# **Speakers and Workshops**

Women Driving Change
Passing the Microphone Conference 2019

# **Speakers and Panelists**

#### Keynote Speaker: Jerin Arifa



Jerin Arifa is a formerly undocumented activist changing millions of lives. She is an award-winning changemaker, Muslim feminist, and viral speaker. Jerin's NowThis video—with over 1,000,000 views—offers simple, actionable steps for becoming more inclusive and intersectional. A community organizer since childhood, Jerin spearheaded the sexual harassment, assault, domestic violence, and anti-stalking policy for the third largest university in

the U.S. — while undocumented! Now a proud American citizen, Jerin trains activists across the U.S. as the Founder of the <u>National Organization for Women's (NOW)</u> inaugural virtual chapter, Young Feminists and Allies. An award-winning organizer, President Obama's White House selected Jerin out of 10,000 nominees to attend the historic United State of Women Summit. Jerin's work has appeared in diverse outlets from *The Washington Post* to *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, and she presents regularly to local, national and international audiences.

## Panelist: Joanne Pasternack (CSUS Class of '92)

Joanne Pasternack and is a dynamic and visionary philanthropic leader who, over the past two decades, has galvanized community impact with internationally recognized brands including the Golden State Warriors, San Francisco 49ers, and the Special Olympics. She is currently the Head of Global Impact at ServiceNow, which was recently ranked number one on the Forbes Magazine's annual list of the world's most innovative



companies. Joanne spent twelve seasons leading philanthropic efforts for professional sports franchises in the NBA and NFL. In September 2018, she was honored as one of 35 women named to SportsBusiness Journal/Daily's "Game Changers: Class of 2018." She also provided support for NBA All-Star Kevin Durant for his successful bids to be named the 2018 Muhammad Ali Sports Humanitarian Award from ESPN and the 2018 NBA Community Assist Award. She is also an Adjunct Professor in the Graduate Sports Management programs at Georgetown University, the University of San Francisco, and George Washington University. A strong advocate for inclusion and access, Joanne is on the boards of directors for Special Olympics Northern California/Nevada, the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative (BAWSI), Figure Skating in Harlem, Purpose+Sport, Wender Weis Foundation for Children, and Beyond Sport International and speaks regularly on a variety of topics around inclusion – including bringing awareness to early onset Alzheimer's disease.

### Panelist: Kat Taylor(CSUS Class of '76)



Kat Taylor's life has been dedicated to serving social justice and environmental health. Kat is active in a variety of social business, public benefit and philanthropic ventures in the San Francisco Bay Area. Currently, she serves as CEO of Beneficial State Bank, a Community Development Financial Institution whose mission is to bring beneficial banking to low-income communities in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner. Beneficial State Bank is the result of a merger between OneCalifornia Bank, which Kat and her husband, Tom Steyer, founded in Oakland, CA, and ShoreBank Pacific, with offices in Oregon and Washington. The bank's revolutionary ownership design means that its profits

are invested in the communities it serves. Kat serves and has served on many non-profit boards. She graduated from Harvard College and earned a JD/MBA from Stanford.

### Panelist: Tiffany Lui (CSUS Class of '06)

Tiffany Lui currently serves as a Committee Member within the Women in Bio organization, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting leadership for women in the life sciences. She has a special focus on the Young Women in Bio division, which is a nation-wide initiative that encourages girls



to explore opportunities, education, and careers within STEM. Tiffany Lui also works within Clinical Development at Guardant Health, a leading oncology biotech company that strives to conquer cancer through detection tools and advanced analytics. Outside of the life sciences and due to her love for cooking, she is the Co-Founder of Broth Tè, a collection of bone broths and vegetarian broths, which is slated to launch in 2019.

#### Panelist: Dipanwita Deb Amar



Dipanwita is a partner in Arnold & Porter's Labor and Employment Department. Recognized year after year in the *Daily Journal*'s list of top employment lawyers in California, Dipanwita regularly works on federal and state court in cases involving discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, wage and hour matters, and state law torts, through all stages of litigation, including appeal. Ms. Amar's areas of particular focus are disability discrimination laws and federal and state leave of absence statues. She has also conducted a number of high profile employment investigations. Her clients have included companies in a wide variety of industries including technology and financial services, entertainment, and airlines and retail. Most recently, Dipanwita has worked as counsel for the

#Times Up movement, an organization that fights sexual harassment in Hollywood.

# Workshop Overviews

# 1. Using Design Thinking to Build Confidence and Leadership Skills in young women- *Girls Driving for a Difference*

Girls Driving for a Difference is a 501(c)3 non-profit empowering girls to become leaders of social change through design thinking, a creative problem-solving tool that will allow them to think outside the box about ways they can help others and make an impact. Their *Find Your Drive* workshop helps girls identify their strengths, discover their leadership abilities, and create their own personal mission statement for improving the world. Girls are able to bond, laugh, and be silly, while also learning more about what really matters to them. Each student graduates from the workshop with their own personal mission statement for improving the world around them.

# 2. Workshop 2: Intersectionality is for Everybody: Selfish Reasons to Be a Feminist- *Jerin Arifa*

So many of the lessons from bell hooks' iconic book, *Feminism Is for Everybody*, holds true after decades. In this workshop, Jerin will discuss how being intersectional is in everybody's interest – regardless of their socioeconomic background. Using real-life examples, short exercises and a candid Q&A, Jerin will offer simple, actionable steps for becoming more inclusive and intersectional. Attendees will leave with concrete steps they can practice immediately to help themselves and others.

#### 3. Workshop 3: Women in the Workforce- Panelists

This panel discussion will include women from different sectors of the workforce, including business, academia, medicine, and law. Moderated by Head of Upper-School, Kelly Sortino, this panel will explore the experiences of the panelists in navigating power structures at different stages of their careers, building confidence, seeking mentors, and becoming leaders through the lenses of self-empowerment and empowerment through others. Participants will also have the opportunity to ask their own questions.