



WOMEN CHANGING THE CITY



Sushma Akunuru
*Senior Vice President,
Business Technology
Services*
**Independence Blue
Cross**



Bridgett Battles
*CEO, The Bridgett Battles
Experience and Director of
Community Engagement
and Supplier Diversity,
Thomas Jefferson University
and Jefferson Health*



Jennifer Johnson
Kebea, EdD.
President
Campus Philly



Kimberly McGlenn, Ph.D
Founder and CEO
**Grant Blvd and
Blk Ivy Thrift**



Nydia Han
*6abc's Consumer
Investigative Reporter,
Troubleshooter, and
co-anchor,
Action News
Sunday Mornings*

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Fitler Club and the **Fitler Business Networking Club** | **Asian American Chamber of Commerce**
Philadelphia Women's Network Connection | **The Walnut Club** | **Women's Business Enterprise Center East**

#WomenChangingTheCity



Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Fitler Club

The Ballroom - 1 S. 24th Street, Philadelphia



Sushma Akunuru

Senior Vice President,
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Sushma Akunuru is senior vice president of Business Technology Services at Independence Blue Cross (Independence). She is responsible for solutions that meet emerging market demands, improve efficiencies, and strengthen the company's security posture as well as aligning the company's technology, application, and security teams.

Ms. Akunuru is a champion of women in leadership and technology and brings more than a decade of experience in financial services and IT-related functions. She spearheads Independence's Women in Technology and Analytics event that is designed to encourage careers in technology at Independence. She also shares her expertise by engaging with the Asian American Chamber of Commerce, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association CIO Roundtable, the Wharton Health Care Business Conference, and as a member of the Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and Technologies digital transformation advisory board. She is a strong proponent of instilling STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in young minds. She supports this by mentoring and tutoring robotics to children in her community.

Ms. Akunuru received her MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She received a master's degree in computer applications from Osmania University in Hyderabad, India.



Bridgett Battles

Executive Presence Strategist,
Brand Stylist, Author, and CEO,
The Bridgett Battles Experience
and:

Director of Community Engagement
and Supplier Diversity,
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Bridgett Battles is a magnetic and charismatic Black woman, executive and entrepreneur, who is leading the conversation locally and nationally around the topics of executive presence and style, diversity and inclusion, and personal brand development. She is an accomplished keynote speaker for companies like Meta and PECO, and red-carpet host and emcee for many local institutions including AI Día and Congreso.

Bridgett is the CEO of **The Bridgett Battles Experience**, consulting with some of the nation's most respected companies and c-suite executives to help them establish an executive presence that transforms the lives of those they lead.

She is a successful author; her 2016 book, "*Beauty & Her Battle: A 30-Day Style Guide*," empowers women to establish, develop and maintain Fashion Basics 101 in order to build a versatile, relative, professional and fun up-to-date fashionable wardrobe that aligns with their modern leadership vision.

She currently holds the position of Director for Community Engagement & Supplier Diversity at **Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health**. As such, Bridgett collaborates and cultivates meaningful relationships that impact and improve the lives of the diverse communities that Jefferson serves. Notably, Bridgett launched *Supply Chain Connect* in collaboration with Jefferson's Supply Chain Department to offer diverse potential suppliers the opportunity to pitch their business virtually and get help in preparing their presentations. Jefferson's Supplier Diversity program is designed to connect more minority, women, veteran, persons with disabilities, and LGBT-owned small businesses to opportunities at Jefferson.

Bridgett is well-connected and a force in the community, serving on several committees and boards including the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia, The Wardrobe (formerly the Career Wardrobe), the Philadelphia Fashion Incubator, America 250 (Board and Legacy Task Force), PHL Diversity advisory board, Congreso Philadelphia, Interfaith Philadelphia, National Association of Asian American Professionals, Chair of the DEI Task Force for the Women's Resource Center of Southeastern Pennsylvania, and serves on the committee for the UNCF Mayors Masked Ball.



Jennifer Johnson Kebea, EdD

President
Campus Philly

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Dr. Jennifer Johnson Kebea is president of **Campus Philly**, a nonprofit that fuels inclusive economic growth by empowering diverse college students and recent graduates to explore, live and work in Greater Philadelphia. As a champion of young and emerging talent everywhere, Jen is deeply interested in supporting Millennials and Generation Z as they make their indelible mark on this world. Back in 2004, Jen served as an intern with Campus Philly soon after its founding. She is now thrilled to lead this dynamic organization into its third decade of serving college students and the broader region.

Prior to working at Campus Philly, Jen was part of Drexel University’s steadfast commitment to civic engagement. As Executive Director of the Lindy Center for Civic Engagement, Jen and her team connected with over 30,000 college students who were each in the process of charting their own civic pathway and considering how they will contribute to the greater good. Presently, Jennifer serves as faculty for both Drexel’s Goodwin College of Professional Studies and the School of Education. In Goodwin, she developed and teaches a series of nonprofit management workshop courses where teams of graduate students are paired with Philadelphia-area nonprofits to provide consulting services. In the School of Education, Jen recently developed and teaches a graduate course focused on Civic Engagement in Higher Education for the MS of Higher Education Leadership program.

Jen holds a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership and Management from Drexel University. She also holds a bachelor’s degree in Biology and a master’s degree in the Administration of Human Services from Chestnut Hill College. In 2021, Jennifer was recognized as one of Philadelphia’s Top 40 under 40. A lifelong resident of the Philadelphia region, Jennifer resides in Media, PA with her husband, Kevin, and their three children.



Kimberly McGlonn, Ph.D

Award-winning social entrepreneur
and Founder and CEO
Grant Blvd and Blk Ivy Thrift

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Dr. Kimberly McGlonn is an advocate for justice and environmentalism, advocacy that informs her approach to leadership in the fashion industry.

As Founder & CEO of the manufacturing start-up **Grant Blvd**®, she oversees the creative direction and growth strategy of the brand. Grant Blvd’s mission is to construct stylish, sustainably sourced fashion by creating living wage jobs for women, particularly those who are formerly incarcerated. Founded in 2017, Grant Blvd is the first Black-owned B Corp in North America in the fashion space. Outside of these roles, Kimberly disrupts via her second company, the thrift/vintage concept **Blk Ivy**, which tells the story of fashion as activism through a curation of garments which amplify the style of 1954-1972, her podcast “*The School for Disrupters*”, and her role as faculty member of Drexel University’s Westphal College of Media Arts & Design.

Her work has been featured by *Fast Company*, *Inc Magazine*, *WWD*, and has been funded by Beyonce’s BeyGood Foundation. In 2022 she was a recipient of the Visa’s “She’s Next in Fashion Award” and she was also honored with the Black Enterprise “Business Disruptor of the Year” award.





Nydia Han

6abc's Consumer Investigative Reporter, Troubleshooter, and co-anchor Action News Sunday Mornings

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Nydia Han is an Emmy award winning television journalist. She co-anchors Action News Sundays and is the station's consumer investigative reporter. She gets real results for Action News viewers by troubleshooting issues and exposing scams as well as dangerous products.

Nydia is also committed to using her platform to uplift, empower, and give voice to traditionally underrepresented, marginalized groups. She is a TEDx speaker and creator of #ThisIsAmerica, a provocative three-part 6abc documentary series about racism and the diverse American experience. She has also appeared on ABC News Live and 20/20.

Nydia is the recipient of the Pearl S. Buck International Woman of Influence award, Inspire Award from the National Association of Asian American Professionals, and Global Voice Award from the World Woman Summit. She was also named "Outstanding Ally" of Diversity and Inclusion by the Philadelphia Inquirer.

She graduated from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and her career has taken her to television stations in Idaho, Oklahoma City, and Texas.

Nydia is on the community advisory board for the Asian American Women's Coalition. She is also passionate about raising awareness and desperately needed funds for lung cancer research in memory of her mother.

She enjoys good food, wine, and most of all a good laugh. And she is trying really, really hard to teach her two young children to speak Korean.

Upcoming Events

Lunch with the City's Leaders

Governor Josh Shapiro
Acting Secretary Rick Siger, *Department of Community and Economic Development,*
State of Pennsylvania

Thursday, May 18, 2023

11:45 AM to 1:30 PM

W PHILADELPHIA

\$50 for Members, \$75 for Guests

Happy Hour Breakfast

Thursday, June 29, 2023

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Museum of the American Revolution

\$20 for Members, \$35 for Guests

Meet the Developers

Thursday, June 15, 2023

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

PECO Energy Hall

\$30 for Members, \$60 for Guests

Women Changing the City

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Location TBD

\$30 for Members, \$60 for Guests



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Founded in 1978, Center City Business Association is a non-profit, member supported organization celebrating 44 years of service to the Philadelphia business community. Join Center City Business Association today. Visit centercitybusiness.org or call 215.545.7766.



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PIDC is Philadelphia's public-private economic development corporation. Our mission is to spur investment, support business growth, and foster developments that create jobs, revitalize neighborhoods, and drive growth to every corner of Philadelphia. We are focused on supporting growing businesses, investing in high-impact community revitalization, and creating workplaces for the future. With flexible financing products, a targeted portfolio of industrial and commercial real estate, and decades of Philadelphia-based knowledge, PIDC provides the resources and expertise to help our clients invest, develop, and grow.



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Rivers Casino Philadelphia is a premier gaming and entertainment destination located along the Delaware Riverfront in Philadelphia and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Rivers features an action-packed gaming floor that includes a variety of slots, table games, hybrid gaming seats and a state-of-the-art BetRivers Sportsbook for watching and wagering. The casino offers an array of dining options perfect to please any palate as well as free parking. Please visit RiversCasinoPhiladelphia.com.

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