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LEADERSHIP CONNECT 2023 COHORT



ELLE BENSON, NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP, LLC

Elle Benson is a national nonprofit consultant and founder of Nonprofit Leadership LLC. Elle has worked her entire career with nonprofits and organizational development consulting firms including the Center for Nonprofit Management, LBMC, Alliance for Better Nonprofits, and the YWCA. Elle is an enthusiastic teacher, having taught at the ABN and the University of Tennessee. She has published two books around mindfulness, Cultivate Your Happiness: Mama-to-Be and Cultivating Calmness in Children for children. Her 2020 TEDx video A Crash Course in Learning to Laugh has propelled her as a desired keynote speaker.



ROSA CASTANO, RMC HOLDINGS, LLC

Rosa spent over 15 years working in both the domestic and international sales markets at various levels of business. Like many during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Rosa was forced to pivot when her job position was eliminated. Rosa had always been frustrated with the lack of Well-Being in the workplace and decided now was the time to make a change. She combined her years of experience and knowledge of the workplace with her passion and training earned on the side in the Wellness industry. Rosa now leads people-focused Well-Being Workshops centered around Stress Management and Cultivating Resiliency and Wellness activations for the workplace.



NATHAN GREENE, CAIRN FINANCIAL GROUP

Nathan Greene is the principal of Cairn Financial Group. With over a decade's experience in the financial services industry, he has built his practice with the sole purpose of enabling wealth success in his clients' lives — no matter their definition of "wealth." He has a strong competency in comprehensive planning and takes pride in assimilating one's financial life to efficiently and effectively move clients toward their goals.



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BRENTON HARRISON, NEW MONEY, NEW PROBLEMS

Brenton Harrison is the founder of New Money New Problems, a financial advisory that assists and educates first-generation, high-income-earners, on their journey to wealth. Brenton has spent over a decade empowering people to take control of their money. He teaches strategies for overcoming the burden of debt, juggling family and money, and establishing a financial foothold for those who were never taught the principles of financial literacy.



MONCHIERE JONES, MOJO MARKETING + PR

Monchiere' Jones is a trusted source across the U.S. known for launching and amplifying brands. The founder and CEO of MOJO Marketing + PR, she has championed the award-winning agency's multi-industry small business, non-profit and corporate clientele for nearly a decade. Monchiere' and MOJO have been recognized for their intuitive creativity, impeccable legacy, and fusion of agency, community leadership, and innovation in business.



ANNA-VIJA MCCLAIN, PICCOLO SOLUTIONS

Anna-Vija is passionate about helping small business owners create scalable businesses with amazing company culture and helping the small business community through my coaching services. I frequently speak at events such as HubSpot's INBOUND conference, and colleges, including the Vanderbilt Owen Business School, Middle Tennessee State University Jones College of Business, Belmont University, and Volunteer State Community College. I am active in the Nashville community through numerous charities, Boards, and volunteer efforts.



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JANET MEEK, JSMASSOCIATIES

Janet Meek has grown her career in the talent acquisition and recruiting industry and is now the founder and CEO of JSMAssociates. When launching her firm, she wanted it to be more than just another recruiting agency. The focus of JSMAssociates, is to partner with our clients to be a strategic Human Capital growth partner by providing enterprise-level strategies in recruiting and attracting top talent, controlling turnover, and building an environment for all employees to thrive.



JEROME MOORE, COMMUNITY CHANGERS

North Nashville native, Jerome Moore, is the creator and host of Deep Dish Conversations which explores the perspectives of social change with community members, leaders, organizers, activists, politicians, and entertainers about critical social, cultural, and political issues in our community. Jerome is also the host and producer of the TV show A Slice of the Community at Nashville Public Television, explorer, community organizer, and pizza connoisseur.



ANNA MYINT, INTERNATIONAL MARKET

Anna Myint has her BA in Communication from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, a Certificate in Fashion Studies from The New School: Parsons School of Design, and her MBA from Vanderbilt's Owen School of Management. She was born and raised in Nashville, TN. She has retail experience from being a buyer for Macy's in their corporate office in New York City. She moved back to home in in 2015 after accepting a non-profit job as the Alumni Director and Social Media Manager at University School of Nashville. After recently inheriting the family business, Anna has taken over all operations and is currently managing International Market, and multiple residential and commercial real estate properties.



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THOMAS SHUMATE, MERIDIAN LAW, PPLC

Thomas Shumate is a Nashville native and attended Father Ryan High School, Vanderbilt University, and Notre Dame Law School. He has practiced law in Tennessee for nearly 25 years and is the founder and owner of Meridian Law, PLLC. Thomas enjoys giving back and has been active in the local community and Tennessee Bar Association organizations. Thomas has been married for nearly 20 years and is the proud father of three children. When not working, he enjoys spending time with his family, hiking, reading, and attending concerts and sporting events.

