

2024 CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

FEBRUARY 29, 2024 | In-Person Conference

“Passion. Purpose. Possibility.”

KEYNOTE & MAIN STAGE SPEAKERS

10:15am - 11:30am

Emcee: [Janelle Wang](#) (juh-NELL), Anchor, NBC Bay Area

Introduction/Remarks: [Mary Bui Pham](#), VP, Business Technology, Indeed and Board Secretary, California Conference for Women

Cameo: [Jennifer Siebel Newsom](#), First Partner, California

Introduction/Remarks: [Teena Piccione](#), Senior Director, Google

Keynote Speaker: [Dr. Joy Buolamwini](#) (BOLLUM-wee-nee), Award-winning Researcher, Poet of Code and Author, *Unmasking AI*

Introduction and/or Remarks: [Sharon Mandell](#), SVP, Chief Information Officer, Juniper Networks

Keynote Speaker: [The Rt. Hon. Dame Jacinda Ardern](#) (juh· SIN· duh AAR·dern), Prime Minister, New Zealand (2017-2023); Senior Fellow,

Harvard University; Special Envoy, Christchurch Call to Action; Board Member, The Earthshot Prize

in conversation with [Lulu Garcia-Navarro](#), Opinion Section Host & Writer, *The New York Times*, podcast Host, *First Person* & former NPR Journalist

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Emcee: [Janelle Wang](#) (juh-NELL), Anchor, NBC Bay Area

Remarks: Santa Clara Mayor [Lisa M. Gillmor](#)

Introduction/Remarks: [Hillary Weingast](#), VP, Deputy General Counsel & Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, Juniper Networks, Inc. and

Board President, California Conference for Women

Keynote Speaker: [Kristen Kish](#), Chef/Partner of Arlo Grey, Host of Bravo's *Top Chef*, Producer & Author. Remarks and

in conversation with [Kim Severson](#) (SEE-ver-son), Pulitzer Prize winning *New York Times* Reporter; Four-time James Beard award recipient Food Writer; Author.

Introduction and/or Remarks: [Rebecca Stone](#), SVP, Customer Solutions Marketing, Cisco and Board Member, California Conference for Women

Keynote Speaker: [Dr. Brené Brown](#), Researcher & Storyteller

in conversation with [Ivy McGregor](#), Global Impact Leader and Executive Director, BeyGood

BREAKOUT 1: 8:45 - 9:45 AM

BREAKOUT 2: 1:45 - 2:45 PM

BREAKOUT 3: 3:15 - 4:15 PM

LEADERSHIP TRACK

EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS

That's a Good Question | Navigating Board Dynamics | **THEATRE**

Whether you are on the board for a local non-profit, corporate organization, the school committee or PTO, the role requires a unique set of skills to maximize your impact. Your fellow board members may have different agendas than you, more aggressive personalities and/or distinctive end-goals that make it challenging to contribute or advance the board's goals. In this interactive session, based on our wildly popular Women Amplified podcast segment *That's a Good Question*, the audience drives the conversation. Executive Mentors including senior professionals, community leaders and conference board veterans will offer insights for how to navigate the job skillfully, help your board succeed and learn how to secure a board position that leverages your background and expertise.

Moderator: [Suzanne St. John-Crane](#), CEO, American Leadership Forum, Silicon Valley

Executive Mentors:

1. [Holly Martinez](#), Executive Director, California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
2. [Shannon Nash](#), CFO, Wing, a drone delivery company & an Alphabet subsidiary and Board Member, Netscout, Sofi Bank & Lazy Dog Restaurants
3. [Andrea Robertson](#), Managing Director, United Airlines

LEADERSHIP TRACK

WORKSHOP

Leading Flexible Teams to Do the Best Work of Their Lives | **MISSION CITY BALLROOM**

The way we work has changed and the new expectation from our team members is for more flexible work. As a result, successful leaders are redesigning every aspect of how work gets done, from defining how they measure organizational success to reskilling managers to ensure a level playing field for all employees. In this session, Helen Kupp will offer a blueprint for using flexible work to unlock the potential of your people and outline the steps necessary to build the new principles and guardrails to empower flexible, high-performing teams. Attendees will walk away knowing how to lead with purpose, manage differently, and establish principles and outcomes for truly flexible teamwork.

Speaker: [Helen Kupp](#), Author, *How The Future Works*

Host: [Helen Miller-Montana](#), Consultant, North America Regional HR Social Media & Community Professional, Dell Technologies

Executive Spotlight: [Nasim Afsar](#), Chief Health Officer & SVP, Oracle

LEADERSHIP TRACK

WORKSHOP

Leading Flexible Teams to Do the Best Work of Their Lives | **MISSION CITY BALLROOM**

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Speaker: [Helen Kupp](#), Author, *How The Future Works*

Host: [Tina Weinberger](#), People Partner, Cisco

CAREER TRACK EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS That's a Good Question Navigating the Tech Workplace GREAT AMERICA BALLROOM The tech community has historically had a lack of visible mentors and role models for women. While that is slowly changing, more change is needed. In this interactive session, based on our wildly popular Women Amplified podcast segment <i>That's a Good Question</i>, the audience drives the conversation. Executive Mentors including Conference board members, senior tech professionals and community leaders will respond to LIVE attendee questions offering insights and lessons learned for how to navigate the male-dominated tech field. Moderator: Kari Hall, Meteorologist, NBC Bay Area Executive Mentors: 1. Jamie Domenici, Chief Marketing Officer, Klaviyo 2. Sujata Kosalge, VP, Engineering, Core Data, Google 3. Hayley Tabor, VP, Global Industries, Dell Technologies	LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP Creating Cultures of Growth GREAT AMERICA MEETING ROOM Every organization has a dominant mindset embodied in its philosophies and practices. It is only when we challenge ourselves to reshape this collective mindset that we can break through cultural conditioning and transform ourselves, our teams and the organization. In this insightful session, Dr. Mary Murphy will share why organizations which have a growth mindset inspire deeper learning, spark collaboration, spur innovation, and build trust necessary for risk-taking and inclusion. Attendees will walk away with strategies for creating a culture where everyone's mindset can grow and contribute to a team's success. Speaker: Dr. Mary C. Murphy, Professor, Psychological & Brain Sciences, Indiana University; Founding Director, Summer Institute, Stanford University; Author, <i>Cultures of Growth</i>; Founder and CEO, Equity Accelerator Host: Hannah Wu, Senior Director, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, ServiceNow	LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP Creating Cultures of Growth GREAT AMERICA MEETING ROOM Every organization has a dominant mindset embodied in its philosophies and practices. It is only when we challenge ourselves to reshape this collective mindset that we can break through cultural conditioning and transform ourselves, our teams and the organization. In this insightful session, Dr. Mary Murphy will share why organizations which have a growth mindset inspire deeper learning, spark collaboration, spur innovation, and build trust necessary for risk-taking and inclusion. Attendees will walk away with strategies for creating a culture where everyone's mindset can grow and contribute to a team's success. Speaker: Dr. Mary C. Murphy, Professor, Psychological & Brain Sciences, Indiana University; Founding Director, Summer Institute, Stanford University; Author, <i>Cultures of Growth</i>; Founder and CEO, Equity Accelerator Host: Jade Hernandez, Reporter/Anchor, Audacy
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CAREER TRACK EXECUTIVE INSIGHTS That's a Good Question Getting to the Next Level MISSION CITY BALLROOM Career growth took a back seat over the last several years. Now, women have significant ground to make up with a renewed focus on climbing the ladder. In this interactive session, based on our wildly popular Women Amplified podcast segment <i>That's a Good Question</i>, the audience drives the conversation. Executive Mentors including Conference board members, senior professionals and community leaders will respond to LIVE attendee questions offering insights and lessons learned for how you can get a seat at the table and take the leap into a leadership role. Moderator: Lauren McGoodwin, Founder, The Career Contessa Executive Mentors: 1. Iman Abbasi, CHRO, PLUME 2. Stacey Kauffman, Regional Vice President, Audacy 3. Courtney Lansing, Managing Director, Commercial Strategy & New Products, Alaska Airlines 4. Hillary Weingast, VP, Deputy General Counsel and Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Juniper Networks, Inc.; President, CA Conference for Women	CAREER TRACK WORKSHOP Reframing Failure into Success: Embrace the Near Win GRAND BALLROOM Failure is unpleasant but can be a foundation to future success by providing insight into the current situation as well as guiding us to make more informed decisions for our future decisions. By reframing failure as a stepping stone to success, organizations and individuals alike can create an environment that encourages innovation, risk-taking, and resilience – and jettison old cultural beliefs and the stereotypical notions of success. Best-selling Author and Harvard professor Sarah Lewis will share a roadmap for adopting a growth mindset, embracing the almost-failures (and the near-wins) and strategies that will push us forward on our path to success. Dr. Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, John L. Loeb Associate Professor, Humanities and Associate Professor, African & African American Studies, Harvard University; Author, <i>The Rise</i> Host: Laurie Dalton White, Founding Executive Director and Strategic Advisor, Conferences for Women	CAREER TRACK WORKSHOP Reframing Failure into Success: Embrace the Near Win GRAND BALLROOM Failure is unpleasant but can be a foundation to future success by providing insight into the current situation as well as guiding us to make more informed decisions for our future decisions. By reframing failure as a stepping stone to success, organizations and individuals alike can create an environment that encourages innovation, risk-taking, and resilience – and jettison old cultural beliefs and the stereotypical notions of success. Best-selling Author and Harvard professor Sarah Lewis will share a roadmap for adopting a growth mindset, embracing the almost-failures (and the near-wins) and strategies that will push us forward on our path to success. Dr. Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, John L. Loeb Associate Professor, Humanities and Associate Professor, African & African American Studies, Harvard University; Author, <i>The Rise</i> Host: Sandrine Piret-Gerard, SVP, US Commercial, Gilead
	CAREER TRACK PANEL Creating Workplaces that Work for Everyone GREAT AMERICA BALLROOM Facilitating collaboration and creating connections among employees is tough. And employees are requiring more from companies in terms of purpose, flexibility and career growth. So how do organizations create a sense of belonging and team unity in this changing environment while honoring employee's individual needs? This panel led by Carolina Caro explores how to create inclusive environments and sustainable cultures that truly welcome and maximize each employee's talent and diversity. This panel of experts will share strategies for	CAREER TRACK PANEL How to Advocate for Yourself and Others GREAT AMERICA BALLROOM The ability to advocate for yourself or others can be complicated, especially in the workplace. In this session, Carolina Caro will explore advocacy, insights and best practices for developing inclusion in the workplace. A panel of leaders on the frontlines will share their experiences around allyship and effective language that create an environment that makes speaking up a lot easier. Walk away with the confidence to assert yourself and become a pioneer for positive change.

	accountability and inclusive leadership to engage and retain valuable team members. Thought Leader: Carolina Caro, Leadership & DEI Speaker, Coach, Consultant and Trainer Panelists: 1. Curran Brugger, VP, Talent, Development & Inclusion, Gilead 2. Erika Ewearitt, Chief Development Officer, Silicon Valley Education Foundation 3. Tina Jones, Sr VP, Global Human Resources, Cadence 4. Cynthia Pham Stark, Director, Alphabet Regulatory Response, Investigations & Strategy, Google and Board Member, CA Conference for Women Host: Jyoti Mehra, EVP, Human Resources, Gilead and California Conference for Women Board Member	Thought Leader: Carolina Caro, Leadership & DEI Speaker, Coach, Consultant and Trainer Panelists: 1. Teri Foy, SVP, Cancer Immunology & Cell Therapy TRC, Bristol Myers Squibb 2. Sirma Tzoutzova, Regional VP, Fidelity Private Wealth Management 3. Amanda Wade, Global Head, Human Resources, MedTech Innovation & Robotics, Johnson & Johnson Host: Laurie Dalton White, Founding Executive Director and Strategic Advisor, Conferences for Women
	PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK WORKSHOP Transform & Glow: Mastering the Art of Self-Healing THEATRE In the current, frenetic climate, self-care is more essential than ever, but few of us have the tool kit necessary to nurture ourselves. Stripped of her job and grappling with resurfaced traumas during the pandemic, Tara Schuster faced a reckoning that led to radical self-healing. Sharing her time-tested strategies, Tara will address the root causes of anxiety and how to navigate through trauma to move beyond feeling emotionally drained and directionless and find a purpose greater than yourself. This workshop offers access to the self-care superpowers needed to reclaim your authentic self and reignite your inner light. Prepare to be empowered and come ready to glow! Speaker: Tara Schuster, best-selling Author, Former VP, Client Development, Comedy Central Host: Melissa Phan, SVP, National Client Outreach & Integration Manager, Bank of America	PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK WORKSHOP Transform & Glow: Mastering the Art of Self-Healing THEATRE In the current, frenetic climate, self-care is more essential than ever, but few of us have the tool kit necessary to nurture ourselves. Stripped of her job and grappling with resurfaced traumas during the pandemic, Tara Schuster faced a reckoning that led to radical self-healing. Sharing her time-tested strategies, Tara will address the root causes of anxiety and how to navigate through trauma to move beyond feeling emotionally drained and directionless and find a purpose greater than yourself. This workshop offers access to the self-care superpowers needed to reclaim your authentic self and reignite your inner light. Prepare to be empowered and come ready to glow! Speaker: Tara Schuster, best-selling Author, Former VP, Client Development, Comedy Central Host: Sandra Cervantes, Anchor, Telemundo 48

LEARNING BURSTS

Mini masterclasses - bite-sized actionable takeaways - taking place at the Learning Stage in the Interactive Hall featuring one speaker addressing a focused leadership, career or personal development topic.
Five minutes is reserved at the end for audience Q&A.

SPONSOR	TOPIC/SPEAKER	TIMESLOT
		8:30 - 8:55 AM
Deloitte	Demystifying Breakthrough: 10 Principles to Drive Meaningful Change Kim Christfort, Chief Innovation Leader & National Managing Director, The Deloitte Greenhouse ® Experience What does it take to get to breakthrough? Lightbulb moments are rare, and in today's complex and evolving environments, traditional approaches to innovation often fall short. Transformative innovation requires something else. This session is all about how to create that something else for yourself, your teams and your world – getting unstuck and moving beyond the status quo, using a proven set of 10 principles derived from cutting-edge behavioral science. Participants will leave with tangible methods to apply immediately to seed novel thinking and unlock opportunity in their own lives to impact real, positive change. Learn more about the mindset of breakthrough and experience the magic firsthand!	9:00 - 9:25 AM
Hinge Health	Pelvic Health Unveiled: Bridging the Gap in Care and Awareness Dr. Bijal Toprani, PT Commercial Consultant, Hinge Health Join Dr. Bijal Toprani, PT, DPT, a specialist in pelvic health, as she sheds light on critical issues like pelvic pain and incontinence. This session addresses the substantial care gap in treating these conditions, emphasizing the importance of awareness and education. Dr. Toprani advocates for empowerment and self-advocacy in healthcare, equipping attendees with knowledge to confidently manage their health. She challenges common misconceptions, discusses myths such as 'sneeze and pee' and addresses issues like pain during sex. This talk aims to inspire a proactive approach to pelvic health, encouraging individuals to seek appropriate care and advice.	9:30 - 9:55 AM
CISCO	Breaking Glass Ceilings: Building Confidence in Your Leadership Journey Tina Weinberger, People Partner, Cisco	1:45 - 2:10 PM

	In this inspiring session, join Tina Weinberger as she explores her journey of elevating and inspiring women in leadership roles. Tina confronts the deep-seated biases that often prevent women from ascending to leadership positions. Attendees will learn about a leadership development framework that Tina and her team piloted at Cisco that significantly enhanced women's self-assurance and career progression. Tina will share her strategies for weaving personal growth with the strength of supportive relationships, highlighting the keys to shift mindset and building a supporting ecosystem to break the glass ceiling. Join this enlightening discussion about bridging the confidence gap and championing a new wave of women leaders.	
Fidelity	The 5 Key Building Blocks to a Resilient Financial Future Joiya Mitchell, Financial Consultant, Fidelity Investments Join Joiya as she provides essential steps to understanding your current financial landscape and guides you through crucial areas such as budgeting, credit management, debt handling, investing, and retirement planning. This session aims to move you beyond financial stress and confusion, empowering you to not only manage your money but thrive. You'll learn how to make the most of the money you have, use credit to your advantage, handle debt smartly, reach your money goals through investing, and thoughtfully plan your retirement. Beyond the numbers, this session will offer insights to unlock the emotional freedom that comes from knowing you're on a path to financial stability and independence.	2:15 - 2:40 PM
Google	Creating Opportunities: The Art of Building Your Own Doors Ujjval Shah, Program Manager, Core PMO, GTE, Google Join Ujjval Shah, a Senior Engineering Program Manager at Google with over 17 years of experience, as she inspires you to create opportunities in times of change. Ujjval challenges conventional wisdom, encouraging us to find opportunities in unexpected directions. She shares insights on resilience, particularly after job loss, emphasizing a positive mindset, SMART goals, and the art of storytelling to enhance your personal brand while exploring the importance of diverse skill sets in an AI-driven world. Ujjval's session is a beacon of creativity and innovation, reflecting Google's culture of embracing risks and learning from failures. This talk is a call to action for proactive opportunity creation, blending passion with emerging trends in today's dynamic landscape.	2:45 - 3:10 PM
Google	Inside Out Living: Work-Life Integration Karen Grunberg, Director, Program Management, Google In this session, Karen Grunberg weaves together a rich tapestry of experiences, spanning from her childhood in Istanbul to her time among the giants of Wall Street and Google, and unravels the profound truth that the quest for work-life balance is a myth. Instead, Karen advocates for an integrated approach, rooted in authenticity and self-awareness. This session is a call to bravely experiment, to honor our needs and priorities in different life phases, and to recognize that crafting a fulfilling, integrated life is an ongoing journey of self-discovery and courageous action. This talk invites us to	3:15 - 3:40 PM

	redefine success on our own terms, while pursuing a life that echoes our deepest truths.	
		3:45 - 4:10 PM

CA Executive Spotlight Questions:

Leading Flexible Teams to Do the Best Work of Their Lives (Helen Kupp, Author)

Session 1 - ORACLE Nasim Afsar

1. What actions should leaders take when establishing a flexible environment to ensure work is prioritized and business outcomes are achieved?
2. Tell us about a challenge your organization faced as you transitioned to flexible work. How did you overcome this obstacle?

Session 2

1. In today's business environment, what do teams value most in terms of support, resources or communication methods that lead to a sense of belonging and collaboration?
2. As a leader in today's complex work environment, how do you ensure your team's professional growth and well-being are prioritized?

Reframing Failure into Success: Embrace the Near Win (Dr. Sarah Elizabeth Lewis)

Session 1

1. How has adopting a positive attitude toward failure contributed to your career advancement?
2. How do you remain motivated and encouraged in your pursuit of success when 'near wins' don't feel like enough? What wisdom can you share with others who aspire to greater levels of success?

Session 2

1. Tell us about a significant personal or professional "near win". How did you reframe that situation and find the courage and confidence to move forward?
2. How has developing a learning mindset impacted your life, both in the office and outside of it?

Transform & Glow: Mastering the Art of Self-Healing (Tara Schuster, Author)

Session 1

1. In today's high-stress environment, how do you prioritize mental health and self-care for both yourself and your team, especially considering the spotlight these topics have received in recent years?
2. What strategies or initiatives can an organization implement to ensure that employees have a healthy work-life balance?

Session 2

1. As an executive, how do you handle the inevitable setbacks and challenges that come your way, and what role does mental resilience play in your leadership style?
2. With remote work a reality for many, how can leadership ensure that their team stays engaged and mentally healthy, considering the blurred lines between work and home life?