

WOMEN IN BUSINESS 2013

Nominees

ANDREA AMBROSE
Horvitz & Levy LLP


Andrea Ambrose is dedicated not only to counseling her clients in appellate law but also to helping those less fortunate. In addition to meeting the demands of her legal

career, Ambrose has made community involvement and pro bono legal services a priority, distinguishing herself as a natural leader, both inside and outside her law firm. An associate at respected appellate boutique Horvitz & Levy, Ambrose handles matters in a wide range of areas, including insurance, healthcare, education, real estate and general business litigation. She is admitted to practice in both federal and state appellate courts. She serves on the firm's marketing and recruiting committees. In addition to her community and pro bono efforts, Ambrose has successfully represented Horvitz & Levy's clients in several notable cases. She was part of the Horvitz & Levy team that successfully represented Lexington Insurance Company and AIG in an insurance coverage dispute in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

REBECCA AMIS
SUZY AMIS CAMERON
MUSE School

Two women making a difference in the world of education are power sister team Rebecca and Suzy Amis Cameron. "Avatar" director, James Cameron and his wife, Suzy Amis Cameron, and her sister Rebecca Amis came together in 2006 to found a Holistic, community-minded and future-focused K-5 MUSE School in Malibu Canyon. When the school opened, Suzy Amis shared with the staff that her dream was to help create a school where students learn who they are as individuals. To inspire young people to live consciously with themselves, one another and the planet...and to inspire each other. With MUSE, that dream has become a reality. Beyond innovative math, English and science courses, part of the curriculum focuses on teaching sustainability, from the materials in the classrooms to the food at lunch. Students plant, grow and tend vegetables in the garden and greenhouses.

MARGE BARNETT
The Beverly Garland

Marge Barnett is the Event manager at the Beverly Garland in North Hollywood. In the somewhat volatile industry of event planning, she has been a reliable mainstay now for many



years. Thanks to Barnett, many a corporate event, wedding, quincenera or other special occasion has come together and shone at the Beverly Garland, where she has more than

12,000 square feet of indoor event space for up to 650 guests to work with. This meeting space is enhanced by an additional 2,500 square feet of beautifully landscaped space in the courtyard outdoors where many event elements have taken place under Barnett's watch.

RENEE BARTLETT
KAT WISECUP
MINDY McLEES
AZITA NAGHAVICIAN
Moss Adams LLP


Bartlett



Wisecup



McLees



Naghavian

The Moss Adams team of Bartlett, Wisecup, McLees and Naghavian recently worked on a proposal for a Fortune 500 auto maker to prepare 100+ returns, and worked out a multi-year plan to accomplish the work. Each member of the team was responsible for preparing their portion of the budget and participating in peer review of the plan. Additionally, the team works together daily reviewing audits, preparing cases for real property assessment reduction, and various consulting issues. They are experienced, versatile professionals that love their jobs and believe in going the extra mile for Moss Adams' clients. Between the four women, they have a combined 66 years of property tax specialty experience – plus women make up 80% of the total Moss Adams Property Tax group of which Bartlett, Wisecup, McLees and Naghavian are an essential part.

BARBARA BECNEL
DKKD Staffing

Barbara Becnel is the Client Services Representative of DKKD Staffing, where her colleagues refer to her as the "backbone and glue" of the organization. In late 2011, DKKD Staffing in Westlake Village opened its doors providing predominantly Executive and Technology contractors, direct hires and payroll services across most of US.

In the first year of business DKKD has achieved the status as a Million Dollar business, in no small part due to Becnel's efforts with the clientele. Becnel is in charge of all contractors' timecards and payroll, invoicing the clients, accounting and all technology aspects for the company.

NATALIE BEREND
USI Insurance Services


Natalie Berend has been a leader at USI of Southern California for over 20 years. She manages in excess of 20 people directly and interfaces with a production staff of over a dozen. Her team places and controls over \$100 million in premium for USI's clients. Berend has endured multiple management changes, and the initiatives that come with those many personalities. She is known as a "teaching manager" — patiently training and guiding new employees, and imparting her years of experience. Her technical skills are first class, she has incredible clarity around coverage issues and if there is a crisis, or a time crunch, Berend is the first to jump in and take the lead getting the work completed. The ultimate tribute to Berend's reputation and contributions is not from Management, or her direct reports, but from her peers, who put her at the top when it comes to all around excellence.

POLINA BERNSTEIN
DIANA FRIEDLAND
Bernstein & Friedland, P.C.


Bernstein



Friedland

In a few months, sisters Polina Bernstein and Diana Friedland will celebrate another anniversary of their partnership at Bernstein & Friedland, P.C., where the duo represents wrongfully terminated employees who have been subjected to illegal discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, as well as companies facing employment-related issues. The two women run a successful law practice where they aggressively seek justice for their clients, many of whom are female and/or minority workers who were illegally terminated because they are disabled or because they requested a medical- or pregnancy-related leave of absence, because they complained about sexual harassment or other illegalities in the workplace, or because they are older workers. Since the start of the firm, Bernstein and Friedland have

obtained millions of dollars in settlements for their employee clients. In addition, their firm also provides advice, counseling and litigation defense to companies large and small.

JENNIFER BET-DAVID
PHP Agency, LLC


Jennifer Bet-David's day-to-day responsibilities include handling all corporate contracts with PHP's partners and maintain all vendor relationships. She is also very involved in the design and review of all company marketing materials and literature, as well as internal communications. Bet-David has lead major projects such as the company's portal site for agents, which the company refers to as the "Back Office." This project consists of design elements and improving efficiency for our thousands of associates nationwide. She is continually improving the site as well as integrating a web-based software solution that contains agency management and electronic submission components. She continually works with the Headquarters staff on improving departmental systems for enhanced efficiency. One of the most interesting initiatives she has led is "PHP Ladies." This is a companywide women's initiative program, which has included a specially branded website, marketing materials, a social media presence and break out meetings with the women of the company.

KRISTI BLICHARSKI
CreatingYourBliss.com


With an extensive background in personal and professional development, communications, and business, Kristi Blicharski is a passionate, positive force for creating happiness, success, and empowerment. Her modern, fresh blend of inspiring ideas and practical tools mixed with new and proven concepts for creating greater happiness are quickly catching on in today's high-speed environment, where so many are overwhelmed, over plugged in, and searching for something more. Over the years, Blicharski's clients have asked her to not only help them in business and marketing, but in many areas, including work-life balance and bringing more happiness into their lives. Passionate about sharing her own experiences and dedicated to helping people avoid burnout, find happiness, and create a foundation for their best life, Blicharski launched