

LEAP Speaker Details

Session	Speaker Name & Photo	Biography
Inclusion: It's All About You!	Dorri McWhorter	<p>Dorri McWhorter became the CEO of the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago in March 2013. She has embarked upon a journey to transform the 140-year-old social service agency to a 21st century social enterprise. Dorri is moving the agency into the digital age by re-launching the TechGYRLS program, which focuses on developing STEM awareness for girls ages 9 through 14 and introducing 3D: Developing Digital Diversity, which provides web and mobile application development training to adult women. Dorri has also led the YWCA's expansion of digital services. She was included in the inaugural list of "The Blue Network", comprised of the top 100 innovators in Chicago, by Chicago Tribune's Blue Sky Innovation and recognized by Good City Chicago receiving its Innovative Leader Award.</p> <p>She received a bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master of business administration degree from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.</p>
Innovative and Engaging Meeting Formats	Darci Motta	<p>Darci is Sr Conference Manager with CSAA Insurance Group where one former leader claimed she had a creatively demented mind when it came to her event design. A St. Mary's College of California alum, she is active in MPI, FICP and a past president of SITE NCC. With the exception of two less-than-a-year-each misguided forays to Southern California, Darci has never lived more than 15 miles from where she stands right now. She is also MPINCC's Meeting Professional of the 3rd Quarter.</p>
Fostering LGBTQ Inclusion at your Event	Kiera Jackson Analicia Hawkins	<p>Kiera Jackson is the Senior Events Manager at Out & Equal. She has a Master's in Sport Management and has 6+ years in the Event Management industry with experience in both the corporate and non-profit sectors. Kiera is a woman of color and a proud Ally to the LGBTQ community.</p> <p>Analicia Hawkins is the Senior Events Associate at Out & Equal. She has 3 years of event planning experience, specifically addressing topics within the LGBTQ community. Analicia is a queer woman of color and has her Bachelor's in Multicultural & Gender Studies.</p>
LUNCH SPEAKER	Elizabeth Grigsby	<p>Elizabeth Grigsby has been working for Golden Gate Regional Center since 1995 as the Consumer Rights Advocate. Her philosophy towards self-advocacy is to help individuals with disabilities thrive and get the best services possible that they deserve. She always looks at the individual they serve as a whole person: their disability is second. She helps the people Golden Gate Regional Center serves to have a voice and to strengthen their voice in how they want their life to be –not how somebody else wants it to be.</p>
Leaving Your Mark	Brian Bouchelle Terri Russell	<p>Brian Bouchelle is a 25-year hospitality industry veteran working for Marriott, Hilton, Doubletree, Wyndham, the Walt Disney Company and most recently as Director, Global Accounts for Omni Hotels and Resorts. Brian is Past president of PCMANCC and a</p>

		<p>current board member. He has also served on the board of directors for MPINCC and most recently was chair of the Global Meetings Industry Day committee where over 400 industry professionals joined forces to raise awareness for our industry and money for the Search Foundation. Brian is focused on improving the stature of meeting professionals and helping to elevate our industry by remembering to give back, get more and leave your mark!</p> <p>Terri Russell, has been focused on the world of hospitality and tourism since she was 15! Her career includes experience onboard Cruise Ships to a variety of Hotel Sales and Operation positions. She has spent more than a decade involved with Global Sales for Starwood Hotels and now Omni Hotels and Resorts. Born and raised in beautiful Vancouver BC she is always inspired by nature!</p>
Meditation – A Love Story	Dada	Dada Nabhaniilananda, born in New Zealand, is a meditation instructor, an author, a keynote speaker and a musician. His book on meditation, <i>Close Your Eyes & Open Your Mind</i> , is available in twelve languages. Dada has taught Meditation and Creativity at organizations including Google, CISCO, Facebook, NVIDIA, LAM Research, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz.
Read My Badge: The pros and cons of a name, title, and job description	Zoe Moore	A zealous business owner, Zoe Moore owns Cultivate Event Artistry & Design, an experiential marketing company and founded LB Alliance, an event resource group focused on increasing diversity in the industry as an advocate, promoter and supporter of minority meetings and events professionals. Currently, the chair of the MPI NCC D+I taskforce, Zoe is eager to connect with others passionate about constructive disruption to antiquated practices.
The Sport of Sitting	Dr. Adrian Villalba Dr. Lance Von Stade	The doctors at Golden Gate Chiropractic Center focus on the Big Picture of Health. They help people eat, move, think and recuperate in order to increase resilience to stress. Based in the Cow Hollow district of San Francisco, Drs. Adrian Villalba and Lance von Stade are excited to share how you can get stronger even while at work.
Incorporating Interns: How do I include individuals new to our business? What are the benefits?	Moderator: Neil Adams Panelists: Zorianna Smith Shelley Matheny Kierstin Wilson	<p>Neil brings over thirty years of experience in sales and has been an active community member in the Special Events Industry for the past fifteen years. He is a Past President of the Northern California Chapter of ILEA and is currently serving as the Western Regional Vice President. He is also an active member of MPI, having Chaired it's Annual Conference and Expo (and will be doing so again in 2019), as well as serving on the Board of Directors of the SEARCH Foundation, and serving on the Marketing Committee for PCMA.</p> <p>Shelley Matheny, CMP started her career with Maritz Global Events and has worked on the corporate and third-party side of events before launching her own business, KidsAlong Events, a company specializing in events for children as part of meetings and</p>

special events. She's passionate about the world of hospitality and has planned events for Fortune 500 companies in tech, insurance, financial services and non-profit sectors, domestically and internationally. She's been featured in multiple industry publications, including a book for Career Ideas for Kids Who Like Travel and was awarded Sam Walton's Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year.

Kierstin is a graduate of the Department of Hospitality, Tourism, and Event Management at San Jose State University. She was the Mentor and President of the 2016-2018 HFTP Student Chapter at SJSU, organizing and directing numerous events throughout the years. She has also participated as an intern or volunteer for various events and conferences including World Medical Tourism Congress, American Lodging Investment Summit, and CSU Experience Hospitality.