GRASSROOTS LOBBY DAYS 2019

When Women are Elected, Women and Families Flourish

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019
Carson City Plaza Hotel
801 S Carson St, Carson City, NV 89701

HOSTED BY THE NEVADA WOMEN'S LOBBY
SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019

7:30 AM
Check-in and Breakfast

8:00 AM
Welcome

ERIKA WASHINGTON
Nevada Women's Lobby - Southern Nevada Co-Chair
Working for many years as a journalist for the only African-American newspaper in the state of Nevada, she came to appreciate and understand the inner workings of Nevada politics. Currently as the Executive Director for the Make It Work Nevada and Make It Work Nevada Education Fund, Erika is striving to redefine the traditional idea of what organizing looks like.

CECILIA COLLING
Nevada Women's Lobby - Northern Nevada Co-Chair
Cecilia has worked at the federal, state, and local levels as a constituent services aide to a US Senator, a Sparks City Councilmember, and the top aide to Governor Bob Miller. She has worked in several chief positions in state government, and she has been the Chair of the Democratic Party of Washoe County.

TERESA BENITEZ-THOMPSON
Majority Floor Leader of the Assembly - District 27
Teresa is the Founding President of the Nevada Empowered Women's Project, a Board Member for Women Work!, a Board Member RAVE Family Foundation, the 1st Vice Chair Nevada State Democratic Party; a Democratic National Committee member, and an A.L.I.T.A.S. Mentor and Volunteer.

8:30 AM
Trust Nevada Women Act

YVANNA CANCELA
State Senate - District 10
Senator Cancela was the first Latina to ever serve in the State Senate. Her work during the 2017 session focused on drug cost transparency and increasing access to affordable healthcare. When not in session, Yvanna works as the executive director of the Immigrant Workers Citizenship Project. She leads the state’s only organization to offer free help with naturalization applications.
DENISE CORDOVA - MODERATOR
Director Emerita, Equal Opportunity & Title IX at UNR
Denise Cordova has over 30 years of investigative experience having served as a Nevada Attorney General Investigator and most recently as the Director of Equal Opportunity and Title IX at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Denise was awarded Investigator of the Year twice during her tenure with the Attorney General and UNR Director Emeritus was conferred upon Denise last year.

DUANE L. YOUNG
Deputy Administrator, Nevada Medicaid
DuAne received his Bachelor’s in Science in Family Studies from Miami University and a Master’s in Management from Indiana Wesleyan University. He is also ABD degree status in the Organizational Leadership Doctoral Program at Indiana Wesleyan University. All his post graduate work has focused on leadership practices within varying healthcare settings.

DR. JAMIE PALMER
Lecturer for UNR’s Gender, Race and Identity Department
Jamie Palmer received the 2018 SAGE Innovative Teaching and Professional Development Award from the American Sociological Association’s Section on Teaching and Learning. She also was the 2017 recipient of the University of Georgia’s Outstanding Teaching Award for her outstanding pedagogy and mentorship in Women’s Studies.

LAUREN REID
Detective at the University of Nevada, Reno
Detective Lauren Reid has served with University Police Services for 5 years. She has spent the last 3 years in the Investigations Division, where she has developed a passion for trauma informed sexual assault investigations. She was awarded the ASIS Outstanding Officer of the Year Award in 2016 for “bringing the department into the 21st century.”
JOANNA JACOB - MODERATOR
Executive Vice President of Ferrari Public Affairs
Joanna has worked with Ferrari Public Affairs since February 2011, first as a legislative analyst and then quickly progressing from there to policy director to her current position as Executive Vice President of the firm. She currently leads the FPA team operations, and has represented a diverse list of clients before legislative and interim regulatory committees.

BAILEY BORTOLIN
Lobbyist for Nevada Legal Services Providers
Bailey Bortolin, Esq. is the Statewide Advocacy Outreach and Policy Director representing Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Washoe Legal Services, Volunteer Attorneys of Rural Nevada and Southern Nevada Senior Law Project. She received her bachelors degree from American University, School of Public Affairs in 2012, and her juris doctor from UNLV Boyd of School of Law in 2015.

NATHA ANDERSON
Lobbyist for Nevada State Education Association
Natha Anderson is a second generation Nevada native and a fourth generation educator. She has been a teacher in the Washoe County area for more than 20 years. Currently, Natha serves as president of the Washoe Education Association representing public school teachers, counselors, school librarians, school nurses, speech language pathologist and other licensed professionals.

BROOKE MAYLATH
President of Transgender Allies Group
Brooke Maylath has led the Transgender Allies Group (TAG) since it was founded by in July of 2012 by a band of passionate therapists, advocates and transgender people. With the goal of educating and advocating for the needs of the transgender community in Nevada, TAG provides education to organizations and agencies that interact with transgender people.

MARLENE LOCKARD - MODERATOR
Lobbyist for Nevada Women’s Lobby
Marlene has over 30 years of government and private sector leadership experience having served as Nevada’s first female Chief of Staff under then Governor and former U.S. Senator Richard Bryan; Vice President for a global software company; and as Nevada’s CIO for the Department of Information Technology.

SHANNON BILBRAY-AXELROD
State Assembly - District 34
Shannon is a third generation Nevadan with deep roots in the community and Democratic politics. She is a passionate advocate of a variety of public and philanthropic endeavors, serving on the boards of the LVCC Library District, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation of Nevada, Family-to-Family Connections Las Vegas.
**DR. REBECCA GILL**  
*Director of the Women’s Research Institute of Nevada*  
Dr. Gill’s research focuses on gender, politics, and courts. She is currently working to combat harassment and work toward a more diverse, inclusive academic environment. Dr. Gill’s #MeToo story gained national media attention, and she remains dedicated to finding ways to combat sexual harassment and support survivors.

**ELECTRA SKRZYDLEWSKI**  
*Nevada Women’s Lobby Board Member*  
Electra Skrzydlewski is a political professional with a wealth of experience advocating on behalf of non-profit organizations, candidates, and issue campaigns. She has earned recognition for her ability to develop statewide advocacy models capable of building political power and achieving significant legislative and electoral victories in Nevada.

**JOYCE WOODHOUSE - EARNED SICK LEAVE**  
*State Senate - District 5*  
Woodhouse has a B.A. in Elementary Education from Carroll College and an M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She earned another M.A. in Educational Administration in 1987. As a teacher and principal Joyce Woodhouse has dedicated her life to making sure every Nevada child has an opportunity to succeed.

**PAT SPEARMAN - PAY EQUITY**  
*State Senate - District 1*  
Senator Spearman has used her roles to pass countless legislations on LGBTQ Rights, Economic Development, Veterans Affairs, Equal Rights and Health Care. Spearman supported a constitutional amendment for marriage equality, fought to ban anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination, and introduced a resolution to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

**DALLAS HARRIS**  
*State Senate - District 11*  
Armed with an undergraduate and graduate degree from UNLV and a Juris Doctorate from George Washington University Law School, Harris spent two years as a fellow at a Washington, D.C. think tank before taking a job as an administrative attorney with the Public Utilities Commission, charged with regulating utilities.
### 2:00 PM

**Table Talks Section 2**

#### A’ESHA GOINS - LOBBYING 101
Lobbyist for Green Bridge Consulting Group

A’Esha Goins is an author, advocate, columnist, and cannabis blogger for Blackabis, which she created to break the stigma that African-Americans have around the issues of marijuana use, decriminalization, and legalization. She advises through Greenbridge Consulting Group.

#### MOLLY ROSE LEWIS - LOBBYING 201
Organizing Director for NARAL Pro-Choice Nevada

Molly Rose Lewis is a lobbyist and the Northern Nevada Organizing Coordinator for NARAL Pro-Choice America. She moved to Reno in 2016 to work on the successful Democratic Party campaign, after having lived all over the world, from Italy to Hawaii. She holds a B.A. in American Studies from Yale University and an M.F.A. in Classical Acting from Illinois State University.

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### 3:00 PM

**Nevada’s Environmental Future**

#### SARAH PETERS
State Assembly - District 24

Sarah Peters is an environmental engineer, specializing in environmental science, engineering, and interagency project leadership. She works with local, Tribal, state and federal governments on toxic waste management, monitoring; regulatory issues; planning and technical support; and general environmental consulting.

#### SUZANNE LINFANTE
City of Reno Energy Adviser

Suzanne has worked in the energy program and policy sector for seven years. She is the current City of Reno Energy Advisor where she manages the ReEnergize Reno program which includes monthly workshops focused on the commercial building sector, and oversees municipal building energy & water use and improvements.

#### LAUREL SAITO
The Nature Conservancy

Since 2016, Laurel Saito has been the Nevada Water Program Director for the Nevada Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Prior to joining TNC, she was an Associate Professor at the University of Nevada Reno and served as Director of the Graduate Program of Hydrologic Sciences for 4.5 years. Dr. Saito is a registered Professional Engineer in California, Colorado, and Nevada.

#### JENNIFER ANN CANTLEY
Mom’s Clean Air Force

Jennifer is a Reiki Master/Teacher, Certified Life Coach and owner of One Source Network LLC, a company dedicated to holistic alternatives and organic ways of healing your body, mind, spirit and your surroundings (mother earth). Jennifer currently lives with her family in Nevada’s Capital, Carson City, enjoying views of Nevada’s blue skies and her sacred mountain, Jobs Peak.
KIM ROBINSON
Executive Director of Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
TMRPA has won a Community Partner award from the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN), a “Planning for Economic and Fiscal Health” technical assistance award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and was identified in the 2013 IBM Smarter Cities Reno report as the lead agency to develop a regional data warehouse.

ARIA OVERLI
Community Organizer with ACTIONN
ACTIONN works to organize communities of faith and people living in poverty to fight for a stronger Northern Nevada. Their current campaign is focused on housing. Aria grew up in Northern Nevada in an extremely low-income family and is passionate about ensuring that all low-income folks have access the opportunities to succeed and to live safe and healthy lives.

JULIA RATTI
State Senate - District 13
In 2008 Julia became active in local government and was elected to serve on the Sparks City Council representing Ward 1. There she focused on strengthening neighborhoods, environmental sustainability projects, reinventing the heart of the city and maintaining critical city services during the tough economic times.

DENISE LÓPEZ
State Director of Faith in Action
Denise has been organizing communities since 2010, and ran for Sparks City Council in 2016. Her experience and knowledge of government and advocacy helped her stand out as the Executive Director of the Democratic Party of Washoe County. More recently, she took on the role of the State Director of Faith in Action, where organizing meets policy.

4:30 PM
No-Host Cocktails

5:30 PM
Dinner with Keynote Speaker Governor Sisolak

Governor’s Mansion
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Carson City, NV 89703
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Thank you for joining us! Follow us to stay in touch:
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