrior to do what is right for each student to experience academic success.



PAT SULLIVAN
CEO
Pat Sullivan Consulting LLC

Pat Sullivan is a founding advisor of Cyber Center of Excellence, a San Diego-based nonprofit that mobilizes businesses, academia and government to grow the regional cyber economy and create a more secure digital community for all. Previously he served as the executive director for the Naval Information Warfare Systems Command. Under his leadership, CCOE's significant accomplishments include partnering with the city of San Diego to help open the San Diego Regional Cyber Lab in 2022. Additionally, CCOE's Women in Cyber Advisory Group works in collaboration with partners to offer Girl Scouts the opportunity to earn three cybersecurity badges and learn about cyber careers. He served on the board of directors for the San Diego Regional EDC from 2016-20, has served on the board of directors for the San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence since 2015 and the advisory board at UCSD for Electrical and Computer Engineering from 2001-18.



CHRISTIAN TRESSE
Principle
Bernstein Private Wealth Management

Christian Tresse has been in the finance industry for 31 years and currently manages \$3 billion in client assets. Tresse currently sits on the foundation board and investment committee of Rady Children's Hospital San Diego. As a Curebound board director, Tresse has helped develop key initiatives to increase funding for cancer research in San Diego. To further support his passion for Curebound's mission, he joined the Founders Fund to support the immediate success and long-term growth of the organization. As the chairperson of the Padres Pedal the Cause board, he has helped grow the organization within the community year after year. Under his leadership, the 2023 Padres Pedal event is expected to raise more than \$3.2 million for collaborative cancer research. He serves on Curebound's development committee which helped Curebound secure more than \$14 million in philanthropy gifts in 2022.



Congratulations to:

Adriana Brunner!

Top 50 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence in San Diego

Thank you for being an inspiration to us and for making a positive difference in the San Diego community. We are so proud to have you on our team!

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CONGRATULATIONS TO JENNIFER BARNES

On her recognition as a Nonprofit Board Leader of Influence by the San Diego Business Journal!



Optima Office is honored to receive this award. Supporting the non-profit community is important to us and we pride ourselves in our culture of service over self. If you are a non-profit that needs accounting or HR services, please call us. If you mention this ad, we will donate two hours of pro-bono support to your organization!

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KRIS VIRTUE

Head, Global Information Security and Risk Management
Qualcomm

Kris Virtue is a founding officer and board member of Cyber Center of Excellence (CCOE), a San Diego-based nonprofit that mobilizes businesses, academia and government to grow the regional cyber economy and create a more secure digital community for all. He is head of global information security and risk management at Qualcomm, where he oversees the organization's cybersecurity and threat management team. Virtue played a role in CCOE's partnership with the city of San Diego to help open the San Diego Regional Cyber Lab in 2022. CCOE, San Diego Workforce Partnership and San Diego Regional EDC convened employers, identified entry and feeder roles, and welcomed MiraCosta College, National University, NFAR, San Diego City College and San Diego Continuing Education as the preferred providers for CyberHire, a program helping 185 underrepresented San Diegans join the cybersecurity field.



DR. INA VON BER

President & CEO
Ambassadorial Roundtable

Dr. Ina von Ber has worked in international relations and diplomacy for 22 years. Von Ber devised the first global cybersecurity agreement for embassy communication, focused on initiating exchange of information between embassies with limited staff and resources. She built her reputation on an ability to attract outstanding executives, management teams and boards of directors, advising on corporate governance. With a focus on expansion, she helped CEOs capitalize on scalable corporate social responsibility portfolios, while engaging media in partnerships and driving worldwide organizational outreach. Von Ber has served on the Orange County World Affairs Council Board of Trustees, the Aerospace Medical Association, Rotary WG Board and others. In her career, she has capitalized on scalable corporate social responsibility portfolios, pioneered executive, academic and cultural diplomacy programs and created the opportunity for underprivileged students to meet with foreign diplomats and learn about travel, foreign countries and diplomacy.



EVAN WAHL

Director, Project Management & Site Strategy
Catalent Pharma Solutions

Evan Wahl has worked in the biotech/pharmaceutical business for more than seven years. Wahl has made a tremendous impact on San Diego County and Southern California through his leadership and volunteerism through Rotary, the San Diego Food Bank and Catalent. He also works with businesses as a board member for the North San Diego Business Chamber. A retired Marine, Wahl has mentored veterans and many others in need, recently sponsoring and speaking at the San Diego Military Summit. Wahl in just seven years has made a positive impact with the life science community, with biotech and other companies seeking out Catalent San Diego. Wahl has been a Strategy Team advisor in 2021, 2022 and 2023 for San Diego Women's Week. Wahl has led the Catalent San Diego Cares Committee in philanthropy. With more than 700 volunteer hours, Wahl has helped raise more than \$75,000 in donations to multiple organizations.



Congratulations Gary Levitt

On behalf of our Board of Directors, donors, staff, and youth, congratulations on being named a **Top Nonprofit Board Leader of Influence.**

Thank you, Gary, for building Great Futures at Boys & Girls Club of San Marcos!

GREAT FUTURES START HERE



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF SAN MARCOS



www.boysgirlsclubsm.org

PBO Advisory Group®

Finance | HR | Operations | Compliance

Congratulations to our Consulting CFO

Rick Dahlseid

on being named among the San Diego Business Journal's 2023 Nonprofit Board Leaders of Influence.

We're proud of all the work you do for our clients and community.



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ROBIN WATKINS
Library Technician-Acquisitions
San Diego Community College

Robin Watkins is co-chair, California Schools Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association and has 10 years of service as a volunteer board member. Watkins is a passionate advocate for ensuring public sector members receive the highest quality healthcare at the lowest possible cost. She spearheaded the development of innovative holistic healthcare resource centers that help members get the services they need to achieve their optimal well-being. The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion last year recognized VEBA nationally as a Healthy Person 2030 Champion. In 2022, through effective negotiation, Watkins led the VEBA board to deliver an annual renewal cost that saved participating public sector employers more than \$20 million without sacrificing any member benefits. During her tenure on the board, VEBA has saved the participating public sector employers more than \$250 million. She also serves as the vice president, district office for the American Federation of Teachers, Local 1931.



BREE WONG
Manager, Business Development
PCL Construction Services, Inc.

Bree Wong is a native San Diegan and community-focused construction professional dedicated to bettering San Diego through sustainable, well-thought-out developments and strategic alliances with developers and consultant teams. In her first year at PCL Construction Services, she sourced and secured more than \$1 billion worth of new project opportunities throughout San Diego County. Wong is passionate about sustainability, philanthropy, community planning, community health, social equity and affordable housing. She sits on the boards of the San Diego Housing Federation, San Diego Architectural Foundation, International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering and the University of Riverside Design Thinking Advisory Board. She has served as president of Commercial Real Estate Women San Diego and the Society of Marketing Professional Services. She also serves the ULI San Diego/Tijuana Chapter as the NEXT committee co-chair and is alumna of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce LEAD Impact Class of 2022.



DAN YATES
CEO
Endeavor Bank

Dan Yates is CEO of Endeavor Bank, which he co-founded. He also helped found Regents Bank. Yates is board president of the Conrad Prebys Foundation, where he has worked with fellow board members to recruit a CEO, helped the interim executive in making key operational decisions, joined fellow board members on grantee site visits and in making decisions for more than \$100 million in grants to more than 200 grantees, served on the investment committee and helped select an outsourced chief investment officer. He previously served on numerous nonprofit boards including the Boys & Girls Club of San Diego, the San Diego Opera, New Village Arts, the San Diego Police Officers Foundation and Western Bankers Association. He also serves on the boards of The Entrepreneurs Organization, California Community Banking Network and American Bankers Association Community Bankers Council. Yates can be reached at dyates@bankendeavor.com or 858-230-5185

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

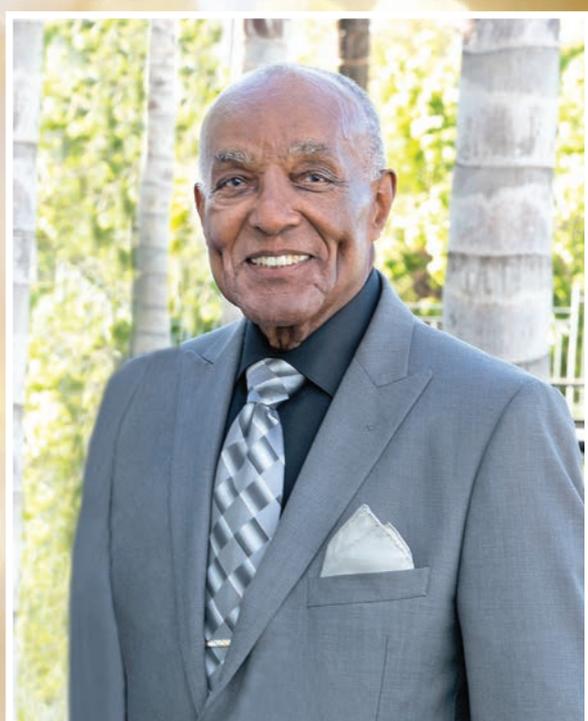
NONPROFIT BOARD LEADERS of INFLUENCE

TOP 50
2023
HONOREE



CONGRATULATIONS
UWSD BOARD MEMBER
TONY RUSSELL!

Thank you for your contributions to UWSD and our San Diego County community.

Congratulations
Cecil H. Steppe

You are OUR board leader of influence!
With admiration and gratitude from your colleagues.





Stronger Families...Brighter Futures

