



**DEBRA AITKEN**  
CEO  
Transom



**COLLEEN ANDERSON**  
Executive Director  
San Diego Tourism  
Marketing District



**DR. RANJEETA BASU**  
Professor of Economics  
Cal State San Marcos



**AMY BRUTTO**  
Principal  
Marsh McLennan Agency



**PAMELA CAMACK**  
Principal | Senior Living/  
Wellness Studio Leader  
SGPA Architecture and  
Planning



**CLARA CARTER**  
Founder and CEO  
Women in Tourism and  
Hospitality



**MARY CHEEKS**  
President and General  
Manager  
Jamul Casino



**TAMATHA CLEMENS**  
Partner  
Clemens Warren, LLP



**DR. SUNITA  
'SUNNY' COOKE**  
Superintendent/President  
MiraCosta College



**DR. ADELA DE LA  
TORRE**  
President  
San Diego State University



**MONIQUE DUMAIS-  
CHRISOPE**  
Senior Vice President, Chief  
Information Officer  
Encore Capital Group



**LAURIE FISHER**  
Founder and CEO  
LMA Marketing and  
Advertising



**CATHY GONZALES**  
Office Managing Partner  
KPMG



**MINERVA GONZALEZ**  
Program Director and  
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Cal State San Marcos



**JUDITH A. HABERT**  
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief  
San Diego Woman Magazine



**AMANDA HARRIS**  
Partner  
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm  
& Smith LLP



**STACEY HROUNTAS**  
CEO  
Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical  
Centers



**PATRICIA JUZA**  
Associate Dean, Executive  
Director of Student Affairs  
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**JESSICA KALLOCH**  
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**MARIE BURKE KENNY**  
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**JULIE LOWEN**  
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**RACHEL LUIS Y PRADO**  
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**AMY MCNAMARA**  
Principal/Partner  
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**PATRICIA MELZER**  
President and Founder  
A Passion for Care

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**DIANE DEE NAVARRO**  
Vice President of Operations  
Westmont Living



**SAUNDRA PELLETIER**  
CEO  
Evofem Biosciences



**REGINA A. PETTY**  
Partner, Chief Diversity  
Officer  
Fisher Phillips



**CHÉRI PIERRE**  
CEO  
Computers 2 Kids



**DANETTE ROBERTS**  
Area Finance Officer  
Southern California  
Permanente Medical Group



**DR. NANCY  
ROHLAND-HEINRICH**  
Vice Chancellor, Communications  
and Community Engagement  
National University System



**MIA ROSEBERRY**  
Executive Director  
Wounded Warrior Homes



**DEBRA ROSEN**  
President/CEO  
North San Diego Business  
Chamber



**CHRISTINA ROUSH**  
Managing Principal San  
Diego and Nevada  
Cushman & Wakefield



**PAM SCHULER**  
Marketing Director  
Boutique Recruiting



**DIANA SHAPIRO**  
CEO  
Dynam.AI



**LINDA D. SIERRA**  
Senior Vice President  
Bench International



**DEANNA SMITH**  
President | CEO  
Deanna's Gluten Free



**CARRIE STONE**  
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**CAROLYN TAYLOR**  
President, Founding Partner  
Weatherly Asset  
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**KRISTIN TAYLOR**  
Chair, CEO and President  
Imageware



**KRISTIN TILLQUIST**  
Founder  
The SoCal Crypto Collective



**TRACY TING**  
Senior Vice President, Chief  
Human Resources Officer  
Encore Capital Group



**ROBIN TOFT**  
Managing Director  
ZRG Partners, LLC



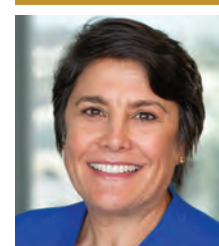
**JESSICA TOTH**  
Executive Director  
Solana Center for  
Environmental Innovation



**STEPHANIE VENN-  
WATSON**  
CEO and Co-founder  
Seraphina Therapeutics



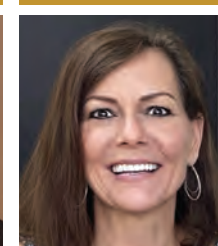
**TAMMY WAHL**  
Principal/Founder  
Denim Is The New Black



**ROBIN WOFFORD**  
Partner  
Wilson Turner Kosmo



**OLGA WORM**  
CEO  
Bekker's Catering



**SHERRY YARDLEY**  
CEO  
Encinitas Chamber of  
Commerce & Visitors  
Center

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**DEBRA AITKEN**  
CEO  
Transom

Debra Aitken has more than 30 years of experience in commercial real estate in the U.S. and Canada. She has helped San Diego companies pivot after launching her commercial move planning and relocation services firm, Transcom in 2020. In 2021, Aitken was endorsed by major office landlord Irvine Company to support their customers by guiding them in creating safe return-to-work plans. Working with Wright Management before Transom, Aitken drove and executed value-add corporate and industrial relocation and FF&E management and created and implemented a leasing and marketing program for the firm's successful, high-end multifamily infill development project. She has been a force in the growth of CREW San Diego, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the careers of women in commercial real estate. She served two terms as its president, chaired its CREWMates Mentorship program and helped grow its platform, served as a mentor and filled other support and advisory roles. [debraaitken@msn.com](mailto:debraaitken@msn.com) (858) 242-7706



**COLLEEN ANDERSON**  
Executive Director  
San Diego Tourism Marketing District

Colleen Anderson is a hospitality industry professional with nearly three decades of experience. Anderson's leadership was crucial to helping navigate the tourism industry's recovery following pandemic shutdowns. She was a bridge for city and tourism industry leaders and played a pivotal role in the timely release of \$15 million in Tourism Marketing District reserve funds. These funds allowed strategic destination marketing to launch immediately once leisure travel re-opened, which helped put San Diego in the top three U.S. travel destinations and first in the western region through Labor Day 2021. Anderson has overseen a robust education and outreach communications program, Tourism Matters, designed to engage with hotel leaders, industry employees and city leaders, helping deepen the understanding of the critical role that the SDTMD plays in the economic health of the tourism industry and the benefit tourism provides to San Diego residents. Anderson helps mentor the next generation of hospitality students by speaking to them about hospitality careers and providing hands-on experience.



**DR. RANJEETA BASU**  
Professor of Economics  
Cal State San Marcos

Dr. Ranjeeta Basu joined CSUSM in 1994 as an assistant professor of economics, earning the rank of full professor in 2010. Basu was co-chair of CSUSM's Strategic Planning Committee, charged with seeing that the university's campus community is dismantling barriers and is committed to a place of true belonging for every student. The committee's efforts led to a recently launched new strategic plan. She serves as co-chair of CSUSM's Sexual Harassment Taskforce, which is reviewing policies, procedures and training as well as recommending strategies to improve the communication and transparency in these areas. Basu leads a mindfulness practice group on campus, helping to foster a community of awareness and appreciation for the experiences of others through contemplative practices, pedagogy and research. She helped lead and direct CSUSM's cluster-hire initiative, which ensures that faculty of color have a community of peers to help build their research interests and pedagogical concerns.



**AMY BRUTTO**  
Principal  
Marsh McLennan Agency

Amy Brutto has 35 years in the healthcare/ insurance industries. Brutto has a strong background in insurance and risk management and works directly with clients by providing strategic guidance and counsel in the areas of property, casualty and executive liability. She specializes in client retention and business development. She has ranked No. 3 in top female business insurance producer/sales professional in MMA's West region, and in the top 10 nationally. She is ranked No. 13 in MMA's West region with \$4.7 million in revenue in 2021. Brutto assisted her clients in obtaining more than \$200 million in claims recovery primarily in the areas of event cancellation due to COVID-19, cyber liability and medical professional liability claims. She was nominated for a "Boys to Men" grant for Barney & Barney Foundation, the charitable foundation of MMA West, and won the largest grant award of \$50,000. She is a board member for the Special Olympics of Southern California. [amy.brutto@marshm-ma.com](mailto:amy.brutto@marshm-ma.com) (619) 871-0852



**PAMELA CAMACK**  
Principal | Senior Living/Wellness Studio  
Leader  
SGPA Architecture and Planning

Pamela Camack is the director of operations at SGPA Architecture and Planning's San Diego headquarters office, overseeing staffing, recruiting, project standards, quality assurance, staff evaluations, computer equipment and software and firm management. She is the San Diego Region Committee Chair for LeadingAge California, advocating for quality, not-for-profit senior living and care. She leads the committee that organizes educational programs and networking for local Senior Living organizations and LeadingAge members. She oversaw the completion of Family Health Centers of San Diego's second Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly Center and Family Counseling Clinic in Oceanside. Camack volunteers her time to work with Kearny High students to motivate them into pursuing careers in the Architecture, Construction and Engineering industry. Camack is a subject matter expert for the California Architects Board, assisting the Office of Professional Examination Services in the development of the California Supplemental Exam for architectural candidate licensure. [pcamack@sgpa.com](mailto:pcamack@sgpa.com) (619) 297-0131



**CLARA CARTER**  
Founder and CEO  
Women in Tourism and Hospitality

Clara Carter developed the organization WITH from the ground up five years ago. She started Multi-Cultural Convention Services Network Inc. (MCCSN) from scratch with a small amount of seed money from San Diego Tourism Marketing District 15 years ago. MCCSN is a woman-owned DBE-certified business that provides global hotel sourcing, event management and consulting, services to associations, corporations and leisure travel clients. With more than 20 years as a hospitality industry trailblazer, Carter's programs and events have generated millions of tourism dollars and fostered diversity and inclusion in San Diego. She created a national conference for Women in Tourism & Hospitality set for Sept. 8-9. Carter serves on the Congressional Black Caucus Institute. She was selected by the California State Assembly and Assemblymember Shirley Weber, presented an award and certificate of recognition for the work that she does in the field of business in the 79th Assembly District. She has been ranked among the most influential people in the meetings industry by Successful Meetings Magazine. [clara@sdwith-it.com](mailto:clara@sdwith-it.com) (619) 265-2561



**MARY CHEEKS**  
President and General Manager  
Jamul Casino

Mary Cheeks has 30 years in the casino gaming industry. She has risen to the top of the casino management ladder, as a casino president and general manager, a feat accomplished by only a small percentage of women. Cheeks has demonstrated her expertise in guiding Jamul Casino to become a regional leader in one of the nation's most competitive Indian gaming markets and has overseen two successful refinances of the casino during the pandemic, setting up the Jamul Casino and Jamul Indian Village tribe for long-term financial success. Cheeks developed and implemented several growth strategies, including opening a new Poker Room; opening The Rooftop event venue; and renovating Jamul Marketplace and the High Limit VIP rooms. She has overseen annual campaigns to support breast cancer research and veterans organizations. Since the pandemic, she has also prioritized supporting healthcare workers with donations to Sharp Grossmont Hospital, Southern Indian Health Council, Inc., and Indian Health Council, Inc. [Mary.Cheeks@jamulcasinosd.com](mailto:Mary.Cheeks@jamulcasinosd.com) (619) 315-2250



**TAMATHA CLEMENS**  
Partner  
Clemens Warren, LLP

Tamatha Clemens has been in the legal field for 24 years. She began her legal career at a nonprofit where she assisted victims of domestic violence, then went on to work for the San Diego District Attorney's office where she worked in the department assisting parents obtain and enforce child support orders for children. Clemens took an associate position and mentorship beneath one of the most well respected and nationally recognized litigators, Sandra Joan Morris, working under Morris for 14 years before going to one of San Diego's oldest and most respected litigation law firms, Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek. Six years later, Clemens started her own law firm with another attorney. Since opening, Clemens has litigated and negotiated some of the larger dissolution and family law cases in San Diego. Clemens has previously volunteered with the Lawyers Club of San Diego. She has also served as a volunteer in gathering donations of backpacks and school supplies for children in need. Clemens currently volunteers and serves on the board of directors for a youth sports league in Santee. [Tamatha@clemenswarren.com](mailto:Tamatha@clemenswarren.com) (619) 930-9390



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**DR. SUNITA 'SUNNY' COOKE, PH.D.**  
*Superintendent/President*  
MiraCosta College

**D**r. Sunita "Sunny" Cooke has been in higher education for nearly 30 years. Cooke chaired a statewide Strong Workforce Taskforce leading to California legislative changes and a state investment of more than \$260 million a year since 2017 for innovations and expansions in community college workforce programs meeting regional economic needs. Under Cooke's leadership, MiraCosta College's mission to provide innovative teaching, learning and support services was recognized by The Aspen Institute as one of 30 colleges eligible to compete for a \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. In December 2021, *Diverse Magazine* said MiraCosta ranked in the top 4% of institutions in serving total minority students earning an associate degree; MiraCosta also ranked in the top 3% in serving Hispanic students earning an associate degree. In keeping with the school's commitment to becoming a racially just organization, Cooke serves as a regional leader for inclusive economic development to increase completion for its diverse student body and build relationships between higher education and business. sunny.cooke@miracosta.edu (760) 795-6610



**DR. ADELA DE LA TORRE**  
*President*  
San Diego State University

**A**dela de la Torre serves as SDSU's president, overseeing a campus with more than 35,000 students and 9,700 faculty and staff. SDSU obtains more than \$145 million annually in external research funding and is also designated as a Hispanic serving institution. De la Torre leads a community that is supported by an annual budget of nearly \$1 billion for SDSU and its auxiliaries. She has championed and led the acquisition, construction and advancement of one of the largest public-private developments in the California State University system – the 166-acre SDSU Mission Valley campus and Innovation District. De la Torre is the first woman and first Latina to serve as president of SDSU. She began her tenure in June 2018 and has demonstrated expertise in public-private partnerships, diversity and inclusion and STEM education. The granddaughter of Mexican immigrants, de la Torre holds appreciation for cultural traditions, the importance of family, hard work and the transformative power of education. president@sdsu.edu (619) 594-5201



**MONIQUE DUMAIS-CHRISOPE**  
*Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer*  
Encore Capital Group

**M**onique Dumais-Chrisope has worked in the IT industry for more than 20 years. Throughout the pandemic, her leadership has shined through with the company operating seamlessly through technology, allowing colleagues around the world to continue extending support to consumers while staying connected to each other. She helped in the migration of 4,000 employees to a remote work environment with zero impacts to the business, followed by a successful return-to-office while ensuring company assets were secured and current without business interruption. A C-suite female leader, Dumais-Chrisope is an advocate for women pursuing careers in the IT field. She is co-champion for the company's Women@Encore and Allies, a company Employee Resource Group with four key pillars – Fellowship, Connections, Developing Female Talent and Community involvement. She joined SIM San Diego and is a member of the virtual roundtable committee bringing relevant topics to technology leaders in the San Diego area.



**LAURIE FISHER**  
*Founder and CEO*  
LMA Marketing and Advertising

**L**aurie Fisher has spent 35 years in marketing, all in San Diego. Fisher began her career in 1987 at a San Diego radio station while still attending San Diego State University. She has worked for Clear Channel, Jacor Broadcasting, Gannett and KFMB. Fisher opened LMA Marketing and Advertising in 2004 and has remained in business since. LMA experienced growth in 2021 and into 2022. In that time LMA has seen a 14% growth in business and 100% employee retention with no layoffs. Fisher does pro bono work and donates time and resources to nonprofits including Shabbat San Diego, Second Chance, Classic for Kids, the Chamber of Purpose, The Kindness of Initiative and the Clarity Foundation. Fisher pushed through 2021 and early 2022 after losing her father, her 16-year-old dog, her brother-in-law and then her father-in-law. These setbacks served to remind Fisher about how precious life and family are to her. Married with two daughters and three grandchildren, Fisher continues to devote almost all of her free time to her 91-year-old mother.



**Congratulations**

**Linda Sierra**

**Honoree – 2022 Top 50 over 50 Women of Influence**

Thank you for your outstanding efforts in advocating for and placing women and people of color in Life Science executive and board roles.



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**CATHY GONZALES**  
Office Managing Partner  
KPMG

Cathy Gonzales is a certified public accountant, an advisory partner and also the office managing partner for KPMG San Diego. In her current role Gonzales is responsible for the strategic direction and growth of the local market, developing and inspiring more than 350 professionals, delivering exceptional client care and driving the core values of the firm. In addition to her office managing partner role, Gonzales also serves as a lead and client service partner on several of the firm's strategic priority accounts. She has more than 27 years of strong leadership and experience providing advisory services to large global, domestic and mid-market companies across multiple industries. Gonzales is seen as a market and thought leader in supporting clients with risk management, IPO readiness, internal audits and more. She is a board member of the Corporate Directors Forum, incoming co-chair of the San Diego Chapter of Women Corporate Directors and a past board member and finance committee chair for Athena San Diego. [cgonzales@kpmg.com](mailto:cgonzales@kpmg.com)



**MINERVA GONZALEZ**  
Program Director and Principal Investigator  
Cal State San Marcos

Minerva Gonzalez has been in higher education for more than 20 years. Gonzalez has served on the Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Summit Planning Committee to continue the conversations around additional programs and services needed to support the Hispanic population at CSUSM. She secured a grant from the San Diego Foundation to develop virtual workshops for applying to colleges and universities. Her advocacy has included participating on various committees and task forces toward developing an understanding for CSUSM's role as an HSI and the development of goals. Gonzalez has worked with faculty to include cultural validation training throughout their curriculum, which helps students understand themselves and how they fit into CSUSM while allowing them to develop a sense of belonging and community. She was able to institutionalize several programs at CSUSM that started off as grant-funded projects and over the past year she has been focused on applying for HSI grants to continue offering services to Hispanic students.



**JUDITH A. HABERT**  
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief  
San Diego Woman Magazine

Judith A. Habert is the publisher and editor-in-chief of San Diego Woman Magazine and the founder and owner of the San Diego Writing Academy. Habert has an extensive background in publishing, photography and writing and holds a degree in photojournalism with a minor in business from St. John's University in New York. Habert had a desire to give women a voice, and that led her to pursue her dreams through the pages of San Diego Woman Magazine. For 15 years she has also supported more than 200 local charities. Her publication runs a special section called "Under the Colors," highlighting members of the U.S. military. A sought-after speaker, Habert focuses on women's empowerment, surviving obstacles and starting and running a business. Habert's autobiography, "Hey, I'm Italian," shares her story of growing up Italian in New York. The book documents some of the obstacles she has experienced in life, including being kidnapped at the age of 18 and getting bitten on the nose by her dog on the day before her wedding. [editor@sdwomanmagazine.com](mailto:editor@sdwomanmagazine.com) (888) 275-7125



**AMANDA HARRIS**  
Partner  
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP

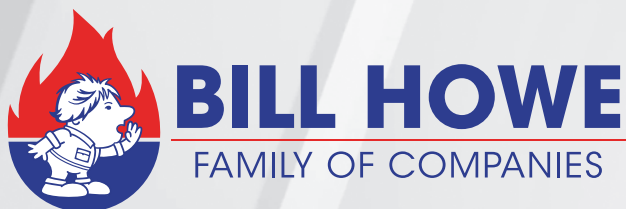
Amanda Harris, partner at Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP, is a change maker who leverages her legal work and volunteerism to change lives every day. A Certified Specialist in Family Law by the State Bar of California, Harris is a dedicated, insightful and compassionate attorney. Her character and her expertise in high-stakes conflict resolution have led clients — from celebrities and professional athletes to Fortune 500 executives, small-business owners and their spouses — to seek out her legal services as they navigate the complexities of the family court system. A Martindale Hubbell AV Preeminent Rated attorney, Harris is known to pay artful attention to detail and strategy in order to deliver positive outcomes to clients — ensuring the best future for both her clients and their families. Passionate about advancing the status of women and minorities in the law and society, Harris mentors female law students and young attorneys. She has served in various leadership roles with the Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego and is a member and past vice president of the Korean American Bar Association of San Diego.



**For being recognized as a Woman of Influence Over 50.**

Congratulations to our incredible **DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, JESSICA KALLOCH**

on being named a San Diego Business Journal 2022 Woman of Influence!



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**STACEY HROUTAS**

CEO  
Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Centers

Stacey Hrountas has more than 30 years of experience in the healthcare industry. As CEO of Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Centers, Hrountas leads a team of more than 2,800 employees dedicated to supporting 700 primary and specialty care physicians and advanced practice providers. She has served on the board of directors of America's Physician Groups for many years and has been an active member of myriad board committees, including the Executive Committee and the CEO Search Committee. She has been invited to speak at APG conferences and serve on many educational conference panels. Hrountas has served on the Integrated Healthcare Association Executive Committee since 2015, playing a pivotal role in representing physician organizations. She has been the North San Diego Chamber Board Chair during the pandemic. Hrountas joined Sharp HealthCare in 1994 and has held several system-wide leadership positions including the CEO of the Sharp HealthCare Accountable Care Organization and vice president of managed care contracts and managed care finance.



**PATRICIA JUZA**

Associate Dean, Executive Director of Student Affairs and International Programs  
UC San Diego, Division of Extended Studies

Patricia Juza has worked in the overlapping industries of higher education and international affairs for nearly 30 years. After a change in leadership at UCSD Extended Studies last year, Juza began overseeing the division's student affairs, adding a new layer to her responsibilities as associate dean of international affairs programs. The new assignment required her to implement ever-changing COVID-19 protocols for the different student populations enrolled in extended studies. Juza advocated for students across programs and age groups, working to ensure each had adequate support based on their specific educational needs. In 2022, at the request of the Ministry of Education of Kazakhstan, Juza developed the Leadership Academy for International Professionals, which provides mid-career high achievers from Kazakhstan with targeted industry classes, guest lectures, leadership and communication seminars, research projects and unpaid internships in the San Diego region. Healthcare professionals, government officials, university leaders, data scientists and business experts are among the first cohort and will learn and gain experience that will benefit their organizations and initiatives in Kazakhstan. pjuza@ucsd.edu (858) 246-4878



**JESSICA KALLOCH**

Director of Business Development  
Bill Howe Plumbing, Heating & Air and Restoration Flood

Jessica Kalloch has been in business development for 12 years. She is a 2021 BOLD Advanced Leadership graduate. She organized a community outreach food drive and raised close to \$5,000 through the San Diego Building Engineers Association in 2020. She also organized a Warrior Foundation collection of needed items in 2021 for the holidays. Kalloch is integral to the company's customer acquisition and positive customer relations. Kalloch created her role and led her division from the ground up in 2010. The first quarter in 2022, she brought in close to half a million dollars in sales profit. Kalloch is continually focused on the future of the industry and its promotion and is active in San Diego Building Owners & Managers Association and an Industry Partner of Institute of Real Estate Management San Diego. She sits on the San Diego Building Engineers Association board as its community outreach chair and is also on the board of the San Diego County Lodging Association. jessica@billhowe.com (619) 804-7157



**MARIE BURKE KENNY**

Partner and Management Committee Member  
Procopio

Marie Burke Kenny has been in the field of law for 26 years. She has held numerous leadership positions at Procopio, including several years as the head of the firm's Labor & Employment team. Since 2017 Kenny has served as one of five attorneys on Procopio's Management Committee, elected by her fellow partner. Kenny was a stalwart figure of strength as Procopio found itself adjusting to a new world in March 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic forced lockdowns and this year has provided valuable leadership and wisdom as Procopio has returned to its various physical offices. Kenny has been a champion of diversity, equity and inclusion both in the firm and in the broader legal community. She has long served on the firm's DEI Committee and played an active role in encouraging internal changes in firm procedures that led Diversity Lab to recognize Procopio in 2020 with Mansfield Rule Certification, and its highest recognition, Mansfield Plus. Kenny works with many nonprofit organizations to help them navigate compliance with myriad complicated employment laws. marie.kenny@procopio.com (619) 525-3876



**Building Up Women for Success**



**Our Strong Foundation is the Result of Many**

This honor from the SDBJ is accepted with pride and dedicated to the amazing team of WOMEN I have had the pleasure of working with throughout my career in early childhood development.

Children's Paradise is dedicated to creating a place where WOMEN support other WOMEN by expanding career opportunities and economic equality. We are a powerful, courageous group of WOMEN on a mission to improve the livelihoods of each other. Our jobs reward us every day with love, appreciation and support from the children and families we serve.

We continue to work tirelessly—creating developmentally appropriate curriculum, beautiful centers and a network of family support. Operational systems help our schools sparkle and shine while providing healthy, safe and professional environments. Employee wellness programs also encourage us to take ownership in the work we do.

Congratulations LADIES!



**Julie Lowen**  
Founder  
Children's Paradise

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**JULIE LOWEN**

*Founder and CEO*

Children's Paradise Preschool & Infant Center

Julie Lowen has worked in the early education industry for more than 30 years. Led by Lowen, Children's Paradise was awarded \$19.4 million by the California Department of Social Services Child Care and Development Division to expand early education centers and school-age care programs in San Diego. When all other schools in California shut their doors in 2020 and 2021, Lowen's school stayed open, helping care for the children of hundreds of essential service workers. Lowen is chairman of the Smarty Patch Foundation, a non-profit that provides financial and supportive "patches" to promote continuous learning of children in challenging situations, ensuring there are no gaps in a child's development. The Smarty Patch Foundation has given more than \$600,000 in scholarships annually the past several years. Children's Paradise is the regional and state lead affiliate leader for the Fathers and Families Coalition of America, a nonprofit organization that helps people globally with strengthening family, child development, father engagement strategies and professional development. info@childrensparadise.com (760) 407-8500



**RACHEL LUIS Y PRADO**

*CFO and Chief Academic Officer*  
Workshops for Warriors

Rachel Luis y Prado has led data research and market analysis teams to significant success since 1997. In 2014, she co-founded the nonprofit Workshops for Warriors and has served as chief financial officer and chief academic officer since the organization's inception. Workshops for Warriors has trained more than 1,000 veterans and transitioning service members for careers in advanced manufacturing who have earned more than 11,000 nationally recognized certifications. Luis y Prado co-founded VetPowered, LLC which, staffed by veterans, provides machinery repair and machining/fabrication services to support the growth of the nonprofit Workshops for Warriors. Since starting up the organization in 2014, Luis y Prado has been instrumental in the growth of Workshops for Warriors' total gross income from \$1.2 million to \$7.4 million in 2021. Under her leadership, grant revenue increased to \$1.9 million, including a wide variety of support from government agencies, private foundations and multinational corporations. She can be reached at r@wfw.org



**TONI MCMAHON**

*Regional Marketing Manager*  
Fusco Engineering, Inc.

Toni McMahon has worked in the construction design and build industries for more than 20 years. She was on the board of directors for the Commercial Real Estate Women San Diego, promoting women through industry nominations, publications, mentorship and speaking opportunities. She was behind the CREW San Diego national award-winning newsletter in 2016. She is a liaison advisor on the group's marketing committee. She led CREW International, a mentoring and scholarship program for the CREW chapter in San Diego, connecting with women and girls at the university and high school levels, encouraging them to consider a career in commercial real estate. McMahon chaired the Urban Land Institute (Tijuana/San Diego) Women's Leadership Initiative in 2018 and 2019 and remains an advisor to the committee, promoting women in the real estate development arena. McMahon serves on the St. Elizabeth Seton Women's Auxiliary, which raises funds with community events. She serves on the board of directors of Home Start, which assists mothers with finding housing, work and childcare. tcmahon@fuscoe.com 760-822-2338



**AMY MCNAMARA**

*Principal/Partner*  
Urban Property Group

Amy McNamara has a proven track record of success in the area of owner occupied commercial real estate, private client real estate investments and infill/mixed use developments. She has successfully sold properties throughout Southern California over the past 30-plus years and takes a consultative approach to helping owner/users and investors succeed with a long-term investment strategy. A founding partner with Urban Property Group, So Cal, she helped grow Urban Property Group to more than \$1.5 billion in transactions. She was named a Women of Influence in Commercial Real Estate in 2022 by the San Diego Business Journal. McNamara also helped grow and strengthen the Boys & Girls Club of Carlsbad, despite COVID-19 challenges. She is on the boards of Meals on Wheels (since 2012), Christian Surfers (since 2020) and the Boys & Girls Club of Carlsbad, for which she was awarded "Most Valuable Board Member" in 2021.



**PAVING THE WAY**

Congratulations to Dr. Ranjeeta Basu, a professor of economics who has served in numerous critical administrative leadership roles at CSUSM, and Minerva Gonzalez, the university's program director for Pathways to Academic Success & Opportunities (PASO) and founding director of its College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), for being recognized as two of our region's most influential women over 50! Their commitment, passion and leadership are helping CSUSM transform the lives of our students and our region.



**Ranjeeta Basu, Ph.D.**

*Professor of Economics and Founding Director of the Center for Contemplative Practices*



**Minerva Gonzalez**

*Program Director for Pathways to Academic Success & Opportunities (PASO) and the Founding Director of the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)*

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California State University  
SAN MARCOS

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**PATRICIA MELZER**  
*President and Founder  
A Passion for Care*

Patricia Melzer has been doing in-home caregiving for seniors for 12 years. She has created a culture of comprehensive care management so family members understand their loved ones are well taken care of. The company got its start by bootstrapping, and has grown every year since its beginning. Melzer recruited and developed a management team including director of care management, director of operations, scheduler, recruiter and office help. She ensures the quality of home care by recruiting only the best caregivers who provide comprehensive care management. Melzer successfully guided the company through the challenges of Covid-19 without any service interruption. After 23 years in the computer industry, Melzer was motivated by personal experience. After watching chronic conditions, dementia, and surgeries take over the life of her once very intelligent and lively mother-in-law, she saw the enormity of need for better in-home care. Melzer has been an Aging in America Conference Speaker four years in a row and also served as chair of the San Diego Regional Home Care Council. pat@apassionforcare.com (858) 798-5005



**DIANE DEE NAVARRO**  
*Vice President of Operations  
Westmont Living*

Diane Dee Navarro has 30 years of experience in the senior care industry and is a certified director of assisted living. Her career has continued to grow into positions of increasing responsibility and authority, all as she has raised twin boys. After her sons graduated from high school and started college, Navarro began to mentor new executive directors. That ultimately resulted in her promotion to a regional operations executive. Navarro's servant-leader approach has made an impact on the staff at Westmont Living in La Jolla, and she was recently promoted to vice president of operations overseeing the entire portfolio of communities in California and Oregon. Navarro oversaw the opening of two assisted living/memory care communities during the middle of the pandemic. She also provided emotional support to managers and front-line staff during the tougher times of the pandemic. Navarro coordinated vaccine clinics at several assisted living communities within Westmont Living and coached underperforming communities to thrive in the markets they serve.



**SAUNDRA PELLETIER**  
*CEO  
Evoform Biosciences*

Saundra Pelletier has been in the biotech industry for more than 25 years. As CEO of Evoform Biosciences, Inc., a San Diego-based company revolutionizing healthcare with game-changing products that are meeting the unmet needs of millions of women, Pelletier is responsible for the launch of Evoform's highly anticipated first commercial product: Phexxi, the only FDA-approved, non-hormonal, on-demand contraceptive. Pelletier is also leading the development of EVO100, Evoform's investigational product currently in a Phase 3 clinical trial for the prevention of chlamydia and gonorrhea in women, two common sexually transmitted infections for which there are no prescription products available. Since 2015, she has been responsible for Evoform's rapid growth and evolution, including the company's transition to the public market in January 2018 and multiple equity financing rounds that have raised \$491 million. Pelletier in 2020 joined the board of directors of TRACON Pharmaceuticals, a San Diego-based clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of novel targeted cancer therapeutics; she is the chair of the Governance Committee and a member of the Audit Committee.



**REGINA A. PETTY**  
*Partner, Chief Diversity Officer  
Fisher Phillips*

Regina A. Petty is a partner at Fisher Phillips, a national labor and employment law firm. She represents clients before state and federal courts throughout the country at the trial and appellate court levels and in arbitrations. She advises private and public employers on workplace issues. Petty's professional distinctions include The Best Lawyers in America in labor law – management, Lawdragon's Leading Corporate Employment Lawyers of America and the Los Angeles Daily Journal's Top 75 Women Litigators in California. Petty has earned diversity awards from the California Association of Black Lawyers and the San Diego County Bar Association. She received the Lawyers Club of San Diego Belva M. Lockwood Award and the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association Thurgood Marshall Award. Petty serves as Chief Diversity Officer for Fisher Phillips' 36 offices, more than 500 attorneys and more than 500 staff. In this role, she provides leadership, vision and strategic direction to advance the diversity and inclusion values of the company. rpetty@fisherphillips.com (858) 597-9600



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50 OVER 50  
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CEO & Founder

**Laurie Fisher**

for being recognized  
as a SDBJ  
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50 over 50

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**CHÉRI PIERRE**  
CEO  
Computers 2 Kids

Chéri Pierre channeled her commitment and passion for advocating for the technologically underserved to lead Computers 2 Kids to become the top computer refurbisher in the nation, distributing more than 85,000 computers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her commitment and passion for advocating for the technologically underserved, along with creating strong partnerships within the community bridges the digital divide by providing computers locally and nationally to the digitally disenfranchised, helping reduce educational inequities. Through her leadership in the digital inequity sector, Pierre secured San Diego as one of 10 cities in the U.S. for a device access project through AT&T and Digitunity, from October 2021 to October 2023. Pierre developed a Technology Assistance Program mobile app, ensuring anyone with a phone has access to low-cost internet and devices. In partnership with the Lucky Duck Foundation, she created an employment and on-the-job training program in technology, tech support, and warehouse operations, expanding C2K's reach in helping people experiencing homelessness into a productive work environment. info@c2sdk.org (858) 200-9790



**DANETTE ROBERTS**  
Area Finance Officer

Southern California Permanente Medical Group

Danette Roberts has worked for Kaiser Permanente for 44 years, overseeing financial operations for over 1,500 Southern California Permanente Medical Group physicians. She meets monthly with medical group administrators to review physician and ancillary payroll, time off, sick leave, indirect work, redeployment of physician and ancillary staff. Roberts is considered a critical "sphere of influence" at Kaiser Permanente San Diego, advocating the importance of access, service and quality for the more than 630,000 lives in San Diego by creating ownership for the medical group. Affordable healthcare to patients is paramount and the physicians control costs to help maintain affordability. She has a unique ability to collect and consolidate information in ways that translate to meaningful connections with the people she works with: physicians, nurses, administrators, staffers, patients and their families. Roberts has advocated successfully for equitable, inclusive healthcare services access (colon cancer screening) in the South County San Diego through physician and ancillary staffing needs and outside contracting.



**DR. NANCY ROHLAND-HEINRICH.**  
Vice Chancellor, Communications and Community Engagement  
National University System

Nancy Rohland-Heinrich has dedicated her professional career to encouraging educational opportunities and increased access for diverse populations of learners through innovative delivery systems in higher education and K-12. Rohland-Heinrich has held a wide scope of leadership positions at the National University System including several vice chancellor roles, executive vice president, senior vice president and president of pre-college programs. Her oversight has been in marketing, communications, student services, enrollment management, academics, community affairs, corporate outreach, military affairs, online learning and regional operations. She has served on numerous boards including LEAD San Diego, USS Midway Museum, USO San Diego, San Diego Bowl Game Association, Classroom of the Future Foundation, Junior Achievement, AFP, San Diego Council on Literacy and MANA. She is a graduate of Leadership California, LEAD San Diego's Impact and Influence programs and has been recognized in the San Diego Council on Literacy Hall of Fame, Tribute to Women and the San Diego Business Journal Women Who Mean Business Awards. nrohland@nu.edu (760) 484-1486



**MIA ROSEBERRY**  
Executive Director  
Wounded Warrior Homes

Mia Roseberry has been in the nonprofit industry for 13 years. A survivor of a serious automobile accident when she was a child that left her with permanent hearing loss, Roseberry understands first-hand about the effects of mild Traumatic Brain Injury and the effort that it takes to return to a normal life. Her aim in founding Wounded Warrior Homes is to alleviate the growing stress of unsheltered veterans in California by providing transitional housing to those with Post Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. San Diego has one of the highest populations of veterans, and also one of the highest number of homeless veterans. Wounded Warrior Homes provides them with a safe environment of support and supplemental services to aid them in transitioning to the home front. Roseberry has a background in special education. She has further education and certificates in nonprofit management and planned giving, interpersonal communications for fundraising and developing major gifts. She opened Wounded Warrior Homes' fourth home in March 2022. The Oceanside house is an accessory dwelling unit that will provide transitional housing for post-9/11 veterans.



# CONGRATULATIONS

*Dr. Sunny Cooke*

Superintendent / President  
MiraCosta College



Under your leadership, MiraCosta College...

- Is steadfast in the mission to provide innovative teaching, learning, and support services in an equitable manner which earned MiraCosta College recognition by The Aspen Institute in 2021.
- Initiated innovative programs like a bachelor's degree in Biomanufacturing, Cybersecurity, BrewTech, Online Social Work, and Affordable Housing Management—during the pandemic.
- Was recognized by *Diverse Magazine*, as TOP 4% of institutions serving total minority students earning an associate degree. Additionally, ranking TOP 3% in serving Hispanic students earning an associate degree.





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**DEBRA ROSEN**

*President/CEO*  
North San Diego Business Chamber

**D**ebra Rosen has worked in the nonprofit industry for 17 years. She has been president and CEO of the North San Diego Business Chamber for 13 years. Rosen lobbies for businesses and communities in the San Diego region with an emphasis on job growth, business retention, expansion, equity in the workplace and military transition. She is credited with the turnaround of two underperforming nonprofit organizations through the development and implementation of strategic revenue strategies, restoring program profitability and winning market share in competitive regions. She managed the chamber out of massive debt and led it to being recognized as one of the few Five-Star U.S. Chamber accredited organizations in California — and the only one in San Diego. She led the management team and board in identifying critical issues, reduced and streamlined overhead expenses, paid off enormous debt that carried liens against the organization and increased member retention to a consistent 83% annually. [drosen@sdbusinesschamber.com](mailto:drosen@sdbusinesschamber.com) (858) 922-1766



**CHRISTINA ROUSH**

*Managing Principal San Diego and Nevada*  
Cushman & Wakefield

**C**hristina Roush has been in commercial real estate for more than 30 years. Appointed to the role of managing principal of Cushman & Wakefield's operations in San Diego in April, she oversees the strategic business growth of Cushman & Wakefield's San Diego offices. Roush also serves as Cushman & Wakefield's managing principal for Nevada, a role she's held since mid-2018. Under her guidance, the firm experienced strong, exponential business and revenue growth in Nevada where it is now recognized as a top real estate firm in the state. Roush also leads — and partnered to build — Cushman & Wakefield's Private Capital Group currently in 12 key markets in the western U.S., which transacted more than \$2 billion in 2021. Roush is a board member for the Commercial Real Estate Association – NAIOP. Previously she has served on numerous community, civic and nonprofit boards including Boys & Girls Clubs, the City of Las Vegas Planning Commission and the Downtown Vegas Alliance. [christina.roush@cushwake.com](mailto:christina.roush@cushwake.com) (702) 605-1380



**PAM SCHULER**

*Marketing Director*  
Boutique Recruiting

**P**am Schuler has worked for numerous industries but specializes in marketing and has currently been assisting one of the fastest-growing staffing companies for the last four years. Schuler is responsible for all levels of marketing within Boutique Recruiting, a full-service staffing agency in San Diego. She is a dedicated marketing professional with more than 20 years of experience in the marketing industry. Schuler's career began as a graphic designer at Boutique Recruiting and became its marketing director in January. As a result of her marketing efforts, Schuler has increased the company's annual revenue and her marketing efforts have been instrumental to the growth of Boutique Recruiting. She also introduced campaign creation, analysis and optimization of direct marketing campaigns, including Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn platforms. She has also arranged charitable events at Boutique Recruiting and contributed to the San Diego Humane Society and the San Diego Food Bank.



**DIANA SHAPIRO**

*CEO*  
Dynam.AI

**D**iana Shapiro has been working in the technology and data analytics field for 25 years. Shapiro is CEO of Dynam.AI, an artificial intelligence innovator known for deep data science and advanced analytics products and services that help clients solve industry-related issues. She has led the company in raising \$2 million of capital and recently initiated a \$3 million seed fundraising round. This year Dynam.AI will publicly release its proprietary AI platform, Vizlab, an automated, pro-code workflow solution with machine learning models and tools that apply common-sense physics rules to complex data sets. Vizlab is already available as a tech-enabled service for enterprises; Dynam.AI's data scientists are helping to apply advanced AI solutions to solve complex, real-world problems. Now, Dynam.AI will be making this revolutionary, automated AI development platform available to expert data scientists. Under her leadership, Dynam.AI reached \$1 million in gross sales in 2021 and is on pace to more than triple that in 2022. Shapiro has been a volunteer advocacy ambassador and grant reviewer for Autism Speaks since January 2020.



**Congratulations to  
Stacey Hrountas**

Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Centers celebrates CEO Stacey Hrountas, named one of San Diego's 2022 Women of Influence Over 50.

We are grateful for your outstanding leadership. Your contributions to the industry, our community and Sharp HealthCare help drive our mission to improve the health of those we serve with a commitment to excellence.

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**LINDA D. SIERRA**  
Senior Vice President  
Bench International

Linda D. Sierra's career in life sciences spans 30 years. She is passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion and is an advocate and ally for persons of color and women in executive leadership. She is a founding member of MANA de San Diego's Latina Success Leadership Program, which has helped more than 250 Latinas go through a career development program in partnership with The Center for Creative Leadership and National University. Sierra is a founding member of Biocom's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force, creating a resource center for members to address the issues. Sierra has built and grown Bench International's Bank of Women, meeting with women who are ready for board seats. She also built out the biotechnology market for her first search firm, building a \$2 million biotech market for her company. Sierra acts as a liaison to the Latino community for life sciences. [lsierra@benchinternational.com](mailto:lsierra@benchinternational.com) (858) 255-4733



**DEANNA SMITH**  
President | CEO  
Deanna's Gluten Free

Deanna Smith had never baked a loaf of bread in her life. Her background was in marketing. So when she heard her 3-year-old cousin was put on a gluten-free diet, she went straight away to make her some bread. There was one problem ... not a single culinary school offered gluten-free training. After formulating countless batches of gluten-free 'bricks,' she finally created one the best tasting, truly natural breads in the country. Word of her creations spread. In 2008, Gluten Not Included, Inc. was born. The business, dba Deanna's Gluten Free, is one of the first 100% gluten-free baking companies in the United States with local and national distribution to grocery stores, restaurant chains, ballparks, resorts and vacation destinations. In addition to the bakery, Smith has a tiny farm where she raises chickens, turkeys and ducks, grows organic veggies for her foods and farm stand, and offers food education to K-12 students through her nonprofit, Escondido S.T.E.A.M. Centre. [Deanna@DeannasGF.com](mailto:Deanna@DeannasGF.com)



**CARRIE STONE**  
President  
cStone & Associates

Carrie Stone is president of cStone & Associates, an international firm providing comprehensive executive and board recruiting services. As a champion and pioneer recruiting the best candidates across all identities for clients who believe that diverse teams and boards make better businesses, Stone and her team have greatly influenced the success of many companies ranging from pre-IPO to Fortune 500. She is a sought after and trusted advisor to clients, CEOs and boards, providing insights on complex business issues and strategies for transitions, succession planning, organizational alignment, development, talent acquisition and compensation. Stone co-founded the San Diego Chapter of Women Corporate Directors, a global organization of more than 3,000 women members serving on over 8,000 boards worldwide. Stone is a highly requested mentor, coach, and speaker for forums including the National Association of Corporate Directors. Before cStone & Associates, she served as a venture partner with Enterprise Partners Venture Capital, a \$1.1 billion venture fund. She is a champion for underserved youth and mentors women survivors of human trafficking.



**CAROLYN TAYLOR**  
President, Founding Partner  
Weatherly Asset Management, L.P.

Carolyn Taylor has been working in investment management services for more than 39 years. As president and founding partner of Weatherly Asset Management, she provides comprehensive high-quality investment management services. An engineer, her analytical training was initially put to use as an investment banker in public finance. She managed more than \$1 billion in assets at Neuberger & Berman in New York. She is the heart of Weatherly Asset Management's culture of lifelong learning, ethics, expertise in financial services and team approach to productivity and rewards. She provides opportunities and financial aid for all employees to contribute to their development for mutual growth and success. Taylor earned a Five Star Best Personal Wealth Manager Award from 2012-2022, was named one of Barons Top 1200 Advisors (2021-22) and was a Forbes Top Women Wealth Advisor (2020-22). She has been on the San Diego Women's Foundation and SDWF finance committee and has 12 years of service on San Diego Foundation Investment Committee. [carolyn@weatherlyassetmgt.com](mailto:carolyn@weatherlyassetmgt.com) (858) 259-4507



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**KRISTIN TAYLOR**  
Chair, CEO and President  
Imageware

Kristin Taylor took over at Imageware in 2020 and rebranded and overhauled the company's portfolio of software offerings to be modern, faster and more efficient. Taylor brought in a topnotch management team which has transformed the company into an agile business that can quickly respond to customers and a rapidly changing marketplace. Imageware is a leader in biometric identification and authentication solutions. Shortly after joining Imageware as CEO, she secured a \$2.2 million equity advance as part of a \$10.9 million proposed private placement. Taylor is focused on evolving the company into a biometrics-first identity company and successfully transitioned the business into a SaaS model for recurring revenue. She is a board member of PURE Bioscience, Inc. and in 2017 was a board member of Alternate Health. ktaylor@imageware.io (415) 310-3390



**KRISTIN TILLQUIST**  
Founder  
The SoCal Crypto Collective

Kristin Tillquist has been working in government affairs and economic innovation for more than 20 years. She has held positions as director, state government affairs and innovation policy for the city of San Diego, office of Mayor Kevin Faulconer; and chief of innovation and engagement for the city of San Diego's library system. Tillquist launched her economic development career as chief of staff for Mayor Ronald Loveridge in Riverside. She has overseen funding the creation of two business incubators: cybersecurity "xHive" and San Diego Venture Group's satellite incubator. Tillquist also led exponential growth of Library NExT, a partnership between UC San Diego Extension and the San Diego Library providing STEAM programs for underserved children. She is developing San Diego's cryptocurrency ecosystem to ensure its innovation economy reaps the rewards of its global adoption. SoCalCryptoCollective@gmail.com (562) 760-3766



**TRACY TING**  
Senior Vice President, Chief  
Human Resources Officer  
Encore Capital Group

Tracy Ting has more than 20 years of combined finance and human resource experience. She has enhanced shareholder value through strategic business growth and cultural transformation at multinational companies. Ting was honored in 2021 by Diversity & Leadership as one of California's Most Powerful & Influential Women, was a National Diversity Council Top 100 Diversity Officer, and was named one of the Top 50 HR Professionals. Ting led the successful development and launch of Encore Capital Group's new mission, vision and values in January 2021. It was the company's first enterprise-wide initiative across 10 countries that mobilized global employees to co-create Encore's new values. It had voluntary participation from more than 6,300 employees. She is chair of Encore's Environmental, Social, Governance Steering Committee.



**ROBIN TOFT**  
Managing Director  
ZRG Partners, LLC

Robin Toft has worked in life sciences for more than 20 years. A global life sciences and boardroom diversity leader of ZRG Partners LLC, Toft combines a deep inside knowledge of the life science industry with a passion for building game-changing management teams. Toft has placed hundreds of executives from vice president through CEO and board level at innovation-led companies in the life sciences. A champion of diverse executive teams, Toft has built a reputation for recruiting women and underrepresented candidates into top roles and overcoming unconscious bias in hiring. Prior to founding Toft Group Executive Search in 2010, Robin served more than 20 years as a biotech executive. Toft in 2020 co-founded We Can Rise, Inc., a group committed to inspiring high-potential career women to confidently reach their potential. rtoft@zrgpartners.com (760) 792-6468



**JESSICA TOTH**  
Executive Director  
Solana Center for Environmental  
Innovation

Jessica Toth has worked in environmental sustainability for 18 years. As executive director of Solana Center, Toth leads a nonprofit that influences policy and government, and impacts communities throughout the San Diego region regarding climate change and sustainability. The organization brings environmental education and outreach to communities throughout the San Diego region, holding contracts with 74% of all the area's jurisdictions. In 2021, Solana Center redoubled its efforts to reach First Nation peoples and historically underserved communities. Many elected officials expect Toth to provide the straight facts on practical implementation of meaningful measures affecting climate change. Toth positioned Solana Center to be among the region's experts regarding the recently enacted SB1383 mandate prohibiting food waste from being landfilled. director@solanacenter.org 760-809-1143



CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE C2K TEAM

**Chéri Pierre**

COMPUTERS 2 KIDS CEO

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



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**STEPHANIE VENN-WATSON**  
CEO and Co-founder  
Seraphina Therapeutics

**D**r. Stephanie Venn-Watson has worked as a public health scientist and epidemiologist for 26 years. A veterinary epidemiologist at the CDC for two years, she was founder of CDC's Healthy Pets, Healthy People program, earning her the U.S. Department of Human and Health Service Secretary's Award for Innovations in Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Venn-Watson co-founded Seraphina Therapeutics, which is advancing her discovery of the first essential fatty acid to be found in 90 years, C15:0, which has profound health implications, including greater longevity as well as a decreased risk of cardiovascular disease, heart disease, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, pancreatic cancer, and type 2 diabetes, with \$13.2 million raised in venture financing. She developed a pure and sustainable vegan powder-form ingredient of C15:0 called FA15. Venn-Watson co-founded the National Marine Mammal Foundation.



**TAMMY WAHL**  
Principal/Founder  
Denim Is The New Black

**T**ammy Wahl has created one of the only fashion blogs for women over age 40. Wahl discovered this gap in the fashion industry when she was seeking this input and wasn't finding it anywhere. She had homeschooled both her children until they entered high school and later she decided she wanted something for herself and women in her peer group. With a background in creative writing and more than 15 years of professional photography experience, Wahl bootstrapped this business into the thriving blog that it is today. Her trailblazing efforts have helped thousands of women over 40, nationally and internationally, realize they can still be beautiful, dress chic or sexy, and be the woman that they want to be. Her blog grew to hundreds of thousands of dollars per year in sales and is still growing. Tammy@DenimIsTheNewBlack.com



**ROBIN WOFFORD**  
Partner  
Wilson Turner Kosmo

**R**obin Wofford is a leading business and employment litigator trusted by the nation's largest corporations and local, family-owned businesses to litigate and resolve unfair business practices, antitrust, false advertising, trade secret, franchise, wage, wrongful termination, discrimination and sexual harassment disputes. She has successfully defended appeals, wage and hour and consumer class actions before the Ninth Circuit and state appellate courts. She is a partner in WTK, the largest certified women-owned law firm in San Diego, which leads the industry in hiring a diverse workforce. Chair emeritus of the National Association of Minority and Women-Owned Law Firms, Wofford mentors attorneys to succeed as lawyers and as champions of diversity. Wofford is included in The Best Lawyers in America for Litigation - Labor and Employment.



**OLGA WORM**  
CEO  
Bekker's Catering

**O**lga Worm has been owner and CEO of Bekker's Catering for more than 40 years; the company itself has been around for 64 years and has grown steadily every year since 1958. Worm created ways to pivot and grow the company and serve the community throughout the pandemic through FEMA's Great Plates Program, serving seniors and essential workers. She has been named a San Diego Woman of Dedication by The Salvation Army Auxiliary. Worm served as President of Tifereth Israel Synagogue Sisterhood through the pandemic and is a board member on four philanthropic boards. In 2022, she created a leadership training academy for Bekker's Catering employees. It covers topics such as diversity, mental health, efficiency, safety, relationship intelligence, leadership skills and excellence in customer service. olga@bekkerscatering.com (619) 287-9027



**SHERRY YARDLEY**  
CEO  
Encinitas Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center

**S**herry Yardley has worked as a nonprofit specialist, community leader and business advocate for more than 30 years in San Diego. She has a proven track record of improving organizations, individuals and events. Thanks to her efforts, organizations see continuous growth while developing outstanding leadership and an ability to exceed goals. As an entrepreneur, CEO and business owner, she has dedicated herself to bringing members of the Encinitas Chamber of Commerce, the Encinitas Rotary Club and many nonprofits in San Diego to higher levels of efficiency and profitability through sharing proven, market-tested methods and ways to create synergy. During the pandemic, Yardley helped give Encinitas businesses information on funding resources as they navigated through grants so that they could stay afloat.



**Congratulations to Encore Capital Group's**



**Tracy Ting**  
Senior Vice President,  
Chief Human Resources Officer



**Monique Dumais-Chrisope**  
Senior Vice President,  
Chief Information Officer

**On being selected as one of San Diego's Top 50 Most Influential Women Over 50.**



# Congratulations!



**DIANE "DEE" NAVARO**  
VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS



“With *proud admiration* we celebrate one of our own! We are *truly thankful* for the unwavering dedication and time Dee has put into *nurturing and growing* our senior living communities.”  
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## Olga Worm

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# Congratulations

## to Deanna Smith,

### Gluten Free Master Chef and Creator of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gluten Free Baking Company on the West Coast

*Deanna's Gluten Free Baking Company leading the way to excellence with Quality, Integrity and Commitment, using only the finest, truly natural ingredients for all her Gluten Free, Allegan Free, Vegan Breads, Pastries & Foods.*





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