

2024 Virtual Executive Readiness Summit

October 30-31, 2024

8 – 10 am CST

Ilhiana Rojas Saldana, CEO
BeLIVE

Ilhiana is a seasoned Business Strategist, Executive and Leadership Coach, Diversity & Inclusion Consultant, Hispanic Advocate, an Amazon Bestselling Author, and an International Motivational Speaker. She is passionate about elevating unheard voices, igniting performance, and empowering her clients to reach their full potential through meaningful transformation. Ilhiana is a firm believer that nothing is impossible. Ilhiana spent nearly two decades as a highly respected and sought-after global business leader and strategist.

Ilhiana's has been recognized by the New York Journal as one of the Top 10 Inspiring Women to watch in 2021, as a 2021 Latina to Watch by ALPFA, and has been featured on NBC, FOX, and CBS affiliates.



Naomi Kent, CEO
The Boardroom Co

Trusted partner to executive teams and a motivating force behind high-performing boards. Her career spans over 20 years, multiple countries, industries, and business models. She builds the next generation of executive and boardroom leaders.

As a trusted partner to executive teams and a strategic advisor to senior-level professionals pursuing board careers, she serves as a motivating force behind high-performing boards. Throughout her storied career, which spans multiple countries, industries, and business models, she has consistently been a builder.



Mylene Barizo, Principal Leadership Ladder, LLC

A career as a senior level Human Resource leader with P&L, sales, and customer service in her DNA - and - as a first generation woman of color, Mylene brings a unique perspective to the stage. Stories and experiences from the start of her career at Enterprise Holdings (Enterprise Rent-A-Car), the leadership skills developed on her way to executive roles, and applying her brand of leadership in the engineering and technology world of the Boeing Co., all come together to shape the methods and systems she brings to partners and clients today.

Mylene uses practical approaches to build systems that execute on business deliverables while also elevating and sustaining women and BIPOC talent. In her post-corporate/Career 3.0 life, she continues to explore, learn, and grow as projects and engagements come to her Leadership Ladder consulting practice.



Natalie Benamou, Founder and CEO HerCsuite®

Natalie has accelerated her career to leadership positions in both the marketing industry and non-profits. She helps women get promoted, land board roles and accelerate careers.

As a sought after speaker, moderator and host of over 280 podcast episodes interviewing leaders is her specialty. Natalie founded HerCsuite® women's network to make it easy for women to meet, engage and thrive in a powerful network community and app.



Gisele Gomes, CEO and Founder Paronima – Learning Systems

Gisele Gomes has a career of more than 25 years in ESG strategies. She is the CEO and Founder of Paronima – Learning Systems. Gisele has been travelling all over Brazil to deliver and develop strategies for women on the path toward leadership positions. She holds a master's degree in Diversity and Inclusion.

Gisele is the Ambassador of the Global Women's Leadership Network / WOCCU in Brazil.



Emma Hayes, Chief Learning and Engagement Officer, State Employees' Credit Union

Emma Hayes is the chief learning and engagement officer for the Raleigh, North Carolina-based State Employees' Credit Union (SECU). In her current role, she oversees equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) learning and organizational development, and employee engagement. She has over 25 years of experience serving in various roles. Her focus on relationship-building and service is what sets her apart.

Her experience includes her role as the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) for the African American Credit Union Coalition (AACUC). There she provides guidance and support to credit unions, business partners and affiliate organizations.

Emma is a two-time graduate of North Carolina State University receiving an undergraduate degree from the Poole College of Management with a concentration in Finance, minors in English and African American Studies, then returning to receive a Masters of Education in Training and Development.



Jenny Vipperman, President & Chief Executive Officer ORNL Federal Credit Union

Jenny is a nationally recognized credit union servant leader whose commitment to the movement is demonstrated through her personal and professional efforts to improve the financial lives of all members. An 18-year credit union industry veteran with over 25 years' leadership experience, Jenny currently serves as the President & CEO of ORNL Federal Credit Union, the second largest Federally chartered credit union in the State of Tennessee. Jenny keeps an unwavering focus on improving the financial lives of all members and strengthening the communities in which she serves through financial education, tailored products and services, and frictionless technology. As a trailblazer in the credit union and fintech industries, Jenny introduced AI loan decisioning to credit unions, becoming the first to use this accurate and inclusive technology. Today, more than 170 credit unions operate over 400 of these models throughout the country, increasing approvals to millions of members with less risk. She has further led efforts to certify the second-largest Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) in the nation and has expanded product and service offerings, such as Military Heroes and Everyday Heroes programs, that have won national industry awards.

In addition to her professional experience, Jenny serves the industry and community through her philanthropic work. She currently serves as the Vice Chair of the National Credit Union Foundation (NCUF), board member



of Coviance, an industry-leading mortgage software company, member of the Residential Board of Governors of the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA), is the Customer Advisory Board Chair of both Zest AI and Open Lending (LPRO). Jenny's philanthropic work extends globally through engagements with the World Council of Credit Unions in Guatemala, Peru, and Ecuador. She previously served as co-chair of the MBA Credit Union Network, vice chair of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, board member of Zest AI, member of the Credit Union Development Education (CUDE) committee, and mayoral appointee and board member of the Kids Hope Alliance.

Jenny holds an MBA from George Mason University, a BS from Virginia Tech, and earned the CMB designation from the Mortgage Bankers Association in 2020. She has been named Woman of the Year by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (2019), one of the Top 100 People in Finance by Top 100 Magazine (2020), a Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council (2021), and a Woman of Influence by the JBJ (2022).