



**SAN JOSE DOWNTOWN  
ASSOCIATION**

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020\\_BOD\\_Ballot](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020_BOD_Ballot)

## **2020 SJDA ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS**

All ballots received by October 8 will be eligible for a drawing for one of three prize packages containing a \$25 dining gift certificate and \$10 in Downtown San Jose Farmers' Market "Carrot Cash."

The following 12 directors have been nominated and are eligible to be elected at the Annual Meeting for three-year terms. Directors are permitted to serve two consecutive three-year terms. Approximately one-third of the Board of Directors seats are up for election at each Annual Meeting. Incumbent members denoted by \*.

### **BALLOT FOR JAN. 1, 2021 – DEC. 31, 2023 TERM**

\_\_\_\_\_ All as nominated below

#### **Board of Director Nominees**

\_\_\_\_\_ Dap Ashaolu

A downtown resident raised in San Jose. As a graduate from SJSU, with a career background working in finance and sales, Ashaolu is currently the CFO & Head of Products at Nirvana Soul whose mission is to bring people together through the power of coffee and tea in their SoFA District cafe.

\_\_\_\_\_ Breanna Gilbert\* (Director since 2018)

A downtown resident born and raised in San Jose, Gilbert has 15 years of experience in marketing and communications. She has worked for some of the most influential nonprofits in the Bay Area and is a founding board member and current board chair of CreaTV San Jose.

\_\_\_\_\_ Anjee Helstrup-Alvarez

Executive Director of MACLA, lifelong arts advocate, and frequent advisor to the philanthropic field. In 2009 Helstrup-Alvarez was recognized for her dynamic leadership with the "40 Under 40" award from the SV Business Journal. A downtown resident, Helstrup-Alvarez is married and has two children.

\_\_\_\_\_ Katia McClain\* (Director since 2018)

Northern California Managing Principal for Steinberg. With over 25 years of experience, McClain leads a team of architects, interior designers, and planners specializing in civic, education, and multi-family residential and mixed-use projects. McClain is an active member of AIA Silicon Valley and the Women in Architecture Committee. President of SJDA 2019-20, McClain is currently serving on the SJDA Executive, Design, and Finance committees.

\_\_\_\_\_ Daniel Marsh

A San Jose native passionate about downtown San Jose's positive transformation. Marsh is an experienced lawyer with Hoge Fenton, assisting clients with business, insurance, and real estate matters. Marsh is eager to contribute to downtown San Jose's continued growth while supporting local businesses and promoting the vibrant cultures of San Jose's various neighborhoods which make San Jose such an attractive community to live and work.

\_\_\_\_\_ Hanh Mo

A lifelong resident of San Jose and graduate from SJSU, is a government relations expert for one of California's largest health care systems and overseas the South Bay region. Mo was recognized with the Silicon Valley Business Journal's "40 Under 40" award in 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chris Neale\* (Director since 2018)

Executive Vice President of The Core Companies, holding company to Core Homes, Core Affordable, Core Residential, and Core Builders, Neale is responsible for the full spectrum of Core's development activities including acquisition, entitlement, financing and construction. Past President of SJDA 2014-15, Neale is currently serving on the SJDA Executive committee.

Eric Nielsen

Raised in San Jose, Nielsen has a background the hospitality industry and is the creator of 55 South, San Jose's first high volume craft cocktail bar and restaurant, and partner at SP2 Communal bar and restaurant. Nielsen is married, has two children, and serves on the board of the California Youth Services.

Emily Ruvalcaba

Senior Vice President of Bridge Bank responsible for banking solutions for a broad range of commercial clients. Ruvalcaba has served on various boards including the American Red Cross, Santa Clara Chapter, Lincoln Foundation and Silicon Valley Cares, and is currently active on the boards of the Silicon Valley Organization (San Jose Chamber) and Sacred Heart Nativity Schools.

Jeanne Serpa\* (Director since 2015)

South Bay Municipal Relationship Manager for Republic Services specializing in community and government relations. Currently serving on the SJDA Executive committee, Serpa is a trustee on the San Jose Downtown Foundation and member of the Rotary Club of San Jose. A resident of San Jose for 19 years, Serpa is married and has two children.

Thoi Trinh

Trinh has over a decade of hospitality and operations experience leading and growing multi-unit, multi-concept restaurant companies and new initiatives such as the Bay 101 Casino in San Jose. His extensive background also covers Michelin-starred restaurants, hotels, retail, tech, community organization, event management, marketing and banking. Trinh brings his experience to the SoFA District with The Good Spot, a multi-level event, food and beverage business.

Elizabeth Truong\* (Director since 2018)

Vice President of Lee's Sandwiches Corporation of Northern California since 2004. Truong leads the expansion team, procurement team and marketing department and currently operates the Lee's Sandwiches in Dublin, Ca. She is very familiar with downtown as she operated Lee's Sandwiches downtown for 15 years, which is the original Lee's location since 1983. Truong is a San Jose State University alum and proud Spartan. Currently serving on the SJDA Executive committee.

Write-in Candidate

**Please provide the following information to verify your ballot and prize eligibility.**

Name of Business\*

Business Owner/Contact Person\*

Business Address\*

City/State/Zip\*

Phone

Email\*

Web

For more information about SJDA and its programs, please visit [www.sjdowntown.com](http://www.sjdowntown.com).