

EMERGING LEADERS

Mentorship & Career Exploration

Say Hello

View the amazing mentors participating in GSGLA's inaugural Mentorship & Career Exploration program! These industry experts will provide Girl Scouts with access and opportunities to discover careers, trades, and interests across industries while networking alongside these innovators, changemakers, and professionals.

Most notably, they will inspire Girl Scouts along their path after high school and help them:

Have **COURAGE** to dream big about their future and feel empowered to shape it.

Feel **CONFIDENT** in the decisions and actions they take—or don't take.

Find **CHARACTER** and discover what kind of leader they can be, no matter their age.

Supported By:



Meet Our Mentors



Maryama Balde *Stop the Hate Program Coordinator, Black Women for Wellness*

Maryama Balde was born and raised in the Bay Area, and is passionate about empowerment through art, activism, and a love of history. She is a recent graduate from UCLA's African American Studies program and currently works as the Stop the Hate Coordinator at Black Women for Wellness.



Tasha Danvers *Owner, The Olympian's Way*

Tasha Danvers is a 2 time Olympian, Olympic Bronze Medalist and Success Coach for private and corporate companies who want to achieve next-level results. Former USC Trojan Tasha is currently working on her Doctorate in Holistic Life Counseling. She reached the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro, and was an ambassador for Jaguar motor company's sports foundation. Tasha has been a Graduation Keynote Speaker for the University of Southern California's Black Graduation, Croydon College in London, and presented for large brands such as Coca-Cola, GAFAM, Facebook, and LinkedIn. She is passionate about inspiring people to follow their passions and pursue their dreams.



Jeannette DePatie *Founder, Propellerhead Inc.*

Jeannette DePatie raised capital for her first software company using PVC pipe, a funnel, a straw, and a rubber chicken before graduating with a degree in opera performance. She has served as a "professional techsplainer" helping nontechnical people understand tech and very technical people learn to speak to those who aren't. She produced, managed, marketed, and created for clients like Apple, AT&T, Disney, Fox, HBO, HP, Intel, Microsoft, Panasonic, Paramount, Sony, Twitter, Universal, and WB. She has appeared with The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Dr. Drew, ABC, CBS, and Huffington Post.



Tiffany Dyson *Founder, Impact Exponential*

Tiffany Dyson is a graduate of Dartmouth, a financial services professional, and a Girl Scout alumna. During her time in college, she double-majored in Sociology and Hispanic Studies and became a two-time IVE League Champion with the Varsity Softball team. Since graduating, she has worked for investment management firms for 6 years where she delivers business-building execution and training to financial professionals. Outside of work, she volunteers with organizations as the President of the Dartmouth Club of Los Angeles, a board member for the nonprofit Reading Partners, and a co-leader for Girl Scout Troop 415.

Meet Our Mentors



Elena Escalas *Software Engineer, Google*

Elena Escalas graduated from UCLA in 2020 as the only varsity student-athlete in recent history to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. Elena was also a recipient of the Engineering Achievement Award in Student Welfare at UCLA for her work teaching interview preparation workshops to underclassmen as the first female president of UCLA's competitive programming club. Elena has been at Google for 4 years, and currently works as a backend engineer on the YouTube Podcast Discovery team, helping users find the right podcast episode for every moment using machine learning.



Charity Faye *Program Manager, Black Women for Wellness*

Charity Faye is a trained Wellness Chef and Healer. Currently studying Herbalism and Wise Women traditions, she serves as the Program Manager for Sisters- In- Motion at Black Women for wellness. With over 7 years experience as a chef, she noticed several barriers African American's face that prevent them from living healthy lives. Through her work with Kitchen Divas and with the National Diabetes Prevention Program, she aspires to remove barriers, increase nutritional awareness, encourage flavorful cooking demonstrations, support physical activity, and access to health and wellness.



Arianna Ford *Owner, A Squared*

Arianna Ford is a fashion designer, personal stylist, and the visionary owner of A Squared Formals and Boutique in Nashville, TN. Her passion for design began at just 8 years old, crafting and sewing her way to an impressive career. She started as a costume designer for dance schools in Los Angeles, eventually becoming a couture designer for one of the largest prom and pageant companies in the industry. Alongside her designing career, Arianna has styled celebrities for award shows and photoshoots, worked behind the scenes at runway shows, and has even graced the runway as a model herself.



Kamilla Gafurzianova *International Business Developer, ArtDesignStory*

Kamilla Gafurzianova is an Olympic Silver Medalist with a passion for integrating virtual reality (VR) in sports. With three master's degrees and an incomplete PhD, Kamilla has dedicated her career to coaching, consulting, and researching innovative applications of AR/VR/XR technologies within the Olympic Movement and sports industry. Her work focuses on enhancing athletic performance, training methodologies, fan engagement, attracting new audiences, and popularizing sports. She is committed to addressing the declining popularity of the Olympic Movement through cutting-edge technology and innovative approaches.

Meet Our Mentors



Sandra Klein *U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Central District CA*

Sandra R. Klein is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California, U.S Bankruptcy Court. She is a co-founder and co-leader of a Girl Scout troop for girls experiencing homelessness, and she created and implemented the Girl Scout Justice Patch Program to teach girls about legal history, legislation, and justice. In 2019, Judge Klein received the GSGLA Woman of Distinction Award. Judge Klein received her bachelor's degree in music education, magna cum laude, from the University of Lowell, Lowell, MA; her JD, magna cum laude, from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles; and her MBA, with honors, from UCLA's Anderson School of Management.



M.G. Lorde *Author & Associate Professor of English, USC*

M.G. Lord is the author of *Forever Barbie: The Unauthorized Biography of a Real Doll* and co-host of *LA Made: The Barbie Tapes*, the number one downloaded podcast in the US in July 2023. She also wrote *The Accidental Feminist*, a study of Elizabeth Taylor's iconic films. Her 2005 family memoir, *Astro Turf*, is a cultural history of NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab and the basis for *L.A. Made: Blood, Sweat and Rockets*, a 12-part podcast that she hosted for LAist Studios. A frequent contributor to the *LA Times* and the *Hollywood Reporter*, she is an associate professor at University of Southern California.



Deborah Marshall *Director of Client & Community Relations, PNC Bank*

Debbie Marshall describes herself as a wizard of lightbulb moments, a visionary, and an intrapreneur with a passion for human-centered design. She spent 25 years in financial services acquiring experience in strategy, marketing, corporate philanthropy and business development. Currently she is Senior Vice President, Client and Community Relations Director for PNC Bank in Los Angeles. Outside of work Debbie enjoys running. She has completed 20 half marathons and three full marathons. She is on her way to becoming a member of the Seven Continents Club after running half marathons in Antarctica, Iceland, and Cuba.



Stephanie Ragle *Principal Architect, office42architecture*

Stephanie Ragle is a licensed architect and interior designer and co-founder of office42 architecture in Los Angeles, CA. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and a Master's Degree from SCI-Arc. She has studied and lived in Copenhagen, Denmark, Pune, India, and New York City and travels extensively. Stephanie sees architecture as a vehicle for positive change. office42 architecture's mission is to create innovative architecture that inspires and empowers communities through impactful design for residential, commercial, and non-profit clients.

Meet Our Mentors



Emily Shelton *Senior Security Consultant, Google*

Emily Shelton is a Senior Security Consultant at Google and a Girl Scout alumni. She attended Champlain College in Burlington, VT where she received her degree in Computer Networking & Cybersecurity. She currently works in Boston, MA, where she uses her degree to help organizations of all shapes and sizes to improve their cybersecurity programs. Outside of her work, Emily loves nothing more than an iced coffee, a sunny beach, and a good book.



Chelsea Stark-Jones *Senior Podcast Manager, Spotify*

Chelsea Stark-Jones is an Emmy Award winning producer currently serving as a Senior Podcast Manager at Spotify, overseeing and developing several shows for The Ringer. Her career started almost 15 years ago when she interned for KCBS Los Angeles Sports, and later an intern at the NFL Network. Chelsea continued her time at the NFL Network for 10 years, and left as a Story Producer in 2021. Throughout her career, Chelsea has also produced content for FOX Sports, Time Magazine, Amazon, and more. In 2019 she won an Emmy for her contributions to the NFL Networks, NFL 100 content.



Olivia Tandowsky *Video Game Producer, Epic Games*

Olivia Tandowsky is a video game producer, working on Fortnite at Epic Games. She is passionate about playing and making video games, and enjoys sharing her journey in the industry. Originally from the Bay Area, Olivia attended UC Berkeley (Class of 2020) and studied Cognitive Science and Design Innovation. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, listening to music, making pottery, and baking.



Katrina Young *Olympic Diver*

Katrina Young is a two-time Olympic 10-meter platform diver who competed in the 2016 Games in Rio and 2020 Games in Tokyo. She attended Florida State University graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and is currently writing an album to be released at the end of this year. Katrina believes in following your dreams and the power of inspiring others through leadership.