

WELCOME SPEAKERS



Kellee McQuinn - Founder, KidTribe

Space School Musical

The creative force behind KidTribe, Kellee writes, directs, choreographs and produces all music, videos and musicals. She uses her unique talent to translate “boring” subjects into kids’ vernacular, humor and interests. She authors KidTribe’s curricula to seamlessly blend the arts, physical activity and life skills into core academics. She is an inspiring speaker who headlines many national and state-wide conferences on education, obesity, health and youth issues. Ms. McQuinn plays an active role in advocacy work and legislation at both state and federal levels to promote the health of youth and families through education and after-school programs. She’s been featured on ABC News, BBC News, KTLA News, PBS, Discovery Kids, NASA TV, Exercise TV and Scottish TV.



**Lou Baglietto, Jr. - Senior Vice President & Partner-
Butterfield Communications, Inc. Past President, Boys &
Girls Clubs of the South Bay, LA Alliance Steering
Committee Member, Chair, STEM Roundtable**

A political consultant/strategist, Lou has extensive experience in the development and implementation of communication strategies. Over the last decade, his company has helped its clients receive regulatory/project approval for over \$1.2 billion worth of projects. In 2004, his efforts as a RNC Marshal in the Iowa Presidential Campaign helped lead to a landslide re-election victory for President George W. Bush in the Hawkeye State. In 1998, He served as Headquarters Manager for the U.S. Senate campaign of California State Treasurer Matt Fong. Previously he has served in various capacities for dozens of state and local political contests. Mr. Baglietto’s political career started in 1984, when he was hired as a Legislative Aide to Assemblyman Wayne Grisham of Norwalk. From 1986 to 1989, he served as an Army Officer with the 1st Cavalry Division at Ft. Hood, Texas.



Jim Ventress - Chair, Steering Committee, Los Angeles County Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs

As Chair of the Steering Committee, Jim represents the collective interests of 27 member Boys and Girls Clubs throughout LA County serving 140,000 youth. During his 27 years of service as the Chief Professional Officer of the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley, Jim has overseen the opening of the 20,000-square-foot Newhall Park club facility in 1992, as well as the 27,000-square-foot Sierra Vista Middle School site — a historic partnership between the club and the William S. Hart Union High School District. He is a founding member of the Santa Clarita Valley Anti-gang Task Force and received the Boys & Girls Club of America National Keystone Teen Adviser award in 2000 and the 2007 Boys Scouts “Leaders of Character” award. Jim is a US Army Veteran and earned his Bachelors of Science from CalState LA in Recreation Administration.

MODERATOR



Elex Michaelson - Reporter, ABC7 Eyewitness News

Elex graduated first in his class from the Annenberg School for Journalism at USC with dual degrees in broadcast journalism and political science. He is the winner of 5 Emmy Awards and 11 nominations. He is a self-described “political junkie” who reported live from the Presidential Inauguration of Barack Obama, the Republican National Convention, and appeared on CNN’s “Larry King Live.” Elex profiles extraordinary non-profits on “Pay it Forward,” a special Eyewitness News series and actively supports community work such as his partnership with Computers 2 Kids, which provides technology to Southern California families in need.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Joan Koelemay, MBA – Director, Global Health & Wellbeing Education

The Beverage Institute for Health & Wellness, The Coca-Cola Company

Joan manages global education/outreach programs for the Beverage Institute, driving expansion of a science-based communications platform to disseminate research findings related to the science of hydration, beverage ingredients and the importance of active lifestyles to long term health and wellbeing, as well as addresses misinformation related to ingredient safety and the role of beverages in the diet. A registered dietitian, Joan earned a BS in nutrition with highest honors from the University of Illinois and an MBA from Santa Clara University's Leavey School of Business. She is a former spokesperson for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and a strong advocate for evidence-based nutrition communications. Joan was profiled for leadership excellence in *The Leadership Challenge* (Kouzes/Posner, Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1996 and 2001 editions) and in *The Academic Administrator's Guide to Exemplary Leadership* (Jossey-Bass, 2002).

PANEL DISCUSSION 1

STEM PROGRAMS AND CHALLENGES



Susan Baxter, PhD – Executive Director, CSUPERB

Since 2007, Susan is responsible for strategic planning and new initiatives related to the life sciences across the 23 campuses of the CSU system. She oversees and manages grants and awards programs for CSU faculty and students system-wide, organizes the annual CSU biotechnology symposium, develops new research and educational program opportunities, and serves as a liaison for the CSU with life sciences industry, government, philanthropic and educational partners. In addition, she currently serves on boards at BIOCUM Institute, BayBio Institute, and Histogen, an early stage regenerative medicine company.

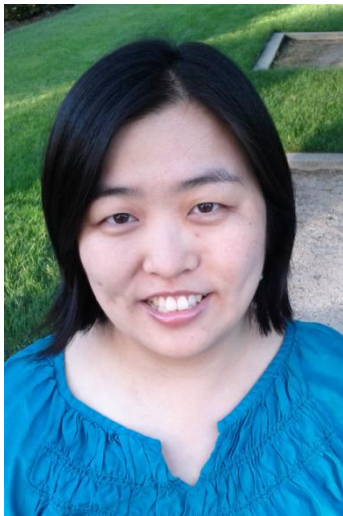


Armando Díaz – Associate Executive Director, Boys and Girls Club of Venice

Armando is responsible for day-to-day operations of the organization and is the lead facilitator of community partnerships with Los Angeles Unified School District, City of Los Angeles, and many local community entities.

Armando has over 16 years of experience in the non-profit sector and over 13 years of Boys & Girls Club experience.

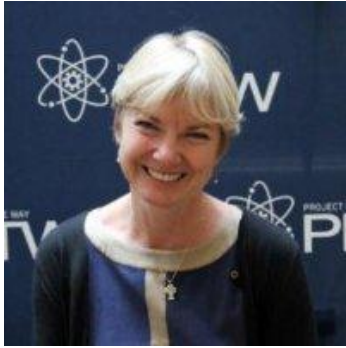
Armando joined the Boys & Girls Clubs of Venice in March 2003 and is responsible for establishing the Venice Club's satellite after school programs at Short Avenue Elementary School, Mark Twain Middle School, and Venice High School. Armando has strategically led the Club's STEM Initiative to serve over 500 Club members with an array of STEM learning opportunities. Under his leadership, the Venice Club has received National Awards for its sailing program, arts program, and family strengthening initiatives.



Amy Hee Kim, PhD – Director of In-Person Programs, Iridescent Los Angeles

Amy Hee Kim received her Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Chicago and has been active in STEM education since relocating to the Los Angeles area.

Before joining the staff of Iridescent Los Angeles, Amy volunteered for three years in their family science programs. Previously, she was also the STEM Program Manager for the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles and was the Senior Associate Director of Women in Engineering Programs at the University of Southern California where she developed strategies to recruit and retain more women and underrepresented minorities in the Viterbi School of Engineering



Karen Latuner – Director of School Engagement, West Region, Project Lead the Way

At Project Lead the Way (PLTW) a leading national provider of STEM curricula to middle and high schools, Karen is responsible for supporting all participating schools within the state of California and is the main point of contact in the area for interested schools. She collaborates with the network of state leaders and affiliate directors to meet PLTW and the state's common goals. Before joining PLTW, Latuner served as the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator at El Camino College in Torrance, where she joined a small college team to promote PLTW as a new paradigm to prepare and recruit youth and high school students into CTE programs in postsecondary education.



Pedro Manrique – Program Dean, College of Engineering & Information Sciences, DeVry University

Pedro Manrique was born and raised in Montreal, Canada where he learned English and Spanish at home and French in school. He started his career in the United States as a VLSI Design Engineer producing CID image sensors for CIDTEC, a company founded by GE Research Engineers. He moved to Pasadena and worked for Photobit, a company founded by JPL Scientists, as a Sr. VLSI Design Engineer and CAD Manager. He also worked for Harman International as a Sr. Program Manager in the Advanced Technology Group developing products for Infinity, JBL, and Harman Kardon where he obtained nine patents. As an educator, Pedro enjoys every opportunity to champion the success of his students and help them realize their full potential.



Wendy Ropes – STEM Program Manager, CSLNet

Wendy's work focuses on supporting CSLNet's programmatic efforts including the Power of Discovery: STEM² initiative and Teacher Pathways initiative. She also provides strategic guidance to emerging STEM Schools throughout the state and supports the work of CSLNet's Regional Networks. Ropes came to CSLNet from the Ventura County Office of Education, where as a member of the regional lead team, she provided support to over 50 school districts with a focus on building collaborative relationships between schools and community partners to collectively improve out-of-school time program quality. Ropes has a Master of Public Administration from California State University, Northridge, and a Bachelor of Arts from California State University, Chico.



Sherry Tsai, PhD – Greater LA Site Director, Amgen Biotech Experience

Dr. Sherry Tsai is Assistant Faculty at the Oak Crest Institute of Science in Pasadena. As Oak Crest's Educational Outreach Director, she leads the Institute's education initiatives, working to increase science literacy, engagement, career interest and preparedness among K-12 students in the Greater Los Angeles area. Sherry also serves as the Greater Los Angeles Site Director of the Amgen Biotech Experience, a program that provides an engaging, real-world lab experience to students by supplying teachers with free, professional-grade equipment, an advanced molecular biology curriculum, and extensive training and support. Sherry's efforts reach over 20,000 students annually.



John Wilson – Chief Professional Officer, Boys and Girls Club of the Foothills

John has been with the Boys & Girls Club of the Foothills since 2010. He has a long history of working with organizations serving at-risk youth, families and the homeless in the San Gabriel Valley. His club created its own STEM curriculum called “Mad Science” covering topics in Chemistry, Physics, Space, Life Science and Engineering. A resident of Monrovia, he is Past President of the Board of Directors of the Monrovia Schools Foundation and a very active volunteer in local youth sports programs.

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

ECONOMIC STAKEHOLDERS



Carla Carpenter – Senior Vice President, Digital Media, ABC OTVS

Carla is responsible for the creation, development, management and sales support of digital products for the ABC owned stations and The Live Well Network. Together with her team she rolled out 42 products in one year including station weather and universal news apps. She is involved with local management of the eight ABC-owned stations to support the expansion of digital content geared to their individual markets. Carla also works closely with senior digital media executives across the Disney/ABC Television Group to tap content synergies across DATG’s numerous digital platforms. Prior to taking this post in 2011, Carpenter was the VP News Director at WPVI in Philadelphia and had previously held positions as assistant news director at ABC-owned WLS Chicago, assistant news director and executive producer for WJBK Detroit and executive producer at KSDK St. Louis.



Elizabeth Cueto – Supplier Quality Engineering Lead, Northrop Grumman

Elizabeth is responsible for several domestic and international suppliers in her current role with Northrop Grumman. Previously she worked in the Systems Engineering Department as the Airborne Laser Systems Engineering Integrated Product Team Sub-Lead. Notable are her 11 years at The Boeing Company in Everett, Washington. Elizabeth is also a Project Management Professional as recognized by the Project Management Institute (PMI). She is a member of Pi Tau Sigma Mechanical Engineering Honor Society, Golden Key Honour Society, The American Society for Quality (ASQ), The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA).



Noel Ellis – Acting Director, Electronics Engineering, Space and Airborne Systems, Raytheon

In his role at Raytheon, Noel leads a geographically dispersed, multidiscipline engineering organization of some 1,200 professionals. He is responsible for execution of engineering strategy and oversees all aspects of functional, program and financial performance. Noel is Raytheon's Professor of Practice at California Polytechnic State University San Louis Obispo and is a leader and spokesperson for Raytheon's ongoing efforts to promote student interest in STEM.



**Katherine McDonald – Community Investment Manager,
Corporate and Brand Reputation, Time Warner Cable**

Katherine is responsible for creating meaningful partnerships with community organizations which focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) afterschool learning for middle school children. Katherine has played an integral part in the roll-out and strategic implementation of Time Warner Cable's Connect a Million Minds program; the company's five year commitment and pledge of 100 million dollars to inspire children to pursue STEM education and careers. Some of Katherine's most notable achievements include, securing the company's multi-million dollar sponsorship of Space Shuttle Endeavour's arrival to Los Angeles in the fall of 2012. Most recently, she implemented a sponsorship which will bring WiFi service to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County



**David Rattray – Senior Vice President of Education &
Workforce Development**

David oversees the Education and Workforce Development department at the Chamber and UNITE-LA, the School-to-Career Partnership of Los Angeles. He officially joined the Chamber in 2003 after being a strategic partner for several years. Since 1998, he has led UNITE-LA in building business and educational partnerships toward a goal of improving the academic achievement and enthusiasm for learning for all Los Angeles students. Previously David spent more than 20 years in the foodservice distribution industry. He served on the L.A. City Workforce Investment Board and Youth Council and is vice chair of the State Workforce Investment Board's Lifelong Learning Committee.



**Flor Tolley – Community Investment Manager,
Philanthropy and Community Investment, Southern
California Edison**

Flor is a senior manager at Southern California Edison, responsible for corporate contributions, the Edison Scholars Program, and the Edison International Employee Workplace Giving Campaign. In this capacity, her team ensures the distribution of over \$19M in corporate grants to non-profit organizations that are in alignment with Edison’s giving priorities. Flor has more than 20 years of experience working for the Edison Company, supporting areas within Regulatory, Customer Communications, and Income Qualified programs. She also oversaw the development and administration of the Energy Assistance Fund Round-Up program which allows SCE customers to provide volunteer donations through their monthly energy bill.

STEM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE



Russ Billings

Russ is a nationally recognized STEM education expert with over two decades of high school physics and chemistry teaching experience and four years as an education specialist and program manager for NASA’s Dryden Flight Research Center. Recently, Russ helped create and develop a sustainable, scalable STEM platform for hands-on interaction with recycled materials. He has received recognition for his work with NASA from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Daimler Chrysler, NASA and the Civil Air Patrol. Russ currently works as an educational and business building consultant.

SPEAKERS



Gregg Maryniak - Director of the James S. McDonnell Planetarium, the Vice President for Energy and Aerospace of the Saint Louis Science Center and the Corporate Secretary and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of XPRIZE.

Gregg is a member of the faculty of the International Space University. The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics named him a Distinguished Lecturer for his presentation, "The Harvest of Space." He was awarded Russia's Tsiolkovsky Medal for his work on the use of the resources of free space. He received the Space Frontier Foundation's Vision to Reality Award for his role in creating the Lunar Prospector Mission launched in 1998. An instrument-rated commercial pilot with more than 30 years of flight experience, Gregg was the Flight Director for Erik Lindbergh's New Spirit of St. Louis flights in 2002. In 2006 he was the recipient of the St. Louis Flight Instructors Association's James Byrnes Aviation Excellence Award. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the Lindbergh Foundation.



Enrique Gabriel Legaspi - Chief of Staff, Boyle Heights, i.am.angel Foundation- a nonprofit founded by musician and tech entrepreneur [will.i.am](#).

With over 13 years of experience in education, Enrique develops human capital through inspiration and innovation with [will.i.am](#) to help TRANS4M the community. Recently, his work has been featured on CNN for using "Twitter in the Classroom", NBC's School Pride, and at the 2013 esri User Conference in San Diego. Enrique supported the launch of the flagship program "i.am College Track" in Boyle Heights to make dreams of college a reality for the scholars of Roosevelt High School. He is a YouTube Star Teacher & Google Certified Teacher. [@enriquelegaspi](#)



Lilly Kam – Director of STEM, i.am.angel Foundation

Lilly develops STEM education programs for underserved communities, with the goal of transforming lives and providing equal access to technology and the jobs of the future. She also co-founded Hack for LA, an organization that brings L.A.'s tech community together with the city government to solve civic problems through app development and open data. Lilly previously worked in Beijing for various startups and still maintains an active presence by organizing BarCamp, TEDxBeijing, and other events that bridge the gap between China and the international tech community. Lilly received two bachelor's degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is currently using MIT's edX platform to teach her rockstar boss will.i.am Intro to Computer Science.