3RD ANNUAL
SHE SHINES
AWARDS
HONORING BOLD WOMEN
IN ACTION
MARCH 18, 2023
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Deloitte.
Thank you for joining us for our 3rd Annual She Shines Awards! We are so grateful to spend this afternoon with you, acknowledging women who inspire, motivate, and uplift Chicago girls to become stronger, smarter, and bolder.

Our She Shines Honorees and event speakers are truly Bold Women In Action, working tirelessly to close opportunity gaps and helping girls overcome intersectional barriers so they may reach their fullest potential.

Proceeds from this event will be used to support programming for girls from historically underserved communities across Chicago's South Side.

With you in our corner, we will continue to empower the next generation of female leaders through our work. Thank you for investing in the lives of Chicago girls.

Yani Mason, Ed.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Bridget Gannon is a professional sports executive with 16 years of industry experience. She currently serves as Vice President of Giving and Growth for The Players Alliance - a nonprofit organization that addresses baseball and softball’s systemic barriers to equity and inclusion by creating pathways to opportunities on and off the field.

Bridget was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, and lived in Washington, DC for 13 years working for the Washington Capitals, Washington Wizards, Legg Mason Tennis Classic, and Washington Nationals before relocating to Chicago in 2018 to join the National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBRPA). While at the NBRPA, Gannon created the Legends Girl Chat program - using Girls Inc. of Chicago as the pilot case study. Through this program, Girls Inc. affiliates across North America signed up for virtual Girl Chat sessions with WNBA Legends, bringing wisdom, inspiration, and representation safely into the homes of Girls Inc. girls through Zoom meetings during the height of COVID-19.

Celeste Wright Harris is the Chief Human Resources Officer and head of the Human Resources Division for Loop Capital, a full-service investment bank, brokerage, and advisory firm that provides creative capital solutions for corporate, governmental, and institutional entities across the globe.

Celeste has more than 20 years of experience as a human resources business partner and strategist, building her career on establishing organizational cultures of excellence. Celeste also served as the Director of Recruiting and Special Projects for the City of Chicago, where she directed the internship recruitment program, employing hundreds of students while providing real-world experiences.

Celeste is committed to serving the community and previously served on the Board of Family Focus Lawndale. Currently, she is a member of the Society of Human Resources Management and Financial Services Pipeline Initiative. Additionally, Celeste oversees the firm’s Student Internship Program, which is designed to increase the number of underrepresented individuals in the financial services industry.
Danielle Mosley is the Founder and CEO of A Hand To Give, a nonprofit organization serving residents and families in Chicago’s Chatham neighborhood. Through A Hand to Give, Danielle has provided more than 15,000 essential items to low-income families, single mothers, and individuals with disabilities. She has a Master of Arts in Human Services from Concordia University and a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Practice with a concentration in psychology from National Louis University.

Danielle is committed to community service and quality educational opportunities for youth in the City of Chicago. Danielle models the positive change she desires to see in her community, through service and partnership building. Her belief is that all children and families deserve quality housing and education despite their circumstances or disabilities.

Chiquira Showers is currently the Internship and Leadership Manager at the Academy Group in Chicago, IL. For the past four years, she has cultivated relationships with organizations and corporations across multiple industries to secure robust internship opportunities for young people in the City of Chicago. In the process, Chiquira also helped companies understand the value of strengthening their talent pipeline with diverse talent. In addition to that work, she has led Radical Professionalism programming which equips students with the skills and tools needed to develop both professionally and personally.

As a result of her natural ability to build and foster relationships, Chiquira has led passion-driven work in the field of community relationships and partnership marketing. Chiquira holds a Bachelor of Arts in Movement and Sports Science from Purdue University.
Jazmin Garcia is a Queer, First-Generation, Mexican American with eight years of experience in policy, programs, and philanthropy, including developing more than 200 Latinx leaders for a nationally recognized program. She leads Global Partnerships through their Latino Employee Resource Group – HOLA and serves as a Nonprofit Talent Advisor within one of their largest business lines, Talent Solutions.

Jazmin’s experiences growing up across borders in San Diego, California and Tijuana, Baja California inspired her curiosity and leadership, and prompted her passion for public service and social impact.

Dominicca Troi Washington, M.Ed is a Chicago native raised on the city’s South Side. She is a proud product of the Chicago Public Schools System and a first-generation college graduate from Clark Atlanta University. She is the Founder and Executive Director of The SHE Society Incorporated: SHE Chicago, a young women’s empowerment program that provides character education, community service opportunities, and college and career planning support for inner city teen girls.

Dominicca believes that by helping young women to identify their purpose and develop great character while exposing them to resources beyond their current circumstances, we can advance the trajectory of their lives and of the lifespan of our communities.
SHE SHINES HONOREE
KELLY FAIR

Kelly is the CEO and Founder of Polished Pebbles Girls Mentoring Program, an Illinois Gold Star rated mentoring program that enhances the life skills, career readiness, and leadership ability of girls and young women.

Through Polished Pebbles, Kelly has positively impacted the lives of more than 5,000 African American and Latinx girls and young women in Chicago. She is the author of They’re All the Same Girl and Every Girl Is a CEO. Currently, she serves on the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls Taskforce and the Illinois Council for Women and Girls.

SHE SHINES HONOREE
WENDY THOMPSON

Wendy Thompson is a dynamic leader and civil servant who has worked to improve educational and health outcomes for all Chicagoans. She has more than 25 years of leadership experience, across various organization, including Chicago Public Schools. Currently, she serves as the Chief Operating Officer at Friend Health. Through her work at Friend Health, Wendy and her team continue to collaborate with Girls Inc. of Chicago to expand the organization’s existing programming to provide age and culturally appropriate, trauma-informed, targeted prevention, and positive youth development interventions to address the mental health needs of Chicago girls.

An alumna of the University of Chicago, she is a wife and proud mom of three, and a resident of Chicago’s Beverly community.
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Rangers game on April 8, 2023
Do you know an outstanding woman who is making a difference in the lives of Chicago girls and women? Nominate her for our 2024 She Shines Awards!

Visit girlsincofchicago.org/she-shines to submit your nomination!

Nominations will close at 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023.
Thank you to our dynamic Associate Board

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Thank You!