Panelist Biographies

Emma Mayerson
*Founding Director | Alliance for Girls*

Emma Mayerson is the Founding Director of Alliance for Girls (AFG), a membership association of more than 150 organizations and individuals, serving more than 300,000 girls in the Bay Area. Under Emma’s leadership AFG has become the largest alliance of girls’ organizations and champions in the nation, working collectively to ensure girl-serving organizations are more connected, more effective, and better able to prepare the girls of today to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Emma is an experienced organizer and advocate for women and girls. She began her organizing career at Tufts University by co-founding the Jumbo Janitor Alliance, a student club that organized Tufts students to act as advocates for, and in community with, Tufts janitors. After graduating she became a Community Organizing Resident with the Progressive Jewish Alliance, organizing the Jewish community in support of the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights. In this role, Emma was trained by the Industrial Areas Foundation in community organizing.

Emma also worked at the Women’s Foundation of California where she worked on a speaking series that highlighted the stories of successful and civic-minded women in Los Angeles, California. Emma graduated cum laude from Tufts University where she won the Ted Shapiro Award for Outstanding Senior Thesis and was inducted into the Honos Civicus Society for her commitment to community service.

Lori Nishiura Mackenzie
*Executive Director | The Clayman Institute for Gender Research*

As Executive Director, Lori Nishiura Mackenzie leads the Institute’s efforts to build impact with gender research. She is co-founder of the Institute’s latest initiative, the Center for the Advancement of Women’s Leadership. Mackenzie is creator of the workshops: *the Language of Leadership* and *The Dynamics of Hyper-Effective Teams*. She is founder of the online Voice & Influence program aimed at providing people with the skills, information, and inspiration to be as effective as possible. This curriculum has been widely viewed through the Clayman Institute’s partnership with LeanIn.org, the Stanford Graduate School of Business, the Darden Graduate School of Business, and INSEAD.

Mackenzie frequently speaks about Women’s Leadership, and Seeing | Blocking Bias at leading companies and organizations. Conference presentations include Beyond Talk, Mt. St. Mary’s Women’s Leadership Conference, Girls Alliance Keynote, the MAKERS Conference, Professional Business Women of California, eBay WIN Summit, Cisco CTSO Women’s Conference, Amelia Earhart Society, VMWorld,

Mackenzie is executive editor of the See Bias | Block Bias Toolkits, which turn research into useful guidelines and worksheets to empower leaders to be more effective and inclusive. She is also founding editor of Gender News and the annual research magazine, upRising. Her articles have been published in Stanford news outlets, Harvard Business Review, the Huffington Post, and other media.

Mackenzie joined the Institute after working in marketing and business management for 20 years at leading companies such Procter & Gamble, Apple, eBay, PayPal, and CafePress. She has an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley. Mackenzie was a member of the Avon Global Women’s Strategy Think Tank, the Launch Team of LeanIn.org, and the Gender Equity Principles’ working group at the City of San Francisco Department on the Status of Women. She is currently on the boards of the Women's Foundation of California and the Alliance for Girls.

Katie Albright
Executive Director | Safe & Sound

Katie Albright, JD, (Executive Director) joined Safe & Sound in 2007, when it was named the San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center. Her prior experiences include SF Deputy City Attorney representing our public schools; SF Education Fund Policy Director leading a campaign to improve teacher quality and increase student retention; and, Preschool California Co-Director of Policy & Outreach campaigning statewide for universal preschool. Prior to serving as an associate at Latham & Watkins and clerking for the US District Court in Maryland, she co-founded and taught in the Kayole-Gitau Nursery School & Community Center in Nairobi, Kenya.

Katie actively serves on local and national, nonprofit and government boards and commissions. She received an Ascend Fellowship from The Aspen Institute and Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship at Stanford University. Katie graduated with honors from Georgetown University Law Center and Williams College. She lives in San Francisco with her husband and two children. When not working, Katie loves hiking with her family.