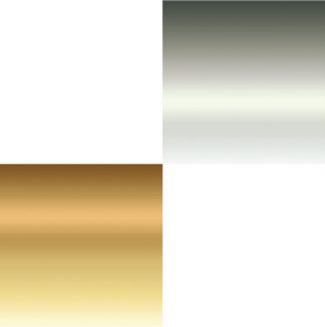




2023

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LULU GÓMEZ
@LULUDANZATV



- Mexican
- Graduated with honors from the University of Sonora with a Bachelor's Degree in Performing Arts with a Dance Option
- She was awarded a scholarship to study at the prestigious Debbie Reynolds School of Dance and Acting in Hollywood CA where she also decided to enter the world of Television and Radio presentation
- Throughout her career she has participated in international festivals in Mexico, USA and Cuba.
- In 2014, along with her dance partner, they created a dance project that was selected by the Mark Morris Dance Group company and brought them to New York City where Lulu continued her education at the Juilliard School of Arts
- Lulu Gomez is studying to obtain a Master degree in Sports Journalism.
- She is a sports correspondent for the Univision network

HEATHER ANDERSON

VP, PROGRAMS AND ACQUISITIONS

ESPN



Heather Anderson, an entertainment and technology attorney for 25 years, joined ESPN as VP, programming and acquisitions to assist with ESPN's sports betting strategy. She was also an ESPN lead for large, multi-sport opportunities and audience expansion initiatives, including alternate presentations and programming for the Black Sports Business Symposium.

Recently, Heather transitioned to the ESPN Content organization to lead Business Affairs and Business Operations for the Original Content team. In her new role she will assist the creative teams that bring ESPN's engaging content such as the 30 For 30's, In the Arena series, and ESPN Films.

Anderson came to ESPN from the Disney Legal department where she served for over 8 years as a digital media, marketing, production, product and technology attorney, and has been very active in DEI initiatives.

"I am honored and humbled that an organization as influential as NAMIC supports my efforts to bring visibility and opportunity to supporting multi-ethnicity in our industry. For 35 years, these efforts have been of utmost importance to me. I try to lead by example and leverage my voice in my sphere of influence – and none of that is possible without the reinforcement of organizations completely committed to the cause like NAMIC."

MARCUS BEST

SVP, ALLIED MULTICULTURAL
ALLIED GLOBAL MARKETING



Passionate and persistence are words that describe Marcus Best, SVP of Allied Multicultural at Allied Global Marketing. Best heads up the targeted division focused on publicity, marketing, digital and social media campaigns for major film studios, broadcast and cable networks as well as streaming platforms. Projects that include Hulu's *Aftershock*, Prime Video's *Swarm*, Peacock's *Best Man: The Final Chapters*, Focus Features' *A Thousand and One*, Amazon Studios' *Air* to Paramount's *Transformers: Rise of the Beasts*.

Before joining Allied, Marcus worked in the music and cable industry at BET, Warner Bros. Records, Interscope, and Fuse TV. Best is actively involved in organizations and contributes annually to youth empowerment in his hometown of Washington D.C.

"I am incredibly honored and grateful to receive this award from NAMIC, an organization that I admire so much. Being recognized for something that I am passionate about is a privilege. Thank you for championing me and other individuals that are curating and celebrating the brilliance of the multicultural landscape."

DEADRIA WRIGHT DAVIS

VP, CUSTOMER SERVICE

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS



DeAdria Wright-Davis is the dynamic Vice President of Customer Service Operations at Charter Communications in Charlotte, NC. With a rich professional journey spanning over two decades, she possesses unparalleled expertise in operations, customer service, diversity and inclusion, and employee development. DeAdria's remarkable leadership extends across diverse sectors, including cable, telecommunications, and finance.

A distinguished alumna of Columbia Southern University, she proudly holds an MBA in Project Management, showcasing her dedication to excellence. Beyond her corporate prowess, DeAdria is a trailblazing entrepreneur and a savvy real estate investor. Notably, she serves as a board member for a nonprofit youth Track and Field club in Johnston County, NC, highlighting her commitment to community enrichment.

Amidst her many roles, DeAdria cherishes her role as a devoted mother to three wonderful daughters and relishes quality time with her husband of 22 years. Her multifaceted achievements exemplify her unwavering dedication and passion.

"Gratitude swells within me as I accept this incredible honor from NAMIC. Their unwavering dedication to celebrating diversity and fostering inclusivity mirrors a passion close to my heart. Together, we illuminate the path towards a more equitable industry, empowering voices and transforming lives. Thank you, NAMIC."

MARK LEON GUERRERO

VP, INBOUND RETENTION AND SALES
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS



Mark Leon Guerrero currently serves as Vice President, Retention for the Sales & Marketing organization at Charter Communications. With a career spanning more than 24 years in the telecommunications industry, Mark currently oversees more than 2,000 employees for Charter's revenue-critical customer retention call centers. He possesses extensive experience in sales strategy and training, business development, process improvement, and leading and mentoring high-performing teams.

Mark is a strong advocate for creating a diverse and inclusive workplace to help bring together the best talent from among the broadest range of people, backgrounds, and perspectives. Mark currently serves as the co-chair of the Sales, Marketing and Community Solutions D&I Council. He and his team are committed to driving diversity and inclusion strategy across the organization through inclusive leadership, mentoring, participation in Spectrum's Business Resource Groups, and more.

Mark enjoys traveling, cooking, spending time with his family, and the San Francisco Giants and 49ers.

"Receiving the NAMIC Luminary award is truly an honor. It is my goal to leave a legacy that inspires others to continue to advance diversity and inclusion in this industry. Thank you for this recognition of what we can accomplish when we push boundaries – we all have unlimited possibility."

ILEANA LAGARES

VP, MULTICULTURAL MARKETING

HBO AND MAX, WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY



Ileana Lagares serves as Vice President, Multicultural Marketing, HBO and Max, responsible for developing the strategy and execution of marketing campaigns across HBO and Max programming that reach multicultural audiences.

For over a decade, Lagares has created high impact and high visibility campaigns for Game of Thrones, Watchmen and Winning Time, among others. She launched InsecureFest, a multi-season activation that captured the zeitgeist for the award-winning series, Insecure. For her campaign of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks she commissioned the creation of the only existing portrait of Henrietta Lacks by Kadir Nelson that now hangs in the National Portrait Studio after being acquired by the Smithsonian.

In addition, Lagares leads evergreen marketing initiatives for Black and AAPI audiences such as Scene in Black, a platform dedicated to authentically engaging Black audiences; and Our Stories to Tell, a pop-up activation during Sundance Film Festival that celebrates diverse creators and stories.

"It's an honor to be named a NAMIC Luminary and to be recognized as being a leader in our industry. Advocating for multicultural diversity and its importance is personally gratifying and it's a privilege to create authentic, culture-first work. Congratulations to my fellow Luminaries. I'm grateful for this acknowledgement."

KEVIN MARTINEZ

VP, CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

ESPN



Kevin Martinez, ESPN's vice president of Corporate Citizenship, oversees the company's citizenship initiatives including corporate giving, volunteerism, cause marketing and sustainability.

Martinez is responsible for ESPN's strategic programs that enable both greater access to sports and leadership through sports. He leads ESPN's sponsorship of Special Olympics, which has helped more than 1.8 million athletes, teammates and coaches join the Unified Sports movement.

Martinez and his team have received numerous industry awards, including most recently Engage for Good's The Golden Halo Award, as well as The Cause Marketing Forum's highest award, "The Halo Award" twice, a Gold CLIO Award, a Telly Award, the US Chamber's Award for Corporate Citizenship, the Association of Cable Communicators' prestigious Beacon Award and the 2006 Large Corporation of the Year Award from the Corporation for National Community Service and Points of Light Institute.

A native of Ewa Beach, Hawaii, Martinez graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications and advertising.

"Throughout my career I have taken great pride in using the platforms I serve to advance multi-ethnic diversity — especially during my time at ESPN in our Access to Sports and Empowerment Through Sports programs as DEI is a company priority," said Kevin Martinez, vice president of ESPN Corporate Citizenship. "It is a tremendous honor to have the responsibility to champion strategic CSR and diversity programs, and I am proud to be recognized as a recipient of the Luminary Award, as part of the 37th Annual NAMIC Conference."

LARAWN ROBINSON

VP, INSIDE PLANT NETWORK OPERATIONS

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS



LaRawn Robinson's expertise lies in leading corporate development efforts, operational strategies, and improvement initiatives to achieve defined goals. He is currently responsible for the implementation, augmentation, and maintenance of all network components and critical infrastructure in the NYC market area for Charter communications. LaRawn demonstrates top-flight leadership and management talents while propelling corporate profitability and productivity through dynamic program management and communication. His team partners with Network and Field Operations teams to deliver a world-class customer experience across all products and services in the market area.

LaRawn joined Charter in 2019, he has extensive experience in technology and telecommunications. Prior to joining Charter, LaRawn worked 20+ years in Network and Headend Engineering at Cablevision and Altice USA. He is active in his community as a volunteer youth coach and mentor.

LaRawn is happily married for 20+ years to his high school sweetheart and father to 3 brilliant children who continue to further their educational accomplishments in pursuit of their dreams.

"As a proud member of ELDP Cohort XXI, I am truly humbled and honored to count myself among those who have been recognized by NAMIC for this honor. I am not only honored to continue the mission of NAMIC, I remain motivated to make an impact in our industry that continues to open doors for others. Thank you!"

TRENT TAYLOR

VP, MARKET ANALYSIS

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS



Trent Taylor leads Spectrum Enterprise Market Analysis at Charter Communications. His team uses advanced predictive analytics (machine learning) to inform strategic decisions on Sales coverage and proactive Network Expansion, as well as develop targeted marketing lead lists. He has a track record of monetizing investments in data and analytics by leading programs across boundary partners to optimize sales and operational execution. Prior to joining Charter Communications (formerly Time Warner Cable), Mr. Taylor served as Strategic Marketing Director at XO Communications where he led transformational projects utilizing predictive analytics to reduce churn rates by 1.0 pp.

He holds an MBA from the Fisher College of Business at Ohio State, and has completed the following: Management Development Program and NAMIC Executive Leadership Development Program at Darden College of Business (UVA), CTAM Executive Management Program at Harvard Business School.

"I am truly honored to be named a NAMIC Luminary in 2023. It is humbling to be in the company of current and past recipients of this recognition, given their impressive contributions to the industry and DEI initiatives. This has re-energized me to help others on their journey through mentorship."

CHARA-LYNN AGUIAR

SVP, STRATEGY & OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

ESPN



In June 2021, Chara-Lynn Aguiar was promoted to senior vice president, strategy and office of the chairman at ESPN and in 2023 she added research to her purview. In this role, Aguiar oversees integrated strategy efforts working across all aspects of ESPN's business, and also oversees the research department. She serves as an advisor to the chairman and his direct reports to provide insight and manage a wide variety of internal and external relationships. With varied experiences covering measurement, distribution, digital and content strategy, Aguiar serves as a key partner across ESPN and TWDC leadership. She is based in New York City.

Aguiar began her career at ABC in 2009 as a research analyst before transitioning in 2011 to the global distribution strategy group for Disney & ESPN Media Networks. She then worked at YouTube in Content Partnerships in 2015 and at Fox Sports from October 2015 – February 2018 as Vice President, Strategy and Content before eventually returning to ESPN in March 2018.

A Daly City, Calif., native, Aguiar graduated from UCLA with a bachelor's degree in economics and international area studies.

"I'm truly honored and humbled to have received this award from NAMIC and to be honored with such an esteemed group. I'm very thankful for everything this organization does to advance the incredibly important work of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within our industry."

CATHERINE MITCHELL

SVP, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT
COX COMMUNICATIONS



Catherine Mitchell has earned the reputation as a difference maker in the telecommunications industry by taking on some of her company's toughest challenges and delivering transformation. As the Senior Vice President of Product Development and Management for Cox Communications, she leads innovation, development, and management across the company product portfolio.

Catherine joined Cox in 2000 as the Vice President and General Manager of the Roanoke, VA, market and continued to support growth and innovation at Cox through operations and product development roles. The course of Catherine's career began at companies like Scientific-Atlanta Inc. and IBM.

She holds an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and a B.A. in economics from Tufts University. Catherine is a WICT Betsy Magness Leadership Institute fellow. She is also a graduate the NAMIC Executive Leadership Development Program and the 2010 recipient of the NAMIC Luminary award. Catherine also serves on The Episcopal School of Jacksonville board.

"Being part of the NAMIC community gives a voice and an empowerment to be unapologetically Black. I am privileged to be recognized by this inspiring community of great leaders and friends that have encouraged me throughout the years."

PURU PATNEKAR

GROUP VP, MARKETING PLANNING AND OPERATIONS
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS



Puru Patnekar is a GVP of Marketing Planning & Operations at Charter Communications, where he leads a team of marketing and analytics professionals with a focus on customer acquisition and retention. Over the past decade at Charter, Puru has held leadership roles across financial planning, sales, and marketing. In each of these roles he advocated for business needs while building teams with individuals from diverse backgrounds, with multiple skillsets and the ability to work together towards a common goal.

Puru is a champion of Charter's D&I strategy. Using a combination of D&I principles and mentorship, many of his team members have seen their aspirations grow and careers develop. He strives to maintain a culture of open communication, rooted in respect and collaboration that supports the business at the highest level.

As a first-generation immigrant and now a proud U.S. citizen, Puru has been educated and worked both in India and the United States. These experiences have been formative in his outlook and leadership attributes. Puru is a proud alumnus of the NAMIC Executive Leadership Development Program.

"To me, diversity and inclusion means everyone has access to opportunities and can contribute at their highest potential. In my association with NAMIC, especially through the Executive Leadership Development Program, I've learned that the organization cultivates ambition and passion toward achieving success. Being named a NAMIC Next Generation leader is a tremendous honor and makes me even more aware of my responsibilities to create opportunities for others."

VALERIE SPILLER

SVP, PRODUCTION FINANCE
A+E NETWORKS



Valerie Spiller is the SVP of Production Finance for A+E Networks/A+E Studios. In this role, she is responsible for cost management, financial planning, analysis, tax incentives, and reporting of scripted series and movies of the week for A+E Studios and Lifetime Production. Her responsibilities extend to collaborating with numerous business segments and leaders within the A+E enterprise, fostering and promoting a culture that includes distinguished brands such as A&E®, The HISTORY® Channel, Crime + Investigation, History2, BLAZE, Lifetime®, LMN™, FYI™, and History.

As a prominent figure on the Senior Management team, Valerie spearheads numerous progressive initiatives, effectively championing A+E's diversity and inclusion directives. These initiatives are consistent with the company's mission to be a pioneer in the human experience. Among these initiatives are Diversity Behind the Camera, the Diverse Supplier Initiative, and the Multicultural Advisory Council (MAC), where she fervently advocates and sponsors diversity across the company.

"NAMIC has been committed for the past 43 years to empowering diversity in the communications industry, and to be recognized with their Next Generation Leaders Award is truly an honor! I am humbled, inspired and remain committed to championing inclusion and positive change in the media landscape. Words can't express my gratitude enough."

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MARK WALKER

HEAD OF SPORTS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION

ESPN



Mark L. Walker joined ESPN in 2019, as Head of Sports Business Development and Innovation, where he leads ESPN's business development center of excellence, with focus on driving sports media innovation in business, products and experiences.

In his role, Walker is responsible for driving ESPN Edge – a collaboration with other technology leaders to enable new ways for fans to experience sports – while leading ESPN's strategic efforts in the sports betting space.

Walker brings a wealth of experience to the innovation and business development disciplines, having led all of product development, marketing, programming, content, and operations for Disney's network of digital gateways, social media presence and content-delivery apps.

Walker earned a J.D. degree from Stanford Law School, an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford, and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from MIT. Additionally, he served as a member of the Media Arts and Sciences Visiting Committee for the MIT Media Laboratory.

"Winning this award is a testament to ESPN's unwavering commitment to inclusivity. It's not just an accolade; it's a recognition of ESPN's dedication to shaping a tech industry that embraces diversity. This award fuels ESPN's drive to create a world where innovation knows no boundaries."

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JOSÉ DÍAZ-BALART

ANCHOR

MSNBC'S "JOSÉ DÍAZ BALART REPORTS," "NBC NIGHTLY NEWS SATURDAY," AND NOTICIAS TELEMUNDO



Emmy, Peabody and Alfred Dupont award winner José Díaz-Balart is anchor of MSNBC's "José Díaz-Balart Reports" at 11 a.m. ET on weekdays, "NBC Nightly News Saturday" and "Noticias Telemundo."

Previously, Díaz-Balart served as anchor of Telemundo's national daily newscast "Noticias Telemundo."

Díaz-Balart began his career in 1983 and has become one of the most respected voices in journalism. He has witnessed and reported historic events for prestigious news media outlets around the world as well as interviews with hundreds of thought leaders among them all U.S. Presidents since Ronald Reagan.

Díaz-Balart is the only journalist to anchor two nightly newscasts in Spanish and English for national networks on a regular basis. He has received numerous accolades, including seven Emmy awards, the George Foster Peabody Award, an Alfred I DuPont-Columbia University Award, and the Broadcasting & Cable/Multichannel News Award for Outstanding Achievement in Hispanic Television. GQ Mexico named him "Best International Journalist of 2017." Most recently, he was appointed as the inaugural Georgetown University Politics Visiting Fellow and was featured on Adweek's list of 30 most impactful TVNewsters of the Past 15 Years.

Follow him on Twitter @jdbalart.

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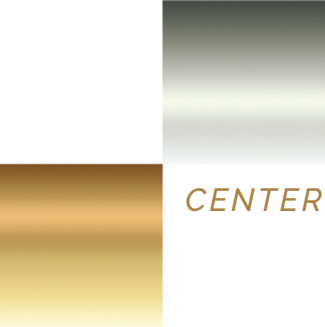
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