EQUITY IN DESIGN
LEADS TO EQUITY IN OUTCOMES

Friday, April 12, 2019
Radisson Blu, Mall of America, Bloomington
Bring #EquitySummit19 on social!
Visit the equity in design stations and share your stories and photos from the Summit!
Event Hashtag: #EquitySummit19
Tag Us: @WomensFndnMN @BestBuy

#EquitySummit19

Meet the host of today’s Women’s Foundation social media channels: members of the Young Women’s Cabinet! Follow our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to see their coverage of the day.

Ollie Kalthoff
Alaysha McCall-Davis
Lulu Regules Verduzco
Katherine Santamaria-Mendez

Take a photo with our event frame!
Show us who you are at our photo station, and share your photo on social!
Located in the foyer.

Connect to WiFi
Network: RadissonBlu
* Select Non-Guest
Password: TULIPS
Dear Colleagues,

We are thrilled that you have joined us at our Economic Opportunity Summit 2019.

Today, we’ll connect and harness our collective knowledge, resources, and commitment to gender and racial equity as we build pathways to prosperity for all women and girls and their communities in Minnesota.

Minnesota is a national leader in innovation, action, and impact, changing the narrative and systems that prevent too many women and girls in our state from accessing opportunity and future economic success. We hope that today’s Summit unites us ever closer in common purpose and momentum.

Our goals for the day:

1. Expand organizational expertise, infrastructure, and capacity to ensure opportunity and economic security for women and girls.

2. Catalyze new opportunities for innovation and partnerships focused on increasing equity in outcomes for communities pushed to the margins, centering women and girls of color.

3. Inspire with involvement, action, and hope in our collective future to create equity in design and outcomes as we transform systems and create a future of economic opportunity, safety, and leadership for women in our state.


Our thanks to Best Buy, our presenting sponsor, and to each Summit sponsor for your generosity and commitment to ensuring all young women can thrive. Be sure to take time for self-care throughout the day and enjoy the Networking Area, sponsored by 3M.

I want to thank our partners who helped us design the conference, and our incredible board, grantee-partners, donor-partners, Summit speakers, and staff for being an essential ingredient to our success, together.

Our enduring Foundation is made possible through the dreams and collective investments of trailblazing partners like you.

As champions for equity, your partnership has invested in community-driven solutions to move gender and racial equity ever closer. Together, we can ensure a world of equal opportunity where women, girls, and all people hold the power to create and lead safe, prosperous lives. Thank you.

Onward,

Lee Roper-Batker  
President and CEO

Saanii Hernandez  
Vice President
THANK YOU
to Our Generous Sponsors!

PRESENTING SPONSOR:

GLASS CEILING BREAKER:  NEW GIRLS NETWORK:

WORK FORCE EQUITY:
Registration, Continental Breakfast, and Networking  
8:30 to 9 a.m. | SKY BRIDGE AND FOYER

**Equity in Design Goods** | SKY BRIDGE

**Engagement Stations** | FOYER

**Mind Board**  What Do We Need to Thrive?

**Korn Ferry**  What’s your Input on WFMN’s Next CEO?

**Frontline Solutions**  How Do You Define Equity?

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**Morning Plenary**  
9 to 10:15 a.m. | LAKES BALLROOM

**Welcome**  Lulete Mola, Vice President of Community Impact, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

**Presenting Sponsor Remarks**  Corie Barry, Chief Financial Officer, Best Buy Co., Inc.

**Artistic Performance**  Jayanthi Kyle

**Spotlight Panel**  Equity in Design from Wherever You Lead

Corie Barry, Chief Financial Officer, Best Buy  
Fatimah Hussein, Founder, ASIYA Modest Activewear  
Patti Tototzintle, Chief Executive Officer, Casa de Esperanza  
Moderated by Jana Shortal, Journalist, KARE 11

In this series of spotlight interviews, hear how corporate, small business, and nonprofit leaders are identifying opportunities to transform systems and create equity.

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**Morning Break & Networking**  10:15 to 10:30 a.m. | SKY BRIDGE

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**Morning Breakout Sessions**  10:30 to 11:45 a.m.

**Morning Corporate and Donor-Partner Session**  | LAKES C

- **Equity in Design: Celebrating MN Girls Are Not For Sale, 2011-2019**
  - Jeff Bauer, Public Strategy and Social Venture Consultant, Boldfinch  
  - Beth Holger, Executive Director, The Link  
  - Patina Park, Executive Director, Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center  
  - Artika Roller, Child Well Being Community Relations Manager, Hennepin County  
  - Lee Roper-Batker, President & CEO, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota  
  - Susan Segal, Minneapolis City Attorney  
  - Terry Williams, Former Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

As we close the MN Girls Are Not For Sale campaign and transform our role, we celebrate the work we’ve accomplished with partners in the movement to end sex trafficking. Join us to recognize our collective impact as we continue to invest in women’s safety and work with communities to end gender-based violence.

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**BREAKOUT SESSION KEY:**

- ★ GirlsBEST Youth Leaders
- ♥ Young Women’s Cabinet
- ◆ WFMN Innovators
- ☐ Donor and Corporate Partners
- ▲ Grantee-Partners
How Grantee-Partners Engage Equity in Design
These sessions are for grantee-partner leaders. Attendees choose one session.

❤️  ■ Collective Visioning: The Next Leader of WFMN  | NOKOMIS ROOM A
Divina Gamble, Senior Client Partner, Korn Ferry
Nora Sutherland, Senior Associate, Korn Ferry
The Women’s Foundation of Minnesota has embarked on a dynamic journey in search of the Foundation’s next CEO and President! Korn Ferry, our partners in this search, will use this time to engage grantee-partners in this process. What do you want to see in the next WFMN leader? Join us and help build a collective vision that will guide the search blueprint for the next WFMN President and CEO.

❤️  ■ Stay Awake for It: Developing a Culture of Healing in Your Organization  | NOKOMIS ROOM B
Joi Lewis, CEO and Founder, Joi Unlimited Coaching and Consulting
In this session, we will hold space together to interrupt the effects of toxic stress experienced through work and our broader lives, to call for our workplaces to be spaces where we are encouraged and supported to be well. We will use the Orange Method of Radical Self Care (Healing Justice) and Radical Hospitality (Social Justice) as a framework. After this session, we will be able to access deeper connections with ourselves and others and to healthily express grief, pain, and joy.

❤️  ■ Network Leadership: Together We Achieve More  | NOKOMIS ROOM C
Bo Thao-Urabe, Executive Director, Coalition of Asian American Leaders
The Coalition of Asian American Leaders (CAAL) envisions a state where all Minnesotans, regardless of background, are actively engaged and can achieve prosperity. Since 2013, CAAL has built a network of over 2,000 leaders whose mission is to harness their collective power, improve the lives of community by connecting, learning, and acting together. Join this workshop to learn the tactics and impact of centering network leadership to achieve impact and equity. You will learn the CAAL story and practice network weaving so you can consider how to integrate network leadership into your work.

How Young People Engage Equity in Design
These sessions are for girlsBEST grantee-partner participants, Young Women’s Cabinet members, and WFMN Innovators.

❤️  ★ The Importance of Dreams  | LAKES ROOM D
Deisy Castro, Cabinet Member, Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota
Oluwatobi Oluwagbemi, Cabinet Member, Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota
Myrka Zambrano, Cabinet Member, Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota
Did you know that you can activate and make your dreams a reality by incorporating small steps into your daily life? By putting intention towards your dreams, you can learn to walk and work within your purpose. Find fulfillment and accomplish your goals! Young people will leave this workshop with tangible tools and resources to create the path you need to succeed and live intentionally.

◆ YWI Track: WFMN Innovators Cohort Kick-Off  | CALHOUN BOARDROOM
Kandace Montgomery, Trainer & Strategist
Congratulations on becoming a WFMN Innovator! The WFMN program provides microgrants of $2,500 directly to young women and supports their leadership development through powerful convenings. This workshop is exclusively for the 22 new leaders in this program. Innovators will meet one another, build, and dive into project planning for the program year ahead!

Luncheon Plenary
11:45 to 1:15 p.m.  | LAKES BALLROOM
How We Thrive: Equity in Design & Outcomes
Saanii Hernandez, Vice President, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota
Keynote Introduction
Brook LaFloe, Reatha Clark King Fellow | Young Women’s Initiative Program Manager
Matika Wilbur provides remarkable insights into contemporary Native American life, with honest photographic representation and direct narratives of America’s First Peoples. Project 562 is Matika’s fourth major creative project elevating Native American identity and culture. Using portrait photography, Matika uses an approach she describes as an indigenous photography method to capture the spirit and essence of her portrait sitters. Through her lens, we are able to see the diversity, vibrancy and realness of Indian Country, and challenge and surpass stereotypical representations about contemporary Native America.
Afternoon Break & Networking  1:15 to 1:30 p.m.  |  SKY BRIDGE

Afternoon Breakout Sessions  1:30 to 2:45 p.m.

How Corporations and Individuals Engage Equity in Design  |  LAKES ROOM C

- **Equity in Design: Creating Equity in the Workplace**
  - **Jackie Boyd**, Senior Director, Enterprise Talent Acquisition, Best Buy Co., Inc.
  - **Isadora Korak**, Senior Specialist, Social Impact, Best Buy Co., Inc.
  - **Amanda Storm Schuster**, Vice President of Advancement, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota
  - **Naje Wright**, Teen Tech Center participant, Hope Community
  - **Cynthia J. Zapata**, Community Impact Manager, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

Creating a Minnesota where every young woman thrives takes powerful partnerships across sectors. Connecting equity in practice and investment, Best Buy is creating pipeline programs to increase STEM opportunities for young women leaders. Leaders from WFMN will share how their partnership with Best Buy connects to the statewide Young Women’s Initiative and how young women’s leadership is at the center of a thriving Minnesota.

How Grantee-Partners Engage Equity in Design

*These sessions are for grantee-partner leaders. Attendees choose one session.*

- **Policy Session: You Can Advocate, Too! Learn from the State’s Leading Immigration & Resistance Organization**  |  NOKOMIS ROOM A
  - **Emilia Gonzalez Avalos**, Executive Director, Navigate MN/Unidos MN

How do we organize for a more just Minnesota? We denounce the history of anti-immigrant sentiments that have severely impacted immigrants of color. We affirm all communities of color experiencing xenophobia in a variety of ways. Navigate MN is the largest network of undocumented students and allies in Minnesota activating individuals and families to change harmful policies. Join Minnesota’s leading change-maker Emilia Gonzalez Avalos as she shares strategies and methods to effectively advocate for a Minnesota where all people thrive.

- **The Equity Toolkit: Applying Intersectionality and Equity in Design**  |  NOKOMIS ROOM B
  - **Jessica Barron**, Consultant, Frontline Solutions
  - **Helly Lee**, Senior Fellow, Frontline Solutions

Are you curious about intersectional equity and want to know more? Join us for this sneak peek of the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota’s Intersectional Equity Toolkit. Participants will learn more about WFMN’s application of intersectional equity and provide valuable feedback and input. We invite attendees to workshop equity-based dilemmas using elements from the toolkit. Please come ready to co-think and co-design with us!

- **Vision Labs: A Movement of Abundance and Vision**  |  NOKOMIS ROOM C
  - **Kandace Montgomery**, Trainer & Strategist

Vision Labs seek to shift the local organizing culture of the Twin Cities from one of scarcity to a movement of abundance and vision. Now, more than ever, we must invest in the strategic practice of visioning in order to powerfully combat those who seek to strip communities of their power. In this workshop we aim to create exploratory spaces for progressive movements across the Twin Cities to collaborate, innovate, and practice visioning skills and tactics, in order to shape our campaigns, initiatives, and collective work around a futuristic approach to the problems of today.
How Young People Engage Equity in Design

These sessions are for girlsBEST grantee-partner participants, Young Women’s Cabinet members, and WFMN Innovators.

🌟 Telling Your Story: A Revolutionary Act  |  LAKES ROOM D

Rahhel Haile, Pass the Mic podcast

How can you use your story to create change? Are you ready to use your story to make an impact in your community? Storytelling is an act of leadership. No one can take away our unique and powerful stories. We are the experts on the lives we live, and we have the solutions to the problems that we face. In this session, you will learn from podcaster and youth advocate Rahhel Haile how to share more about the causes you are passionate about and tell your important story.

❤️ ✨ How to Leverage Your Media Moment  |  LAKES BALLROOM

Meredith Moore Crosby, Owner, Leverette Weekes

Are you ready to share your Young Women’s Initiative story with the world? Are you looking for more confidence or clarity? Designed exclusively for WFMN Innovators and Young Women’s Cabinet members, this media and branding workshop will help you find key messages that communicate your personal leadership story and connect your change-making work to the bold vision of the Young Women’s Initiative. Bring your smartphone to participate in hands-on media training with author, chief branding officer, and communication strategist, Meredith Moore Crosby. This is the perfect workshop for when you are ready to get unstuck with your communications and share your impact!

Moving Equity Forward  2:50 p.m.  |  LAKES BALLROOM

Lulete Mola, Vice President of Community Impact, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

Stay for the wellness raffle and closing. You don’t want to miss it!
**Corie Barry | Chief Financial Officer, Best Buy Co., Inc.**

Corie Barry is the chief financial officer and strategic transformation officer for Best Buy Co., Inc. Her responsibilities include strategic transformation and growth, digital and technology, global finance, investor relations, enterprise risk and compliance, integration management, and Best Buy Health. She joined Best Buy in 1999 and has held a variety of financial and operational roles within the organization, both in the field and at the corporate campus. She holds bachelor’s degrees in accounting and management from the College of St. Benedict, where she also serves on the Board of Trustees. She is also on the board of directors for Domino’s Pizza.

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**Jackie Boyd | Senior Director, Enterprise Talent Acquisition, Best Buy Co., Inc.**

Jackie Boyd is the senior director of Enterprise Talent Acquisition for Best Buy Co., Inc. In this role she oversees all talent acquisition for the enterprise. This includes strategy and hiring for all roles at corporate, field, and executive. Jackie has been with Best Buy for 14 years. Prior to working at Best Buy, she served as vice president of client services for a local executive recruiting and consulting firm.

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**Jessica Barron | Consultant, Frontline Solutions**

As a trained sociologist and demographer, Jessica is committed to advancing knowledge, research, and strategies around dismantling systemic barriers to racial equality and inclusion. At Frontline, she directs projects that target structural inequality and foster systemic change. Her book, *The Urban Church Imagined*, examines race, religion, and place in Chicago. In her most recent role, Jessica served as a research scientist and instructor at the Social Science Research Institute at Duke University. Jessica has a wealth of expertise in facilitation, strategic planning, program assessment and evaluation, qualitative community-centered research, and large-scale data-collection and management. Jessica received her PhD in sociology from Texas A&M University.

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**Deisy Castro | Cabinet Member, Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota**

Deisy is a senior at South High School, where she is president of UNIDOS, an after-school group. Throughout her childhood, she saw the struggles her Latinx community faced, so now she is dedicated to gaining more knowledge and advocating to support the rights of Latinx people. Her goal in UNIDOS is to bring all Latinx students together at South High School to support each other and have positive and increased representation in school.

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**Divina Gamble | Senior Client Partner, Korn Ferry**

Divina Gamble specializes in the recruitment of senior leaders within global nonprofits, philanthropy, associations, and education. She has placed CEOs and executives for regional, national, and international organizations, start-up and renowned foundations, leading social service organizations, arts and cultural centers, and some of the world’s most prominent associations. She received her BA and MA from Georgetown University. She served as a chair for the Georgetown University Alumni Admissions Program and co-founded the Georgetown University Alumnae Giving Circle in partnership with the Center for Social Justice. Additionally, she serves on the Board of Directors of Girls Inc. DC and Melwood Inc.
**Emilia Gonzalez Avalos | Executive Director, Navigate MN/Unidos MN**

Born in Mexico City, and raised in Irapuato and Minnesota, Emilia joined her father in Minnesota years after he left their town looking for a better future for his family. Family separation, border consciousness, and the transnational economy shaped Emilia into becoming an immigration activist, intersectional feminist, and advocate for human rights. Emilia’s awards include Mano Amiga from the Latino Economic Development Center, Advocate of the Year by the Bush Foundation and CLUES, the 2017 OutFront Innovator Award, and the 2016 MLK Distinguished Service Award by Governor Dayton’s Council on MLK, Jr. Emilia is an alumna of the Hubert H. Humphrey Public Policy Fellows Program, the Roy Wilkins Community Fellows, and Emerging Leader Fellows with America Votes. Emilia also builds community with her partner Daniel, her sons Joaquin and Daniel, and daughter Miranda as members of Kalpulli Ketzal Coatlicue, a traditional Aztec dance learning community for youth and their families.

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**Rahhel Haile | Pass the Mic Podcast**

Rahbel Haile is the co-founder and program director of the Minnesota Youth Collective (MNYC), an organization dedicated to building the political power of young people. Rahbel is a proud Eritrean who has called Minnesota home for most of her life. Throughout her career and through her work at MNYC, Rahbel has prioritized co-organizing with young people of color without co-opting their movements. Most of her work has been focused on building grassroots campaigns centered around giving young people power in policy and decision-making processes at both the state and local level, as well as empowering young people to be their own advocates. She hosts a podcast called Pass the Mic, which is centered around the stories of black, indigenous, and people of color’s stories and struggles, and how we can find community through storytelling.

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**Saanii Hernandez | Vice President, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota**

Saanii Hernandez first joined the Women’s Foundation as senior program officer in 2012, and served as a trustee from 2007 to 2012. Previously, Saanii was part of staff leadership at Hispanics in Philanthropy, where she managed the Midwest and Southwest regions; co-managed Firefly Community Solutions, LLC, a consulting firm specializing in nonprofit program and organizational development; and worked as an associate community liaison at the Northwest Area Foundation. Saanii earned a BA in American studies with an ethnic studies focus and a concentration in women’s studies from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota.

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**Fatima Hussein | Founder, ASIYA Modest Activewear**

Fatimah Hussein founded ASIYA after nearly a decade of volunteer work in Minneapolis. In 2008, she formed the G.I.R.L.S. Program (Girls Initiative in Recreation and Leisurely Sports), to provide girls-only gym time several nights a week to a primarily East African community. After successfully helping young girls try and build a passion for sports and physical fitness, she founded ASIYA to tackle the next barrier to participation—access to culturally appropriate activewear. Fatimah was born in Somalia, and moved with her family to Minnesota when she was 6. Driven to help in the community, she pursued her master’s in health and human service administration from St. Mary’s University, and is a licensed social worker.

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**Joi Lewis | CEO and Founder, Joi Unlimited Coaching and Consulting**

Dr. Joi is the CEO and founder of Joi Unlimited Coaching and Consulting and the Orange Method. Her work is deeply grounded in healing justice as a “body worker” of the collective body (systems) and individual bodies (self), holding space for discovering critical pressure points for transformation. Dr. Joi completed her doctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania and was a Bush Foundation Fellow in 2006.
Isadora Korak | Senior Specialist, Social Impact, Best Buy Co., Inc.

Isadora Korak is a Senior Specialist on the Social Impact team at Best Buy. She manages more than half of the current Best Buy Teen Tech Centers across the country out of the planned 60 locations by 2020. Isadora supports employee community engagement on the West Coast and Midwest Best Buy markets and recently launched a national Girls in Tech pilot in partnership with the YWCA. Isadora has over nine years’ experience in public relations, events and philanthropy. She is bilingual in Spanish and holds a BA in communication from Auburn University.

Jayanthi Kyle | Vocalist

Jayanthi Kyle has been a vocalist list in several bands in Minneapolis including Black Audience, Jayanthi Kyle and the Crybabies, Romantica, and more, and has collaborated with Greg Grease, Farrwell, Guante, Maria Isa, Rachel Kurtz, and others. Her music specialty is gospel, African American heritage/roots including spirituals and work songs, folk, world, blues and Americana. Jayanthi is also a part of The Blacker The Berry Arts Collective, Black Diaspora Healing group, and the Million Artist Movement to dismantle racism and injustice towards people of color and dream collectively to produce actions for black liberation. She has spoken at many interfaith/faith events on race and culture and finding connectivity through recognizing our diversity through the lens of music and harmony. Jayanthi also worked with Mama Mosaic through MN Girls Are Not For Sale seeking freedom for victims and survivors of sex trafficking.

Brook LaFloe | Reatha Clark King Fellow, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

Brook served as a member of the Young Women’s Cabinet from 2017-2018. Brook earned two Association Montessori Internationale Diplomas at the Montessori Institute of San Diego, for infancy years 0-3 and primary years 3-6. She earned her BS in neuroscience and anthropology from Tulane University in New Orleans where she was part of the women’s basketball team and a Gates Millennium Scholar. After graduating with her master’s in education from Loyola University Maryland, Brook started as an early childhood educator at the Montessori American Indian Childcare Center. Since completing her service as a member of the Young Women’s Cabinet, Brook continues to work with YWCA St. Paul to shape the future of the Young Women’s Cabinet.

Lulete Mola | Vice President of Community Impact, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

As vice president of community impact, Lulete leads the implementation and management of the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota’s grantmaking, evaluation, leadership, and field-building programs that enable large-scale systems change. She is devoted to engaging in and supporting community organizing, movement building, and work to advance women’s leadership, Minnesota’s East African community, and the movement for Black lives. Lulete is the recipient of the Humanity in Action Fellowship, Ibrahim Leadership and Dialogue Project Fellowship, and the Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity Award. She graduated from the University of Minnesota.

Kandace Montgomery | Trainer & Strategist

Kandace Montgomery (she/they) is a Black and queer, organizer, facilitator, and strategist, working to expand our collective ability to build power that transforms systems and people. Currently living in Minnesota, Kandace serves as the Director of Black Visions Collective. They have spent the last decade developing programming, training, and strategies that center the lives of people of color at local, statewide, and national organizations.
Lee Roper-Batker | President & CEO, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

Under Lee Roper-Batker’s leadership since 2001, the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota has increased its grantmaking by 100 percent and endowment from $8 million to $25 million; established girlsBEST in 2002; launched MN Girls Are Not For Sale in 2011, a $7.5 million cross-sector campaign to end sex trafficking; and launched the Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota, a seven year, $9 million public-private partnership with the Governor’s Office of the State of Minnesota, the first statewide initiative of its kind in the nation. Prior to joining the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota, Lee held leadership positions in the anti-poverty, social justice, and disabilities communities, and she owned her own business.

Oluwatobi Oluwagbemi | Cabinet Member, Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota

Oluwatobi is a political thinker and creative idea generator. She is passionate about writing, reading, and teaching. She also seeks to grow as a leader so that she can encourage others to take on leadership roles within their communities. Tobi is passionate about advocating for women, and becoming an author and public speaker. She wants to be a diplomat and professor in the future. Ultimately, she wants to make a difference in the world of education, women’s empowerment, and global development, just like Michelle Obama. Tobi hopes to be part of a board or commission that will help people of color, marginalized communities, and underrepresented communities. She is passionate about black people seeing their worth and shine irrespective of what people say or don’t say about them.

Jana Shortal | Journalist, KARE 11

Jana Shortal is a reporter and co-anchor of Breaking the News on KARE 11. Jana began reporting for KARE in December of 2003, just in time for the temperatures to fall below her idea of freezing. Before coming to KARE she worked at Fox4 in Kansas City and KRCG in Jefferson City. She has received five Regional Emmys in her career and is a member of the National Association of LGBTQ Journalists. Jana has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Journalism. She loves to run and has been competing road races for more than 10 years. She’s a writer as well and says she’s working on making her journal into something the masses will read. You can see Jana weeknights on Breaking the News on KARE 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Amanda Storm Schuster | Vice President of Advancement, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

As vice president of advancement, Amanda leads the Foundation’s fundraising program and development team. Prior to joining WFMN she served as director of leadership gifts and board campaigns at Augsburg University. She graduated from Concordia College, with a BA in communications-public relations/advertising and writing, Amanda dedicates time for volunteering, and currently serves on the Ordway Center for Performing Arts Young Professional’s Board and is involved in the Lyndale Neighborhood Association (Minneapolis), where she lives.
Bo Thao-Urabe | Executive Director, Coalition of Asian American Leaders

Bo Thao-Urabe’s roots and lived experiences of surviving war, immigration, and facing multiple oppressions drive her to create work that heals, serves those most in need, and builds power with people. She is the executive and network director for the Coalition of Asian American Leaders, a network organization she co-founded.

Matika Wilbur | Photographer, Project 562

Matika Wilbur (Swinomish and Tulalip) is one of the nation’s leading photographers, based in the Pacific Northwest. She earned her BFA from Brooks Institute of Photography where she double majored in Advertising and Digital Imaging. Before focusing on photography as a tool for social justice, Matika received her teaching certification and worked in primary education at The Tulalip Tribe tribal school for 5 years. There, she experienced firsthand the lack of educational resources to teach indigenous intelligence and dismay with the curriculum that being taught did not provide Native youths with positive imagery and understanding. This work inspired Project 562 the mission of which is to photograph and collect stories of Native Americans from each federally-recognized tribe in the United States. Through her lens, we are able to see the vibrancy and diversity of Indian Country and, in seeing, we challenge stereotypical representations and begin shifting consciousness about contemporary Native America.

Myrka Zambrano | Cabinet Member, Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota

Born and raised in Minnesota, Myrka serves as a Cabinet member representing the Latinx and LGBTQ+ communities. She is a senior at Benilde St. Margaret’s High School. There, she participates in speech, Latinx affinity group, medical club, volunteer corps, and captain of her mock trial team. Myrka was selected as a Bank of America Student Leader. As part of this program, she presented a proposal that sought to represent underrepresented communities in Minnesota through public works of art. Myrka is especially proud of her Latinx heritage and hopes to one day work as an immigration lawyer. She also hopes to empower young Latinx people to be successful and be leaders in their communities.

Cynthia J. Zapata | Community Impact Manager, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota

Cynthia graduated from St. Olaf College in 2016 with a double major in English and race and ethnic studies. She has worked at Centro Tyrone Guzman in south Minneapolis, and helped manage Jovenes Latinas al Poder!, a group focused on advancing policy, advocacy, and healthy peer-to-peer relationships with young Latinas. In 2018, she began working in the Office of Governor Mark Dayton as the correspondence coordinator. She is a 2016-2017 Amherst Wilder Community Equity Pipeline cohort member, 2017 finalist for the St. Paul Youth Poet Laureate, and a WFMN Innovator. Last fall, she began her master of arts in creative writing and publishing at the University of St. Thomas.
Our grantees-partners are creating a world of opportunity where women, girls, and all people hold the power to create and lead safe, prosperous lives.

THANK YOU to The Anika Foundation, Bagosendaan, Casa de Esperanza, Centro Tyrone Guzman, PACER Center, and St. Paul College for sharing the photos included in this program.
The Women's Foundation of Minnesota is a statewide community foundation investing in innovation to drive gender equity in Minnesota. Together with partners across the state, we are creating a world of equal opportunity where women, girls, and all people hold the power to create and lead safe, prosperous lives.

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE:

8:30-9 a.m.
Registration, Continental Breakfast & Networking
SKY BRIDGE AND FOYER, 2ND FLOOR

9-9:15 a.m.
Welcome
LAKES BALLROOM, 2ND FLOOR

9:15-10:15 a.m.
Spotlight Panel: Equity in Design from Wherever You Lead
LAKES BALLROOM, 2ND FLOOR

10:30-11:45 a.m.
Morning Breakout Sessions
LAKES ROOM D & CALHOUN BOARDROOM, 2ND FLOOR
NOKOMIS ROOMS, 3RD FLOOR

Noon-1:15 p.m.
Lunch
Equity in Design: Changing the Way We See Native America – Matika Wilbur
LAKES BALLROOM, 2ND FLOOR

1:30-2:45 p.m.
Afternoon Breakout Sessions
LAKES ROOM D & CALHOUN BOARDROOM, 2ND FLOOR
NOKOMIS ROOMS, 3RD FLOOR

2:50 p.m.
Closing
LAKES BALLROOM, 2ND FLOOR

Tomorrow, the Summit continues with the Trust Black Women and Girls Town Hall Hearing! Led in partnership with African American Policy Forum, African American Leadership Forum, and Hope Community, the national town hall series focuses on elevating the stories and experiences of black women and girls.

Gender neutral restrooms are accessible on the third floor. To access mother's room and prayer room, ask at conference registration in the sky bridge.