

NCPC - June 2 Luncheon Speakers' Bios

Nelli Garton. PH.D. is an accomplished strategist, problem-solver, and change agent. Dr. Garton is the founder and principal at Garton Strategy Group, strategic advisors for impact working to direct more capital towards improving our communities. She is also a founder and Chief Impact and Operating Officer of TableCloth, a civic technology company that provides a platform for the social sector to better tell its stories and to increase civic engagement by socially minded individuals. In the past she has consulted to a variety of clients on board development, evaluation and impact, program planning and assessment, policy analysis, organizational development and fundraising. Previously, she was a Senior Principal at LeSarDevelopment Consultants, Partner in Keel Asset Management, a Vice President at the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, and Senior Researcher and Lecturer at the Sillerman Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy at Brandeis University. She is on the board of the Wilson Foundation and leads their strategic initiative on family homelessness, she co-founded and currently chairs the San Diego Impact Investor Network, is the secretary for the board of directors of San Diego Grantmakers and serves on the advisory boards of the Youth Development Office of San Diego and the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs. Dr. Garton holds a PhD. and MA in Social Policy from the Heller School at Brandeis University, an MPA from Cornell University and a BA in Sociology from Colorado College.

Nancy Jamison has led San Diego Grantmakers since 2005, overseeing the organization's growth in membership and service offerings, particularly around learning and networking opportunities and the facilitation of funder collaboration. This has increased the organization's prominence in both local and national philanthropic communities, and Nancy often speaks to audiences about the power and practice of strategic philanthropy.

Prior to joining SDG, Nancy was a senior consultant for TrustWorks Group, a leading San Diego firm providing strategic planning, leadership and team development for nonprofits, associations and corporations. She was a co-creator of the TrustWorks training programs on how to build trust in the workplace, now marketed by the Ken Blanchard Companies and the basis for the book Trust Works! Four Keys to Building Lasting Relationships.

Nancy was a Vice President at Wells Fargo Bank, where she worked in a variety of positions over 10 years, including branch manager, marketing, advertising and employee training. Nancy has past served as a board member for the Children's Hospital Auxiliary, National Charity League, San Dieguito Academy Foundation, Canyon Crest Academy Foundation, and the National Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers. She Chaired the 2015 Association of Fundraising Professionals San Diego National Philanthropy Day Honorary Committee.

Nancy was a recipient of the San Diego Business Journal's 2014 Women Who Mean Business Award and the 2016 San Diego 500 Influential Business Leaders. She earned a B.A. with Honors in Psychology from Stanford University.

Megan Thomas oversees San Diego Grantmakers' facilitation of collaborative efforts among its funder members and other stakeholders. Megan provides strategic and logistical support to strengthen San Diego communities through shared learning and pooled and aligned funding

strategies. Current focus areas include early education, STEAM education, homelessness, military/veterans issues, leadership development, transition age youth, foster youth, racial justice, and impact investing, as well as support for the steering committees of pooled grant funds.

Megan brings 20 years of experience in the nonprofit and philanthropic fields to this role, having most recently served as Executive Director of San Diego Coastkeeper where she built partnerships among the nonprofit, business, and public sectors to advance environmental goals across San Diego County. Megan received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Georgetown University and her Masters in Business Administration from Yale School of Management. She serves on the board of directors of United Way of San Diego County and Hope Horse Ranch. Previously she served on the advisory council for The San Diego Foundation's Center for Civic Engagement and the Port of San Diego Environmental Advisory committee.

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