



## Letter from Outgoing President | Kimberly Miller

Over the past 7 years, I have served the LSAA board as Treasurer and more recently Board President. No one could have prepared me for the valuable lessons learned and the special relationships formed because of this unique experience. A graduate of the (2009) LS class, I embraced the experience with open arms, and little did I know it would have such a significant impact on me professionally, but more importantly personally. Not only did I learn how to lead by trial and error, I was supported by an amazing group of individuals that extended plenty of grace and mercy. Now the time has come for me to say “so long”, as my time on this board has come to an end. However, please allow me to reflect upon lessons learned from this transformative leadership experience:

- I learned that everyone has something to offer, and their personal uniqueness and experiences allowed our team to shine brighter and accomplish greater.
- I learned that mentors are invaluable, and their words of wisdom were small deposits into my spirit, which strengthened me to be better and do better.
- I learned that leadership is a shared responsibility, there is no perfect leader or solution, but positive guidance through constructive feedback empowers and leads everyone.

- I learned it's ok, to give praise, and thank everyone, for everything even the little things. Every word means something to somebody.
- Lastly, I learned to not take myself so seriously. To laugh, and enjoy the process of learning and to allow everyone else to laugh with me. Humility is what we strive for, laughter is how we get there!

Thank you to all of the board members that have served by my side over the years. Each one of you have positively impacted my life and propelled my leadership growth to new heights. Thank you past alumni, for the opportunity to represent our Leadership Stockton Alumni Association, we have accomplished much over the past 18 years, but we have greater in store for our future. Lastly, thank you community for your support of the Leadership Stockton Program and the Leadership Stockton Alumni Association. Your support, encourages us to stay involved and stay plugged into what is needed in our community. In my opinion, we need more enthusiastic, strong leaders that not only want to make a positive impact, they embody change by rolling up their sleeves and getting to work to be the impact we've been waiting for.

*Kim Miller*

## Incoming Officers

Congratulations to the incoming officers for the 2016–2017 fiscal year



*Donnie Hernandez*  
(LS 2013)  
President



*Chris Kay*  
(LS 2013)  
Vice President (Elect)



*Bakul Patel*  
(LS 2012)  
Treasurer



*Jehna Steinwert*  
(LS 2013)  
Secretary

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Lawrence Borgens (LS 1998), Adam Cheshire (LS 2013), Rames Creel (LS 2015), Shannon Ding (LS 2009), Toby Farnsworth (LS 2015), Erin Giles Diego (LS 2014), Erin Guy-Castillo (LS 2015), Stephanie Hudelson (LS 2016), Timm Quinn (LS 2008), Anna Sass (LS 2016), Trevor Womack (LS 2011)

## Community Leadership Breakfast | 2016



The Community Leadership Breakfast, now in its second year, creates an opportunity for leaders in a specific sector to present their triumphs, challenges, innovations and ideas. That's important, considering the fact that all of our city's citizens are looking for solutions and more importantly, what they can do to be a part of solutions. "Knowledge is power", says Kim Miller, President of the LSAA, "when you empower people with information, they are motivated to get involved and create change."

This year, education was the focus. The panel consisted of UOP President Pamela Eibeck, Delta College President Kathy Hart, and San Joaquin



County Office of Education Superintendent James Mousalimas. "We were very excited to hear their presentations" Ding said. "To be a part of this amazing event has been a privilege and I feel quite honored to play a small role in engaging my community."

The presentations did not disappoint. The nearly sold out audience learned about innovative and exciting opportunities to lift students of all ages to new levels of learning, thereby creating a more educated workforce and raising the regions prosperity as a whole.

Keep an eye out for the save the date for the 2017 event. For more information, visit our website [www.lsalumni.com](http://www.lsalumni.com).

## Casino Royale

October 3, 2015



The LSAA Board of Directors hedged a large bet in 2015 and took a chance on yet another new event. Just a few months after successfully hosting the first Community Leadership Breakfast, the expanding alumni network had another inaugural experience - a Casino Royale night. Hosted at the Shrum residence, guests enjoyed a night of casino gaming, music, food and flowing cocktails! Prizes were awarded to the top 3 gamblers and the winner of a Poker Tournament. Special thanks to Roger and Laurie Schrum (LS 2004) for sharing their beautiful home, to Haggerty Construction, Inc. and the many sponsors, and to the Leadership Stockton Class of 2016 for volunteering. The gamble paid off and a memorable and successful event proved to be a wonderful way to highlight the best network in Stockton!

## Leadership Stockton 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary | 2016



The Graduating Class of 2016 marked the 35th Leadership Stockton Graduating Class. Over the past 35 years more than 825 people have completed the program and gone on to do great things in our community and around the world. The projects the classes have completed and the skills they have learned have made Stockton a better place to live, work and play. We are so proud of all the Leadership Stockton graduates for their commitment to bettering themselves and the community in which they live.

## LS Distinguished Class Member Award | Anna Sass (LS 2016)



This year's Distinguished Class Member did a little bit everything. Anna Sass was very involved with the fundraiser which raised the most money ever raised by one Leadership Stockton Class in excess of \$40,000. Anna worked along-side her committee members to increase communication between the class and the subcommittees. Anna was instrumental in the promotion of the project to the media and public through press releases, social media, and the class website. Anna attended all class sessions with a smile and great attitude. Anna gently guided her classmates through the project by providing research and answered any questions the class may have had about their project. When it came time for the work days you could always find Anna working hard at the Stockton Police Department. Anna was always there with snacks and water for the class and volunteers on work days. Anna was a calming force even when the project updates got a little heated. It is for that reason the class has voted Anna Sass Distinguished Class Member of the Year!

## LSAA Contribution to LS Class | From the LSAA Board



The Leadership Stockton Alumni Association was a huge help with the 2015-16 Leadership Stockton class. They provided 2 scholarships for members of the class who would not have been able to afford it. After the August Leadership Dynamics Session the LSAA hosted a Class Welcome Mixer for the new class and alumni, it was a great way for the new class to meet alumni and see they are now a part of something bigger. Members of the LSAA Board came to the different sessions throughout the year and shared their support and knowledge with the current class. They were always there to help. The LSAA helped the

class get bowling teams for their extremely successful Bowling Fundraiser in January. LSAA President Kim Miller gave the class and inspirational pep talk at the February Non-Profit Session and made sure they were on track with their project. The LSAA sponsored the final session breakfast from Nena's for the class and were instrumental in making the graduation a success. The LSAA provided the flower centerpieces for graduation and LSAA President Kim Miller presented the LSAA Alumni of the Year and the LS Distinguished Class Member of the Year Awards at graduation.

## Letter of Thanks | Eric Jones, Chief of Police Stockton Police Department



The Stockton Police Department would like to thank the Leadership Stockton (LS) Class of 2015-2016 for their dedication and volunteer service, including the outstanding work they led to improve the appearance of our main facility and improve relationships with the community we serve. We are truly honored and grateful to receive this generous benefit.

The LS Class project, named "Police Encouragement And Community Engagement (P.E.A.C.E.)," truly fulfilled its name. Our officers and civilians are so encouraged and touched by the beautiful surroundings outside the main facility as they begin and end their shifts. Due to the willingness of the LS Class to assume leadership roles and effectively engage with the citizens of Stockton, they were able to raise the necessary funds for the landscaping, irrigation, lighting, paint, and new signage. In addition, they were able to coordinate with members of the community to create the Stockton PD's Ambassador Rose Garden, gifted from the University Park World Peace Rose Garden, and planted as a constant reminder that peace is possible.

During these challenging times, it means so much to have such an outpouring of support from our community. We are fortunate in Stockton to have such strong community leaders, such as the outstanding members of the Leadership Stockton Class of 2015-16, who truly care about our city.

We thank the Leadership Stockton Class of 2015-2016 for their time, effort, and support; and challenge them to continue as leaders within this community for the betterment of our region's future.

*Eric Jones*

Chief of Police

Stockton Police Department

## LSAA Distinguished Alumni Award | Peter Johnson (LS 2002)



Peter Johnson, a long-time supporter of Leadership Stockton and Leadership Stockton Alumni Association accepted the LSAA Distinguished Alumni Award with his family in attendance. Peter (LS 2002) served as President and board member for over 10 years with LSAA. Peter provided guidance to incoming President Kim Miller, and remained a supportive friend and mentor. Peter says the best part about his job is helping people with their challenges and acting as a conduit for finding solutions to their problems. Peter certainly shared his life experiences and expertise with the LSAA board and many other boards throughout Stockton and the San Joaquin area as Director for Westgate Center for Leadership and Management Development, Institute for Family Business, Eberhardt School of Business, at the University of the Pacific. Peter currently serves as board member for the YMCA and Boy Scouts of America.

## Board Recruitment | We Need People Like You



As a graduate of the Leadership Stockton Program, you learned what it takes to contribute to the success of a non-profit board. Working with a diverse group of dynamic individuals to plan and execute fundraisers and projects is what board service is all about. The Leadership Stockton program is designed to give you that experience while teaching you about what is going on in our community, where we have come from and where we are going. Motivated by a desire to make our community a better place, Stockton needs good board members now more than ever. With our busy jobs and our busy lives, it can seem like a struggle to commit the time to contribute to an organization as a member of their Board of Directors. But just like when you were in Leadership Stockton, what you find is that you are not alone. You are a part of a group that is greater than the sum of its parts, working together to make a difference in our community.

As an alumni of Leadership Stockton, you are eligible to serve on the Leadership Stockton Alumni Association Board of Directors. We need good people who are interested in supporting the Leadership Stockton program and the Greater Stockton Chamber of

Commerce to ensure that Leadership Stockton is making a difference in our community for years to come. Being a director of the LSAA board is a great way to stay connected to past and current classes by giving you the opportunity to directly participate in events like our class mixers and the Community Leadership Breakfast. You also have the opportunity to lend your voice and your service to the board as we grow membership and find new and exciting ways to engage past and current members through special events and networking opportunities.

The Leadership Stockton program received more applications in the 2016 - 2017 year than ever before! That was in no small part due to the continuing efforts of the Leadership Stockton Alumni Association Board of Directors. If you loved your time in the Leadership Stockton program and want to get that incredible feeling back, if you are looking for a way to stay involved with our community by serving an organization dedicated to making Stockton a better place, or if you just want to have fun working with the past and future leaders of Stockton, **consider joining the Leadership Stockton Alumni Association Board of Directors and help us move the program forward into a bright future!**

## LSAA Event Mixers



On December 9, 2015, LSAA held its annual Holiday Mixer at The Ave on the Miracle Mile in Stockton. The Ave generously closed to host our private event and provided amazing food. The Holiday Mixer afforded alumni an opportunity to network and celebrate the holiday season, while supporting our community by bringing an unwrapped toy to donate to a local charity. All toys this year were given to Haven of Peace. The LSAA Board selected Haven of Peace as the recipient as it shelters survivors of domestic violence and their children and provides their clients with the necessary tools to become self-sufficient.



On April 8, 2016, LSAA Spring Mixer gave LSAA alumni the chance to catch up with the current Leadership Stockton Class of 2016 and learn more about each other and the class project, P.E.A.C.E. Thank you to restaurant Octavio Cruces (LS 2015) of Casa Flores Marina for having us and for the delicious food and wonderful service. It was an evening of fun and excitement where past graduates and the current class mixed and mingled.

# LSAA Membership

As the Leadership Stockton Alumni Association (LSAA) approaches our fiscal yearend, the LSAA Board of Directors has one primary question to ask the over 800 alumni. What value and meaning does (LSAA) membership hold for you, personally, and for this community?

## **Continued Leadership Development**

**LSAA membership, with its affordable fifty-dollar annual fee, offers incredible opportunities for growth as a local leader, including:**

- Networking – stay engaged with fellow alumni at our free, fun, well-attended LSAA mixers throughout the year
- Education – receive member-discounted pricing toward our exciting and informative annual Community Leadership Breakfast, where executive level speakers from various sectors within our community highlight their own organizations

## **Apply what you learned**

**LSAA membership provides opportunities to apply what you learned from the Leadership Stockton program through, for example:**

- Serving on our diverse and highly motivated board of directors
- Leading one of the various planning committees for LSAA mixers and fund-raisers

## **Support the Continued Success of the Leadership Stockton Program**

**LSAA membership directly benefits current and future Leadership Stockton classes:**

- LSAA provides program scholarships each year, ensuring that qualified and capable community members, who would otherwise lack the financial means, are able to participate; benefiting both the recipients and the program as a whole
- Members can attend and assist with current classes
- Members are afforded “first option” to sit on the interview and selection panel for each new class

LSAA membership provides real value to the individual and the broader community. We strongly encourage you to continue your leadership development, apply what you have learned, and support the continued success of the Leadership Stockton program by joining or renewing your membership today!



**P. O. Box 7572  
Stockton, CA 95267**

## **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

**AMOUNT DUE:** \$50.00 FOR YOUR 2016/17 MEMBERSHIP FEES

We are excited to announce that this year you have the option to pay online via Eventbrite.

Please utilize this link to pay online: <http://lsaa2016-2017membership.eventbrite.com>

If you would prefer to pay by **CHECK** please make your check payable to Leadership Stockton Alumni Association (LSAA) and return to P.O. Box 7572, Stockton, CA 95267 **along with this mailing panel**. Please note member's name on the check. Changes can be directed to Bakul Patel at [bakulp@dorfman-pacific.com](mailto:bakulp@dorfman-pacific.com).

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