Welcome to the fourth edition of our annual supplement honoring LA’s most influential women in the construction, architecture and engineering fields.

The women who make their way to become standouts in these historically male-dominated fields are truly pioneers. There’s still a way to go for representation in the building game, but the needle is moving, and the industry offers great opportunities for advancement for women.

There are some particularly stellar construction professionals in the LA region who happen to be women and we’ve alphabetically listed some of the best of them here, along with information about their careers.

Congratulations to the extraordinary, trailblazing women who made this list and thank you for your contributions to the Los Angeles economy … and skyline.

Methodology: The professionals featured in these pages did not pay to be included. Their profiles were drawn from nomination materials submitted to the Los Angeles Business Journal. Those selected for inclusion were reviewed by the editorial department and chosen based on a demonstration of impact made on the profession and on the Los Angeles community.
Cassy Aoyagi has built a reputation based on the profound environmental and aesthetic impact of her work, as well the way in which she has raised the bar for the industry. Aoyagi co-owns and leads FormLA Landscaping. She is one of the few women leading landscaping companies with construction and maintenance divisions, and on a short list of LA landscaping professionals that hold both LEED and Sustainable SITES certifications.

Aoyagi’s dedication to sustainability, brought to life through the business, has made a profound impact on LA’s resilience to climate change, wildfire, and water positivity. She and her team have replaced more than 200,000 square feet of thirsty lawn with lush, leafy, wildlife-supporting habitats. As a result, each year, the company now saves LA well over 10 million gallons of water and reduces air pollution equivalent to eliminating 59 annual commutes from LA roads, among other impactful accomplishments.

Dr. Giovanna Brasfield, commonly known as “Dr. G,” has many significant highlights in her career in construction leading diversity & inclusion for large general contractors both in commercial and civil construction. She recently served as the highest ranking African American in the US and Canada for Flatiron’s Southwest Division as the vice president of project diversity & inclusion leading contract commitments for the Los Angeles World Airport (LAWA’s) Automated People Mover Project (APM) for small business engagement, local workforce inclusion, and youth education. In October 2021, Dr. G has taken such knowledge and experience to relaunch her consulting firm “Brasfield & Associates.” As a consultant, she can serve more firms within the construction industry with her expertise in DEI and aiding companies with project pursuits in meeting contractual requirements that engage women, diverse businesses, local workforce, and youth engagement.

Adaeze Cadet’s architectural career breaks barriers and misperceptions about the capability of Black women in architecture. Over the past 15 years she has successfully performed in multiple leadership positions and produced exceptional designs praised by the likes of Wehoville, Lonny Magazine and Design Milk, and continues to add strength to her design teams and mentors.

HOK’s LA studio is comprised of 75% female leadership and Cadet is currently the first female design principal at HOK, opening the door for future female design leaders. She has become a significant influence, shaping the firm with her extraordinary integrity and creativity. As design principal she is currently working on various large-scale entertainment, commercial and science & technology projects among other disciplines in the studio. Additionally, Cadet was an instrumental design team leader in winning the $220 million-dollar, 241-key Robertson Lane Hotel in West Hollywood.

Sharon Christensen joined Howard Building Corporation early in her career and, over the last 14 years, she has not only grown into an asset to the company — she has grown into a leader.

Christensen currently oversees all personnel in Howard Building Corporation’s Los Angeles office. More than being able to lead a diverse group of people, she has the keen ability to inspire. She motivates her employees to continue to learn and grow, stand up for what they believe in, and give back to the community. As a female leader in the construction industry, Christensen has demonstrated that it is possible to succeed and make a difference through compassion, kindness, and fortitude. She is deeply passionate about bringing diversity into the construction industry, and she works tirelessly alongside the HR department to make HBC a great place to work for everyone.

Congratulations
HANH VU
for being selected as one of LABJ’s Women of Influence: Construction, Architecture, and Engineering.

weoneil.com
STREAMLINE BUILDERS WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE

ELISE JOHNSON

On being one of the Los Angeles Business Journal’s Outstanding Women in Construction and Architecture!

As our world changes around us, those who lead become more important and essential to the growth of everyone around them. Elise Johnson elevates those around herself with a commitment to partnerships, authenticity, empathy, and a shared vision where everyone rises with the tides. Her leadership inspires us as a company to grow personally through our profession, and for that we thank you.

Streamline Builders is honored to pay this tribute to an incredible woman and the contribution she’s made to the construction industry.

Bracing the Future Through our Commitment to You

Premier Multifamily Renovations

Pre-construction | Repositioning | Design-Build | Renovations

San Fernando Valley | Los Angeles County | Orange County

streamlinebuild.com
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OWN

**Bita Salamat** and **Suzanne Jaggers**

AND ALL THE 2022 WOMEN OF INFLUENCE.

We thank you for leading the way in creating a more equitable, inclusive, and diverse future in Construction and Design.

HGA.COM
On behalf of the entire team at Turner Construction Company,

Congratulations to
Vesna Conroy & Jaimie Turner!

Thank you for your dedication to building the future of Los Angeles and your leadership in advancing the construction industry.

Turner would also like to congratulate all of the Women of Influence in Construction, Architecture, and Engineering. Your leadership, commitment and vision are instrumental in building the future.

www.turnerconstruction.com
ANNE FLETCHER
Managing Principal
HOK

During Anne Fletcher’s three years as HOK’s managing principal in Los Angeles, the practice has delivered over $2 billion worth of projects in planning and design in science & technology, commercial, corporate, healthcare and aviation sectors.

Under Fletcher’s tenure, HOK Los Angeles has delivered projects such as the Mark Ridley-Thomas Behavioral Health Center, USC’s first LEED Platinum building (The Ginsburg Human-Centered Computation Hall), City of Hope Orange County at Five Point Gateway Hospital, Universal Health Services Inland Valley Replacement Hospital, Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Hills Medical Office Building, San Diego Airport Administration and Facilities building and confidential entertainment, tech and production companies. Additionally, before locating to Los Angeles in 2017, she oversaw the mixed-use practice for HOK’s New York studio and led The New La Guardia Airport, which worked as an integrated team on the new LaGuardia Airport, setting a new precedent in OSHPD I, breaking new ground on and leading multi-million-dollar proposals using InDesign – a program that she had no experience with just a few months prior. She started full-time as a marketing assistant upon graduation. In 2018, she was promoted to marketing coordinator and transferred to PENTA’s LA office. In this position, she works on everything from securing new business and managing the company’s award-winning internal newsletter to designing marketing collateral and other materials.

Bianca Fontimayor started her journey with commercial contractor The PENTA Building Group five years ago as the firm’s first-ever marketing intern in Las Vegas. A short time later, she was working on and leading multi-million-dollar proposals using InDesign – a program that she had no experience with just a few months prior. She started full-time as a marketing assistant upon graduation. In 2018, she was promoted to marketing coordinator and transferred to PENTA’s LA office. In this position, she works on everything from securing new business and managing the company’s award-winning internal newsletter to designing marketing collateral and other materials.

Taylor Fowler is a preconstruction manager at one of Los Angeles County’s leading self-performing general contractors, DPR Construction. With more than 12 years of experience at DPR Construction, Fowler has been an integral part of the preconstruction process at all phases of design. She is also part of the Southern California business unit leadership team, assisting with both local and national operations and business development strategies.

Taylor Fowler
Senior Estimator
DPR Construction

HOK congratulates our own Anne Fletcher and Adaeze Cadet, and all of the Los Angeles Business Journal’s 2022 Women of Influence: Construction, Architecture, and Engineering.

hok.com

BIANCA FONTIMAYOR
Marketing Coordinator
The PENTA Building Group

TAYLOR FOWLER
Senior Estimator
DPR Construction

CYNTHIA GUIDRY
Director of the Long Beach Airport
City of Long Beach, Long Beach Airport

Long Beach City Manager Patrick H. West recently named Cynthia Guidry as the City’s director of the Long Beach Airport (LGB). Guidry brings 26 years of local government experience in various leadership positions including 14 years in airport management. For the past five years, Guidry has served as the deputy executive director for the City of Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), the governing body for LAX and Van Nuys Airports. There, she oversaw more than 400 employees in the LAWA Planning and Development Group. She also has managed employees in the LAWA Planning, Environmental, Engineering and Facility Management Divisions.

Guidry has a background in civil engineering and project management. At LAWA, she led efforts developing new policy and procedures for LAWA Capital Improvement Program and managed multi-billion-dollar capital improvement projects. She also has been responsible for construction safety, logistics, inspections and quality assurance programs.

Adaeze Cadet
AIA, NOMA, NCARB, LEED BD+C
DESIGN PRINCIPAL
PATTI HARBURG-PETRICH
Principal and US Aviation Sector Leader, West Coast
Buro Happold

Patti Harburg-Petrich, S.E., LEED AP BD+C serves as principal and US Aviation co-lead for Buro Happold, managing the aviation market sector. Two significant projects under her leadership are the concept validation for the new Replacement Passenger Terminal at Hollywood Burbank Airport and the new McNichols Satellite Concourse South at LAX, both of which have sustainable design ambitions. Harburg-Petrich recognizes the opportunity to drive financial and physical resilience through sustainability at airports and is helping her airport clients make meaningful commitments to sustainable development through strategies such as net zero energy and carbon neutrality. Recently, Harburg-Petrich has been exploring the use of offsite construction techniques for large volume projects. She has served as a resource for owners, contractors, and designers. As an interdisciplinary project director, she has experience leading teams for many building types in addition to aviation, including commercial, civic, and education.

ILEANA HOLGUIN
Vice President, Project Executive
McCarthy Building Cos, Inc.

Ileana Holguin is a vice president, project executive with McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. During her 21 years with the company and more than two decades in the industry, she has worked on a variety of successful healthcare, education, commercial and parking structure projects in Southern California. She leads design and construction teams to deliver results for clients across McCarthy’s Southern California region. Holguin is well-known in the industry for her knowledge and skills in project planning, scheduling, budgeting, pre-construction and strong construction operations as well as her strategic thinking and unique ways to develop and maintain client and trade partner relationships. Holguin has a large portfolio of successful projects, with one of her recent accomplishments being leading the pre-construction and proactively influencing the construction efforts for the Providence Tizona Parking Structure Project, winning two awards in 2020 from the National Parking Association: “Innovative Facility” and “Sustainability Project of the Year.”

SUZANNE JAGGERS
Principal & Associate Vice President
HGA

Suzanne Jagger, Associate AIA, LEED GA, EDAC, is a principal at HGA in its Los Angeles office. She leads client relations, team processes, and new business opportunities for the Healthcare Practice Group serving the Greater Los Angeles area and Southern California market. Jagger is passionate about her role of planning and design in promoting health and healing and she places a high value on the process of discovery, continual learning, and understanding.

Since 1988, Jagger has been solely focused on the development of healthcare facilities and their outcomes. Today, as the world grapples in the wake of COVID-19, the professional focus has shifted to a new, more hidden pandemic: behavioral and mental health. The work Jagger is doing in this sector is perhaps what she’s most proud of so far, with a focus on mental health - Santa Clara County and UCLA Neuropsychiatric Hospital, as examples.

JENNY JIN
Senior MEP Project Manager
Webcor

Jenny Jin is no stranger to the determination, passion, and ambition required to effectively chase the “American Dream.” In 2009, she tackled the challenge of learning English as a second language while earning a degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Syracuse University. Jin believes her unique openness to new experiences and passion for learning and development are two of her greatest assets. The past two years of her professional journey have been nothing short of groundbreaking. After moving from New York to Los Angeles, Jin transitioned from the developer to the general contractor side as a Senior MEP Project Manager for Webcor, an industry-leading California builder. She enjoys working on complicated projects with aggressive schedules and budgets and currently manages a $400 million residential tower in downtown Los Angeles. Jin’s unique blend of design, developer, and construction experience has propelled her to becoming a standout in her industry.
Congratulations to our own Ellen Mair, vice president of business development, and all other honorees for their trailblazing work in the construction industry.

**Case Studies:**

- **Elise Johnson**: Director of Construction, Goldrich Kest
  
  Elise Johnson has overcome multiple barriers as an African American female in the construction industry. She spent years coming up through the trades gaining credibility through experience and education to become the new face of construction and department head at Goldrich Kest.

  After serving in the US Marine Corps, she became aware of the need for further education and leadership training to compete in construction as a woman. With an M.S. in Engineering Management & Leadership, she joined GK in 2018 as a project manager thinking she would start slowing down to prepare for retirement. Her skills were put to the test, and she rose to the challenge. In two short years she was chosen to build and lead a team that is tasked to partner and align itself with GK’s KPIs of growth and engagement to become a leader in the industry.

- **Mary Jreisat**: Project Manager, Shawmut Design and Construction
  
  Mary Jreisat cut her teeth on a project that was part of the Bringing Back Broadway economic development plan to revitalize the historic Broadway corridor in Downtown Los Angeles, regenerating buildings and transforming them into attractive destinations to strengthen DTLA’s appeal to both locals and tourists. Jreisat worked on the conversion of a 10-story, 90,000-square-foot building into a 174-key boutique hotel, The Hoxton, DTLA.

  Jreisat has worked on some of the city’s most high-profile projects—from hotels in DTLA to developments in major growth areas. Mary recently completed boutique bakery Breadblok’s new location in Silver Lake, project designed and built by women, for women. She completed the Cutwater Coronado Club and Lexus Premium Suites at Petco Park, and is now back with the team renovating all of the premium suites at the ballpark. She is also currently overseeing a demolition development in Hollywood.

- **Jan Karl**: Vice President, Project Development, Morley Builders
  
  Jan Karl’s career builds upon a successful and strong foundation in construction, coupled with a background in real estate development and services. As a senior leader on the Executive team at Morley Builders and an officer in the firm, she paves the way for the firm’s strategic development and planning, focusing on guiding the company to its next era of success via smart, strategic growth.

  In addition to strategic planning, she oversees marketing, public relations, client relations, and business development. In addition to revenue growth, one of Karl’s greatest accomplishments is the mentorship of women in the Construction industry. Jan has succedded and thrived in an industry traditionally dominated by men and has a goal to help as many women as possible towards success. Transcending gender barriers, Karl understands the importance of assisting as many women as possible toward achieving their goals.

- **Jenna Knudsen**: Managing Principal, CO Architects
  
  Jennifer “Jenna” Knudsen is CO Architects’ first female leader and its youngest in the firm’s 35-year history. For nearly 20 years, Knudsen championed CO’s technology-in-practice efforts to design healthcare, scientific, and complex institutional buildings for maximum efficiency in constructability, energy performance, operability and outstanding design. These efforts have been recognized with multiple American Institute of Architects (AIA) Technology in Architectural Practice BIM Excellence Awards.

  Knudsen’s passion for technological innovation has helped keep CO at the forefront of the industry through such programs as its Virtual Operating Room Experience. This environment uses AR/VR to create a virtual operating room, where physicians can work virtually and provide feedback to help CO optimize real-world OR designs. Knudsen is a frequent speaker and presenter on Building Information Modeling enabled integrated project delivery to improve efficiency and sustainability in architecture and construction.
Sara H. Kornblatt is a law partner whose practice is concentrated in both the development and management of construction projects as well as handling claims and complex litigation matters. She is skilled in drafting and negotiating bid and contract documents for owners, contractors, and subcontractors and handling bid protest and subcontractor substitution issues for both public entity owners and bidders. She represents clients in both litigation and arbitration, and has successfully advocated for them before the California Court of Appeal. She has served as second chair trial counsel in two multi-million dollar construction disputes.

Kornblatt’s unique experience in both contract drafting and litigation is an advantage for clients at all stages of a project. She drafts and negotiates bidding documents, requests for proposals, prime contracts, subcontract agreements, and master subcontract and supply agreements.

The past 18 months of Sarah Landsberger’s career have showcased her vast array of acquired skills. After leading a $400 million high-rise residential project in downtown LA as project director, she transitioned to a corporate commercial and risk position within Webcor’s Project Support group with a focus on Southern California. In 2016, Landsberger moved from her native Australia to Los Angeles. Her unique blend of global experience includes an intimate knowledge of the California construction industry. In her current role, she uses her commercial and risk management background to advise on Webcor’s risk appetite, tolerances, and culture within the fast-paced and quickly expanding California construction industry throughout all phases of the project life cycle. She has worked tirelessly to ensure she is a trusted partner to teams across all Webcor offices and works directly with project teams, while bridging the gap between departments, seeking solutions as a leader and navigator.

Dianne Lee, executive director of Kitchell, recently published a book: Leveraging Stereotypes to Your Advantage in 2021. She is a champion of women in construction and creates platforms focused on the contributions and elevation of women’s roles in a complex and challenging industry and has become well-respected throughout the industry.

Lee moderates at 10 panels a year for a variety of organizations on critical construction issues; has been instrumental in leading the pursuits of major projects - a partial list of clients includes Dignity/Common Spirit Health; Kaiser Permanent; Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Los Angeles Community College District; Los Angeles World Airport; Los Angeles Unified School District; University of Southern California (USC); Santa Monica Community College; City of Los Angeles (on call professional services); Mubadala Investment Company in Abu Dhabi; and many others.

The past 28 years she has been at HPA. Her blend of global experience includes an intimate knowledge of the California construction industry. In her current role, she uses her commercial and risk management background to advise on Webcor’s risk appetite, tolerances, and culture within the fast-paced and quickly expanding California construction industry throughout all phases of the project life cycle. She has worked tirelessly to ensure she is a trusted partner to teams across all Webcor offices and works directly with project teams, while bridging the gap between departments, seeking solutions as both a leader and navigator.

Susan Littlefield, a partner at HPA, is a role model to many. For the past 28 years that Littlefield has been with HPA she has been the inspiration and guiding force behind the design team. Starting with the hand sketches and visualizing with colors and material, to making her vision come to life, is something no one can do like her.

Littlefield’s extensive knowledge and design skill and experience from the landscape to exterior and interior design an sit planning on hundreds of perfect buildings over the years. She has designed hundreds of buildings from traditional style to the most contemporary high-end style for the past 28 years she has been at HPA. Her designs have been recognized by the LA Business Journal as the best commercial/industrial buildings multiple times. The absolute volume that she has designed can be seen all over Southern California.
Liz Mahlow is a founding partner at Nous Engineering. She is a licensed engineer with over 15 years of professional experience in the construction industry. She has managed large scale, fast-track projects within the US and internationally. Through her structural engineering practice, she has worked to strengthen collaboration and diversity among practitioners in order to create best possible solutions for the project and community.

Mahlow’s projects include large hospital campuses and schools in Africa to affordable housing in Los Angeles, emphasizing seismic design and education of building performance outcomes. As faculty at Woodbury University, she taught multiple courses with an emphasis on collaboration between architectural intent and structural performance. She has acted as vice president of development of the Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design and currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Architectural Engineering Department at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and for the LA Forum.

Ellen Mair began her career as a business analyst at Skanska, and her drive and determination have been rewarded with repeated promotions to prominent leadership positions: first, to director of research and analysis, where she led national business planning efforts; then, to director of business development for Los Angeles; and most recently, to vice president of business development for Southern California. Her rise through Skanska’s ranks is reflective of her widespread expertise and unceasing commitment to her team and the clients she serves.

In Mair’s current role, she has helped grow Skanska’s local office footprint by winning new work in key markets such as healthcare, aviation, education and commercial construction across Southern California through a relentless focus on relationship building, strategic foresight and collaborative pursuit planning. Her talent and successes have been integral to creating best possible solutions for the project and community.

Annie Mark came to Howard Building Corporation in 2017 to help jumpstart its HR Department. From analyzing employee surveys and building new programs like HBC University and Wellness out of the data, to helping HBC control vendor contracts, launch new benefits, and implement a new HRIS and payroll system, she has been an instrumental administrator behind the scenes while taking every necessary moment for employee-owners’ individual needs.

In her current role as senior HR generalist, Mark is deeply passionate about the welfare of HBC employees, and has built a robust Wellness Committee to address wellness-related topics and concerns. Last May, she developed a month-long educational campaign surrounding mental health awareness. In addition to webinars and other learning events hosted throughout the month, employees participated in a succulent planting event to help spur community and decrease stress.

Kristen Mays brings a wealth of knowledge and skills to her director of marketing and business development role at Environmental Contracting Corporation (ECC). Her ability to identify business opportunities and build strong industry relationships, while simultaneously developing and executing marketing strategies ensures that ECC project teams and clients are connected and receive the highest level of service throughout each project.

Throughout her career, Mays has successfully utilized her analytic and creative talents, as well as her love of people to locate and win numerous profitable architecture and construction projects throughout the Greater Los Angeles area. While doing so, she has successfully gained a reputation of excellence in all she does and pays it forward through extensive non-profit and mentorship work in the LA community.

CONGRATULATIONS
ELLEN WAY

A Women of Influence: Construction, Architect & Engineering

Shangri-La Construction is inspired by your integrity, expertise, and commitment. Your work has opened doors of opportunity for countless women in the construction industry.
CONGRATULATIONS

to our employee-owners for being recognized as Women of Influence

SHARON CHRISTENSEN

ANNE MARK

HBC would like to congratulate Sharon and Annie for being recognized as Women of Influence in the Construction, Architecture, and Engineering industry by the Los Angeles Business Journal. We look forward to what these amazing employee-owners have in store for the future!

Learn about how we’re working towards a more equitable and inclusive industry at https://howardbuilding.com/community

CONGRATULATIONS to our very own

ELISE JOHNSON

for being recognized as one of this year’s LABJ’s Women of Influence in Construction, Engineering and Architecture.

Goldrich Kest has been helping women rise to the top for over 60 years.
CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE

THEODORA OYIE
President & CEO
Mindful Integration of Construction Services

Rooted in equity, Theodora Oyie has championed diversity and inclusion within the construction industry for women and disenfranchised populations for decades. As president & CEO of Mindful Integration of Construction Services, she leads the firm’s operations. Her unique and diverse expertise and skillsets as owner representative, jobs coordinator, DBE supplier diversity consultant, community outreach director, labor compliance officer, as well as PLA administrator immensely benefit contractors, owners, as well communities impacted by respective projects.

Oyie helps craft strategies and processes that guide executives on pursuits; and champion diversity and inclusion within the construction industry for women and disenfranchised populations. She possesses a unique perspective, having founded DBE/Supplier Diversity Services in 1987 and leasing management company in 1996.

As a member of the five-person board of directors for Steinberg Hart Holdings, Oyie has been instrumental in shaping the firm culture through the creation of student-centered living and learning communities and advancement in interdisciplinary learning environments.

Kim Patten, AIA is a role model for fellow female colleagues in the AEC community, balancing a full family life as a mother of two with her expanding career within the Steinberg Hart practice. Having been named partner within the firm before the age of 40, Patten has distinguished herself as the firm’s national practice leader for higher education through the creation of student-centered living and learning communities.

Kim Patten, AIA is a role model for fellow female colleagues in the AEC community, balancing a full family life as a mother of two with her expanding career within the Steinberg Hart practice. Having been named partner within the firm before the age of 40, Patten has distinguished herself as the firm’s national practice leader for higher education through the creation of student-centered living and learning communities. As a member of the five-person board of directors for Steinberg Hart Holdings, Patten has been instrumental in shaping the firm culture through her leadership on design justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives, pioneering the firm’s Culture Club, and implementing an Advocate Program designed to facilitate professional advancement. Her professional perspective has been critical to ensuring we continue to guide and enhance the professional experience of Steinberg Hart’s staff.

KIM PATTEN
Partner & Higher Education Practice Leader
Steinberg Hart

JENNY REDLIN
Founder, Principal
Partner Engineering and Science, Inc.

Jenny Redlin, principal and part-founder of Partner Engineering and Science, Inc. (Partner) is a secret weapon in the construction, engineering, and environmental industry. Redlin entered the commercial real estate industry with an impressive start as an environmental scientist who continued to build her armory by performing environmental site assessment field work. She then quickly excelled into senior positions due to her ability to not only identify and understand a great depth of technical environmental issues but also her ability to target her clients’ business priorities and distinguish how her work fits into that market.

A defining moment in Redlin’s career was leaving the stability of a traditional firm and founding Partner in 2006. Redlin routinely educates, promotes, and shares her wealth of knowledge on best practices in our business, industry and the “big picture,” to help safeguard safer commercial real estate transactions.

JENNY REDLIN
Founder, Principal
Partner Engineering and Science, Inc.

BITA SALAMAT
Principal & Associate Vice President
HGA

Bita Salamat, AIA, LEED AP is a principal/associate vice president at HGA in Los Angeles. With over 25 years of experience, she has focused her practice on tenant improvements, workplaces, corporate headquarters, and corporate campuses for a variety of clients ranging from entertainment, technology, and corporate headquarters to civic and government buildings.

Salamat’s projects have been published nationally and recognized by the International Interior Design Association, Los Angeles Business Council, and Los Angeles Business Journal. Since joining HGA in 2017, she has brought her knowledge and expertise in interior architecture, workplace strategy, and sustainable design for technology and entertainment/media clients to the firm. Her accomplishments include design strategies for studio production, post-production, and workplace solutions.

BITA SALAMAT
Principal & Associate Vice President
HGA

THEODORA OYIE
President & CEO
Mindful Integration of Construction Services

KIM PATTEN
Partner & Higher Education Practice Leader
Steinberg Hart

JENNY REDLIN
Founder, Principal
Partner Engineering and Science, Inc.

BITA SALAMAT
Principal & Associate Vice President
HGA

Congratulations JENNY KNUDSEN

On being named one of LABJ’s Women of Influence: Construction, Architecture & Engineering.

CO Architects congratulates all of the Women of Influence.
During her 30-year career as a creative professional, Marcy Schulte has shaped and led a nationally recognized design practice. Schulte relocated to Los Angeles six years ago, where she has played a role in shaping beautiful, innovative, and already-iconic structures in the region. One of the most recent notable projects is Pendry West Hollywood Hotel and Residences, a $280 million mixed-use development on the Sunset Strip that was completed in May of last year, with Schulte leading the charge in re-engineering, re-skinning, and re-conceptualizing of the project to successfully bring it to the finish line.

Other notable L.A. area projects include Hyatt Place Pasadena; Millennium Santa Monica Multi Family Residential project, DTLA Select Service Hotel, a $70 million hotel in development and the un-built Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles Headquarters and ReStore design.

Paula Stamp, Director, Business Development

PCL Construction's Director of Business Development, Paula Stamp's career accomplishments span not only her specific field of marketing and client development but also research and initiatives that positively impact stakeholders, partners, and the community. Her unique background that melds academics with being a real-world practitioner yields quantitative results PCL's clients benefit from and creates value for the firm.

Among Stamp's accomplishments have been her work leading business development training across the $1 billion PCL California District; her efforts as primary PCL lead for Los Angeles World Airports pursuits, integral to securing the LAX West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal ($1.4 Billion) and Consolidated Car Rental Facility ($1.1 Billion) projects; and her contribution of expertise in higher education.

Jaimie Turner, Special Projects Division Manager

Jaimie Turner joined Turner Construction Company 11 years ago as a project engineer in the Los Angeles Office. After only two years on site, she was quickly promoted to business development engineer where she helped to secure key sales and client relationships in the Southern California region. After returning to the field, Turner focused on interior renovations and infrastructure projects within Turner’s Special Projects Division (Turner SPD).

Turner progressed quickly through positions of increasing responsibility building the trust of owners, architects, and her teammates. In 2018, she was promoted to senior project manager for Turner SPD where she successfully positioned Turner SPD for growth in the region. Upon the success of her work on construction projects in the region, she was promoted to division manager of Turner SPD in 2019. As division manager, she is now responsible for the overall performance of Turner SPD.

Jamila Valero, Design Integration Manager

Jamila Valero is a design integration manager at one of Los Angeles County’s leading self-performing general contractors, DPR Construction. She focuses on the integration of multiple disciplines and trades to achieve efficient and thorough project coordination primarily within the healthcare, higher education and life sciences markets. Bringing more than 14 years of experience working on both new and renovation projects, Valero began her career as a registered architect and has collaborated on all phases of design and construction at the global design, architecture, engineering, and planning firm. With her passion in the technical execution of the built environment, Valero’s transition to the general contracting world has been seamless. As design integration manager at DPR Construction, Valero focuses on bridging the gap between design and construction and excels at interfacing with project teams to develop and monitor expectations and execution for schedule, quality and cost during the design and documentation process.
Lizzy Vlassopoulos specializes in high-end, large-scale tenant improvements. She has successfully managed and served on a wide variety of projects over the last 10 years, including data centers; television studios; airport seismic retrofits and terminal redevelopments; office buildings; and more. In her last year at USC, she was offered an internship by Swinerton. During this time, she knew that the teamwork, problem solving, and fast-paced nature of construction was where she truly belonged. Ten years later, she remains at Swinerton and is doing exactly what she loves. Her goal is to constantly increase her knowledge of construction, create key partnerships across the industry, and continue to grow at Swinerton on the Operations side of the business.

Most recently, Vlassopoulos managed the completion of Swinerton’s Special Projects Division’s largest project in history, a Culver City-based, $60-million project.

Hanh Vu’s remarkable rise from a part-time project administrator to being a star project manager has been a long journey achieved through sheer determination. Vu works full-time, raises two preschoolers, takes care of aging parents, and still manages to be the engine that keeps her high-intensity construction projects moving forward seamlessly. Vu has worked on some high-profile projects while with W.E. O’Neil and is a mentor to project engineers and administration.

Vu’s recent project accomplishments include the new 215,000 square foot lifestyle Center in Long Beach. Vu led the 23-person team to a successful and profitable completion. Vu is also currently a part of the West Edge project in Los Angeles, a new mixed-use project with 200,000 square feet of creative Class A office space, private landscaped terraces over five floors, 600 Type III (wood-frame) apartments, 90,000 square feet of retail amenities, and half an acre of open-air plaza.

Ellen Way has been a trailblazer throughout her 15-plus-year career — a career that started on a Boston construction site in 1979, when Way became one of the first women to join the local laborer’s union, and quickly began shattering expectations of the men she worked with. Today, more than 40 years later, Way is still shattering stereotypes, though her success is less of a surprise to those she works with. She has served as senior superintendent and now director of field operations for Shangri-La Construction, one of the region’s leading construction firms focused on affordable and sustainable development.

Way’s LEED AP certification distinguishes her as a green building expert who implements sustainable practices and helps reduce environmental impact in construction of new buildings. At Shangri-La, she is helping the company focus on affordable and environmentally friendly development throughout the region, covering everything from housing to hotels to high schools.

Tiffany Whipple is the highest-ranked woman in an operations role at PCL Construction’s California Buildings District. Whipple excels at leading large scale and high-profile projects in technically-complex environments; her project portfolios include work on legacy projects such as the LAX Midfield Satellite Concourse, the Conference Center at LA Live! and American Dream as well as UCLAs Le Conte Apartments, a high-rise development of student housing. To date, the cumulative contract value of Whipple’s project portfolio is over $5 billion.

At the nearly $2 billion mega project in New Jersey, American Dream, Whipple oversaw the rides, slides, themed, pools and exterior building envelope. At the recently-opened LAX West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal project, she oversaw the exterior envelope, managing several teams across five structures. She is also senior project manager overseeing the construction of two student housing projects at UCLA.

Los Angeles Business Journal

REAL ESTATE SPOTLIGHT

ALIGN YOUR BUSINESS WITH OUR EXTENSIVE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE PORTFOLIO

The Los Angeles Business Journal is committed to providing the leaders of Los Angeles with information on important real estate related topics such as development and land use, vacancy rates and brokerage, and architecture and building trends.

LISTS
City Contractors
Commercial RE Developers
Architectural Firms
Commercial RE Brokerage Firms
General Contractors
Infrastructure Construction Projects
Largest Construction Projects
Property Management Firms

SPECIAL EDITIONS
LA500
2023 Book of Lists

SPECIAL REPORTS
Real Estate Quarterly
L.A. Rising
Long Beach on the Rise
Industrial Real Estate

LEADERS OF INFLUENCE
Women CRE Brokers (Office & Industrial)

CUSTOM CONTENT
Who’s Building L.A.

EVENTS
Commercial Real Estate Awards
Real Estate Trends

For more information and to secure space, please contact Tom Holmes at tholmes@labusinessjournal.com