San José for All

Nicole Altamirano (she/her)



Nicole Altamirano is a San Jose native with deep ties to the LQBTQ+ community in the South Bay. She Serves as the Chief Executive Officer for Silicon Valley Pride as well as co-chair for the "Hey Girl" collaborative sub-committee of Silicon Valley Pride. As a Mexican and Native American woman, she feels it is important to take up space in historically "White spaces" and will never back down when standing for the rights of the most marginalized.

"If at the end of the day I have stood by the side of the most marginalized members of my community, then I will sleep peacefully, regardless of the repercussions."

Avelino Azevedo (he/him)



Avelino Azevedo is a San Jose native, raised in East San Jose, and is a fourth-generation resident of the Bay Area. He moved to San Francisco at 18 and graduated from M.T.D. College of Nursing as a certified nursing assistant. During this time, he was able to be part of the L.B.G.T.Q. groups that supported gay marriage and rights, as well as medical cannabis.

In the early 2000s, Avelino served as a commissioner of the H.I.V. Planning Council for two years. During that time, he helped undocumented Latinos receive medication and housing. Additionally, he assisted in the development of the Neil Christie Living Center, a community center for people living with H.I.V./AIDS. He hopes to bring his experience from the past to the S.J.4ALL Board for change and development for the future.

Avelino is also a small business entrepreneur specializing in used and antique furniture. He hopes to work with local organizations to help those receiving Section 8 housing acquire furniture for their new homes, as well as others in similar situations.

In his free time, Avelino enjoys traveling, oil painting, and collecting furniture. He is connected to the Native American Indian Center, where he enjoys drumming with his father in Bakersfield, CA.

Pamela Campos (she/ella)



Pamela Campos is a lifelong Bay Area resident, proudly born and raised in San José, CA. She is a Chicana, second-generation immigrant whose family developed roots in the South Bay. Working as an educator for over a decade, she currently specializes in policy and advocacy related to early care and education (ECE) facilities. Pamela is a policy and program officer with the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) where she leads on initiatives such as Build Up California and LIIF's National Advisory Committee of ECE leaders. Locally, she is a community organizer with Parent Voices California for the Santa Clara County chapter and serves as vice chair on the policy advisory council for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Pamela is a committed advocate who places the needs of young children, their families, and underrepresented marginalized BIPOC communities at the forefront of her vision towards an equitable future. Pamela holds a B.A. in Child and Adolescent Development from San José State. Connect & learn more: https://www.linkedin.com/in/pamela-campos-911b68123/

Paris Etemadi Scott (she/her)



Paris Etemadi Scott is the Legal Director at Pars Equality Center, a 501(c)(3) community-based nonprofit organization serving the legal and social needs of Iranian-Americans and other underrepresented immigrant communities in Northern and Southern California. Paris has over 15 years of experience as an attorney with a focus on immigration law and international human rights. She manages family immigration and complex removal defense cases and has extensive overseas experience including representation of refugees in Hong Kong before the UNHCR. As an immigrant herself, she understands the importance of advocating for the immigrant community and providing resources to enable newcomers become self-reliant, informed, and engaged members of the society. Paris is a member of the State Bar of California, American Immigration Lawyers Association, and Iranian American Bar Association. She is an adjunct faculty at West Valley College (WVC) and a board member of WVC Paralegal Program.

Nikki Inamine (she/her)



Nikki Inamine was born and raised in East San Jose, a daughter of Japanese and Okinawan immigrants and a first-generation college graduate who spent much of her youth on the basketball court and rollerblading around eastside.

A longtime member of San Jose's Japantown, Nikki spent many years participating in the community's youth sports leagues and hanging around the many J-town businesses where her mother worked. She remains active in Japantown today, particularly through her work with the San Jose Nikkei Resisters, where she has been active in the group's community-led efforts to preserve Japantown's rich cultural history and character. Nikki is also continually seeking out ways to connect with the Okinawan diaspora and has become a strong supporter of the Pacific sovereignty movement.

Nikki is passionate about increasing economic mobility and housing stability for San Jose residents, and is especially interested in implementing tools for grassroots community development, such as local land trusts. Professionally, Nikki has spent the past seven years working in local government and currently works in the Office of Economic Development with the City of Fremont.

On the weekends, you're likely to find Nikki out-and-about exploring the Bay Area by foot, bike or public transit, and petting every cute dog she comes across along the way. Nikki also loves to dabble in new activities and hobbies, with her latest interests focused on learning karate and getting competitive over board games with her fiance and friends.

Kristen Ingalz (she/her)



Kristen Ingalz comes to San Jose from Japan and has been a resident of the city for over 25 years. An English and Japanese bilingual with lived experience in both US and Japanese cultures, Kristen has focused her career on building successful partnerships and joint development relationships between US and Japanese companies, especially in the consumer electronics, healthcare, and medical device industries. She has specific training in survey design, individual and focus group interviewing, and field research, which have been instrumental in helping her facilitate open, curious, and collaborative relationships among her colleagues and clients.

Outside the office, you can find Kristen reading, watching movies, cooking, exploring San Jose's Japantown, or traveling with her husband, daughter, and guide dog, Bestie. Legally blind herself, Kristen is a passionate advocate for accessibility and the rights of people with disabilities. As a member of the "sandwich generation" – raising her own family while assisting in caring for her parents – she is also interested in finding ways to help families balance these kinds of challenges.

Kristen holds a BA in Japanese from Mount Holyoke College and an MA in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She is currently pursuing an MA in Translation and Localization Management at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey.

Jacob Leong (he/him)



Jacob Leung, a second-generation immigrant, is a trailblazer in his family, becoming the first to earn a college degree. He achieved his Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Santa Clara University and went on to obtain a Master's in Tax from Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo. Additionally, he honed his leadership skills by completing a Certificate in Strategy Execution for Public Leadership from Harvard Online.

Jacob embarked on his professional journey as an auditor at a prestigious Big 4 accounting firm, later contributing his expertise to a leading technology company. For the past decade, he has dedicated his talents to nonprofit organizations, passionately serving marginalized communities. Currently, he works at a nonprofit in greater San Jose, providing essential afterschool programming to children and young adults in underserved areas. Through his experiences in both for-profit and nonprofit sectors, Jacob recognized the educational disparities in San Jose and is committed to promoting equity and empowering minority and disadvantaged communities.

Outside of his professional pursuits, Jacob indulges his passion for culinary exploration, savoring the diverse cuisines of the Bay Area. He actively supports local small businesses, enjoys movie nights, and finds fulfillment in volunteering his time and expertise to causes he believes in.

Arturo Noriega (he/him)



Arturo Noriega is a dedicated teacher and guide for entrepreneurs, social enterprise leaders, and non-profit impact pioneers. As the Founder and CEO of Centro Community Partners (Centro), a groundbreaking social justice and racial equity non-profit, Arturo is the driving force behind empowering thousands of low-income women and BIPOC entrepreneurs. His work focuses on enabling them to launch and grow their small businesses, thereby paving the way for economic inclusion and empowerment. He leads initiatives providing entrepreneurship education, financial literacy, economic inclusion, and access to capital.

The AARP Purpose Prize and the Solve-MIT Reimagining Pathways awards recognized Arturo's impact. Leveraging his three decades of experience, he imparted invaluable insights as a visiting Social Entrepreneur at Stanford University's Center for Social Innovation.

His multifaceted expertise, gained as a consultant at EY, Deloitte, and the United States Agency for International Development, spans social entrepreneurship, innovation, strategic management, change, and risk management, benefiting governments, non-profits, financial institutions, corporations, and startups.

Beyond his transformative work, Arturo takes pride in winemaking with his family. His educational journey includes a certificate from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, an MBA in Strategic Management and Leadership from the Peter F. Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate University, and a BA in Economics with a concentration in Finance from U.C Berkeley's Haas School of Business. To delve deeper into Arturo's impactful journey, visit <u>centrocommunity.org</u>.

Image coming soon!

Bio Coming Soon!

Richard Robinson (he/him)



Rich Robinson currently serves as the Vice President of Business Development for Silicon Valley Advantage since 2020. Specializing in sensor vertical markets, he collaborates with SensTek to develop groundbreaking pH sensor technology. Prior to his current role, Robinson held the position of Sr. National Enterprise Sales Executive at Frontier Communications from 2015 to 2020. In this capacity, he presented and closed specialized vertical market application services for a National Account Base, utilizing diverse industrial hardware and software solutions. Robinson's telecommunications career began at MCI Business Sales Division, where he sold Long Distance and calling card telephone services. He later joined PacBell as an Account Executive before moving to AT&T, where he held various roles, including Senior Account Executive, Sales Manager, and Regional Sales Director for AT&T Mobility. In 2009, Robinson joined Verizon Business after a successful stint at AT&T, where he sold large complex contracts and managed the company's Partner/Affiliates Market programs. His 17-year tenure at AT&T concluded as a Sr. Business Alliance Channel Sales Manager.

Beyond his corporate roles, Robinson is the Executive CEO and Founder of Daycare Video, overseeing the company's strategic direction and supporting small businesses in establishing an online presence. Actively engaged in community leadership, Robinson served on the Board of Directors of the Silicon Valley Black Chamber Commerce since 2005. He is the Undergrad Chapter Advisory for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity at SJSU, President of San Jose Kappa Alpha Psi Alumni Chapter, and a board member of the Executive Leadership Council for San Jose Alumni Chapter. Robinson has also contributed to various organizations, including the Bay Area Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet and the Live the Dream Foundation Network.

Originally from Shreveport, Louisiana, and raised in Compton, California, Robinson earned a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from San Jose State University in December 1981.

Kiana Simmons (she/they)



Kiana Simmons (she/they) is a member of SJ4all, bringing a wealth of experience and passion to community advocacy. For several years, Kiana has been at the forefront of creating and sustaining San Jose's largest mutual aid network, HERO Tent. In addition to her grassroots efforts, Kiana also serves professionally as an organizer, championing the cause for quality affordable housing in San Mateo County.

Inspired by the events of the George Floyd uprising in 2020, Kiana's journey into community organizing began, and since then, they have been unwavering in their commitment to advocating for equity for Black lives and all oppressed communities, both locally and globally. With a keen focus on addressing systemic injustices, Kiana endeavors to dismantle poverty, homelessness, and the criminalization of marginalized populations. Their vision for reimagining community safety centers around ensuring that everyone has equitable access to stability, education, and happiness.

Through their tireless dedication and unwavering advocacy, Kiana Simmons exemplifies the spirit of solidarity and the drive for positive change within the San Jose community and beyond.

Roy Tongilava (he/him)



Roy is a proud first-generation descendant of Tongan Pasifika immigrants, a community activist, and an equity-driven policy advocate with a passion for policy research and data analysis, public service and community organizing. Inspired by his community's resilience, he was the first in his family to pursue higher education where he earned his BA in Public Policy from UC Riverside as well as a Graduate Certificate in Applied Policy and Government from the California State University-Sacramento. He was particularly compelled by the intersection of public policy and grassroots advocacy to better understand hegemonic systems of oppression, governance, and domestic policy to provide ways to engage marginalized voices in policymaking and equity-oriented systems change. His interests led him to work with local policy in Riverside, federal health policy in Washington DC, and state policy for numerous state legislators based in California's State Capitol. Roy currently serves as Board President of South Pacific Islander Organization, a nonprofit whose mission is to democratize access to higher education for Pasifika and marginalized communities of color. Racial equity remains at the center of Roy's work and advocacy, and he is excited to serve on the SJ4ALL advisory board to continue to advance racial equity within the City of San Jose. In his spare time, he enjoys preparing home-cooked meals, karaokeing, sunset-watching on the beach, and spending time with his loved ones.