



Nurturing Social-Emotional Learning in Out-of-School-Time

Sobrato Center for Nonprofits,
Redwood Shores
Community Conference Center
November 10, 2016

Event Speakers



Amanda Afshar, Peninsula Bridge

Amanda has been a part of Peninsula Bridge since August 2015. She has dedicated her career to the education and empowerment of students and families since completing her Bachelor of Science in Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education at Illinois State University in 2004. After four years in the classroom, she began pursuing a degree in administration and received her Master of Science in Educational Leadership and Administration in 2009. She has taught and held administrative roles in both the public and independent school sectors and welcomes the cohesion these experiences bring to her role as Middle School Director for Peninsula Bridge. She and her husband Raman, a scientist and business development director, live in San Jose.



Patrice Berry, College Track

Patrice joined College Track in 2013 as the East Palo Alto Academic Affairs Director and was promoted to Site Director in 2014. Prior to College Track, she worked for the Netter Center for Community Partnerships at the University of Pennsylvania. During her tenure at Penn, Patrice leveraged Netter's University-Assisted Community School model to implement academic support strategies and postsecondary readiness programs for high school students in Philadelphia. In this role, she also co-founded Leaders of Change, which promoted college readiness for first generation, low-income students of color. Patrice earned her B.A. in Political Science from Swarthmore College and holds a M.Ed. from University of Pennsylvania, where she was a Woodrow Wilson Rockefeller Brothers Fund Fellow. As a graduate student, she was a lecturer in college access and completion, youth empowerment and culturally responsive pedagogy. Currently, Patrice is completing her Ph.D. in college access and completion at Temple University.



Sherri Brooks, Silicon Valley Children's Fund

Sherri joined the SVCF staff, arriving to her position in December 2009. As the Program Manager, Sherri provides programmatic direction to all the higher education initiatives of SVCF; YES scholarship and support services, RISE academic coaching services, and building capacity amongst post-secondary foster youth services in Santa Clara County. Sherri comes to the Silicon Valley Children's Fund with a background in higher education recruitment and retention for minority students and non-profit program support. Sherri completed her undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was an active Native American student leader in several student organizations and a minority student advisor. She is a Teach for America alumni (2005 Corps member), having taught high school science in North Carolina for two years prior to pursuing her master's degree in social work. Her master's degree was obtained at Washington University in St. Louis' Brown School of Social Work, where she concentrated on social and economic development strategies and policy. As a professional, Sherri has dedicated her work and study to the intersectionality of education, policy, and social welfare. Sherri is passionate about education equity for disadvantaged populations and is eager to support higher education access and retention for foster youth through SVCF.



Marie-Christine Busque, LCSW, PPSC, Silicon Valley Children's Fund

Marie-Christine Busque oversees the development, implementation and evaluation of the high school programs at the Silicon Valley Children's Fund. Marie holds a master's degree in social work (MSW). She is licensed as a clinical social worker and holds a credential as a School Social Worker. Marie has extensive experience in program management, foster care, school based mental health services, working with adolescents, and the supervision and education of clinicians and interns. Marie has been at the helm of the High School Roadmap to Independence programs since 2010, working in collaboration with several government and community partners.



La'Ketta Denies Caldwell, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee

From Paducah, Kentucky to Carbondale, Illinois to the Big Apple, La'Ketta Caldwell's education and work has taken her across the country, enabling her to work with diverse populations using theater education to empower and heal. Her success can be contributed to her mom, dad, sister, friends, family, and mentors. La'Ketta is beyond grateful for the support from her church families, Unity Gospel House of Prayer and Calvary Baptist Church. In 2016, she founded Keytalife, a business that inspires others through her original poetry and dramatic presentations. Currently employed with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee, Caldwell is the Senior Program Manager of the Arts Education Department. La'Ketta graduated from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and studied Education & Theatre at New York University. She is grateful and inspired by all the youth who have crossed her path who consistently encourage her not to give up and to be her best self. La'Ketta believes that love never fails and is the key to healing.



Ellen Clear, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Ellen Clear joined the Packard Foundation in 2013 as a program officer for the Local Grantmaking Program managing the San Mateo and Santa Clara County portfolios. She brings two decades of experience in the philanthropic sector to her position, having served in leadership positions at two community foundations and consulted to nonprofit organizations and foundations, including the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Ellen was a Vice President of Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF) from 2007-2011, and part of the leadership team that merged two area community foundations to form SVCF. There, she led the endowment grantmaking team and was instrumental in developing the new funding priorities. Prior to the creation of SVCF, Ellen spent more than 11 years with Peninsula Community Foundation (PCF), one of SVCF's predecessor organizations. At PCF, she served as Vice President of Community Programs, managing the team that directed grant investments, oversaw community initiatives, and delivered management assistance to nonprofits. Early in her career, Ellen worked as a newspaper reporter in North Carolina and as a financial analyst for an investment bank.

A Bay Area native, Ellen holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California at Berkeley and a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. She is an active community volunteer in San Mateo and at her children's public schools, is a past director of Raising A Reader, a national early literacy initiative, and has served on numerous San Mateo and Santa Clara County-based committees focused on public health and wellness issues, including homelessness, early childhood, and health care access.



Elise Cutini, Silicon Valley Children's Fund

Elise Cutini is the Chief Executive Officer of Silicon Valley Children's Fund (SVCF). SVCF is a non-profit agency dedicated to providing pathways of opportunity to our community's most vulnerable population: foster youth. After retiring from her career as a management consultant, she accepted a position on the Board of SVCF. Two years later, Elise was offered the position of Executive Director. She currently co-chairs two community initiatives; the Silicon Valley Out-of-School-Time Collaborative, focused on social-emotional learning, and the Opportunity Youth Partnership of Santa Clara County, re-connecting youth ages 16-24 to education and employment.

Prior to working in non-profits, she was co-founder of the management consulting firm, ITC Associates, Inc., from 1991-2006. During this time, Elise worked locally and internationally with various Silicon Valley high-tech clients like CISCO Systems, Applied Materials, Novellus Systems, Credence Systems and Varian Associates in the areas of Strategic Planning, Customer Service, Marketing, Process Improvement and Total Quality Management.



Susan Ford Dorsey, Sand Hill Foundation

As President of Sand Hill Foundation, Susan Ford Dorsey directs philanthropy for the organization. A leader in philanthropic activities and community service, she is dedicated to preserving our natural environment and supporting local families. Susan serves on the boards of Environmental Defense Fund and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital. She also sits on various advisory committees at Stanford University, including the Freeman Spogli Institute, the Haas Center for Public Service, and the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society.

Her past board service has included Menlo School, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Children's Health Council, Common Sense Media, Peninsula Open Space Trust, and Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Prior to Sand Hill Foundation, Susan was the founder and president of Health Innovations, a healthcare consulting firm specializing in business development, strategic planning, and marketing.



Maria Drake, Citizen Schools California

Maria Drake is the Executive Director of Citizen Schools California. Maria has a storied history with Citizen Schools California, having first brought Citizen Schools to California in 2002 while serving as the Executive Director of a YMCA in Silicon Valley. While there, Maria helped establish three affiliate model Citizen School sites. She was responsible for negotiating all district and school contracts, fundraising to meet the needs of the sites, and maintaining the standards of the Citizen School program. Maria has also served on Citizen Schools California's Advisory Board since 2008.

Prior to her executive role, she worked for the YMCA of San Francisco as an Associate Executive Director and Director of Community Relations. She was responsible for program quality and growth, donor cultivation and recognition, and grant writing. Her passion for education stems from her hands-on involvement in her children's public schooling. Maria received a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology from Marquette University and a Master of Nonprofit Management from USF. She currently lives in San Francisco with her husband, Robert Drake, with whom she has four children.



Joshua Felix, THINK Together

Joshua oversees the operations and integration of THINK Together's San Jose Bay Area region. In 2013, THINK Together merged with the Bay Area After School All Stars, and Joshua led the team through that successful integration. The San Jose Bay Area region now includes 21 elementary and middle school program sites in Daly City, Newark, and San Jose serving over 2,000 students annually. He joined THINK Together in 2006 and has served in a variety of leadership roles. He began his tenure with THINK Together as a Site Coordinator and moved into Human Capital as Recruiting Operations Manager and was later named Director of Staffing. In his organization-wide positions in Human Capital, Joshua developed and implemented standardized staffing systems and co-led the integration of Moreno Valley in the Riverside County Region and facilitated the launch of the Sacramento Region in 2011. Josh holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Irvine and holds a Professional in Human Resources certification from the Society for Human Resource Management.



Melissa Johns, Breakthrough Silicon Valley

Melissa Johns has dedicated her professional career to creating educational opportunities for underserved youth. After earning a Bachelor of Science from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Melissa joined the development team at Eastside College Preparatory School in East Palo Alto. Her time at Eastside cemented her belief that all kids deserve access to a quality college preparatory education, regardless of their background or family's socioeconomic level. After leaving Eastside, she held the position of Director of Development at The Girls' Middle School in Palo Alto, where she led a successful fundraising program, including the school's ambitious commitment to offering full scholarships to low-income students. A native of California's central valley, Melissa grew up in the rural community of Le Grand, California. She now resides in San Jose with her husband, daughter, and son.



Jeannie Johnson, College Track

Jeannie Johnson joined College Track in 2012 as Vice President of Programs. In this role, she leads a team of College Track Site Directors to manage and refine student programming. Her personal experience of transitioning from the foster care system to college inspired her commitment to improve educational outcomes for underserved youth. She began her career as a teacher and counselor of adjudicated youth, and later became the Principal at Benjamin Holt College Prep Academy in Stockton, California, where 100% of seniors were accepted to a 4-year college. Prior to joining College Track, Jeannie served as Director of the College and Career Readiness Office for Oakland Unified School District, where she managed the District's efforts to ensure more students graduated college-ready. Jeannie earned her B.A. in English and M.Ed. from CSU, Stanislaus.



Zareen Kasad, Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula

Zareen Kasad joined Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula in 2006 as the Health and Academic Coordinator. In 2012, Zareen was promoted to the Director of K-8 Staff Development and Training and Summer Academies. In this role, Zareen provides individualized coaching and facilitates group trainings around program design, implementation, and group management at the classroom, site, and organizational level. In addition, she leads the planning process, launch, and management of summer school programming for all K-8 sites. Prior to her work with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, Zareen was a Research Intern in a Cognitive Neuroscience Lab at Stanford University. Zareen also spent time as a Crisis Counselor with Youth and Family Enrichment Services and a Mentor for the Building Futures Program at the Peninsula Family YMCA. Zareen holds a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience and Spanish from Middlebury College.



Sangita Kumar, Be the Change Consulting

Sangita Kumar is a results-based organizational development consultant and facilitator dedicated to the empowerment of individuals and our communities. Sangita's experience over the past 15 years ranges from coaching, professional development, strategic planning, program design, and curriculum development. Sangita holds a master's degree in organizational development, is a Certified Life Coach, and completed a two-year certification in Somatics and Trauma.



Nicol McGough, College Track

Nicol McGough has been working in education and health care for over 30 years. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor, a Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist and an Approved Clinical Supervisor. She spent almost 20 years working for the Colorado Outward Bound School designing and facilitating programs to help people learn that they are capable of far more than they realize and implemented the largest staff diversity recruitment and training initiative in Outward Bound's history. Nicol is responsible for bringing creative arts and adventure therapy programs to several psychiatric hospitals in the Denver area as well as serving as a core faculty member at Naropa University and Somatic Psychology Department Chair for many years. At Naropa, she served on the faculty leadership committee and directed masters programs in Dance/Movement Therapy and Body Centered Psychotherapy. Nicol has been training and supervising graduate students and unlicensed mental health professionals to become sound clinicians for over 20 years. In addition, Nicol started a public school for girls in 2010 called Girls Athletic Leadership School. Located in Denver, Colorado, the school integrates health and wellness into classroom curriculum.



Ash McNeely, Sand Hill Foundation

Ash joined Sand Hill Foundation in 2007. As Executive Director, she leads the foundation team in grantmaking strategy, special initiatives, and planning. She was a founding member of the Silicon Valley Out-of-School-Time Collaborative and Bay Area Environmental Education Funders Collaborative, and sits on the advisory board of Horizons Foundation and the board emeritus of Opportunity Fund. Ash hired Pacific Foundation Services to assist Sand Hill Foundation in 2008 and is now also a member of their senior program staff.

Prior to her work at Sand Hill Foundation, Ash spent four years in the Philanthropic Partnership Group of the Pew Charitable Trusts primarily focused on environmental policy, eight years leading advised fund grantmaking for philanthropic families at Silicon Valley Community Foundation, and ten years in performing arts marketing and development. Ash received an M.B.A. in nonprofit management from Golden Gate University and graduated summa cum laude from Vassar College.



Deb Moroney, Ph.D., American Institute of Research

Deborah Moroney is a principal researcher at American Institutes for Research (AIR), and director of the social and emotional learning, school climate, and out-of-school time practice area.

Dr. Moroney's research and practice experience is in social and emotional learning and youth development in afterschool and expanded learning settings. Dr. Moroney is the architect of a collaborative method for the design of dual purpose (improvement and demonstration) evaluation frameworks for national multi-site programs including the Achievement Gap programs at the YMCA of the USA and for Every Hour Counts. Additionally, Dr. Moroney has led several statewide and districtwide afterschool needs assessments and evaluations. Presently, Dr. Moroney serves as the principal investigator of the implementation and outcome study for School's Out New York City and she is a member of the Afterschool Technical Assistance Collaborative for the C.S. Mott Foundation. Dr. Moroney is the project director for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiative to collaboratively define a transformative research agenda for a culture of health in schools.

Dr. Moroney's work demonstrates a value in bridging research and practice. She has authored practitioner and organizational guides using both research findings and practitioner input. Recently, Dr. Moroney was a co-author of the fourth edition of the seminal afterschool resource, *Beyond the Bell®: A Toolkit for Creating Effective Afterschool and Expanded Learning Programs*. Dr. Moroney has authored numerous publications on social and emotional development and assessment, including *Ready to Assess (Social and Emotional Development)*. Prior to joining AIR, Dr. Moroney was a clinical faculty member in educational psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago in the Youth Development Graduate Program. Dr. Moroney holds a Ph.D. and M.Ed. in Special Education from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Corey Newhouse, M.P.P., Public Profit

Corey Newhouse is the Founder and Principal of Public Profit. Corey is responsible for the overall design of all of Public Profit's evaluation studies, including developing logic models or theories of change, data collection tools, and analysis and reporting plans. Ms. Newhouse has a wide range of experience in evaluating programs that serve children and families, including multi-site evaluations of educational and youth development programs.

Prior to founding Public Profit, Corey served as a Senior Policy Associate at Children Now, and as a Senior Consultant at Hatchuel Tabernik and Associates. She earned her bachelor's degree at Columbia College, and her master's in public policy at UC Berkeley.



Gil Noam, Ed.D., Ph.D. (Habil), The PEAR Institute at Harvard University

Gil Noam is the founder and Director of the PEAR Institute: Partnerships in Education and Resilience at Harvard University, a collaborative initiative with Harvard Medical School and McLean Hospital where Dr. Noam is also an associate professor. Dr. Noam trained as a clinical and developmental psychologist and psychoanalyst in Europe and the United States and maintains a strong focus on prevention and resilience in youth. Dr. Noam has authored over 200 publications related to child development and the topics of risk and resiliency. Dr. Noam's years of training and research guides PEAR's approach in creating innovative models of afterschool programming.

In addition to his work with PEAR, he is editor-in-chief of *New Directions in Youth Development: Theory, Practice, and Research* – an award winning journal. Dr. Noam also consults nationally and internationally to youth development, education and child mental health organizations, foundations and agencies.



Haviland Rummel, Susan Crown Exchange

Haviland Rummel is the Executive Director at SCE, where she leads the organization's strategy and grantmaking. She has worked with a variety of nonprofits across sectors including cultural institutions, human service agencies, educational institutions, and healthcare organizations. Prior to joining SCE, she served as a senior consultant to nonprofit organizations in the areas of strategic planning and fund development. Haviland serves on the Metro Board of Metropolitan Family Services, one of Chicago's first and largest human services agencies, and is a member of Net Impact, a nonprofit organization with a mission to inspire, educate and equip individuals to use the power of business to create a more socially and environmentally sustainable world. Haviland holds a Master of Business Administration in Strategic Management and Public Policy from George Washington University and a Bachelor of Science in Communications from Boston University.



Charles Smith, Ph.D., David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Charles Smith is the founder and Executive Director of the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, a division of the Forum for Youth Investment, and Senior Vice President at the Forum. The Weikart Center currently provides technical supports to a portfolio of over 115 quality improvement systems service a total of 4,250 sites, including several thousand direct service organizations that provide out-of-school time learning opportunities for children and youth. Dr. Smith leads the measures and analytics team at the Weikart Center and guides the Center's efforts to design and implement lower stakes accountability policies. His current area of focus includes development of standards and performance measures for programs focused on social and emotional learning for adolescents.



Ariel Morris Spector, Breakthrough Silicon Valley

After growing up and attending public schools in Stockton, California throughout elementary and middle school, and then having the opportunity to attend a private, college preparatory boarding school for high school, Ariel witnessed first-hand the inequity that exists between schools. As a result, she has dedicated her work in education to public school students. Ariel received her Bachelor's degree in English at U.C. Berkeley, and upon graduating, was selected for the Teach For America corps in Los Angeles. There, she taught 7th grade English while simultaneously earning her teaching credential through UCLA's TeachLA cohort, with a special emphasis on social justice in urban schools. Beginning in Los Angeles and eventually returning to the Bay Area, Ariel taught English at public middle and high schools for a total of eleven years, and also earned her master's degree in English Literature. Ariel has always taught and worked with the belief that all students can be successful if given the right tools and support.