

## America Votes State Summit 2018

February 27-28, 2018

Walter E. Washington Convention Center

801 Mt. Vernon Place NW

Washington, DC



## Emerging Leaders

The America Votes Emerging Leaders program is in its fourth year and designed to help build in state capacity for organizations emerging into the 501c4/IE space with a focus on building power in communities of color. AV Emerging Leaders represent organizations emerging into the 501c4/IE space and we are excited to learn more about your work and programs. The Emerging Leaders program is a part of America Votes' broader commitment to building 501c4 capacity in states to build power in communities of color and growing the America Votes in-state coalitions. The America Votes State Summit 2018 is a unique opportunity to connect with other state and national leaders in the IE and 501c4 space from across the country and we're tremendously honored that they are able to participate.

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### **Reginald Bolding (AZ)**

**Co-Executive Director and Founder of Our Voice, Our Vote Arizona and the Arizona Coalition for Change**

Reginald is the co-executive director and founder of Our Voice, Our Vote Arizona and the Arizona Coalition for Change. Reginald is also serving in his second term as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives. Bolding previously served as managing director of a national education nonprofit organization prior to leading the work at Our Voice, Our Vote. In the community and in the legislature Bolding has been a leading advocate fighting for working families around issues in education, criminal justice reform, voting and civil rights. In 2017, he was named "Legislator of the Year" by the Arizona Community Action Association for fighting against the payday loan industry in Arizona. Bolding received his master's degree from Arizona State University in education and his bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati in criminal justice and international security.



### **Travis L. Lane (AZ)**

**Assistant Director of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA)**

Travis L. Lane graduated from The University of Arizona in 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science with a minor in American Indian studies. After graduation, Travis was hired by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) as the outreach coordinator for the Indians Into Medicine Program to encourage American Indian youth to pursue the health careers. Since then, he has held numerous roles and responsibilities at ITCA including serving as the statewide native vote coordinator. In 2014, Travis was appointed as assistant director of ITCA. In this capacity, he assists in overseeing the operations and policy development of the organization, which includes managing a budget of \$18 million and supervising a staff of fifty-five.

## Emerging Leaders

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### **Eduardo Sainz (AZ)**

#### **Arizona State Director for Mi Familia Vota**

Eduardo Sainz was born and raised in Sonora, Mexico. Eduardo comes from a family whom installed values of unity, justice and consistency. At the age of 13 Eduardo migrated to Tucson, Arizona with his parents and siblings with the hope for better education and economic stability. As a community organizer he believes in order to change the political landscape in Arizona and the country, Latinos need to develop a political infrastructure through civic participation and leadership development. Through his past involvement in Mi Familia Vota he has lead large scale voter registrations, get out the vote efforts in the state of Arizona by engaging thousands of volunteers and empowering families and leaders to speak out and take action in their communities. He also serves as a council member at The University of Arizona Hispanic Community Council. Eduardo continues his vision of a better Arizona as the current Arizona state director for Mi Familia Vota. Eduardo graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in public management and policy.



### **Shanta Farrington (CO)**

#### **Digital Strategist with United for a New Economy**

Shanta Farrington is a digital strategist with United for a New Economy (UNE). She brings expertise in c3/c4 nonprofits, brand marketing, social justice and progressive campaigns. Her career has been dedicated to working on an array of issues, including: international relations, voting rights, economic and racial justice and immigration. Shanta also brings knowledge of database management and analyses, communications and digital strategies.

## Emerging Leaders

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### **Jerry Gonzalez (GA)**

#### **Executive Director of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO)**

Jerry Gonzalez is the founding and current executive director of the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO) and the GALEO Latino Community Development Fund. GALEO, a statewide nonprofit and nonpartisan organization, has a mission to increase civic engagement and leadership development of the Latino community across Georgia. Gonzalez is a native of Laredo, Texas and received his Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M University in 1995. He completed his Master of Public Administration at the Andrew Young School of Public Policy at Georgia State University in 2005. Due to his efforts at GALEO, Mr. Gonzalez has been recognized by Georgia Trend Magazine as one of Georgia's 100 Most Influential Georgians for several years. Gonzalez lives in Atlanta with his husband of over 20 years, Ray, an established and practicing pediatrician, and their dog, Jenny. Jerry's hobbies include photography, travel, hiking; and, he considers himself an avid cyclist.



### **Kim Abbott (MT)**

#### **Co-Director of the Montana Human Rights Network**

Kim Abbott is the co-director of the Montana Human Rights Network. She has helped to shape the Network's programmatic work since 2005 by designing local ordinance campaigns, ballot issue campaigns and legislative advocacy campaigns as organizing director, program director and now co-director. In 2016 Kim was elected to the Montana Legislature representing House District 83. She grew up 10 miles west of Cleveland, OH where she learned to root for the long-shot (Dennis Kucinich, Cleveland Browns) and value resilience. Kim went to school in the south at the University of North Carolina Wilmington and moved west in 2002. She lives in Helena.

## Emerging Leaders

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### **Karla Molinar Arvizo (NM)**

#### **Communications Fellow with the New Mexico Dream Team**

Karla Molinar Arvizo is an immigrant organizer since age of 17 and student at the University of New Mexico studying international studies and political studies. She's had the humbling opportunity to be part of the immigrant youth movement in New Mexico where she's been able to build education equity programs and co-found the University of New Mexico's annual Educator's Summit and the Dream Zone training through the New Mexico Dream Team. She's worked at the legislature through a legislative and policy Fellowship with the Center for Civic Policy where she realized the importance of political empowerment and inclusion of immigrant communities, people of color, women and LGBTQ people. She currently works at the NM Dream Team as a communications fellow for Northern New Mexico and gets to participate in advocacy efforts along with the organizers of the region. She loves New Mexico, her family and her two cute dogs.



### **Duy Nguyen (NV)**

#### **Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at the Asian Community Development Council**

Duy Nguyen's career spanned from non-profit management to building strategic relationships for major Fortune 500 companies, including Verizon Wireless, MGM Resorts International and Cox Communications. Mr. Nguyen is currently the vice president & chief operating officer for the Asian Community Development Council (ACDC), a Nevada nonprofit and nonpartisan community development organization serving the Asian and Pacific Islanders communities. In this role, he's responsible for the overall strategic direction of ACDC's outreach initiatives on civic engagement, health and wellness education and workforce/leadership development programs. Mr. Nguyen served eight years as a member of the Executive Council of OCA National, a civil rights and education organization for Asian Pacific Americans with over 100 chapters and affiliates across the United States. Most recently, Mr. Nguyen was elected to serve as an executive board member for the Nevada Minority Health and Equity Coalition, a statewide non-profit membership coalition with over 60+ organizations aim to reduce healthcare disparities across Nevada. Mr. Nguyen holds a Bachelor of Science in business management, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. Mr. Nguyen resides in Las Vegas, Nevada with his wife and son.

## Emerging Leaders

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### **Alex Shanks (OH)**

#### **Project & Field Director for Equality Ohio and North Central Regional Organizer for Reconciling Ministries Network**

Rachel's husband. Ella Marie's papa. Thinker. Woodworker. Story teller. Servant leader. Spiritual seeker. Transman. Alex is passionate about finding transparent solutions to community needs through collaborative nonprofit initiatives and organizational development strategies. He currently works as project and field director for Equality Ohio and north central regional organizer for Reconciling Ministries Network.



### **Kimlee Suremee (OH)**

#### **Policy-Advocacy & Development Manager at Asian Services In Action, Inc.**

Kimlee Suremee is the manager of policy-advocacy & development at Asian Services In Action, Inc. Working nearly five years at ASIA, Inc., Kimlee knows firsthand that communities that work together change together. Her priorities focus on the civic engagement among Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) and new American communities across Ohio. Through successful partnerships, she manages the ACE Network, the largest statewide civic engagement network focused on electoral and capacity building in the new American and immigrant community. In addition to her work, she has experience in media & communications, and fundraising & major gifts. She has secured donations from big corporations such as Chase Bank, MetroHealth Systems and the Cleveland Cavaliers; landed coverage in print and broadcast outlets nationally and regionally including, NBC, Crain's and Akron Beacon Journal. Kimlee holds a degree in international European affairs from Cleveland State University.

## Emerging Leaders

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### **Elizabeth Alex (PA)**

#### **Senior Director of Community Organizing and Leadership Development for CASA**

Elizabeth Alex is senior director of Community Organizing and Leadership Development for CASA, the largest immigrant rights organization in the mid-Atlantic region. Ms. Alex holds an MSW in management and community organizing from the University of Maryland Baltimore, and has over 20 years of community organizing experience. She currently leads a team of 20 organizing and support staff. Campaign victories include the MD DREAM Act in 2012 and 2013, Welcoming City policies in four jurisdictions and Municipal ID legislation in Baltimore, MD.



### **Angela Lang (WI)**

#### **Political Director with For Our Future Wisconsin**

Angela Lang was born and raised in the heart of Milwaukee and is currently political director with For Our Future Wisconsin, where she works to develop partnerships with local organizations and oversees the local grant process. She is also serving as executive director of Black Leaders Organizing for Communities (BLOC). Previously, she worked for the Service Employees International Union where she was an organizer and state council director, overseeing the political endorsement process and organizing the Homecare and Nursing Home workers into the Fight For 15 campaign. Angela is a graduate of Emerge Wisconsin class of 2015 and has had the pleasure of being the trainer for diversity weekend every year since her graduation. Angela is motivated by making substantial and transformative change in her community while developing young local leaders of color. In her organizing experience it is clear that there is a deep need for cultural competency, diversity and more seats at the table. Her journey in organizing hasn't always been easy as oftentimes she is the only woman, young person and person of color in the room expected to speak on behalf of all those communities. She constantly advocates for more seats at the table for those who represent the New American Majority.