Our Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.
Girl Scouts of Nassau County’s Board of Director’s
(To see individual Board Members bios and photos, click on their name)

Board of Directors
Officers
2022-2024

Andrea Elder-Howell, Esq.*
*President and Chief Volunteer Officer
Eileen Baker*
*Executive Vice President
Tonia Bottoms, Esq.*
*Vice President
Valerie Terzano*
*Vice President
Allison Bishop White, Esq.*
*Vice President
Lisa Gardner, Esq.*
*Treasurer
Lisa Burke*
*Secretary

Board of Directors
Members-at-Large
2022-2024

Lisa Arning
Florence Barbour
Natalie Borneo
Kevin Boston-Hill
Barbara Brudie, Esq.
Michele Cusack
Vikki Ernst-Chang
Brigette DaSilva
Susan Ganz
Julie Strachan Haiber, Esq.
Steven Lindo
Susan MacDonald
Alexandra McCormick
Lasherelle Morgan, Esq.
Melanie Pavlidis
Melanie Sinesi
Madison Spanodemos
Anne Marie Spensieri-Fidis
Lauren Summa
Leah Watson
Pawel Zagaja
John Zhao

Board Development Committee
2022-2024

Kevin Boston- Hill
Raven Brewington
Deandra Denton
Janet Nina Esagroff, Esq.
Clara Giustino

Jason Hembrey
Anne Marie Spensieri-Fidis
Angela Stanley
Julie Strachan-Haiber, Esq.

*Incumbent
Andrea Elder-Howell is the VP of Legal Services at PSEG Long Island. In this role, Ms. Elder-Howell leads the legal team on Long Island and provides legal guidance on a variety of issues to key stakeholders at the utility.

Previously, Ms. Elder-Howell served as Senior Commercial Counsel at PSEG Long Island, where she advised and represented the utility in legal matters and commercial transactions, supported the company’s strategic business plan, and strategically addressed potential legal issues and concerns. She also reviewed, drafted, and negotiated various commercial agreements while primarily supporting energy-related projects.

Prior to joining PSEG Long Island in 2014, Ms. Elder-Howell served as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel for RBS Sempra Commodities and Senior Commercial Counsel for KeySpan Energy/National Grid.

Ms. Elder-Howell has more than 20 years of experience working on sophisticated commercial transactions in the energy industry. She earned her bachelor’s in accounting from Queens College, her juris doctor from Rutgers University School of Law, and Master of Laws in taxation from New York University School of Law. She is a member of the Nassau Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She was appointed to serve on the Mentor New York Board, has served on the Girl Scouts of Nassau County Board for the past eight years and previously served on the executive boards for the New York State Bar Association and the Nassau County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Ms. Elder-Howell has been recognized by the New York State Society of CPAs, Jack and Jill of America, and New York State PTA for her dedication to promoting opportunities for youth on Long Island.

Eileen has been a longtime supporter of the Girl Scouts, both personally and professionally. She is a Vice President of TD Bank, N.A. and has been in the banking industry for many years. Eileen is a member of the Juliette Gordon Low Society (formerly known as Honor Circle Society). She is a current Board Member of GSNC and chairs the Community Relations Committee.

Eileen is a Board Member and Past President of the Farmingdale Rotary and was honored with a Paul Harris Award. She had received the Kaiser award after serving as President of the Kiwanis Club of the Bellmores, and also serving on its Board. Eileen was honored with the Martin Luther King Award for her community work in the Town of Babylon and the Women Trailblazer Award from Nassau County. She attended Nassau Community College and resides in North Merrick with her husband, Richard. Eileen is the mother of five children all of whom were active in scouting. Eileen and her husband were Boy Scout Leaders for their sons and she has wonderful memories of when she too was a Girl Scout and is very happy to be involved with Girl Scouts as an adult.

*Incumbent
Tonia Bottoms, Esq.*

Vice President

Tonia Bottoms is a Managing Director, Senior Managing Counsel and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Advocate for BNY Mellon | Pershing. She is also a member of Pershing’s Executive Committee. In her legal role, Tonia specializes in the areas of retirement plans and financial products. She provides advice and guidance regarding the compliance and oversight of retirement and education savings products, including traditional and Roth individual retirement accounts (IRAs), savings incentive match plan for employees (SIMPLE) IRAs, qualified retirement plans and 529 college savings plans. Tonia works closely with senior leadership on developing regulatory and legislative matters affecting the retirement and fiduciary businesses. Prior to joining Pershing in May 2010, Tonia was a director and senior counsel at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

As Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advocate, Tonia leads efforts for Pershing to advance diversity as a business imperative and inclusion as an essential leadership skill by attracting, sourcing, developing, and retaining the brightest, most innovative minds—those with a global mindset and varied life experiences and perspectives that inform different leadership styles, modes of thinking, and problem solving—to grow business and help clients do the same.

Tonia is also a Global Co-Chair of IMPACT, a BNY Mellon Employee Resource Group with 24 chapters and 5,000 members and served as the chair of IMPACT’s Black Leadership Forum (BLF). She was a founding member of the D&I Advisory Council, where she implemented measurable and meaningful change in Latinx and Black representation at Pershing, and increased transparency of its DEI goals. Tonia brings perspectives on diversity, equity, and inclusion to senior leadership of the company.

She has been recognized three years in a row from 2019-2021 as one of the 100 Ethnic Minority Executives, an EMpower Ethnic Minority Role Model list sponsored by INvolve, a global consultancy that champions inclusion in the workplace and has been named among the 2022 Most Influential Black Lawyers by Savoy Magazine.

Previously, Tonia was the co-chair for the Jersey City chapter of the firm’s Women’s Initiative Network.

Tonia is a member of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association’s Retirement and Education Savings Committee and currently serves as its co-chair. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts of Nassau County, American Red Cross (Greater New York Region), and on the Board of Trustees for the Money Management Institute Gateway Foundation.

Tonia earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland.

*Incumbent
Valerie Terzano currently serves on the Girl Scouts of Nassau County’s Board of Directors as Vice President since 2019. She has served as a Member-at-Large for three terms from 2013-2019, and on the Nominating Committee from 2016-2018, and the Board Development Committee from 2018-2020.

Starting her career as a Nursing Supervisor at NYU Langone Hospital–Long Island (formerly NYU Winthrop Hospital) in 1982, Valerie Terzano has served as the Chief Nursing Officer since 2000. She currently holds the position of Vice President for Nursing and Patient Care Services, responsible for an operating budget of approximately $170 million, overseeing over 2,100 registered professional nurses and unlicensed ancillary staff personnel. Her areas of responsibility include inpatient Medical/Surgical (specialties inclusive of orthopedics, bariatics, oncology, neurosurgery/neurology), Critical Care, Telemetry, Maternal/Child Health (4,800 deliveries), Level I Trauma Center Emergency Department (82,000 visits/year), Clinical Education & Professional Development; Nursing Research, Magnet Program Development; Inpatient Wound Care; Bed Utilization Coordination, Central Staffing Office; Discharge Callers, and Clinical Alert Team.

She holds a Master of Science degree in Nursing Administration from Adelphi University and is currently seeking a PhD in Nursing from Molloy College. In 2008, Ms. Terzano received the Nursing Spectrum Excellence Award for Advancing and Leading the Profession. Her professional memberships include American Organization of Nurse Executives, Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society of Nursing, American Nurses Association, Emergency Nurses Association, American College of Healthcare Executives, and she is certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as Nurse Executive, Advanced.

Allison Bishop-White, Esq. is Senior Vice President, Head of Early Dispute Resolution at LPL Financial where she leads a team of attorneys who are responsible for the investigation and resolution of matters involving the sale of securities products. Prior to joining LPL Financial, Allison was employed at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, where she was a Director, and the New York Stock Exchange, (now known as the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority), where she held a number of senior roles. Ms. White is a member of the New York City Bar Association, the Financial Women’s Association, the New York State Medical Review Board, and the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association.

She also serves on the Public Policy Council of the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards. Ms. White is a graduate of Northeastern University and has a Juris Doctor (JD) from the Maurice A. Dean School of Law at Hofstra University.

*Incumbent*
Lisa M. Gardner, a resident of Massapequa Park, is a family law attorney at Donohoe Talbert LLP. Ms. Gardner earned her law degree at Hofstra University School of Law, with a concentration in Child and Family Advocacy, and her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan. Ms. Gardner is serving as a Member-at-Large of the Board of Directors.

In her family law practice, Ms. Gardner has hosted complimentary legal support groups, focused on family law issues, which are open to the community. She has been a presenter at continuing education workshops for mental health professionals on issues concerning custody, parenting time, supreme court and family court. In 2016, Ms. Gardner was a co-presenter on New York Family Law for Hofstra Law School’s Continuing Legal Education Program.

Ms. Gardner’s time as a Girl Scout growing up in Michigan taught her the importance of community involvement and friendship with other women. She carried those values with her in college, as a member of the executive board of her sorority. Her dedication to advocacy of women's issues continued in her role in fundraising for the chapter’s national philanthropic cause, domestic violence awareness.

At Hofstra Law School, Ms. Gardner participated in the Child Advocacy Clinic, aiding in the representation of children in family court. She also volunteered for the Courtroom Advocates Project, assisting victims of domestic violence.

Ms. Gardner has been recognized for the work in her field and in the community. In 2016, she was awarded Hofstra University School of Law Outstanding Women in Law and the Millennial Award by Long Island Business News. In 2015, she was awarded Top 50 Women by Long Island Business News. She resides in Melville with her family.

Lisa Burke, a lifetime member of the Girl Scout movement, is currently a Member-at-Large on the GSNC Board and has been nominated for Secretary. Lisa has been active at GSNC for over 15 years, during which time she served two terms on the Council’s Board Development Committee; was Board Champion on the first Strategic Learning Team for GSNC; co-chaired the Delegate Communications Committee for eight years; chaired the Nominating Committee; served three terms as Secretary of the Board of Directors; and served as a Member-at-Large of the Board (2005-2011, 2018 to present).

Through her work on the Delegate Communications Committee, Lisa found a passion for Girl Scout governance at both the local and national level. She has attended three GSUSA National Council Sessions/Conventions as a visitor and two as a chaperone (Atlanta 2005 and Indianapolis 2008). She was called up as an alternate to serve as a National Delegate at the 2011 and 2014 National Conventions and was a Delegate at the 2017 and 2020 National Conventions.

The mother of two lifetime Girl Scouts and a former Boy Scout in Oyster Bay, she has served as Troop Cookie Manager and still serves as the fall product manager in the Oyster Bay Service Unit. A graduate of SUNY at Plattsburgh with a degree in education, Ms. Burke is the owner and President of A Business Contracting Corp, which has been in business for over 30 years.

*Incumbent
As a passionate advocate for access to education, Lisa is President of Admission Technician, LLC where she helps students and their families navigate the college application and selection process. As an Independent Education Consultant, she has helped hundreds of students on the journey to a post-secondary experience. She also provides these services pro-bono to under-served students.

In 2019, Lisa was selected for the Long Island Power Women in Business Award and recognized as a top Long Island businesswoman and community leader. A volunteer and activist, Lisa is focused on education, women’s parity, hunger, and homelessness. She currently serves as Co-President of Ellevate Network, Long Island Chapter, a global women’s network and is a Board Director and Executive Committee member of The Interfaith Nutrition Network Soup Kitchen and Shelters.

Since 2008, Lisa has been a volunteer and founding member of KPMG’s Family For Literacy (KFFL), the firm’s flagship philanthropy focused on eradicating childhood illiteracy. Lisa served as the KFFL National Co-Leader (2015-2020) and helped facilitate a program that has distributed more than 6 million books across the US. Lisa is currently part of a team of educators and executives working on a large-scale project to provide a path for underserved students to attend and graduate from college or training/vocational programs.

As a former troop leader and Delegate for Girls Scouts of the USA, Lisa led a troop of girls from Daisies through their Gold Award.

She earned an MBA in Finance and a BA in Criminal Justice from Long Island University, Post.

Florence Barbour is a wife and mother, and most importantly, a child of God. She is currently the Executive Director of Harbor Child Care, Inc. In this role, Mrs. Barbour is the chief executive officer overseeing five centers, a staff of over 200, and serving approximately 1,000 children and their families. She began her journey in early childhood education when she was a psychologist assisting adults with developmental disabilities. In her work, she continued to gravitate towards educating children, especially our youngest learners. With that in mind, she earned a license in School Supervision and Administration (now called School Building Leader) and worked as the director of an early childhood program providing services for children with developmental delays. Over the past twenty years, she has devoted herself to the care and education of young children.

In her free time, Mrs. Barbour is pursuing her doctorate in Educational Leadership for the Diverse Community from Molloy College.
Natalie Borneo is Senior Director of Program Operations at Dress for Success Worldwide. In this capacity, Natalie leads the strategy and development of operations for signature Dress for Success programs, ensuring alignment with the Dress for Success mission and goals as well as evolving public health guidelines. This role also includes recommending best practices to streamline performance, monitoring program performance to identify improvements, developing policies and procedures for greater impact, as well as interfacing with and cultivating new partnerships to ensure successful outcomes.

The signature programs provided through Dress for Success Worldwide impact 1.2 million women across the globe. Equipping them with tools to secure jobs, job retention skills, and strategies to achieve work-life balance and financial security. Natalie joined Dress for Success in 2018 after a thirty-year career as a Risk & Compliance professional where she served in many leadership roles all focused on risk identification, efficiency risk mitigation and risk solutions. She has negotiated and designed risk products for clients, developed new hires, implemented learning plans, and delivered training workshops for client service professionals.

Natalie is a certified John Maxwell Leadership Trainer and has a strong reputation for leading diverse teams of professionals to collaborative success. Natalie believes in the power of mentoring and coaching. She has a Certificate in Leading Change Management from Cornell University and a graduate of the Institute for Nonprofit Practice Core Leadership Training Program. Natalie obtained her master’s degree in Management studies from Fordham University and graduated from Howard University with a bachelor’s degree in Insurance and Risk Management.

Kevin E. Boston-Hill is the consummate educator. Currently serving as a public speaking professor, he has been an educational leader in New York for over 25 years. He has taught a variety of subjects to students of all ages and conducts workshops to teachers, schools, and districts. He is also an instructional coach to teachers and administrators at various stages of their careers.

Kevin is also a voice actor who records audio and video projects used for professional development and training purposes. He is also host of two radio shows at Nassau Community College: WHPC Sports Talk and Instruction Discussion, an education-based program.

Kevin uses his experiences as a sports official in baseball/softball, basketball, and volleyball to further connect with and motivate the people he encounters. His workshops and seminars on leadership, time management, and communication are popular and draw big crowds. He has worked with companies and individuals in a variety of industries and has spoken to high school and college students across the country.

Kevin is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and serves as the Northeastern Province Guide Right Chairman. In this role, he oversees the mentoring activities of the various chapters from Rhode Island to Delaware. He is also a leader within Boy Scouts of America, having served as a scoutmaster and den leader. He currently serves on the Board Development Committee of Girl Scouts of Nassau County and as a Trustee with the Lakeview Public Library.

Kevin currently lives in West Hempstead, NY with his wife, son, and daughter.

*Incumbent
Barbara Brudie serves as PSEG Long Island’s Assistant Counsel in the Commercial Practice group. She recently served as PSEG Long Island’s Supplier Diversity Program Manager, responsible for expanding and supporting the utility’s Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise and Service Disabled Veteran-owned Business initiatives to achieve compliance with New York State goals and reporting requirements while engaging new diverse suppliers in its supply chain. Barbara has experience in providing legal counsel to public and private sector entities and served as first general counsel to a software provider of election management services. In Nassau County Government, she served as Deputy Bureau Chief in the County Attorney’s Office and as Chief Deputy Clerk, providing extensive counsel on a broad array of municipal contracts and governmental transactions, human resources issues, employment, and labor law matters.

Michele Cusack is a senior health care executive with more than 20 years of experience. As Northwell Health’s Chief Financial Officer, she manages the health system’s day-to-day finance operations, various corporate financial operations, including financial planning, budgeting, reimbursement, accounts payable, internal audit, cost accounting, cash management, tax management, risk management and other financial functions that collaborate with revenue cycle, managed care and operational teams across the organization. Ms. Cusack, a Certified Public Accountant, has an administrative role on the Finance and Audit Committees of Northwell’s Board of Trustees, and she is a member of Hofstra University’s Zarb School of Business Dean’s Advisory Board. She is also an alum of Hofstra University. Michele and her husband Jim live in Nassau County with their four children, and their three daughters actively participate in local Girl Scout troops.
Vikki Ernst-Chang is a former Girl Scout of Nassau County who for over two decades has been shaping cultural conversation through television. She began her career as a Producer’s Assistant at The Rosie O’Donnell Show. Through her natural instinct for innovative storytelling and adept ability to optimize (and monetize) multiple platforms, she carved out unique career opportunities for herself on series including Late Night with Jimmy Fallon and The Ellen DeGeneres Show. It was on Ellen’s show where Vikki truly honed her expertise in telling the human-interest story and television marketing, it was this prowess that led her work on the launch of Oprah Winfrey’s cable empire, OWN and eventually to her current role as a Supervising Producer for The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. Vikki is an expert in finding the story that doesn’t make headlines...yet...and bringing attention to it. Her segments over the years have also given away millions of dollars to viewers and charities who needed help and promoted STEM initiatives for young children. She has also won two Emmys; broken national news; launched Ellen on social media; booked and produced celebrities, politicians, athletes, chefs and found emerging talent such as Ellen DeGeneres’ longtime sidekick Jeannie and Jimmy Fallon’s teenage animal expert Robert Irwin but her greatest accomplishment is being a mom to her twins Camden and Harper. Vikki lives in Nassau County with her family.

Brigette DaSilva is the Assistant Vice President of Retail Banking for Bethpage Federal Credit Union where she leads and directs all aspects of Retail Banking for the seven branches that she manages. Brigette supports the empowerment of branch teams that foster an environment where employees excel and members receive memorable experiences. In her 19+ year tenure at Bethpage, she has served in many different roles across the organization and her focus has always been to ensure that employees and members are a top priority and that they are always looking for ways to enrich their lives. In 2019, Brigette was selected for Bethpage Federal Credit Union’s Enriching Lives Award and was recognized for her participation in the local community. Brigette has served on the board of the Seaford Chamber of Commerce for six years. She is also an advocate for their members, always looking for ways to make their experiences better. In addition, Brigette was nominated for her ability to recognize employees and promote growth and develop their skills. Brigette’s goals are to continuously advocate for change, be agile in her work, and look to grow the future of Retail Banking for Bethpage.
Susan Ganz is a Business Strategist and a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist with Ganz Strategic Solutions. She works with CEOs, executives, and their teams on their organizations’ growth and change initiatives. Susan supports the C-Suite in “staging” their businesses to grow through acquisition and to exit successfully. She is a creative problem solver who leverages her broader corporate experience for major companies, such as JPMorgan Chase, Ernst & Young, Merrill Lynch, Credit Suisse, Mass Mutual, and Prudential, in project, strategic change, and financial management—“a Swiss Army knife” of skills. She is a sought-after speaker on diversity and inclusion, leadership, business strategy, and business development. Susan has been quoted in several well-known publications, such as the New York Times, Forbes, and the Wall Street Journal for her leadership expertise.

Due to her core value of giving back, she is also involved in several professional and community organizations regionally and globally, including the Financial Women’s Association where she is a former President; Financial Executives International, Long Island Chapter—Women’s Initiatives Leader; and USA500 Clubs’ Women Inclusion Group. Susan holds a BS in Clinical Psychology from Tufts University and has her MBA in Finance and Strategic Management from The Wharton School. She also holds the Certified Family Business Specialist (CFBS) designation from The American College.

Julie Strachan Haiber is an attorney and Global Account Executive with Thomson Reuters, where she works with the world’s largest law firms on document automation, knowledge management and workflow initiatives. She has worked at Thomson Reuters since 2005.

Ms. Strachan Haiber earned her law degree from New York Law School and her BA from The George Washington University in Washington, DC with a double major in English and Theatre.

Ms. Strachan Haiber grew up in Merrick and currently resides there with her husband and daughter. She has served as a troop co-leader of her daughter’s Brownie troop since 2016. She also participated in Girl Scouts as a child in Merrick schools.

*Incumbent
Susan MacDonald is a Daniel Gale Sotheby’s Realty top producer for the last 16 years who comes from a prior 25-year business background, including marketing in engineering, architecture, and financial service firms.

Her belief in residential real estate is “Every home has a family, every family has a story, and for a brief period in time, I am privileged to be a part of that story”.

Susan is a fundraiser and volunteer for The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) in Hempstead—co-chairing one of their largest annual fundraisers—a fall networking luncheon at The GC Hotel. Most recently she has become a Board Member of Girl Scouts of Nassau County, serving on their Fund Development Committee. She also serves on the Board of Homecoming Farm, a nonprofit, organic farm at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Dominic. Homecoming Farm grows thousands of pounds of organic produce for The INN each season, as well as providing public CSA shares. Susan is a Co-President of Ellevate Long Island—women’s networking with a purpose. Bringing together professional women, community leaders, nonprofits, and students in mutually beneficial ways.

She is also involved in her community. She serves as a Board Member and Past President of the Garden City Foundation—a small Village foundation helping families in need and providing an annual scholarship, and is a Past President of The Mineola-Garden City Rotary. Susan is Committee Chair for the annual Chamber of Commerce Pineapple Ball. She is also an active committee member and volunteer for her church, The Cathedral of the Incarnation, specifically spearheading The INN initiatives and the Social Justice Ministry.

Her belief in all she does is “Love is why we are here, and love is expressed in service”.

Dr. Steven C. Lindo is a Senior Level Director & Technology Head for the Coding & Regulatory Business Unit at Wolters Kluwer. He has over 30 years of industry experience and has a passion for business and technology. He holds a bachelor’s and a master’s degree from Hofstra University and earned his doctorate at Pace University, Seidenberg School of Computer Science. Dr. Lindo currently teaches at Hofstra in the School of Engineering, Department of Computer Science.

Dr. Lindo is also the co-founder and President of SpringBoard Incubators Inc. SpringBoard is a 501(c)(3) organization located at 50 Clinton Street, Suite 600, Hempstead, NY. 11550. SpringBoard’s main mission is to bridge the digital divide and knowledge divide in STEM. Their educational programs and workshops focus on preparing students interested in pursuing higher education and careers in IT. As incubator and business accelerator, their main goal is to provide the essential services that helps startups, and struggling business owners overcome the hurdles that they are facing.

Steven Lindo and his wife Janice were married at St. George’s in June 1991. Together they have three beautiful children, Briannah, Brittany, and Brandon. Steven has served three three-year terms, each on the vestry at St. George’s and continues to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee. Steven was also elected to serve two terms in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island, Diocesan Council under Bishop Horace G. Walker and then again for Bishop Lawrence Provenzano. Steven is also a community leader and mentor. He volunteers and supports community food drives, provides care packages for nursing homes, and participates in other service projects in the Village of Hempstead.

Board of Directors, Members-At-Large (continued)
Alexandra McCormick, better known as Allie, has been a Girl Scout for nine years. Allie has received her Bronze Award, Silver Award, and is working on her Gold Award. Girl Scouts has dramatically impacted her life for the better and truly shaped her into the person she is today. Within Girl Scouts, Allie has participated in the Media Girl Unit for six years going on countless interviews, the Ceremonial Unit for six years, and is a member of the GS farm. Allie was selected to participate in the recent GrubHub commercial.

Additionally, she was selected to be an alternate delegate at the Girl Scout National Council Session. Allie serves on the Girl Leadership Commit- tee and will be a member of it for the next two years. Outside of Girl Scouts, Allie is on a travel softball team where she has been playing for eight years, plays four instruments (alto saxophone, keyboard, guitar, and ukelele), and is in five clubs at school (environmental, JMAC, Jericho United, VolunTeens, and Souper Heroes). Allie loves Girl Scouts so much, and is so grateful for all of the opportunities she has had because of it!

Lasherelle Morgan is the Senior Corporate Counsel at Amazon Studios, where she supports original film and movie productions for Latin America and Japan. Previously, Lasherelle was the Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel at Madison Square Garden Entertainment (MSG) and led the entertainment legal team in structuring and advising on production deals for the MSG Sphere venue in Las Vegas as well as for the expansion of the Christmas Spectacular Starring the Radio City Rockettes.

Throughout her 20 years of experience as a media and entertainment attorney encompassing premium television, film, theatrical and audio content, Lasherelle has strategically negotiated hundreds of deals in connection with the acquisition, development, production, and distribution of original and licensed content. Prior to MSG, Lasherelle led the original audio content legal team at Audible (an Amazon company) as Senior Corporate Counsel and Head of Content Legal. Before joining Audible, Lasherelle served as Vice President, Business and Legal Affairs at Viacom Media Networks where she supported unscripted and digital original programming, and Head of Business and Legal Affairs at EPIX (a joint venture of Paramount, Lionsgate and MGM), where she managed all business and legal affairs matters in connection with theatricals and original programming. Lasherelle also held legal and business affairs roles at HBO and Food Network respectively after beginning her legal career as a mergers and acquisitions attorney at the international law firm of Latham and Watkins. Lasherelle is a member of both the California and the New York State Bar and is a proud graduate of Clark Atlanta University and Columbia Law School. She was born and raised in Los Angeles, California but has happily lived on Long Island, New York for the past 15 years with her husband and two children.
Melanie Pavlidis is a GSNC adult volunteer, a Girl Scout Honor Pin recipient, a Gold Award Girl Scout, and a lifetime member from the Herrick’s Association. She was the mistress of ceremony for four Gold Award ceremonies, was the keynote speaker at the 2020 Gold Award Ceremony, and served as Head Teller at the GSNC Annual Meeting for five years. Melanie was also a member of the GSNC Chorus for ten years and a Media Girl for eight years. Melanie is also a member of the American Museum of Natural History Junior Council and the North Shore Land Alliance. Melanie previously worked at the Nassau County Legislature and GSUSA, Girl Scouts’ national headquarters in Manhattan, where she focused on corporate partnerships and fundraising. She currently works on corporate partnerships for Wix, a leading international website platform.

Melanie Sinesi is the Director of Community Affairs for Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone. She joined the County Executive’s team after four years with United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. Over the course of four years, Melanie worked as both the Senator’s Long Island liaison and the Deputy Director of Constituent Affairs, assisting thousands of New Yorker’s with their federal casework.

Over the course of her career, Melanie cites assisting hundreds of 9/11 first responders attain crucial benefits for themselves and their families as a critical way in which government can benefit its constituents.

Throughout 2020 and 2021 in her professional role, Melanie worked throughout the pandemic to ensure the community had access to critical information and updates regarding COVID-19.

Melanie credits Girl Scouts as the first institution that taught her how to be a leader. She obtained her Girl Scout Gold Award in 2008, and has continued her Girl Scout career through her role on the GSNC Governance and Board Development Committees, and as a past National Delegate and Bay Association Delegate Chair.

*Incumbent
Madison Spanodemos is honored to be re-nominated to serve her second term as a Member-at-Large of Girl Scouts of Nassau County’s Board of Directors. During her more than ten years as a girl member of GSNC, Madison has been involved with many Council programs, including Media Girls, Ceremonial Unit, Girl Speak, Girl Scout Gardeners, and the NASA Astronomy Program, in addition to establishing and directing Girl Speak Junior, she also served as a founding member of the Girl Leadership Committee of the Board of Directors and was its first-ever Committee Chairwoman. Finally in 2020, Madison earned the Girl Scout Gold Award for her project dedicated to increasing youth involvement in government.

Madison has worked on numerous political campaigns, including races for the United States House of Representatives, New York State Senate, New York State Assembly, New Hampshire State House, Nassau County Executive, Nassau County District Attorney, and Nassau County Legislature, to name a few. She brings a diverse skill set, having served in various campaign roles, from Deputy Campaign Manager to Director of Communications. She is also a contributing writer to various political publications and is a Cabinet Member for an organization dedicated to empowering women in government.

Madison is a Sophomore at St. John’s University’s Tobin College of Business, where she is a member of the Thomas J. Cox, Jr. Honors Program. A recent graduate of the Campaign School at Yale and Our Lady of Mercy Academy in Syosset, Madison’s been awarded a Congressional Certificate of Merit in American History and Political Science, the Centennial Institute’s Under 30 Rising Star Award, and the AP Scholar with Distinction honor.

Anne Marie Spensieri-Fidis is Finance Manager North America for Brussels Airlines. She is a New York State CPA who began her career at Ernst & Young as an auditor. Ms. Spensieri-Fidis has worked as an accountant for over 30 years as an auditor, a sole proprietor, and in the manufacturing, medical, and airline industries.

Ms. Spensieri-Fidis lived in West Hempstead most of her life. She is a graduate of New York University and West Hempstead High School. She loved being a Girl Scout as a child. Ms. Spensieri-Fidis is the proud mother of three daughters and a son. All three daughters are Silver Award recipients and her son is an Eagle Scout.

Ms. Spensieri-Fidis is an active volunteer in the community. In 1996, Ms. Spensieri-Fidis became a troop leader for her oldest daughter in the West Hempstead Franklin Square Service Unit. She continued as a volunteer in the community as troop leader for her other two daughters as well. Ms. Spensieri-Fidis also served the WHFS Service Unit as a member organizer, delegate, and delegate chair and served on the GSNC Delegate Communications Committee. She is currently WHFS treasurer and alternate delegate and chair of the GSNC Board Development Committee.

In addition to her commitment to Girl Scouts, Ms. Spensieri-Fidis has been involved with many volunteer organizations. Her past volunteer commitments included school board member and president, PTA member and treasurer, Boy Scout den leader, and vice president of the Hofstra Parent Council. She is currently treasurer of the Christian Mothers in Franklin Square.
Lauren Summa was raised in Pittsburgh, PA where she participated in Girl Scouts at a young age in a troop led by her mother. From her involvement in Girl Scouts, it instilled in her the importance of challenging yourself to achieve your goals and to push for women to have a seat at the table.

A Dean's List scholar at Hofstra University, Summa holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Journalism and a Master of Arts degree in Speech Communication. During her time in college, she was President of the Hofstra University Chapter of the Radio-Television News Directors Association, member of the Broadcast Education Association, the New York Women's Agenda and an Advocacy Intern at the Women’s Sports Foundation.

Ms. Summa has more than ten years of experience in the public sector. She began her career in politics in 2009 as an aide to State Senator Craig Johnson. As an advocate of women's issues, Summa proposed the idea for new legislation (S6894A) sponsored by Senator Johnson which would require insurance coverage for the HALO breast pap test to detect risk of developing breast cancer. As a proponent of equality for women and to help gain support for the New York State Fair Pay Act sponsored by Senator Johnson, Summa came up with the idea of distributing lilies throughout the 7th Senate District at train stations in honor of Lilly Ledbetter. She also worked with OfficeMax on their annual “A Day Made Better” campaign that honors teachers nationwide.

In 2011, Ms. Summa became Supervisor Jon Kaiman’s Director of Constituent Affairs at the Town of North Hempstead. Currently, she serves as Supervisor Judi Bosworth’s Resident Advocate for the Town of North Hempstead and works tirelessly on constituent issues. Ms. Summa also empowers young people by mentoring, organizing professional development events and networking opportunities.

Leah E. Watson is a Senior IT Project Manager at British Airways, who has achieved an excellent reputation for project management and interpersonal skills over her 32 years of service. Leah received the British Airways “Above and Beyond” award for successfully managing a six-million-dollar corporate IT initiative. She received the British Airways Outstanding Teamwork Award and was selected by colleagues for demonstrating British Airways Values of Honesty and Responsibility.

Through Leah's organizational affiliations, she utilizes her innovative leadership skills to inspire and motivate others. Leah is the immediate past president of the Long Island Chapter of The Links Incorporated. Under her leadership, she established the first National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) chapter for middle school girls on Long Island.

Leah is currently serving as the Eastern Area Communications Chair, responsible for all social media channels, distribution of a bimonthly area newsletter and Eastern Area Director press releases.

Leah has served as a Board Member and Public Policy Chair of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Long Island Chapter, Inc. In January 2020, Leah was appointed as the Vice Chairman of the Ivy Foundation Suffolk-Nassau Counties Inc., responsible for Fund Development.

Leah is the recent recipient of the 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Award from the Eta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. She has received several leadership awards from various community service organizations.

Leah received her Bachelor’s Degree in Operations Management from Pace University, Pleasantville, New York. Leah earned a Certificate of Management Studies from Oxford-Brookes University (UK) and is a graduate of the Dale Carnegie Training Institute in Effective Speaking and Human Relations.
Pawel Zagaja

Pawel Zagaja is a Senior Director of JFK Gateway for DHL Express. Pawel started his DHL career in 2007 and since then, he has been leading teams in different roles and capacities within the Northeast region of the United States. Before that, he started his career in logistics by pure accident as a package handler at DHL’s competitor. He quickly fell in love with a dynamic, fast-paced environment surrounded by great people. Pawel was born and grew up in Poland—he moved to United States in 2002. He refers to himself as proof of American Dream existence—that anyone, regardless of where they were born or what class they were born into, can attain their own version of success in a society in which upward mobility is possible for everyone. He believes that taking initiative, being fair, persistent, respectful, and hard-working are the main keys to success. He is a devoted husband of Paulina, passionate father of four beautiful kids: Gabriella (12), Alexander (10), Sebastian (8), and Adriana (4). He is a well-known car enthusiast and a huge fan of motor racing of different kinds—specifically the Formula 1 championship and MotoGP. During his free time, he tries to keep an active lifestyle: boating in the summer, biking in the spring, and skiing/snowboarding in the winter. He left out fall due to Holiday Rush preparations at DHL as it does count as an active time as well!

John Zhao*

John Zhao is a native New Yorker with a passion and career in technology. Having been immersed in technology since his early teens, he founded his first technology startup in the early 2000s before completing his degree in Electrical Engineering at The Cooper Union. After graduating summa cum laude, he went on to work for Bloomberg LP in 2006 and has been with the firm since. John currently serves as a Director of Software Engineering in the Internal Applications Department where he oversees over 30 software engineers. At Bloomberg, John has not only worked to build out world-class software and technology for one of Wall Street’s most important companies but spends a good part of his time coaching and mentoring up-and-coming leaders and new hires.

When John is not at work, he is home with his wife and two kids in Bethpage, where he has resided since 2013. You will find him playing guitar and piano with his kids, engaged in an intense game of Monopoly, or off biking and hiking when the weather is nice.
Kevin E. Boston-Hill is the consummate educator. Currently serving as a public speaking professor, he has been an educational leader in New York for over 25 years. He has taught science, social studies, math, English, and technology to students of all ages and has conducted workshops to teachers, schools, and districts. He is also an instructional coach to teachers and administrators at various stages of their careers.

Kevin is also a voice actor and has recorded several audio and video projects that were used for professional development and training purposes. He is also host of two radio shows at Nassau Community College—WHPC Sports Talk and Instruction Discussion, an education-based program.

Kevin has used his experiences as a sports official in baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball to further connect with and motivate the people he comes in contact with. His workshops and seminars on leadership, time management, and communication are popular and draw big crowds. He has worked with companies and individuals in a variety of industries and has spoken to high school and college students from around the country.

Kevin is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and serves as the Northeastern Province Guide Right Chairman. In this role, he oversees the mentoring activities of the various chapters from Rhode Island to Delaware. He is also a leader within Boy Scouts of America, having served as a scoutmaster and den leader.

Kevin currently lives in West Hempstead, NY with his wife, son, and daughter.

Raven A. Brewington is currently an Administrative Fellow at Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, Arizona. She works on various optimization, implementation, and operational projects across the clinical spaces and enterprise to prepare to become a hospital administrator. She joined Weill Cornell Medicine in 2016 right after graduating with a Bachelor’s of Science from Temple University. Raven discovered her interest in information systems and the ability to improve clinical documentation workflows. Raven has served in various leadership capacities for the New York Regional Chapter of National Association of Health Services Executives (NAHSE) and is a member of Healthcare Leaders of New York Chapter of the American College of Health Care Executives (ACHE). Raven holds a Master of Health Administration ('19) and a Master of Public Health ('20) from Hofstra University. In the midst of building her professional resume, she has continued to be an active lifetime member of Girl Scouts of Nassau County by serving as a troop leader, National Delegate, Board Development Committee and Governance Committee member.
Deandra Denton

Deandra Denton is a second-year student at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University. At the law school, she serves as an Associate Staff Member for the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel Law Journal. Deandra is Co-Founder of Hofstra Law’s Women of Color Collective, and currently serves as Co-President. Additionally, Deandra is a Freedman Social Justice Fellow, Treasurer of the Tax Law Society, and member of the Dean’s Student Advisory Council, Black Law Students Association, and Hofstra Law Women Society. Deandra works as a Legal Honors Extern in the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission’s Division of Enforcement. She has previous experience at the New York State Attorney General’s Office, S&P Global, and several Long Island-based nonprofit organizations. She is a recent graduate of Hofstra University and has a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, in Sociology and Public Policy and Public Service. In her junior year of college, she was elected as Vice President of the Hofstra University Student Government Association. Deandra was born and raised on Long Island, New York. She is a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts of the USA. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Janet Nina Esagoff, Esq.

After studying at the Fashion Institute of Technology, at the age of 19, Janet Nina Esagoff launched and ran her own successful fashion atelier for 12 years. Post-9/11, at 34, Janet pivoted and pursued her bachelor’s degree at CUNY’s Baccalaureate Program. Subsequently, as a single mother of four, Janet obtained her J.D. at Hofstra School of Law. Janet is admitted to NYS, federal courts, and the U.S Supreme Court. In 2017, she founded the Esagoff Law Group. Always pragmatic, Janet is a self-styled “Licensed Problem Solver.” Her firm offers free consultations and flat fees—no hourly billing. Janet commits herself to pro bono legal services way beyond what is required by NYS bar requirements. Janet has been honored by Super Lawyers since 2013, recognized by the NYS Senate, Nassau County, Town of North Hempstead, Hofstra Law, Martindale Hubbell, and the Nassau County Bar Association for her pro bono work. Janet proudly serves on the Board of Directors of the Iranian American Bar Association-NY Chapter and as Treasurer of Yashar-Hadassah Bar Association. In March 2021, Janet founded Destination: Great Neck, a 501(c)(3) community organization, to stir the town’s economic development and accelerate pandemic recovery. Janet is inspired by her husband, a retired FDNY deputy chief and 9/11 first responder who now serves as a volunteer paramedic and officer at Great Neck’s Vigilant Fire Company. Besides her three sons and daughter (29-20), Janet is blessed with two daughters and a granddaughter by marriage.
Clara Giustino is the Vice President of Gas Complex Construction in National Grid. In this role, she oversees the management and construction of complex natural gas capital projects. In her 31-year career with National Grid, she has held leadership and individual contributor roles in Operations and Engineering. Clara was the first female Manager in National Grid’s Gas Control organization. She has a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering and an MBA in Finance. Clara immigrated from the Dominican Republic as a young child along with her family. In 2020, she received the Long Island Business News Top 50 Women in Business award. In addition, she received the National Hispanic Achiever Awards. Clara is published in the American Gas Association Operating Section Proceedings as a co-author for her work in vacuum technology. She serves on the board of the Long Island Builder’s Institute. She is also a member of The Energeia Partnership at Molloy College.

Clara serves as a mentor and frequent contributor to National Grid’s Young Women’s Leadership Conference and Engineering our Future Pipeline. Both programs support Clara’s and National Grid’s mission to inspire and prepare young people to succeed.

Jason Hembrey is the father of two lovely Buckley Country Day School daughters, Jasmine ’23 and Juliana ‘27, and married to an active Buckley mom, Jacquie. He is also a Trustee with Buckley. He was born and raised in Kentucky, went to a small community college in Florida, then graduated with two Bachelor degrees from New York University, one in Economics and one in Finance. After a few years in asset management at Blackrock, he switched fields to international trade and logistics at Wider Consolidated where he is the Director of Business Development. He is also the founder or co-founder of several other companies, most notably LilGadgets, the leading headphone manufacturer for children. When he’s not at work, Buckley, or the girls’ athletic competitions, you will probably find him reading, at the gym, dining out, or on the golf course.
Angela Stanley has worked for over 20 years in the entertainment industry and is the owner of an event management and business consultant company. She has participated on several panels in her local community at schools and conferences exposing youth to professional careers in entertainment. She has always been active in her community working on many community projects. She was a Girl Scouts troop leader for over ten years, currently on the Board of her Civic Association, and active in her church ministry. She is a member of several organizations (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, NAACP; Long Island African American Chambers of Commerce; and The New York Women in Film and Television).

Angela has been a member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Long Island Chapter since 2011 and has been active on many committees including Marketing & PR, Fund Development, Bylaws and Budget and Finance. Angela has also held many leadership positions in the chapter. She co-chaired the 2014 Biennial Black and White Ball which is the chapter’s major fundraiser for scholarships and programs and served on several committees for the 2020 Black and White Ball. She has served as Community Liaison for the Education programs, chaired the Teen Mentoring program at MercyFirst, co-chaired the Women and Girls Conference and was previously the chapter’s Third VP and Membership Chair where she implemented the “Sister Circle” a way to reclaim and retain members. Currently Angela serves as the chapter’s First Vice President and Program Chair where she’s helped guide Committee Chairs in executing transformative programming which has secured the chapter with two model status awards.

Anne Marie Spensieri-Fidis is Finance Manager North America for Brussels Airlines. She is a New York State CPA who began her career at Ernst & Young as an auditor.

Ms. Spensieri-Fidis has worked as an accountant for over 30 years as an auditor, a sole proprietor, and in the manufacturing, medical and airline industries. Ms. Spensieri-Fidis lived in West Hempstead most of her life. She is a graduate of New York University and West Hempstead High School. She loved being a Girl Scout as a child. Ms. Spensieri-Fidis is the proud mother of three daughters and a son. All three daughters are Silver Award recipients and her son is an Eagle Scout.

Ms. Spensieri-Fidis is an active volunteer in the community. In 1996 Ms. Spensieri-Fidis became a troop leader for her oldest daughter in the West Hempstead Franklin Square Service Unit. She continued as a volunteer in the community as troop leader for her other two daughters as well. Ms. Spensieri-Fidis also served the WHFS Service Unit as a member organizer, treasurer, delegate, and delegate chair. She is currently WHFS treasurer and a member of the Delegate Communications Committee.

In addition to her commitment to Girl Scouts, Ms. Spensieri-Fidis has been involved with many volunteer organizations. Her past volunteer commitments included school board member and president, PTA member and treasurer, and Boy Scout den leader. She is currently treasurer of the Christian Mothers in Franklin Square and vice president of the Hofstra Parent Council.
Julie Strachan Haiber is an attorney and Global Account Executive with Thomson Reuters, where she works with the world’s largest law firms on document automation, knowledge management and workflow initiatives. She has worked at Thomson Reuters since 2005.

Ms. Strachan Haiber earned her law degree from New York Law School and her BA from The George Washington University in Washington, DC with a double major in English and Theatre.

Ms. Strachan Haiber grew up in Merrick and currently resides there with her husband and daughter. She has served as a troop co-leader of her daughter’s Brownie troop since 2016. She also participated in Girl Scouts as a child in Merrick schools.