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BUSINESS JOURNAL



UNDER  
40

CLASS OF 2017

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## Remembering the past to build the future

Every year we honor outstanding young leaders in the Valley as part of our annual 40 Under 40 program. The honorees are judged on their achievements in business and in the community during their careers to date. Without exception, they present impressive resumes.

With that said, 40 Under 40 also is a listing of people who we can expect great things from in the years to come. In the past, some of our honorees have become leaders in the business community, in the nonprofit and education spaces, and have risen to heights in politics.

This year's theme for both our special section and our event held Aug. 3, was that of a yearbook, a compendium of those people making a difference. To that end, we asked our honorees a little about their lives, particularly about their high school years, what they wanted to do as a career and the people who influenced them. You can find those answers and learn a bit more about our 40 Under 40 class members on the following pages.

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### Dear 2017 40 Under 40 award winners,

Becoming successful doesn't happen by accident; it requires focus, determination, and resilience no matter what path you've chosen to reach this point. Being recognized for your achievements is a testament not only to your hard work and never-say-die attitude, but also to the promise your future holds.

Collectively, you represent a larger shared vision for Valley business. Your innovation and entrepreneurial spirit will help shape what's next for our community, and for that we are grateful.

At **ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business**, we know that today's achievements aren't good enough for tomorrow's challenges. That's why we reflect where business is headed, not where it used to be — more flexible MBA programs, master's degrees in business analytics and logistics, and full scholarships for all full-time MBA students to tear down traditional barriers for tomorrow's leaders. For two years in a row, ASU has been ranked as the most innovative university in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*, and that innovation is in everything we do at the **W. P. Carey School**.

We believe in the power of young leaders like you. You reflect what we look for in our prospective students, our corporate partners, and the 100,000+ W. P. Carey alumni leaving their mark on business in more than 150 countries around the world. And we hope to help many more professionals like you accomplish their goals in the years to come.

Here's to you — the changemakers. *Congratulations on your success so far, and on this incredible honor.*



*Amy Hillman*

Amy Hillman | Dean

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## Congratulations

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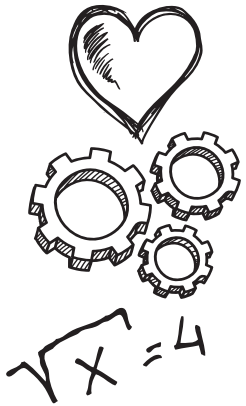
Recognized as an  
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40 UNDER 40

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## Jenna BENTLEY

**AGE:** 32

**COMPANY:** GOLDWATER INSTITUTE  
**TITLE:** DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**Favorite leadership quote:** "If not us, who? If not now, when?" — Ronald Reagan

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The 2014 Arizona mid-term election night; joining the Goldwater Institute; and when Goldwater's Free Speech in Medicine Act passed the Arizona House and Senate unanimously and was later signed by the governor into law.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An attorney.

**Your mentor:** I am fortunate to say I have had, and continue to have, several amazing mentors.

**Advice you would give the next generation:** Work hard, stay humble and always strive to improve.



## Eric Thomas BOTTOLFSEN

**AGE:** 34

**COMPANY:** MASS MUTUAL  
**TITLE:** DIRECTOR

**Favorite leadership quote:** "If you're lucky enough to do well, it's your responsibility to send the elevator back down." — Jack Lemmon

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Getting hired as a result of wearing my resume on a T-shirt I had made while waiting tables after college during the economic collapse; receiving a community involvement award through my current employer; and this!

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** The CEO of a Fortune 500 company

**Your mentor:** I have been fortunate to have several, however my mother believed in me the most.

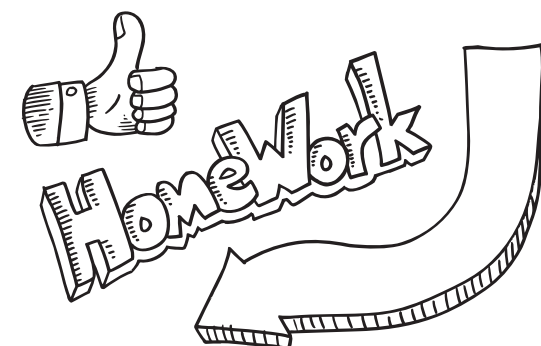
**Advice you would give to the next generation:** You will trip, you will fall, you might fall hard, and it will no doubt hurt. There is no amount of tripping or falling that hard work cannot fix.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I played hockey for most of my life.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Party animal

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** I was fortunate to have several see past the "too cool" talkative teenager and push me to succeed and not accept anything less.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Get in trouble for talking in class.





## Ali FAKIH

**AGE:** 37  
**COMPANY:** SEG  
**TITLE:** PRINCIPAL

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The most pitiful among men is he who turns his dreams into silver and gold." — Khalil Gibran

**Three most memorable moments in business:** My most memorable moment in business is my proudest moment: My parents' first visit to SEG's offices. I traveled to drought-worn Angola, Africa, where I developed grey water treatment systems to provide clean drinking water to homes. And when SEG, then a four-person firm, was selected as a prime on-call engineering firm for Maricopa County Department of Transportation.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I always wanted to be a civil engineer. I was lucky to find an outlet to help the community by improving the quality of life through the environment.

**Your mentor:** My mentor was collectively my parents. We never saw eye to eye, but through their process of dedication to the family, always demonstrating love and selflessness, I was able to idealize their experiences and achievements and apply them to my life.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Lead with your soul and be mindful of those around you. Our vision is the sole limitation of our abilities; our abilities will always grow to our vision.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I played soccer and competed in kick boxing.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I was a nerdy geek. A great Saturday night was spending hours on a statistics problem.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** My math teacher. He would spend hours debating a mathematics problem with me and would challenge me by scrutinizing my exams in an effort to find any small error. These challenges brought out my best.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Get into trouble.



## Nickolas CARDINALE

**AGE:** 38  
**COMPANY:** BARRETT-JACKSON AUCTION CO.  
**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "I hire people brighter than me, and then I get out of their way." — Lee Iacocca

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Being offered and accepting the assistant general manager position with the Harlem Globetrotters; getting promoted to general manager with the Harlem Globetrotters; being offered and accepting the general manager position with Barrett-Jackson

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An orthopedic surgeon for a professional sports team.

**Your mentor:** Both of my grandfathers, as they were hard-working men who instilled a strong work ethic in me, which has really helped me in my career.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Spend more time with people than your phone and/or laptop.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I played basketball, baseball and ran track in high school. I also was on the peer leadership committee.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I was not your stereotypical jock, but I definitely would fall into the athlete category.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Bob Schwartz, probably because he was my history teacher, which was an easy subject and he was also one of my basketball coaches.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Make people laugh.



## Sophie Etchart

**AGE:** 35

**COMPANY:** READ BETTER BE BETTER

**TITLE:** CEO

**Favorite leadership quote:** "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming." — Theodore Roosevelt

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Having my annual income drop by 50 times when I left finance and took my first international development job; attending the Social Entrepreneurship Program at Insead Business School in France; driving on I-10 being told that RBBB was going to receive its first major grant

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A teacher.

**Your mentor:** Shaks Ghosh, former CEO of the Private Equity Foundation in London.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Caring is cool.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I mainly tried to avoid participating.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** I went to a private boarding school and I'm not sure education was their particular priority. I left less-than-inspired.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be difficult to locate.



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## A TRAILBLAZER IN SPORTS LAW

Congratulations to employment and sports law shareholder, **Dana L. Hooper**, for her recognition in the *Phoenix Business Journal's* 2017 class of 40 Under 40.



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## Sheldon Caldwell-Meeks

**AGE:** 34  
**COMPANY:** COX COMMUNICATIONS  
**TITLE:** SENIOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." — Martin Luther King Jr.

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Launching the 50/50 raffle at Arizona Cardinals games; winning an Emmy for a community program; and launching Teal Bird Concepts.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Marine biologist.

**Your mentor:** My grandmother.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** You don't know what you don't know. Expose yourself to as many different people, places and experiences as possible.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Football, track and field, Spanish club, BSU.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Chameleon, I fit in anywhere.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Yamamoto. She was tough, but fair. I felt accomplished doing well in her class.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Have the most diverse group of friends.



## Dr. Brandon GOUGH

**AGE:** 37  
**COMPANY:** HEDLEY ORTHOPAEDIC INSTITUTE  
**TITLE:** ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON

**Favorite leadership quote:** "I am careful not to confuse excellence with perfection. Excellence I can reach for. Perfection is God's business." — Michael J. Fox

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A paleontologist.

**Your mentor:** Dr. Tony Hedley.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Hard work really does pay off. Even if something seems impossible, never count yourself out.

**What sports or extracurricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Basketball.

**Would have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Geek/jock.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Baggett. She made learning enjoyable and initially was responsible for helping me understand the importance of doing well in school.

**In high school, I was the most likely to:** Be playing basketball with friends on a Friday night instead of going to parties.



# Congratulations to these leaders, W. P. Carey alumni who are 2017 40 Under 40!



Tara Bethell  
 BS '01



Nickolas Cardinale  
 MBA '14



Aaron Hale  
 BS '01; MBA, MSIM '03



Amy Patel  
 BS '01; MTax '02



Todd Vigil  
 BS '02

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## Zach FERRES

**AGE:** 30

**COMPANY:** COPLEX

**TITLE:** CEO

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others." — Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Realizing that my side-gig was actually a real company; selling my first company, BounceFire, and moving to Phoenix from Ohio with my team; completing a management buyout to buy my current company, Coplex, in 2016.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I wanted to be an electrical engineer at GE and work on in-car computing.

**Your mentor:** Jason Duff.

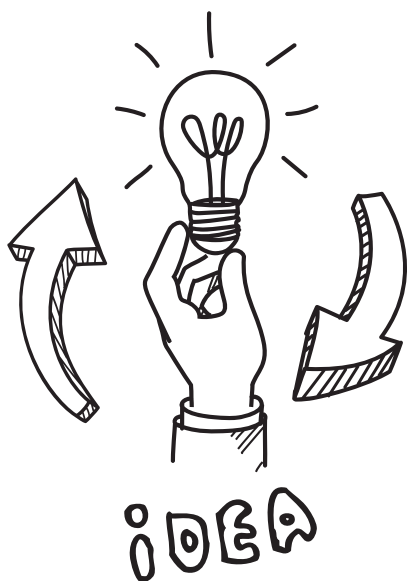
**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Don't forget the importance of real-world, face-to-face interaction.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Track, cross country.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Geek (yes, I used to hang out at my local internet service provider after school playing around on their T1 internet connection) and jock (I was a high school and college athlete. But I was a runner and runners don't typically fall into the primary jock category).

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Dostal. She was a great teacher, but the real reason why she was my favorite was because she was one of the best coaches that I've ever had. She was our track and cross country coach.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Run my own company.







## Olenka CULLINAN

**AGE:** 37

**COMPANY:** RISING TYCOONS

**TITLE:** CEO

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Success is when what you think, say and do are the same."  
— Darren Hardy

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Booked my first speaking gig without business cards or a website; a note from a teen whose life I saved; launching Rising Tycoons Academy.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A teacher.

**Your mentor:** My mother, Darren Hardy, Erika Feinberg and Maria Jones.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** If skills are learnable, success is learnable, too.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Track (400m), basketball and dance.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** An independent. I was quite popular and had friends across all groups.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** English teacher: she was straight up, fun, "in your face" and taught me to play by my own rules; plus she gave me a skill for life — learning a foreign language.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Stand up for what I believed in. In fact, I got into an argument with my PE teacher and stood my ground. He flunked me with a C, and I forfeited my valedictorian status. No regrets!



## Frank DEBLASI

**AGE:** 40

**COMPANY:** U.S. BANK

**TITLE:** VICE PRESIDENT

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The ultimate measure of man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy"  
— Martin Luther King

**Three most memorable moments in business:** When my boss, Mary Martuscelli, took a chance on a young man from New York (me) with no history or connections in Arizona; my clients' loyalty in transitioning to U.S. Bank with me in 2013; being recognized as a top wealth manager within U.S. Bank

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Weatherman.

**Your mentor:** My momma, Rita DeBlasi

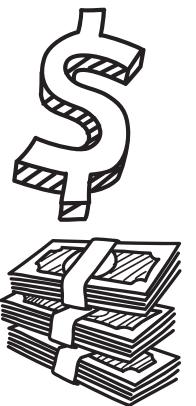
**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Be present, be assertive and follow up.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Three years of varsity basketball at Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft, New Jersey.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Jock

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Brother Michael Dwyer. He ingrained old-world values such as respect, discipline and hard work, which reflects the core of who I am.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be charitable.



## AaronHALE

**AGE:** 39

**COMPANY:** LEGACY TRADITIONAL SCHOOL

**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The roads of life are paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision." — Unknown

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The afternoon of our first "Meet the Teacher," the semi delivering the playground equipment hit the phone line snapping 15 power poles and taking out power to half the city; last

year we hosted an event for all of our first class of kindergartners that were now graduating from eight grade with us, and it was so gratifying to see the change we had made in the children's lives; the ribbon cutting off our first gym. It was so exhilarating to see that new beautiful building that we built for the children and see it filled with their happy faces.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Founder of my own school

**Your mentor:** My father. He always took time to teach and push me.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Work hard, follow your dreams, don't be afraid to take risks to

achieve your goals.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Swimming and volleyball

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above. I played multiple sports and could hang with them but also had many friends among the academic crowd.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr Huber, he made science dynamic and engaging.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Run for president.



## Vince KOZAR

**AGE:** 33

**COMPANY:** PHOENIX MERCURY

**TITLE:** COO

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Treat a man as he is and he will remain as he is. Treat a man as he could be and he will become what he can and should be." — Goethe

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The Mercury winning the 2014 WNBA Championship; our organization hosting the WNBA All-Star Game; and our team leading the league in attendance three straight years.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I wanted to be some combination of Tom Brokaw and Dan Patrick. I thought for sure I was going to be involved in television news or sports in some capacity.

**Your mentor:** Dustin Krugel, who gave me my first job with the Suns, and Amber Cox, who gave me incredible opportunities with the Mercury.

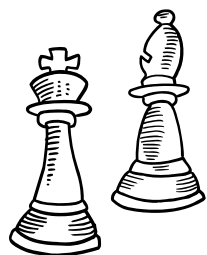
**Advice you would you give to the next generation:** Try. Try because you want to be a part of something bigger than yourself, not for personal recognition, not because your ambition is more important than personal relationships or your organization's culture.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I was in student government and president of my senior class, the student media — the television station, occasionally freelancing for the newspaper, and announcing basketball and baseball. I had leadership conferences, community service clubs, and National Honor Society on my resume, too.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above, and I'd like to think I had friends across the spectrum.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Our student government adviser, Dan Antrim, taught me about service above self. He was an officer in the Navy and when 9/11 happened my senior year he returned to active duty.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** I was voted Most Involved, and most likely to be the next Regis on Regis and Kelly. Still holding out hope despite Ryan Seacrest's recent ascension.



## Drena KUSARI BERISHA

**AGE:** 35

**COMPANY:** LYFT INC.

**TITLE:** GENERAL MANAGER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Whatever you are, be a good one." — Abraham Lincoln

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Starting my career in Wall Street at Goldman Sachs; being accepted and graduating from Harvard Business School, after growing up in Kosovo, I had always dreamed of going to Harvard and made a decision with myself that it was the only MBA program I wanted to attend; my time so far at Lyft.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I wanted to be a professional tennis player. When I came to the conclusion that a tennis career was not realistic due to injuries and other circumstances, I became interested in a career in diplomacy and international development.

**Your mentor:** My father. He is the most influential person in my life with a brilliant business and leadership mind. He taught me kindness, generosity and humility are foundational to everything in life. His advice and guidance influence the decisions I make every day.

**Advice for the next generation:** There is absolutely no substitute for hard work. I am all about productivity hacks and efficiency unlocks, but I am a true believer that there is absolutely nothing that one cannot achieve with hard work, dedication and purpose.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in in high school:** My passion was tennis, and I was heavily involved in numerous community service and volunteering-type projects and clubs. Immediately following the war, I volunteered with multiple nonprofits focused on rebuilding Kosovo.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I would say I was very much a geeky jock. Sports instilled great discipline and work ethic that extended to my studies.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Math, physics and chemistry teachers for instilling in me a strong baseline for the sciences.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Kosovo's ambassador to the UN

## Carlene LOWRY

**AGE:** 36

**COMPANY:** SNELL & WILMER LLP

**TITLE:** PARTNER

**Favorite leadership quote:** “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”  
— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The first time I heard a commercial advertising a significant Phoenix merger for which our Snell & Wilmer team handled the legal work; assisting pro bono clients, who suffered from abuse and neglect, in obtaining innocent spouse relief from the tax debts of their former spouses; my first day practicing law.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A lawyer. I always enjoyed a well-reasoned debate.

**Your mentor:** I’ve had many over the years, but the most significant have been my parents. They have led by example, both in terms of their drive and dedication to a goal as well as in demonstrating the importance of meaningful relationships.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Never stop learning and creating opportunities for yourself – and then take them.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Basketball, marching and concert band (alto saxophone) and dance.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I was a little bit country, a little bit rock and roll.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Dr. John Hosmer (University High School, Tucson). He is one of the most well-rounded and educated professors I have encountered, and he taught with tough love.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Set off a fire alarm in chemistry!



# CONGRATULATIONS!

Barrett-Jackson congratulates Nickolas Cardinale, our Executive Vice President/General Manager, on being honored as one of the Phoenix Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” for 2017.

Nick’s background in professional sports and entertainment, as well as his personal passion for collector cars, makes him a valuable member of our executive team at The World’s Greatest Collector Car Auctions.®

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## Adriana MURRIETTA

**AGE:** 38

**COMPANY:** PIKE & SUSAN SULLIVAN FOUNDATION

**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Favorite leadership quote:** "You can accomplish anything in life, provided that you do not mind who gets the credit."  
— Harry S. Truman

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The moment I realized my passion for education advocacy; my first political campaign; being able to be a voice for the Latino community.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Diplomat

**Your mentor:** I've had many mentors along the way, but one who is a very close friend and continuously encourages me, pushes me and supports me is my dear friend Luis Avila.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Move beyond the stereotypes of your generation and create a path for yourself with hard work and a unique vision.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Theater production, dance team.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** My English teacher. English isn't my native language, so having her challenge me and believe in me gave me the confidence to not just do well but to thrive in her class.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be running the show.

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Matthew P.  
**MACLEOD**

**AGE:** 39  
**COMPANY:** GALLAGHER & KENNEDY PA  
**TITLE:** PARTNER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Nothing works unless you do." — John Wooden

**Three most memorable moments in business:** In my practice, I come across a multitude of people from all walks of life who are in desperate need of help. I take care, great pride and satisfaction in helping people every day with whatever their situations may be. Some may have small problems, but those problems are important to them. Achieving a positive resolution, and seeing the relief on their faces is why I love the practice of law. Those are my best moments.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Professional wrestler

**Your mentor:** My father.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Intelligence is often marginalized, criticized and ignored, especially by today's youth. Don't take the easy way out, don't be another face in the crowd. Because when you are 25, 35 or 40, you realize being smart is cool. It always has been.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Men's varsity basketball.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Jock.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Richard Gerenger, American literature. It was the first class that placed an emphasis on more than the subject matter. It was an examination of how it affected us today, our culture, and why we needed it moving forward. It touched on all parts of society and culture, past and present. Walking in every morning was exhilarating.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Care and help no matter the situation.



Josh  
**MILLER**

**AGE:** 35  
**COMPANY:** AETNA  
**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Favorite leadership quote:** "In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." — Theodore Roosevelt

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Signing my first consulting deal; signing my first six-figure consulting deal; successfully overhauling the compensation plans for 12,000 employees at Time Warner Cable.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Very generically, a businessman.

**Your mentor:** My father, Rob Miller, grandfather, Lafe Miller, uncle, Fletcher Wilcox, and friend, Chris Searles, are men who have pushed me in the right direction at different times.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Take a lot of time in high school to not only research lots of professions, including trades, and ones that require degrees, and even go interview people in those professions. There are professions out there you haven't heard of, and they all have pluses and minuses. Learn from others early on so you can make a very educated, purposeful choice as you make education and career decisions.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Football, basketball, student government and working full-time my senior year.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I was an unusual hybrid. I was a geeky jock/slacker at school who was gone by noon because I worked so much.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Dr. David Savidge. I still use what I learned from him in Speech class.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Retire by age 40



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# Tomas E. ROBLES JR.

**AGE:** 35  
**COMPANY:** LIVING UNITED FOR CHANGE IN ARIZONA  
**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort or convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." — Martin Luther King Jr.

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The first day that I started as executive director of Living United for Change in Arizona, walking into the office early in the morning and I remember the feeling of wonder, excitement and fear; when our organizations submitted the 280,000 signatures for Proposition 206 last year, it was the first big achievement of the Prop. 206 campaign that has led to a minimum wage increase and the implementation of earned sick time; the moment I was informed I had been selected to the promotion of sergeant while in the U.S. Marines.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A bio-medical engineer.

**Your mentor:** My father, mother and grandmothers.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** None of our lives are set in stone, dream on your own timeline and do not let social pressures affect the pursuit of your dreams.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I was involved in six different activities in high school: football, wrestling, baseball, National Honor Society, Apropos writing club, and student government.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I think I was a nerd who happened to play sports. I was usually the only football player and wrestler in my classes.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr. Martini, my calculus teacher. He was always so well prepared, explained the equations and problem solving techniques with extreme details and had the cleanest chalk board in the school.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Help a friend in need.



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## Abigail OLAYA

**AGE:** 37

**COMPANY:** VENUE AT THE GROVE

**TITLE:** OWNER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The lesson will continue to repeat itself until it is learned." When I find a similar situation occurring again, I remind myself of this quote and think about why it's occurring again to learn the lesson that time.

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The first time I walked the business property, I remember clearly envisioning it as an exquisite wedding and event facility; the decision to add a catering line of business to the company without any catering or restaurant experience; the joy of sharing with our team during a company celebration that my husband and I were expecting triplet girls.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A pediatrician

**Your mentor:** Everyone around me. I did a lot of reading and listening to others, and in the end decided what advice would work for what we were building.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** You are the creator of your future. Be crystal clear on who you want to be and what you want without worrying about the how, through commitment to your clear vision you'll figure the rest out along the way.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Cheerleader.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr. Meyers. He made physics easy to understand yet was tough.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Succeed.



## Chris LOEFFLER

**AGE:** 32

**COMPANY:** CALIBER-THE WEALTH COMPANY

**TITLE:** CEO

**Favorite leadership quote:** "As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others." — Bill Gates

**Three most memorable moments in business:** When Caliber purchased its first apartment complex with seven days notice and no due diligence; when we expanded business and bought our first hotel – the Crowne Plaza Phoenix Airport Hotel; when we, the founders of Caliber, realized that the business could run without us, allowing us to take vacations.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I knew I wanted to be a CEO with a big desk.

**Your mentor:** My dad. I also believe I am the sum of everyone I've met.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Live your life on purpose. Do what you do because you have consciously decided to do it. Don't go with the flow. And, most importantly, love your family, your spouse and your fellow man. No one succeeds on their own.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Rugby.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** A geek who aspired to be a cool kid.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** My molecular biology teacher who pushed me beyond my limits and made me fight for my B.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Build great relationships and learn from everyone I met.



## Amy E. PATEL

**AGE:** 38

**COMPANY:** DELOITTE

**TITLE:** PARTNER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "If you are going through hell, keep going." — Winston Churchill

**Three most memorable moments in business:** My first day at Deloitte, which was the day after Arthur Andersen closed its doors and the day I took my last final exam for my ASU master's program; the moment I stepped off the plane in India for a four-month rotation in our office there; the moment I signed the Deloitte partnership agreement and was admitted to the partnership.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An architect, attorney or accountant.

**Your mentor:** My grandfather, Quentin Miller. He exemplified "grit," and without me realizing it he instilled a great amount of it in me.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Plan for tomorrow, but live for today. Life passes you by so quickly.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Basketball, volleyball and student council.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Ms. Coller, freshman English. Because, books.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Succeed? Except I wasn't, according to my senior class yearbook I was voted "prettiest eyes." Go figure.



Jaclyn Goris, MHI  
SR. DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

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## Andrea TAZIOLI

**AGE:** 39

**COMPANY:** QUARLES & BRADY LLP

**TITLE:** PARTNER

**Favorite leadership quote:**

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."  
— Maya Angelou

**Three most memorable moments in business:**

Winning my first jury trial; becoming partner at Quarles & Brady; serving as a volunteer attorney in the Clemency Project.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A lawyer.

**Your mentor:** My tennis coach, Barb Johnston.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Treat every person you come across with respect and kindness.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Cheerleading, tennis, student government, Mock Trial.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above. I was super social.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** My senior year English teacher, Virginia McKniff. She consistently challenged me and always believed in me.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be happy all of the time and be friends with everyone.



## Todd VIGIL

**AGE:** 37

**COMPANY:** PHOENIX SYMPHONY

**TITLE:** ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Life is a hell of a lot more fun if you say yes rather than no." — Richard Branson

**Three most memorable moments in business:** My first manager role out of college at Target and I was completely unprepared, I took feedback and turned around the role and became a top performer in the Valley. At US Airways I flew on a flight from Charlotte to Phoenix with CEO Doug Parker. He was in coach and some of his senior team were in first class. At the Phoenix Symphony I learned innovation is the key. Innovating yourself, your job and if you're lucky your industry is far better than any other achievement.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I would have probably said a politician. I quickly wised up after high school.

**Your mentor:** My theater teacher, Esta Rosevear. Little did I know she was laying the groundwork for my success at the Phoenix Symphony, 15-plus years later.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Above all else, be accountable. Own your actions, your decisions, your work and your life.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Theater, student council, Future Business Leaders of America and DECA

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I was a theater geek with a dose of class clown. Or maybe vice versa.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Carol Hoyt, social studies/history teacher. Mrs. Hoyt was an engaging and passionate teacher that really made the past come alive.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be a politician.

## Jeffrey BURG

**AGE:** 39

**COMPANY:** AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL GROUP

**TITLE:** VICE PRESIDENT

**Favorite leadership quote:**

"The best leader is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and the self-restraint to keep from meddling with them while they do it." — Teddy Roosevelt

**Three most memorable moments in business:**

Getting my first job in televised sports; getting my first job as a financial products wholesaler; the first time I closed the year at the top of the sales chart.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Sports television director

**Your mentor:** My dad, Jerry Burg

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Don't be afraid to fail, and when you do, own it, learn from it and move on.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Our school district's sports television program.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Geek

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Rose Rumney, because she facilitated my dream of working in television.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be the last car in the parking lot. I'd always try to spend as much time as possible in our school's production studio.







## Ashley Elizabeth BRIDWELL

**AGE:** 37

**COMPANY:** BARROW NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION AND BARROW CONCUSSION AND BRAIN INJURY CENTER

**TITLE:** REHABILITATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR AND SOCIAL WORKER

**Favorite Leadership quote:** "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead

**Three most memorable moments in business:** My first professional job offer, when Barrow offered me a position two months prior to my master's graduation; my first promotion, when I was promoted from a clinical social worker to program coordinator of the adult neurological program in Outpatient Rehab; first successful community collaboration when Dr. Javier Cardenas; and I created a program to treat domestic violence survivors from the ground up.

**What did you want to be in high school:** My favorite toy when I was little was a Fisher Price ambulance, so I think I always had a sense I would end up in health care.

**Your mentor:** My mentor in life, in loving, and being an overall good human being is my mother. I didn't really identify with having a mentor until I was in college, and it was Professor Michael YellowBird, my diversity and oppression instructor my first year of my social work program.

**Advice you would give the next generation:** Build and nurture personal and professional relationships to accomplish your goals.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in high school:** I was a member of the literary magazine and my senior year I was editor-in-chief. Additionally, as soon as I was old enough I became a server at Denny's, I loved working immediately and have ever since.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, jock or burnout, or none of the above:** I'm not entirely sure I fit into any specific category when I was in high school.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Senorita Thue, my Spanish teacher my sophomore year. She was an enthusiastic, silly and engaged young teacher.

**In high school I was the most likely to:** Attend a protest.



## Jaclyn GORIS

**AGE:** 28

**COMPANY:** FEEDING MATTERS

**TITLE:** SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

**Favorite leadership quote:** "True leaders understand that leadership is not about them but about those they serve. It is not about exalting themselves but about lifting others up." — Sheri L. Dew

**Three most memorable moments in business:** My first big mistake, and by accepting responsibility, getting back up, and learning from it; my first major business meeting, and with not the best social skills and no experience to lean on; my first hire on my team. Previously, I had supervised team members or was a leader for particular projects, but this new employee had a job because I wanted them on my team, which was exciting but grounding.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I wanted to be a teacher.

**Your mentor:** Chris Linn, president and CEO of Feeding Matters. Chris has shown me what dynamic and servant leadership is all about and I feel honored to get to work so closely with her.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Know what you stand for and make sure your personal values align with your organization and the work you are doing but always remember, you can be a leader from any place within an organization or team, regardless of position.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I loved (and still love) dancing, sailing, family game nights, and karate.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Maybe a geek/jock hybrid? Not sure I fit in any of those.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Grimes Priebe was by far my favorite teacher at Xavier. She engaged us in psychology and taught us life lessons along the way, lessons that still ring true almost weekly for me.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Bust a move on an empty dance floor.

## Adam BAUGH

**AGE:** 38

**COMPANY:** WITHEY MORRIS, PLC

**TITLE:** PARTNER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Don't ever permit the pressure to exceed the pleasure." — Joe Maddon.

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Securing zoning approvals for 12,000-plus acre Volkswagen Automotive Proving Ground in Maricopa County; obtaining land-use entitlements that kicked off the restaurant boom in areas like the Heritage District in downtown Gilbert and the Colony and the Yard projects on Seventh Street; initially offering to work for free 11 years ago, eventually becoming partner, and then an owner at Withey Morris PLC.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Initially I thought about dentistry but I feared the dentist and couldn't imagine staring inside mouths each day, so it was a wise choice to pursue something else.

**Your mentor:** Mike Withey and Jason Morris have been phenomenal mentors. They are exceptional attorneys in zoning and land use, but most important, their character and reputation is estimable and exemplary.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Pursue a career that is rewarding, satisfying, and challenging. Pursue happiness. Time is a limited resource, so why waste it on a job that is unfulfilling?

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I grew up in Southern California so surfing, soccer and tennis were the sports I played. Outside of school and sports, you could find me surfing, skateboarding or at the local punk and ska shows. I doubt people can imagine I was that guy 20 years ago.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above but I always tried to make people laugh and find humor. I guess that's always been my character trait although it often got me into well-intended mischief.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr. Raymond, student government. He led by example, expected accountability...and covered for me when I skipped my other classes.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** make people laugh and smile.





*Eshe N.*  
**PICKETT**

**AGE:** 36  
**COMPANY:** INTEL CORP.  
**TITLE:** CLOUD AUTOMATION ENGINEER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Dime con quién andas, y te diré quién eres." (Tell me who you walk with and I'll tell you who you are.)

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Founding 100 Girls day at Intel, now in its 10th year; having my automation work selected for publication and presentation internally and externally; being asked to be a mentor, and seeing my mentee progress in her career.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A computer engineer.

**Your mentor:** I have had many, but one of my most influential was my fourth-grade teacher Mrs. Warrior. She never lowered her expectations for her students and taught me the value of hard work and dedication at a very young age.

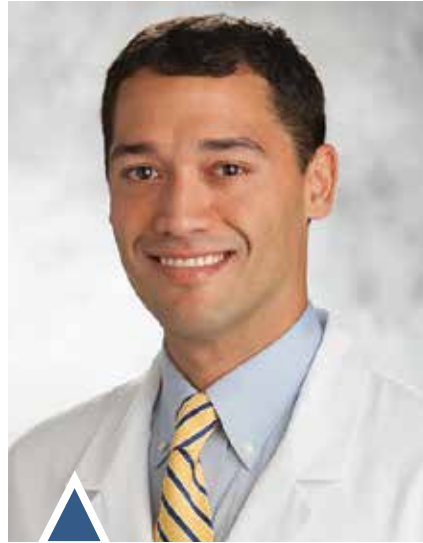
**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Know the history of the generations that came before you, so you can avoid repeating the mistakes and improve upon the accomplishments.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I was in the marching band (clarinet), flag corps, mock trial, track and field, MESA (mathematics, engineering, science, achievement), student government (secretary), senior homecoming court, National Honor Society, Spanish club, English expo, fellowship of Christian athletes, Junior Miss, and speech and debate.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above. I was a little bit of everything.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr. Chauncey Matthews, history teacher and Mock Trial coach. I never had him for history, but as a Mock Trial coach, he led our small school to place third in the state and built a team that truly loved working together. My senior year, I won most effective attorney at the state competition, and it wouldn't have happened without Mr. Matthews.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Answer in class.



*Dr. Javier*  
**MUNOZ**

**AGE:** 38  
**COMPANY:** BANNER MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER  
**TITLE:** MEDICAL ONCOLOGIST

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The sooner you understand what it is that you want to do, the faster you can get there." — Jeff Weiner

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The ability to offer patients with cancer lifesaving therapies that they cannot receive anywhere else in the state; the strong support from Banner leadership to develop cutting-edge clinical trials; the overwhelming appreciation from the patients and families as well as the medical community.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Physician.

**Your mentor:** My father, who is also a physician entrepreneur and taught me to lead with my own values, and that those core beliefs are part of our DNA.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** The highest of distinctions is service to others (servant leadership) and the end reward is not always monetary.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Soccer.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** A dreamer.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Jorge Marroquin, because he taught me that "success is never owned it is only rented – and the rent is due every day."

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Help someone under duress.




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Executive Vice President  
FirstBank Phoenix Market

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## Tara BETHELL

**AGE:** 37

**COMPANY:** BEATITUDES CAMPUS

**TITLE:** SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Servant leaders don't think less of themselves, they just think of themselves less." — Ken Blanchard

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Bringing together residents, staff, board members, volunteers and friends of Beatitudes Campus to fight our way through every level of the city zoning process in 2005; earning several employee wellness awards for our holistic approach; creating, launching and improving a new company-wide evaluation system that has moved from annually to quarterly, focuses on future goal setting and centers on our core values of compassion, accountability, respect and excellence, which is aptly named CAREpath.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An attorney and started majoring in English at Arizona State University before changing to business.

**Your mentor:** Peggy Mullan, CEO emeritus of Beatitudes Campus, she taught me about servant leadership through her actions.

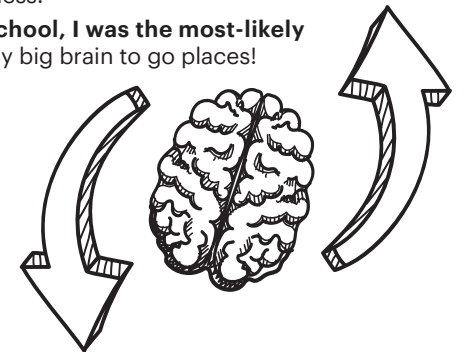
**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Give technology a break and get out there to network.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I was captain of the Apollo Flagline and attended every high school football game (it's also how I met my French horn-playing husband).

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** A geek for sure – I graduated in the top 2 percent and attended ASU on a full-ride academic scholarship

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Casey Furlong, freshman English teacher. She helped me lay a strong foundation in high school that would help me succeed in college and business.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Use my big brain to go places!



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# Amy ARMSTRONG

**AGE:** 38  
**COMPANY:** SUPPORT MY CLUB  
**TITLE:** FOUNDER AND CEO

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The problem with being a leader is that you're never sure if you're being followed or chased." — Claire A. Murray

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Hiring my first full-time employee; getting our first grant from an unknown donor; standing on stage at Symphony Hall in front of hundreds giving my pitch.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** A college student!

**Your mentor:** Denise Resnik. She helped me navigate a new world of community involvement and gave me an ear and advice.

**Advice you would give the next generation:** Get your most important work done at the time of day that is best for you. If you aren't a morning person, remember that the early bird might get the worm. But if you are a worm, sleeping in might save your life.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Dance. I was co-captain of JaMoBa (which stood for Jazz, Modern, Ballet)

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above. I was an adoring fan of my boyfriend's punk band.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Ms. Holly, my dance teacher. She helped me through some tough life events and allowed dance to be an outlet.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Marry my high school sweetheart (we started dating my sophomore year). And I did. We have been together over 22 years.



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 2017 Phoenix Business Journal 40 under 40 Honoree

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**Congratulations, Aaron!**

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Here's to many more years as a leader in Arizona education.



## Dr. Brian HARRIS

**AGE:** 38

**COMPANY:** HARRIS DENTAL

**TITLE:** OWNER

**Favorite leadership quote:**

"The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be"  
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Finishing my first smile makeover in 2005 and seeing how it transformed her life; speaking for the first time from the main stage at a dental convention, the rush was unforgettable; the week I launched my new Smile Virtual Consult concept and received 20 requests for virtual consults.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I have wanted to be a dentist for as long as I can remember.

**Your mentor:** I have had countless mentors over the years that have had a huge impact, but my first true mentor in business was my father. He is also a dentist and has always had a true passion for what he does.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Whatever business path you decide to follow, look for the barriers we put up for our clients/patients

and find ways to tear them down. Sometimes we make it so difficult for people to do business with us. Always be looking for ways to break down barriers.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:**

I did a lot of adventure sports: Snowboarding, Wakeboarding, etc. I was pretty average at most other sports.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:**

None of the above, although my kids say I was a geek when they see pictures of how I dressed back then and did my hair.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Jewelry making and ceramic pottery teacher. I took the elective classes for fun but never realized how much they would impact my ability to create smiles 22 years later.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Be a friend to everyone. I have always enjoyed interacting with people. I think that's why its hard to associate or identify myself back then with any specific group. I enjoyed being social with everyone around me.

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## Jessica **WHITNEY**

**AGE:** 36

**COMPANY:** BIG BROTHERS  
BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL  
ARIZONA

**TITLE:** SENIOR DIRECTOR OF  
DEVELOPMENT

**Favorite leadership quote:**

“True leaders understand that leadership is not about them but about those they serve. It is not about exalting themselves but about lifting others up.” — Sheri L. Dew

**Three most memorable moments in business:**

Finding a genuine passion for our mission by becoming a Big Sister myself; exceeding all fundraising goals for FY17; watching a former employee who I mentored go out on her own and land a dream job in nonprofit.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Broadway star

**Your mentor:** My parents taught me to be empathetic and to work hard to enhance the lives of my friends and

neighbors. I believe this innate need to serve others has led me to my career in nonprofit.

**Advice you would give the next generation:**

Dynamic interaction and real collaboration occurs more often in face-to-face meetings. Don't be afraid to get out there and meet people.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:**

I love singing and did choir and musical theater.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:**

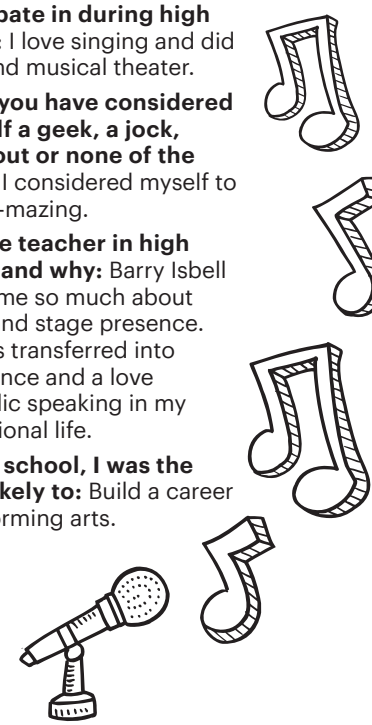
I considered myself to be ACA-mazing.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:**

Barry Isbell taught me so much about music and stage presence. This has transferred into confidence and a love for public speaking in my professional life.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:**

Build a career in performing arts.



# Congratulations **AMY D. ARMSTRONG**

FOUNDER & CEO OF **SUPPORT MY club**



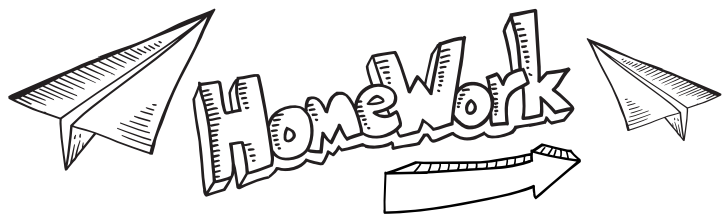
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## Larry HERRERA

**AGE:** 39

**COMPANY:** WASHINGTON  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

**TITLE:** VICE PRESIDENT

**Favorite leadership quote:** "The purpose of human life is to serve and to show compassion and the will to help others." — Albert Schweitzer

**Three most memorable moments in business:** First day of job; reinventing myself halfway through my career; and keeping a positive mental perspective always in the midst of adversity.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Police officer

**Your mentor:** My father. He taught me to measure 10 times and only cut once.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Never give up! You never know when your about to win!

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Baseball and soccer. I played first base and pitcher but broke my ankle and stopped playing.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Definitely a geek. I was always interested in science.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Cordova. She made me read until I bled. I thank her for that now as I love to read.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Enlist to the Navy or enter politics.



## Dana HOOPER

**AGE:** 39

**COMPANY:** GREENBERG TRAUIG LLP

**TITLE:** PARTNER

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Go the extra mile, it's never crowded." — Unknown

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Making shareholder at Greenberg Traurig; first athlete signs with me as attorney-agent; becoming a professor of sports law at Arizona State University

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An actor.

**Your mentor:** Kevin Johnson, former Phoenix Suns player who went on to be mayor of Sacramento, California.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Don't be afraid to be an outlier in your career industry because, by standing out from the crowd, you will obtain opportunities and be perceived as valuable in a way that others will not.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Four-year varsity basketball, club soccer, school plays; National Honor Society; Key Club; student council.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Jock.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mrs. Adams, who truly taught me how to write, which set me up well in my legal career.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Host a talk show.



## Brett HUNT

**AGE:** 37

**COMPANY:** ARIZONA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Favorite leadership quote:** "When in doubt, attack." — George S. Patton

**Three most memorable moments in business:** MC'ing an event featuring Dr. Michael Crow and Tom Brokaw; the first day of watermelon season on the farm; and bringing clients to D.C. for the first time.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An Army Officer.

**Your mentor:** Sgt. Maj. Stephen Domina.

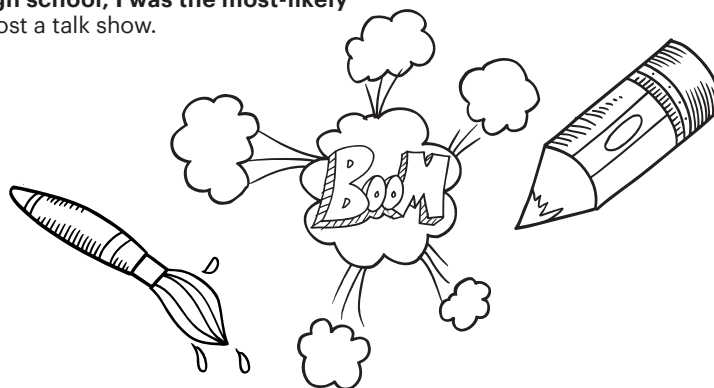
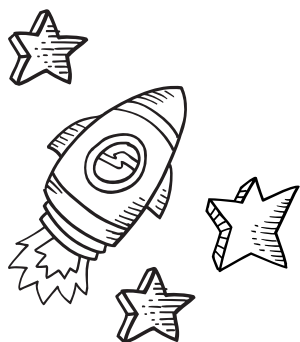
**Advice you would give the next generation:** Actively cultivate leadership skills and reflect constantly on your values and how they match your actions.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Football, basketball, baseball, track and yearbook.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** Jock.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr. Johnston, he taught Spanish and inspired me to learn new languages and travel around the world. He tapped into my wanderlust.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Succeed (that is what I was voted).







## David Angel BARRAZA

**AGE:** 29

**COMPANY:** JPMORGAN  
CHASE & CO.

**TITLE:** VICE PRESIDENT

**Favorite leadership quote:**  
"Leadership is the capacity to  
translate vision into reality."  
— Warren Bennis

**Three most memorable moments  
in business:** This may sound cliché  
but I am genuine when I say help  
customers get ready for retirement  
(through various avenues); help  
customers understand how banking  
has evolved and how it has benefits  
for everyone; always having a team,  
management and company that  
provides me with the tools and  
resources to help customers and the  
community.

**What did you want to be when  
you were in high school:** Anything  
involving working with the  
underserved and veterans.

**Your mentor:** In business, Chase  
Consumer Banking Executive  
Director Ben Garcia, who has taught  
me to be resilient, be the best at  
what you do, and raise your hand as  
much as you can. My mentor in life  
is my mother who taught me that  
you will take nothing with you when  
you die.

**Advice you would give to the next  
generation:** Don't look for or ask  
for recognition, just be passionate  
about what you're doing and be the  
best at it. If you work at McDonald's,  
be the best burger flipper in the  
state. Network and read.

**What sports or extra-curricular  
activities did you participate in  
during high school:** I was president  
of the Spanish club and participated  
in events to build homes in Mexico  
for the needy.

**Would you have considered  
yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout  
or none of the above:** I would have  
to say none of the above. I wanted  
to be a jock, but I wasn't any good at  
sports.

**Favorite teacher in high school  
and why:** Dr. Raj, who taught me he  
could get much accomplished by  
asking the students how they learn,  
and Mr. Settecase, who was strict  
but fair and would stay until 8 p.m. if  
needed to help students.

**In high school, I was the most-  
likely to:** Travel the world by 30.  
(Well I still have lots to see. I didn't  
realize how big the world was then).





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*James*  
**HOLMES**

**AGE:** 35  
**COMPANY:** SELF EMPLOYED/  
ARIZONA STATE HOSPITAL  
**TITLE:** PSYCHOLOGIST

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Be the change that you want to see in the world." — Mahatma Gandhi.

**Three most memorable moments in business:** My former internship director telling me "Don't put all your eggs in one basket;" obtaining a passing score on my licensure exam; and my dear friend and colleague encouraging me to open my own practice.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** Initially I considered becoming an architect, then changed my mind when I didn't do well in my drafting course, and ultimately decided I wanted to study psychology and become a counselor or a psychologist.

**Your mentor:** I didn't have a specific mentor growing up per say, but was always supported by my parents, stepparents, and grandparents; my father, in particular, encouraged me to pursue graduate school.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Follow your heart and your passion.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I did track, cross country, and lacrosse and also worked part-time throughout high school and ended up working at Safeway, where I stayed for over 10 years.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** None of the above, but I enjoyed sports and had a closet nerdy side to me as well.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** I really enjoyed Mr. Nelson, my geometry teacher who made the material taught in this class very understandable, despite my weakness in this area.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Crash at a friend's house.



*Humphrey*  
**SHIN**

**AGE:** 34  
**COMPANY:** FIRSTBANK  
**TITLE:** EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

**Favorite leadership quote:** "Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others." — Jack Welch

**Three most memorable moments in business:** Getting company expense card, losing company expense card due to overspending, and getting company expense card back.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** An attorney.

**Your mentor:** During high school, my older brother was my mentor. He was always there for me and gave me advice — mostly bad, but some good.

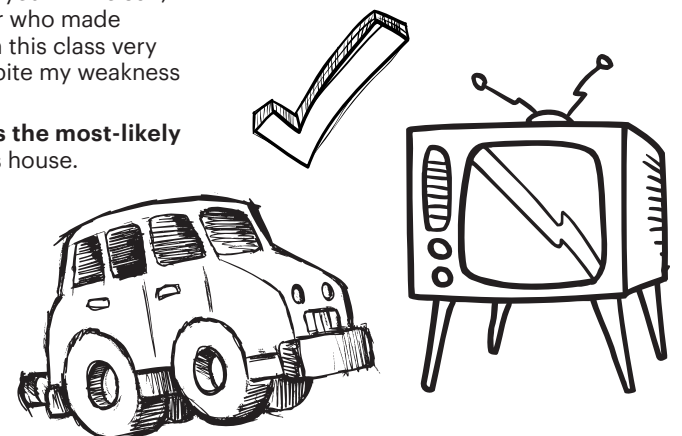
**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Sounds really cliché, but surround yourself with positive people who encourage rather than discourage you.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** Basketball, fencing, multimedia/video club, multicultural club

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I'm pretty sure I thought I was the cool guy, but looking back, I was probably more of a geek.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Mr. Gold. He was very knowledgeable and passionate about the subject he taught: U.S. history. He tried to make his lectures relevant to real life lessons.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Graduate with the most number of speeding tickets.



## Ashley SHICK

**AGE:** 36

**COMPANY:** BASHAS' FAMILY OF STORES

**TITLE:** DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Favorite leadership quote:** "We make a living by what we do but we make a life by what we give." — Winston Churchill

**Three most memorable moments in business:** The overwhelming giving response to a philanthropic request I made to help get products or services to build a Habitat for Humanity home; being recruited for the position I am in now; working at 3TV the day that the two news helicopters collided over Phoenix.

**What did you want to be when you were in high school:** I don't recall having a clear vision for what I wanted to be when I was in high school. I just really knew that I wanted to get out of the Midwest and explore something new.

**Your mentor:** I did not have a formal mentor in high school but I did have some great coaches that helped shape the person I am today. A lot of the best lessons I learned were during my team sport experiences.

**Advice you would give to the next generation:** Be mindful of the world around you, including the people in it and always try to think outside of yourself. You never know what burdens someone else is carrying.

**What sports or extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school:** I swam for our varsity swim team and ran track all four years of high school. I played basketball freshman and sophomore year. I was on the yearbook staff junior and senior year and was the sports editor as a senior.

**Would you have considered yourself a geek, a jock, a burnout or none of the above:** I would probably say jock, just because I participated all four years in sports.

**Favorite teacher in high school and why:** Senora Budnick, my Spanish teacher. Everyone loved her and she was so sweet and kind and I have great memories from being in her class.

**In high school, I was the most-likely to:** Help my friends with anything.



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2017

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## Community Outreach

**Vanessa Williams**

*Crisis Response Network*

**Dr. Sydney Vail**

*Maricopa Integrated Health System*

**Maria Valenzuela** | *Esperanca, Inc.*

## Health Care Education

**Malka Stromer**

*Gateway Community College*

**Jean Schemm**

*Abrazo Arrowhead Campus*

**Holly Rose**

*Don't be a Chump! Check for a Lump!*

## Health Care Volunteer

**Clare Davis**

*Volunteer nurse, Circle the City*

**Dr. Renee Behinfar**

*Crisis Response Network*

**Mamadou Souare**

*Maricopa Integrated Health System*

## Innovator

**Dr. David Berg** | *Redirect Health*

**Dr. Steven Hansen**

*Arizona Humane Society*

**Dr. Frederic Zenhausern**

*The University of Arizona College of  
Medicine - Phoenix*

## Lifetime Achievement

**Linda Hunt** | *Dignity Health*

**Dr. Kris Vijay**

*Abrazo Arizona Heart Hospital*

**Susan Gerard**

*Maricopa Integrated Health System*

## Non-Physician

**Justin Bayless**

*Bayless Integrated Healthcare*

**Julia Hall** | *Babymoon Inn LLC*

**John Wade** | *Abrazo West Campus*

## Nursing

**Fauntily Tilly Skaggs**

*Abrazo Maryvale Campus*

**Lorrie Schack**

*Abrazo Arizona Heart Hospital*

**Elizabeth Reifsnider**

*ASU College of Nursing & Health Innovation*

## Philanthropic Champion

**Bob Emmelkamp** | *BobKat Enterprises, Inc.*

## Physician

**Dr. Brad Burns** | *OrthoArizona*

**Dr. Michael Sumko**

*Hedley Orthopaedic Institute*

**Dr. H. Stacy Nicholson**

*Phoenix Children's Hospital*

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