



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Regina Stanback Stroud, Ed.D, president of Skyline College, named as keynote at the Inaugural Women’s Leadership Conference presented by the County of San Mateo’s Commission on the Status of Women.

This timely conference attracts dynamic speakers to appeal to diverse groups of women in San Mateo County.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Redwood City, CA – March 7, 2018 – The Commission on the Status of Women of San Mateo County is launching its Inaugural Women’s Leadership Conference with the theme “Breaking Out” Empowering & Encouraging Women Leaders”.

The objective of this event is to empower, lead, and recognize women with their accomplishments who have impacted San Mateo County. The day will cover topics on:

- Capitalizing on Women’s Leadership/Creating a pipeline for powerful women leaders
- Powerhouse female legislators/Government & Community Engagement
- Mentoring & Networking

The Women’s Leadership Conference will take place Saturday, March 24th, 2018 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Grove, at Cañada College in Redwood City. The conference will be followed by the Women’s Hall of Fame with a networking reception starting at 3:00 pm and Awards presentation at 4:00 pm. To donate, purchase tickets and learn more about sponsorship opportunities, visit smcwomenlead.org.

This conference is offering participants a unique perspective on women’s leadership—rather than asking women to change themselves to “better fit” the current culture, the speakers will talk about how they are driving systemic change in corporate culture, policy, compensation, and government representation to empower women and encourage their leadership style.

Regina Stanback Stroud, Ed.D, the featured keynote during lunch, is the president of Skyline College. Stroud has been an educator in the California Community Colleges for more than thirty years. She served as Professor of Nursing, Dean of Workforce and Economic Development, the Vice President of Instruction before being appointed as the President of Skyline. She also served on former President Barack Obama’s Advisory Council on Fiscal Capabilities of Young Americans. *“Now, more than ever, it is critically important for us to establish clear pipelines for women leaders to take us into the future. The Women’s Leadership Conference, and the Commission on the Status of Women, are providing the platform we need right now to lift up female leaders in our own community and ensure empowered women are embracing their strength and can lead the charge for gender equality on a global scale.”* -- Regina Stanback Stroud, Ed.D.

Michelle Droz, Senior Partner and VP of Woodruff Sawyer, will be the emcee for the conference. She is the president of the philanthropic arm within her company called CARE which is comprised of

employees who volunteer onsite and plan financial support to local organizations. Michelle has been a host, emcee, and speaker for many events specific to advocacy, special education rights and for non-profit causes.

Other featured speakers include Cañada College President, Dr. Jamillah Moore, Brigid O'Farrell, author of Eleanor Roosevelt's white papers, Leah Weiss (teaches Compassionate Leadership at Stanford), Jaemi Serene (founder of SheLeadsHer), and Patty White (co-founder of the company ReBoot Accel).

San Mateo County Board Supervisor, Carole Groom, will be moderating the government panel and will serve as the emcee for the Women's Hall of Fame. Government panelists include Shara Watkins, San Mateo-Foster City School Board Trustee and Davina Hurt, Vice Mayor for the City of Belmont. *"This conference will introduce you to women leaders from business, education and politics- hear first-hand, their stories. Spend the day with women who want to be involved-great networking opportunity."* – Carole Groom

This year's honorees being recognized at the Women's Hall of Fame are Erin Tormey (founder of the Coastside Farmer's Market) and Naomi Patridge (first Asian-American to be elected for public office in San Mateo County). Both ladies are from Half Moon Bay. The third honoree, Kalimah Saluddan, is from Daly City and currently serves as a Trustee for the Jefferson Union High School District Board of Education.

County of San Mateo is the presenting sponsor for this Women's Leadership Conference and Hall of Fame. Other sponsors include Skyline College, Cañada College, Woodruff Sawyer, Chajnel Home Care Services, Warner Pacific, Cigna Healthcare, Swinerton Management & Consulting, and Kaiser Permanente.

"This is an opportunity for women to learn about local government and how to engage with the community which will increase our pipeline of women leaders. Women coming together to empower one another to bring about needed change is inspiring. The response to this conference has been overwhelming as it has been a long time coming for both young women and those re-entering the work force." –Linda Koelling, President of the Commission on the Status of Women

About County of San Mateo's Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women, an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, seeks to improve the quality of life for women of all ages in San Mateo County. Through strategic partnerships and collaboration, the commission identifies women's needs, advises the board of supervisors, and educates the community on matters concerning women.

For any questions or suggestions regarding the Commission, or interest to serve as a commissioner, contact 650-363-4872 or cswinfo@smcgov.org.

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