



Celebrating Women in STEAM

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics

- Amy Goodowitz Levin**
Sr. Director of Clinical Operations
Biotechnology
- Anna Barber**
Technologist/Entrepreneur
- Annamarie von Firley**
Toymaker/Engineering Design
- Aradhna Tripathi**
Director and Founder Center for
Diverse Leadership in Science
- Christine Ekstrand
and Sophia Ekstrand '13-'16**
Surgical Specialties
and Mirman Alumna
- Connie St. John**
Executive Director,
Neighborhood Music School
- Cora Quon**
Cybersecurity
- Daksha Luhar**
Math and Computer Science
- Dr. Anna Ciurlo**
Postdoctoral Scholar, Division of
Astronomy and Astrophysics, UCLA

- Dr. Anna Draganova Beloff**
Mathematician
- Dr. Dionne McClain-Mathews**
Spinal Medicine
- Dr. Inessa Grinberg**
Pediatrics and Genetics
- Dr. Jane Conlin**
Radiologist
- Dr. Leana Golubchik**
Computer Science
Professor/Dept. Chair at USC
- Dr. Lynn Gordon**
Professor of Ophthalmology
- Dr. Rachel Weinberg**
Rocket Scientist, MIT
- Dr. Sharon Gavin**
Scientist and Engineer
- Dr. Shoko Sakai**
Research Astronomer,
Division of Astronomy and
Astrophysics, UCLA

- Dr. Susan Wichayanuparp Lee**
Neurologist
- Dr. Yan Liu**
Associate Professor of Computer
Science, USC
- Elizabeth Currid-Halkett**
James Irvine Chair in Urban
and Regional Planning, USC
- Helena Samsioe**
Founder and CEO of GLOBHE
- Jennifer Burnham-Grubbs**
Risk Management
- Kathy Heaton**
Cybersecurity
- Kristan Andrews**
Production Designer
for Film and Television
- Natalya Kashper**
Architect
- Nati Rodriguez and
Blair MacLeod**
EdTech StartUp Consultant and
Mechanical Engineer/Artist

- Nicole Neeman Brady**
President, Edison Water Resources
- Nina Shapiro**
UCLA and Director of Pediatric
Otolaryngology at UCLA
- Nithya Ramanathan**
CEO and Technologist/
Environmental Health
- Patter Hellstrom**
Art Teacher, Mirman School
- Rashmi Nigam**
Digital Media and AI
- Renee A Yazdi**
Aerospace Engineer
- Sarmela Sunder**
Head and Neck Surgeon,
Facial Plastic and
Reconstructive Surgeon
- Sigin Ojulu**
Technology Entrepreneur
Virtual Reality
- Susan Bukata**
Orthopedic Surgeon, UCLA



Friday, March 15, 2019

Keynote Speaker



Helena Samsioe

Founder and CEO of GLOBHE

Creating a better future with drones

Helena is the CEO and Founder of GLOBHE, a startup on a mission to create a better future with drones. Helena is a firm believer that the future of possible is already here and passionate about using innovative technology and collaborations to show it.

Helena has been ranked "World's Top 50 Women in Tech" by Forbes, ranked among the top 100 young business leaders in Sweden, named among the "Top Women to Watch in the Drone Industry" and has been featured as the "Drone Queen" on BBC.

Presenters



Amy Goodowitz Levin

*Sr. Director of Clinical Operations Biotechnology
Clinical Drug Trials*

Amy Levin brings more than 20 years of drug development experience investigating a broad range of oncology drug candidates. She has been a key leader within several development programs that resulted in marketing authorizations for several drug candidates. Amy began her career as a Pediatric Nurse and went on to work in the clinical research industry at Amgen and both Cougar and Puma Biotechnology. Amy received her BSN degree in Nursing from The University of Texas in Austin.

Presenters



Anna Barber

Technologist/Entrepreneur

Using Artificial Intelligence to Make the World Better

Anna Barber is the Managing Director of Techstars LA where she invests in early stage technology startups. She has past experience as a founder or early employee at 5 different startups, and is an advisor or investor in over 25 companies in Los Angeles. She is a frequent writer and speaker on entrepreneurship and women in technology and specializes in the “idea to launch” phase of starting a business.



Annamarie von Firley

Toymaker/Engineering Design

Toys and their Mathematical Secrets:

A hands-on exploration of differential geometry

Mirman parent Annamarie von Firley wears many hats: toy designer, professional dancer, perfumer, furniture designer, fashion designer, flying trapeze artist, serial entrepreneur and toy store innovator.

Presenters



Aradhna Tripathi

Director and Founder Center for Diverse Leadership in Science

Hidden in rock, frozen in time: Understanding climate change

Professor Aradhna Tripathi is from Los Angeles and works at UCLA in the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability. She studies Earth system processes and how they are represented in climate models, and uses the chemistry of sediments to study the history of climate change. She also is the faculty director and founder of the Center for Diverse Leadership in Science. Her work with the center is focused on educating, recruiting, and retaining women into environmental science to generate innovation, because it has some of the lowest rates of diversity of all fields. She has received numerous awards for her research and outreach programs including a Presidential Award in Science and Engineering from President Obama and the National Science Foundation.



Christine Ekstrand and Sophia Ekstrand '13-'16

Surgical Specialties and Mirman Alumna

Orthopedic Surgery and Stem Cell Research, a field for women and men

Dr. Ekstrand is a current Mirman parent and clinical faculty at UCLA Department of Orthopedic Surgery. She grew up in Germany, came to the USA to play tennis in college and ended up going to medical school and becoming an orthopedic surgeon. She recently was voted top orthopaedic surgeon in California by the Leading Physician of the World.



Sophia Ekstrand is a Mirman alumna. She is currently a junior at Harvard Westlake and is a research assistant at the famous Broad Stem Cell Center at UCLA. She is working on blood stem cells and will be presenting her data at the International Society of Stem Cell Research in the summer of 2019.

Presenters



Connie St. John

Executive Director, Neighborhood Music School
Art Can Be Your Superpower

Connie St. John served as executive director of the Neighborhood Music School from 2015 to 2019, revamping the organizational structure, increased fundraising goals, launched an alumni outreach program, oversaw the development of six performance ensembles, and established partnerships with prestigious and internationally known schools. Prior to joining NMS, Connie worked in marketing and management for various entertainment companies as well as several nonprofit organizations. Connie also served as the Regional Executive Director of OASIS, a national nonprofit which specializes in older adult learning. Additionally, Connie heads her own company, No Weapon Productions, which specializes in family friendly film and stage productions. Connie is an award-winning writer/director, who has written and produced over 100 stage and screenplays.

Presenters



Cora Quon
Cybersecurity
Journey to Success

Cora Quon is a Senior Vice President in the Global Information Security (GIS) organization at Bank of America where she leads the Third Party Identity and Access Management organization. She has nearly 20 years of experience spanning multiple technology-related disciplines including application development, program delivery, and strategic planning.

Cora is actively involved in several organizations within Bank of America that promote diversity and inclusion in the recruitment and development of talent. She is also a co-founder of a non-profit organization – Project Cyber – that focuses on increasing awareness and exposure of cybersecurity to young women.

Cora earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics with specializations in Computing and in Business Administration from the University of California, Los Angeles. She currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband and two kids.



Daksha Luhar
Math and Computer Science
Technology Improves our Lives

Daksha Luhar is a Software Development Manager at State Street Investment Bank.

Presenters



Dr. Anna Ciurlo

Postdoctoral scholar, Division of Astronomy and Astrophysics, UCLA

Exploring the center of our Galaxy

Dr. Anna Ciurlo currently works at the Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Los Angeles. Anna does research in Astrophysics. Their most recent publication is 'Hot molecular hydrogen in the central parsec of the Galaxy through near-infrared 3D fitting.



Dr. Anna Draganova Beloff

Mathematician

Falling in love with Mathematics

Anna Beloff was born and grew up in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Mathematics is a passion she followed throughout her life - from going to a Mathematics High School in Bulgaria to getting her Ph.D. in Mathematics from UCLA. Anna is now a partner at McKinsey and Company, partnering with pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies to bring products successfully to doctors and patients.

Presenters



Dr. Dionne McClain-Mathews

Spinal Medicine

Sports and the Spine

Dr. Dionne McClain is a Chiropractic Sports Physician and Qualified Medical Evaluator who also provide ergonomics and work site evaluations. She is also a certified lactation educator and Clinical Professor. She graduated from the University of Southern California, receiving her bachelor's degree in Exercise Physiology after which she continued her graduate studies in Athletic Medicine. She later received her MBA in health care management and her doctorate degree from Southern California University of Health Sciences. Dr. McClain has been involved in sports medicine for the past 20 years. Dr. McClain's past sports medicine experience includes; many years as an Athletic Trainer and supervisor at Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic clinic. She has worked with U.S.C.'s Athletic Medicine department, where she served as an Athletic Trainer and the team's Chiropractic Consultant. She has worked as the team's Chiropractor for local high schools, professional track clubs, the LAPD Centurion football team, and the Los Angeles Avengers. Dr. McClain has worked with many professional and Olympic athletes from the Rams, Raiders, Bills and Lakers as well as numerous celebrities. Additionally, she has received extensive training in nutrition, prenatal and pediatric chiropractic care and is a certified lactation educator. Dr. McClain provides ergonomic evaluations, work site evaluations, work hardening exercise programs, professional sports specific prevention evaluation, comprehensive nutritional evaluations utilizing functional bloodwork and corporate prevention evaluations for many companies concerned with the increasing workers compensation injuries. She lectures locally on many subjects, has published articles in Volleyball Magazine and has appeared on the Front Page morning show at KJLH radio. Dr. McClain owns McClain Sports & Wellness Inc. located in the Miracle Mile/Beverly Hills area of Los Angeles. She is also a Clinical Professor at the Southern California University of Health Sciences. Additionally, she was appointed by the Governor Brown to serve on the California State Board of Chiropractic examiners.

Presenters



Dr. Inessa Grinberg
Pediatrics and Genetics
The Great World of Pediatrics

Dr. Inessa Grinberg is a pediatrician at Beverly Hills Pediatrics. She enjoys working with children of all ages. Dr. Grinberg emphasizes preventative health and works to empower families with knowledge and support. Dr. Grinberg completed her undergraduate education in Molecular and Developmental Biology. She holds a PhD in Genetics and an MD from the University of Chicago.



Dr. Jane Conlin
Radiologist
What is a radiologist, what does a radiologist do?

Dr. Conlin grew up in Torrance, majored in Biochemistry at Berkeley, and is now a breast specialist radiologist in Orange County. She is the mother of two children.



Dr. Leana Golubchik
Computer Science Professor/Dept. Chair at USC
The Automation Revolution

Leana Golubchik is the Stephen and Etta Varra Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at USC. She also serves as the Director of the Women in Science and Engineering program. Prior to that, she was on the faculty at the University of Maryland and Columbia University. Leana received her Ph.D. from UCLA. Her research interests are broadly in the design and evaluation of large scale distributed systems, including hybrid clouds and data centers and their applications in data analytics, machine learning, peer-to-peer systems, and more recently privacy. Leana received several awards, including the IBM Faculty Award, the NSF CAREER Award, the Okawa Foundation Award, the IBM & NSF Doctoral Fellowships, the WTS-LA Diversity Leadership Award, the USC Remarkable Women Award, and the USC Mellon Culture of Mentoring Award.

Presenters



Dr. Lynn Gordon

Professor of Ophthalmology

Science and Medicine: A journey filled with passion, challenges, and friendships

Lynn K Gordon, M.D., Ph.D. is Professor of Ophthalmology at the Stein Eye Institute at UCLA, and the Senior Associate Dean for Equity and Diversity Inclusion at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Following her undergraduate training at Stanford University, she completed both the MD and PhD at Harvard University, and residency in ophthalmology and fellowship training in neuro-ophthalmology at UCLA. She is an active clinician scientist whose work has resulted in multiple patents and more than 100 publications, book chapters, and reviews. She serves on the editorial boards for *Ophthalmology Retina*, *Journal of Neuro-ophthalmology*, and the *Journal of Ocular Immunology and Inflammation*. Dr. Gordon had held leadership positions in several state and national professional organizations and is currently a member of the Board of Trustees and Chair of the Council of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. In her role as senior associate dean for academic diversity she helped develop programs on leadership development for mid-career women at the David Geffen School of Medicine and for the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. Her greatest passion is helping individuals realize their full potential.



Dr. Rachel Weinberg

Rocket Scientist, MIT

How to Get Things into Space

Rachel is a rocket scientist from MIT working on finding life on Mars at JPL. She founded MIT's Women in Aerospace Engineering group and coaches lacrosse. She went to space camp twice, once with her dad and again as a scuba diver training on spacecraft underwater.

Presenters



Dr. Sharon Perlmutter Gavin

Scientist and Engineer

Pixels in Pictures: Math, Movies, and More

Dr. Sharon Perlmutter Gavin obtained her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from UCLA and completed her M.S. in Electrical Engineering, M.S. in Statistics, and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University. After obtaining her Ph.D., Dr. Perlmutter Gavin joined Johnson-Grace Company as a founding member of its research team. The company was acquired shortly thereafter by AOL. During her tenure at AOL, Dr. Perlmutter Gavin became chief scientist and head of an international research and development division. She developed products in the image compression, image classification, voice communication, and face recognition areas. She also worked for Warner Bros., where she invented the critically acclaimed "Ultra Resolution" technology that is used to restore and improve the quality of classic film properties. Dr. Perlmutter Gavin has published a number of scientific papers and has 32 patents.



Dr. Shoko Sakai

Research Astronomer, Division of Astronomy and Astrophysics, UCLA

Bigger Eyes to See More of the Universe

Dr. Shoko Sakai is an Assistant Research Astronomer at UCLA. She has worked extensively on the distance scale of the Universe, determining the expansion rate and the age of the Universe. More recently, she has joined the Galactic Center Group at UCLA, focusing on the supermassive black hole at the center of our Milky Way Galaxy.

Presenters



Dr. Susan Wichayanuparp Lee

Neurologist

The Wonderful World of Neurology

Dr. Susan Wichayanuparp Lee was born in Thailand and grew up in the Los Angeles area. She attended college at UCLA, majoring in physiological science with a minor in accounting. Additionally, Dr. Lee worked as an accountant before entering medical school at Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Vallejo, CA. She completed her neurology residency at Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, AZ. Also, Dr. Lee completed a fellowship in neurophysiology at Cedars Sinai Medical Center and UCLA.

Outside of work, she enjoys reading, traveling, and good food!



Dr. Yan Liu

Associate Professor of Computer Science, USC

Artificial Intelligence and Its Future

Dr. Yan Liu is an associate professor in the computer science department at University of Southern California. She was a research staff member at IBM Research before joining USC. She received her Ph.D. degree from Carnegie Mellon University. Her research interest is machine learning and artificial intelligence with applications to health care and transportation. She has received several awards, including NSF CAREER Award, Okawa Foundation Research Award, BioCom Los Angeles Catalyst Award, New Voices of National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, and more.

Presenters



Elizabeth Currid-Halkett

James Irvine Chair in Urban and Regional Planning, USC
The Creative Economy: The Innovation Behind Art, Culture and Consumption

Elizabeth Currid-Halkett is the James Irvine Chair in Urban and Regional Planning and professor of public policy at the Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Councils.

Currid-Halkett is the author of three books: "The Warhol Economy: How Fashion, Art and Music Drive New York City" (Princeton University Press 2007), "Starstruck: The Business of Celebrity" (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010) and "The Sum of Small Things: A Theory of the Aspirational Class" (Princeton University Press 2017).

Currid-Halkett's work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Salon*, the *Economist*, the *New Yorker*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*, among others.

Currid-Halkett received her Ph.D. from Columbia University.

Presenters



Jennifer Burnham-Grubbs

Risk Management

Girls, Money and Math - We Have Incredible Power

Jennifer Burnham-Grubbs co-founded Quantum Insurance Services in 2012 and now serves as President/CFO. Her vision, industry expertise and problem-solving skills drive the firm's ability to deliver excellent guidance and value for clients. As a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Princeton University, Jennifer brought her work ethic and critical thinking skills to her first insurance job at a boutique brokerage firm in Beverly Hills. Her interest in people, facility with numbers, and entrepreneurial spirit came together when she noticed that most insurance advisors see their work as sales, rather than consulting. To remedy this, she began leveraging her understanding of insurance products for the benefit of clients, not commissions, and helped found Quantum, a national commissions-agnostic insurance consulting firm. Now winner of the *San Fernando Valley Business Journal* Trusted Advisor Award and top Quora writer since 2016, she continues to serve as a dynamic force within her field and inspire Quantum team members to do the same. Jennifer grew up in a small town on the east coast and enjoys hot yoga, oil painting, and raising her two spirited daughters with her husband in LA.

Presenters



Kathy Heaton
Cybersecurity
DETOURS

Kathy Heaton is the Engineering Program Manager for Arkham Technology, a Defense Contractor that develops encryption devices for the DoD. She holds a Master's Degree in cybersecurity, is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), and is also a Certified Ethical Hacker (C|EH). A SoCal native, she grew up in Fountain Valley and now resides in Huntington Beach with her husband Sean, their 19-year-old stepson Gavin, their 10-year-old daughter Julia, and their animal friends Ruby (a cat) and Mochi (a dog).



Kristan Andrews
Production Designer for Film and Television
Art and Tech in Production Design for Film
and Television

Kristan Andrews is a production designer currently working for Netflix. She has also designed for Amazon Studios, Disney, ABC television, HBO and many others. She is responsible for the overall look of a show by designing and building the sets; creating the world that the characters inhabit. Production design and art direction is a perfect meeting ground for art and technology, as new tools enable designers to create anything imaginable.

Presenters



Natalya Kashper

Architect

Concrete: An introduction to various techniques for building using concrete

Natalya Kashper is a practicing architect in Los Angeles. She has a masters degree from Harvard Graduate School of Design and is the principal of dub Studios.



Nati Rodriguez and Blair MacLeod

*EdTech StartUp Consultant and
Mechanical Engineer/Artist*

Entrepreneurship, Startups, and Engineering

Nati Rodriguez is an edtech startup strategist that is driven to redesign our teaching and learning environments for the information age.



Blair MacLeod is a mechanical engineer and artist, graduated from UC Merced. She currently works at CodeRev kids as the head of the robotics department, developing and designing robotics kits for STEAM education.

Presenters



Nicole Neeman Brady

President, Edison Water Resources
Energy Generation & the Electric Grid

Nicole Neeman Brady has been President of Edison Water Resources, LLC, a subsidiary of Edison Energy Group since March 2016. Ms. Brady was organized Water Resources in 2015 to pursue water purification and wastewater treatment opportunities. Prior to Edison Water Resources, she worked in various operational and leadership roles within Southern California Edison (SCE), one of the nation's largest electric utilities and a subsidiary of Edison International. She was the Director of Energy Procurement where she was responsible for all energy contracting and power, natural gas and emissions trading for the company. Earlier in her career, Ms. Brady served as Director of Renewable and Alternative Power Contracts and manager of Strategic Projects. Before joining SCE, she worked in consulting for McKinsey & Co., strategic planning for Twentieth Century Fox and private equity for Goldman Sachs. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles and is a Board Observer at Enbala Networks. She holds dual Bachelor of Arts degrees, with honors, in architecture and in economics from Brown University and a Master of Business Administration degree, with distinction, from Harvard Business School.

Presenters



Nina Shapiro

UCLA and Director of Pediatric Otolaryngology at UCLA
What It's Like to be a Surgeon, and How to Tell Health Myth From Reality

Dr. Nina Shapiro is Professor of Head and Neck Surgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Director of Pediatric Ear, Nose, and Throat at the Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. A graduate of Harvard Medical School and Residency Programs, she has taken an interest in providing non-medical audiences with tools to decipher health information. Her book "HYPE", a Publisher's Weekly "Best Book of 2018," enables the reader to better understand exaggerations in health news. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, also a head and neck surgeon, and her two children, one of whom is a Mirman student.



Nithya Ramanathan

CEO and Technologist/Environmental Health
Innovations in Global Health

Nithya Ramanathan is the Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of Nexleaf Analytics, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving human life and protecting our planet by designing sensor technologies, generating data analytics, and advocating for data-driven solutions to global challenges. Nexleaf focuses on serving low-income countries working with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the United Nations, and other partners.

Presenters



Patter Hellstrom

Art Teacher, Mirman School

Erasing lines between Fine Art and Contemporary Methods

Patter Hellstrom is an artist, curator and educator based in the Los Angeles Arts District. Her varied projects span a super-graphic installations, gallery exhibitions of her work nationally and internationally, plus museum and corporate curatorial projects. Hellstrom has extensive experience as artist-in-residence and teaching. In line with Einstein's understanding –"Art is standing with one hand extended into the universe and one hand extended into the world, and letting ourselves be a conduit for passing energy" – the energy of experience is her subject matter. Isolated brush strokes executed with mudra-like precision give physical expression to an inner state of being, offering a platform to investigate the dichotomy between thought and emotion. That curious space is ripe with a complexity. The alchemy of how experience is lived out dwells in the constancy of change despite our desire for permanence. Composed of energy, emotions flow like water mixing with our consciousness generating an ever-changing landscape. Balance is reached as internal structural lines are held despite insistent disruptions, speaking to stability within chaos. A seamless method of applying ink with unlikely brushes to a slick surface records the ephemeral moment and spark of experience. Engaging technology, Hellstrom sees our experience of the world through digital devices. This became the focus of her 2015 exhibition, recognizing the ever-present smart phones' role in mediating and collecting experiences. "Quick Response" debuted interactive work at ArtHaus Gallery in San Francisco. Blending painting and interactive technology the vision was achieved. Viewers found a new way to connect through a layers of experience. First visceral, seeing saturated color and gestural movement then through a digital portal. A click of a smart phone app and the viewer moved deeper into each work. QR Codes include iPhone captures thus distilling experience through the device, bringing the experience full circle.

Presenters



Rashmi Nigam

Digital Media and AI

World of Influencer Marketing and its future

Rashmi loves video, data, AI, and emerging technologies. As a product manager she has launched new products in the influencer marketing, education, medical, dating, and video gaming spaces. Currently at theAmplify, she is building an influencer marketing platform that connects brands with influencers on all social platforms.



Renee A Yazdi

Aerospace Engineer

Engineering Space Systems

Renee has been engineering space systems for more than two decades. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Aerospace Engineering and a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering. When she isn't busy engineering space systems, she is a wife, a mother, a sister, an aunt, and a daughter. Her hobbies include making jewelry, hiking, yoga, and natural healing.

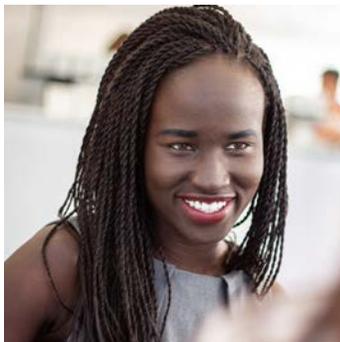
Presenters



Sarmela Sunder

*Head and Neck Surgeon,
Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon*
A Day in the Life of a Surgeon

Dr. Sarmela Sunder is a double board certified and fellowship trained surgeon specializing in facial plastic surgery in Beverly Hills. Dr. Sunder double majored in public health and anthropology at the Johns Hopkins University and continued her medical education at Cornell Medical College. In addition to earning her medical degree, she spent years doing research and published several articles in leading scientific journals. Her academic excellence took her to an elite residency program at Stanford University culminating with her serving as Chief Resident.



Signin Ojulu

Technology Entrepreneur/Virtual Reality
Reality Starts Here

Signin Ojulu is a refugee from the former Sudan (now South Sudan). She is an academic, filmmaker and entrepreneur whose work is primarily in cinematic virtual reality. She is also the founder of a start up in its initial phases, a VR company for education. Ojulu has degrees in economics (B.A.), political science (M.A.) and will earn her second masters in film and television production in May 2019. She has been honored as a citizen ambassador to the United Nations where she served on a special committee on Sudan / South Sudanese child development. Ojulu has also published papers through MIT (media lab) as well as the prestigious St. Gallen Symposium in which her paper was selected as a winning essay out of thousands of blind, global submissions from top universities all over the world.

Presenters



Susan Bukata

Orthopedic Surgeon, UCLA

Space travel and bad bones: how the astronauts are helping us find new medicines to help your grandparents

Susan Bukata is a Professor and Orthopaedic surgeon at UCLA. She is a clinician who takes care of patients with weak bone and with tumors. She is also a scientist who helps to develop medicines that make bones stronger, help bone to heal faster, and stop bones from breaking. She is a part of the Mission to Mars team for NASA that is trying to save the astronauts' bones from getting weak while they spend so much time at zero gravity during their travel to Mars and back (22 months!). Solving this problem for the astronauts can help protect your grandmother and grandfather from breaking their hips because they also lose bone in normal Earth gravity as they get older. She has been working on a medicine for stronger bones and better joints since before her children, Sydney Maslow (US 3) and London Maslow (US 2), were born which is now being tested in people, and along the way she has gotten to work with cells, mice, rats, rabbits, and sheep to get the medicine ready for people. She is also now learning how the bacteria in your gut might be able to help us strengthen our bones and how making that bacteria happy may provide the next medicine for both the astronauts and your grandparents!

Thank you!

Many thanks to Scott Snow and Stefan Orosco, UCLA Graduates, who facilitated our afternoon rocketry activities.

We were fortunate to welcome the following visiting schools on our campus today:
Nasri Academy for Gifted Children – Las Vegas, Nevada
Revo Academy – Thousand Oaks, California

Special thanks to the following faculty, staff, and parent volunteers for all their help in creating a truly special event:

Parent Chair

Alexandra Hughes

Administrative Chair

Jeffery Flagg

Faculty Committee Members

Emily Furnival

Paige Moyer

Alyssa Wray

Parent Volunteers

Lori Aramian, Juyun Barnavon, Charlean Carmon, Roxanne Davis, Jeannette Deshong, Kamran Fattahi, Whitney Fried, Wendy Ho, Shareena Kumar, Layne Knott, Yassi Lancer, Vinh Landecker, Synthia Lee, Marina Pellico, Jamie Phillips, Layne Rosen, Nazila Sina, Morgan Simonds, Deb Stark, Nina Tepper, Helen Tu, Mia Young-Adeyeba

Faculty and Staff

Women in STEAM would simply not have been possible if not for the hard work and dedication of every single member of the Board of Trustees, Mirman School administration, PSL Executive Board, faculty, staff, and assistant teacher cohort.

Thank you all.

Cover Art

Zoe O'Brien in Room 5Z

Food and Refreshments

Rosawan Rusmeepongskul



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