

2019 Annual Report  
to the Thomas R. Brown Foundations





ARIZONA CENTER FOR  
CIVIC LEADERSHIP  
*Flinn-Brown Fellowship*

# 2019 Annual Report



“The network is incredible, and the diversity of it is fantastic. The ability for Flinn-Brown to convene and keep that momentum of the network alive is impressive. The program really gives a full spectrum of the situation in Arizona and opens your eyes to what’s happening across a variety of organizations.”

**Alec Thomson**

Executive Director, Arizona Complete Count Committee  
2019 Flinn-Brown Fellow

## Background

The Flinn-Brown Fellowship is the state’s premier civic-leadership professional-development program. The purpose of the Fellowship is to support emerging and established civic leaders from throughout Arizona to expand their knowledge, skills and networks to address the state’s long-term public-policy issues. Leaders selected into the Fellowship possess a strong interest to enter state-level service and represent a broad diversity of perspectives, politics and policy interests. The Fellowship consists of 14 nonpartisan public-policy seminars, facilitated by highly experienced elected and appointed officials, judges, executives, scholars, and other experts engaged in decision-making at the highest levels, in addition to political analyses from active state-level practitioners.

Once an individual completes the Fellowship, they enter the prestigious Flinn-Brown Network, comprised of 357 Flinn-Brown Fellows from Arizona’s business and industry, technology, agricultural, education, nonprofit, and public sectors—and from all walks of life and

perspectives. The Flinn-Brown Network provides the means to connect Fellows across cohorts, deliver support, offer continuing education and professional relationships through in-person and online activities.

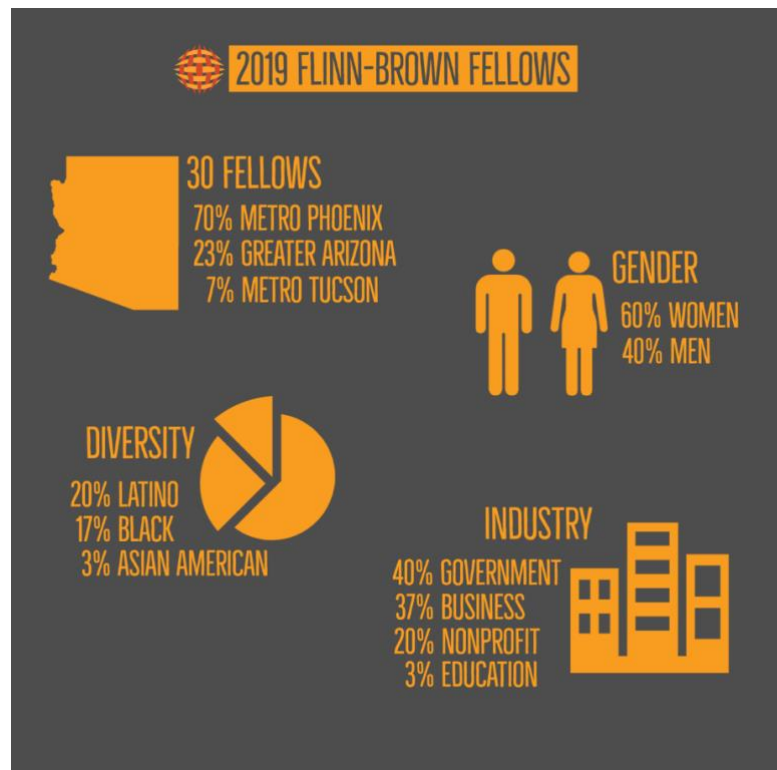
## 2019 Flinn-Brown Fellowship Participants

In January, 30 individuals were chosen through a competitive selection process to participate in the 2019 Flinn-Brown Fellowship. The 2019 Fellows represented various segments of Arizona's economy, across the political spectrum, geography, and policy interest.

The cohort was comprised of individuals from metro Phoenix, Coolidge, Superior, Tucson, Sierra Vista, Prescott Valley, and the Verde Valley. Fellows varied in their career stages.

Fellows like Josue Macias (Phoenix), Alec Thomson (Phoenix), and Brad Williams (Tucson) are in the early stages of their careers, with tremendous potential for impact on Arizona state policy, while Fellows like Lisa Cagnolatti (Phoenix), Kelly Fryer (Tucson), and Tony Boone (Sierra Vista) are pursuing new routes of state-level civic engagement after completing a career.

A directory of 2019 Fellows, with brief bios, can be found [here](#).



# 2019 Flinn-Brown Fellowship



The 2019 Flinn-Brown Fellowship ran for 14 sessions between February 8 – April 13, 2019 culminating with the Annual Convention on May 3, 2019.

- Seminar 1:** Springboard for Civic Leadership: Voice, Characteristics, and Economy. [Agenda](#) | [Speaker Bios](#)
- Seminar 2:** The Practice of Leadership in a Complex State. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 3:** Arizona's Financial Health. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 4:** Arizona's Postsecondary Players and Systems. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 5:** Inputs, Output, and Opportunities in K-12 Education. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 6:** Natural Systems and Human Choices: Water, Land and People. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 7:** Courts: The Unique Capacity of the Third Branch and Master Class for Flinn-Brown Network. [Agenda](#)
- Seminar 8:** Communities, Insurance, Prevention and More: Health and Health Care in Context. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 9:** Humans Meet Services: What System Do We Need and How Can it Work? [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 10:** Economic Drivers: Transportation and Energy. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)

- Seminar 11:** Fairness and Chances: Criminal Justice and Corrections Facts, Ideas, and Options. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 12:** Military Installations and Global Ties. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 13:** Agencies and Workforces, Focus Trends and Team Projects. [Agenda](#) | [Bios](#)
- Seminar 14:** Annual Flinn-Brown Convention and Recognition Receptions for 2019 Flinn-Brown Fellows (Desert Botanical Gardens) [Agenda](#)

## 2019 Flinn-Brown Convention



Themed *Creative Solutions*, the annual convention took place May 3 at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix. Nationally recognized keynote speaker Manuel Pastor, Ph.D., presented on Arizona trends and demographics, and in break-out sessions, Fellows brainstormed ways to connect regionally. Approximately 120 Fellows attended the convention this year. [Agenda](#) | [Presentations](#)



# 2019 Flinn-Brown Fellows Projects

On April 13, Fellows presented on policy proposals they had been working on over the course of the seminar series. Fellows self-selected into six groups that collectively determined an area of interest to propose a feasible policy change. The project proposals were presented to and evaluated by Marilyn Rodriguez, Creosote Partners; Fellow Elvy Barton, SRP; and Fellow Cheyenne Walsh, Cheyenne Walsh, PLC.

## 2019 Fellows' Policy Proposal Projects:

- [Workforce Incentives](#): This proposal was for a small-scale pilot program to large employers considering relocation to Arizona. Workforce Incentive for Full Employment (WIFE) is an innovative solution to ensure full employment through quality early-childhood-development education. The program provides a one-time competitive \$5 million incentive grant for large businesses to establish an on-site child-care facility for at least 100 children. The grant is split into five \$1 million incentives for the first five businesses that create an on-site childcare facility. The pilot program targets large businesses with the flexibility to permit nearby small businesses to participate in the facility, in turn helping the large business achieve full enrollment capacity.
- [School Security Infrastructure](#): Establishes the School Security Infrastructure Competitive Grant to be administered by the School Facilities Board, through the creation of a fund for the purposes of capital improvements to public schools for classroom safety and security enhancements, and the creation of statewide standards for current and new public-school buildings related to school security. The proposal also requires new construction of public schools comply with federal recommendations for infrastructure security.
- [Groundwater Management Reformation](#): This proposal would alter the regulatory framework in Arizona to require rules applicable to groundwater well spacing and impacts on existing wells be applied throughout Arizona. The proposal will expand well spacing and impact rules already adopted for Active Management Areas (AMAs) to the entire state. Well owners will be required to report data annually for non-exempt wells and every five years for exempt wells. The Department of Water Resources would establish a revolving loan and grant program that would provide assistance in complying with this new rule. This rule will go into effect five years from the date of approval.
- [Arizona Housing Trust Fund](#): The proposed legislative action lifts the cap on the Arizona Housing Trust Fund to restore the safeguards already in place to protect Arizona families and increase economic opportunities for developers, local municipalities, and social service agencies in the sector. A key element to the proposal's success is stakeholder and bipartisan engagement. Stakeholders include industry partners like the Arizona Multihousing Association, Arizona Builders Association, and the Arizona Realtors

Association; local governments from urban and rural areas, specifically reaching out to those facing major crises; affordable-housing developers and attorneys; financial institutions in the private and nonprofit sector, like US Bank and LISC; foundations, especially those with a history of investing in affordable-housing solutions; and nonprofits, specifically focusing on those addressing homelessness and housing for Native Americans living outside of tribal areas, veterans, and community members with mental-health issues.

- [E-cigarettes Taxing and Regulation](#): To account for the many divergent perspectives of the various stakeholders on this issue, the proposal recognizes that an incremental approach is the most realistic strategy to solving this public-policy issue. By using a multi-year strategy to move Arizona forward, the proposal includes the following milestones.
  - Registration of e-cigarette and vape-liquid wholesalers/distributors
  - Excise tax on e-cigarette/vape-liquid products to wholesalers/distributors
  - Registration of e-cigarette and vape-liquid retailers
  - Sales tax on e-cigarette and vape-liquid retailers
- [Cross-systems Advisory Committee](#): To address the dearth of Arizona evidence about the foster-care-to-prison pipeline, the proposal created a statutorily-authorized advisory committee called the “Systems Crossover Prevention Advisory Committee.” This Advisory Committee consists of state directors from the executive and judicial branches. The Advisory Committee would also analyze the data in order to identify populations at risk of systems crossover, a methodology for ongoing data collection and information sharing among state directors, and recommendations for constitutional, statutory, and administrative revisions intended to reduce the likelihood of systems crossover among at-risk populations. The Advisory Committee has two years to complete this study. The Advisory Committee’s report would be provided to the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, the Governor, and the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court.

## Flinn-Brown Fellows Recognition

In 2019, five Flinn-Brown Fellows were honored at the annual convention for their commitment to Arizona and their significant contributions to their communities and the Flinn-Brown Network. Their award citations are presented below:



**Jack Jewett Award | Daniel Hernandez** is an Arizona native who, at 25, was elected to the Arizona House. He is in his second term, representing South Tucson, Sahuarita, Green Valley and Santa Cruz County. He has also served on the Sunnyside school district's governing board. He has championed education, small business, health care, and gun-violence prevention, and is the co-founder of the LGBT Caucus. Daniel has been able to approach difficult issues because he has found common ground and built relationships with others. His approach is practical, and he has helped recruit candidates and encouraged many to run. He has

continued to be involved with Flinn-Brown after being in an early cohort. As a policy mind, dedicated advocate, and practical legislator, Representative Daniel Hernandez has been chosen for the 2019 Jack Jewett Award.



**Network Builder Award | Cynthia Seelhammer** is an example of inclusion and fostering professional development among employees—from receptionists to executives—and particularly providing opportunities for women, resonates in any institution. Flinn-Brown is only one network this honoree has helped develop over her decades of public service. Specifically, for Flinn-Brown, she identified applicants and encouraged participation, and the northern Arizona core of Fellows is larger and stronger due to her efforts. Her actions have meant a lot to northern Arizona and provided a model for other regions and leaders. It is easy to see why Cynthia was

chosen for the 2017 Gabe Zimmerman Civic Leader Award by the Center for the Future of Arizona. Over her decades of service in the city of Phoenix, town of Queen Creek, Coconino County, and many other jurisdictions as an “interim expert,” she has demonstrated how to build people and then through them to build networks that can get things done. Flinn-Brown honors Cynthia not only for her support of the Flinn-Brown Network, but also for her example in every place she has worked. Cynthia Seelhammer is a Flinn-Brown Network Builder.



**Arizona Champion: Northern Arizona | Marie Peoples** has led public health in Coconino County, the nation's second-largest geographically, has been elected to the board for Coconino Community College, and has expanded her leadership as deputy county manager. She brought new visibility, programs, and partnerships to Coconino County Public Health Services District as chief health officer, along with broad system improvements, and introduced a greater use of data to design initiatives. For one of Arizona's newer community-college systems, she has advocated for funding parity, supported outreach to more rural portions of the county,



and been a champion for access, particularly for American Indian learners. As deputy county manager, she is responsible for the county's award-winning Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, a county-wide collaboration between county, municipal, and state criminal-justice agencies and departments, treatment providers, administrative departments, concerned citizens, and numerous other partner organizations. Marie has spoken numerous times for CivEx and Flinn-Brown, served on the first Fellows Council, and has continued to promote and be active in the Network. Her expertise, her innovations, and her care for people and diversity make Dr. Marie Peoples an Arizona Champion.



**Arizona Champion: Central Arizona | Fernando Shipley** is a leader on the eastern side of central Arizona, is as comfortable talking about health care, rural development, early-childhood education, and youth services as he is speaking about his own State Farm business. For example, he was a champion of the development of the Cobre Valley Youth Club, which started under the umbrella of the Boys & Girls Club of the East Valley. He spearheaded much of the development, which allowed the club to become independent, as had been long planned. The club is also taking on new services to ensure young people have what they need to prepare for success in college and the

workforce. He has chaired the First Things First Gila Regional Council and has been a leader in the National Association of Latino Elected Officials. A former mayor of Globe who recently returned to elected life as a city-council member, Fernando sees downtown revitalization as a critical need for a city with a mining heritage that needs more and different opportunities, recognizing that Arizona's smaller places can feel overshadowed by the urban giants. This Fellow has the persistence, knowledge, and resilience to help lead transformation for Globe as he did for the youth club, and in so doing provide examples for other historic places. Fernando Shipley, an inaugural cohort Fellow, is an Arizona Champion.



**Arizona Champion: Southern Arizona | Demion Clinco** could be described as one of southern Arizona's foremost quality-of-life advocates for his dedication to historic preservation, education and community colleges, and the many amenities and characteristics that create the sense of place and identity that mark great communities. A man of many titles and activities, he is CEO of Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation, a former member of the Arizona House of Representatives, and now chair of the elected Pima Community College Board of Governors, where he has helped guide the board through periods of reinvention and growth in

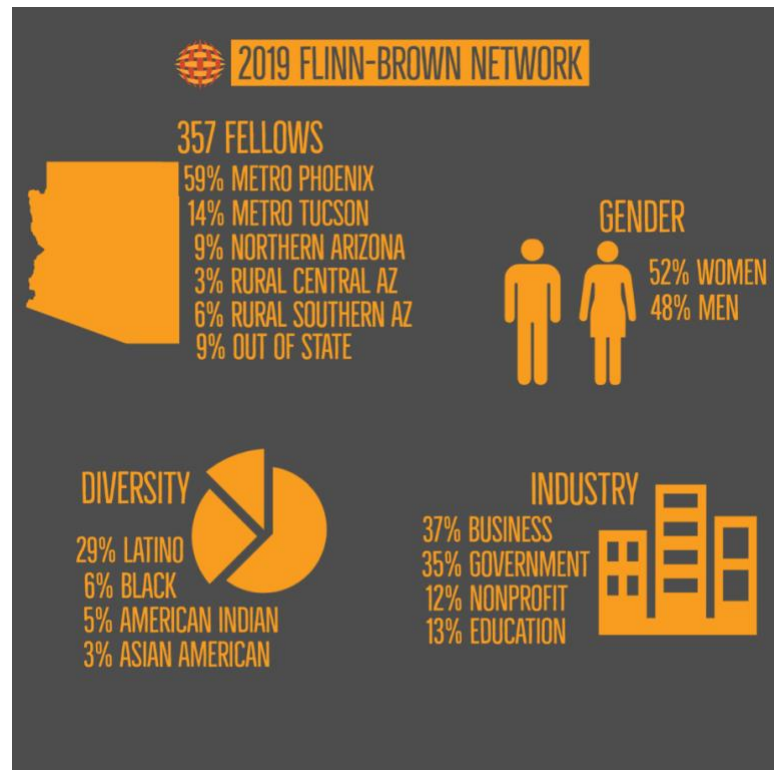
recent years. As a consultant and volunteer, Demion has worked tirelessly on preservation projects throughout southern Arizona, including Fort Huachuca landmarks. He is the driving force behind Tucson Modernism Week and a long-time Arizona state advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. His expertise in the rebirth of buildings and communities,

expansion of economic opportunity, and development of appreciation for architectural heritage and quality have made Demion Clinco an Arizona Champion.

## The Flinn-Brown Fellows Network

Flinn-Brown Fellows continue to achieve significant state and community leadership positions. Over 68% of Fellows have been involved in one or more service activities, including: running for office or elected to office at any level, working at state agencies and universities, serving on state boards and commissions, and leading issue organizations impacting Arizona policy.

More than half of Fellows *have served* in state government or in positions where they have substantially impacted state policy since their selection for Flinn-Brown. Many Fellows have also played important roles in campaigns and fostered the Network in numerous ways. At the close of 2019, the Flinn-Brown Network consisted of 357 Fellows with the following self-reported demographic indicators:



**Elected Office** | Since the inception of the Flinn-Brown Network, approximately 64<sup>1</sup> Fellows have run for state, legislative, local or federal offices. Currently, eight Fellows are running for the Arizona Legislature. Others are pursuing city, county, and community college district elected positions.

**State-Level Leaders** | Since the inception of the Flinn-Brown Network, 78 Fellows have served as a state agency or legislative executive, manager, or policy advisor. Over half (65%) of these have been promoted. Another 41 Fellows have served at one of Arizona's public universities.

**Boards and Commissions** | Since the inception of the Flinn-Brown Network, 66 Fellows have served on a state-level board or commission, 32 on a municipal or nonprofit board or commission.

<sup>1</sup> Some Fellows have run for office multiple times, totaling nearly 100 local, legislative, or state campaigns.

Southern-region Fellows have served, or are serving, on the state's Medical Board, Lottery Commission, Veteran Services Advisory Commission, Governor's Regulatory Review Council, First Things First regional councils, and Pima County Judicial Appointment Commission, among other entities.

## 2019 Fellows Council



*Featured above (from left to right): Becky Daggett, Blaise Caudil, Candice Park, Elvy Barton, Larry Sandigo, Mark Sanders, Markay Adams, Pearlette Ramos, and Cynthia Aragon.*

Members of the 2019 Fellows Council were instrumental in assisting in the planning of the 2019 Annual Convention. The volunteer council was instituted in 2017 for Fellows to help with plan and execute the Flinn-Brown annual convention. Fellows typically serve two years on the Fellows Council and help with marketing, programming, outreach, and day-of implementation.

# New Public Directory

In 2019, the new Flinn-Brown public-facing directory was launched. The directory is searchable by name, region, and the Fellows' expertise. Fellows also have access to Fellows-only content and information through a secure log-in portal. A link to the directory can be found [here](#).

# Skill Set Series

In 2019, the new Skill Set series provided four learning opportunities outside the seminar series for Fellows and covered such a variety of topics, including: Extreme Connections and Communication; Coalition Building; Boosting Your Linked-In Presence; and Understanding Public Finance.

- In January, communications experts Jeanine L'Ecuyer and Fellow Catherine Alonzo coached twenty Fellows on advanced communications and making connections with others. This was a follow-up to previous branding and communications sessions. 20 Fellows in attendance. [Agenda](#)
- Amy Cramer and Kristi Tate each facilitated a workshop on coalition building for action. Amy Cramer brought energy as she shared her Voices On The Economy (VOTE) presentation. Kristi Tate provided real-world opportunities for collaboration and coalition building regarding the Center for the Future of Arizona's Progress Meters. 53 Fellows in attendance. [Agenda](#)
- National branding and LinkedIn expert Ann Pryor provided an afternoon of learning for Fellows on how to effectively utilize LinkedIn for creating a brand and building a profile as an expert in a field. Fellows were given personalized feedback on the ways to best elevate their profiles from a digital standpoint. 10 Fellows attended this workshop.
- In September, Fellows were invited to learn from public-finance experts Randi Stein and Erika Coombs from Stifel. This workshop provided a deep dive into the world of public finance, highlighting the tools and mechanism that are used to finance public projects. This workshop highlighted the large number of bonds and overrides on the November 2019 ballot what that meant. This workshop provided an opportunity for Fellows to learn about an important and complicated area of public policy. 20 Fellows in attendance. [Presentation](#) | [Bios](#)

The Coalition Building workshop served as a valuable experiment in bringing together the 2019 Fellows and other members of the Fellows Network. This workshop was included as part of the 2019 Flinn-Brown seminar series (replacing the master class that was offered during previous

cohorts). Beyond this workshop, Fellows had—and continue to have—a standing invitation to sit in on other Flinn-Brown seminar sessions to learn alongside the newest cohort of Fellows.

## Legislative Preview

Stan Barnes and Chad Campbell, the consultants who provided politics and policy insights throughout the 2019 seminar series, returned for the annual legislative-preview event in December 2019. This annual event provides an opportunity for Fellows to ask questions of those who are involved with work at the legislature and give an overview of the legislative environment prior to the start of the January legislative session. This continues to be a popular event with Fellows and was streamed to Fellows who could not attend in person. Fellow Cynthia Aragon moderated the discussion with Stan and Chad.

## Survey Feedback



“Becoming a Flinn-Brown Fellow has helped me to become a more effective leader for my community and region. The knowledge I have gained has helped me to navigate many critical issues affecting my community around topics such as water, tax policy, and socioeconomic issues.”

**Mila Besich**

Mayor, Town of Superior  
2019 Fellow

In December, Flinn Foundation staff conducted its annual survey of Fellows and received 65 responses. Results included:

- Over 80% of the respondents indicated they had utilized the Network to solve a professional project or solve a professional challenge in the last year.
- 60% of the respondents indicated they had assisted another Fellow in order to solve a professional problem in the last year.
- Over 80% of the respondents attended a Flinn-Brown event in the last year. Distance was listed as the main barrier to participation.



# Communications

- Profiles - In 2019, three Fellows were featured in profiles on the Flinn Foundation website: [Sarah Coles](#), [Diana Gomez](#), and [Chad Marchand](#).
- *Network News*, the monthly newsletter for Fellows, remains a popular Flinn-Brown component, with an open rate ranging from 57%-72% in 2019, far higher than comparable publications. It highlights opportunities, achievements, and events for the Network.

## Flinn-Brown Fellows Highlights

- **Markay Adams** received the Cultural Heritage Award at the 20th Annual Summer Institute Gala at Arizona State University.
- **Cynthia Aragon** has been named to the Unidos US Board of Directors.
- **Cynthia Aragon** received the Best Capitol Staffer Award from the Arizona Capitol Times for the 2019 Best of the Capitol awards.
- **Karen Francis-Begay and** her Tribal Relations team at the University of Arizona were honored by the Tucson Indian Center as the Community Organization of the Year.
- **Ben Blink** is now the Governor's policy advisor for transportation and technology innovation.
- **Tony Boone** was appointed to the Rural Business Development Advisory Board.
- **Paul Brierley** is now the vice chair for southern Arizona for the Arizona District Export Council, the vice chair of Arizona Town Hall, and the Yuma County Farm Bureau delegate to the Arizona Farm Bureau.
- **Zach Brooks** was recently in the United Kingdom as a Trustee for the World Transplant Games with 2,000 athletes from 60 countries.
- **Patrick Camuñez** is now in charge of labor relations for First Transit.
- **Tony Cani** is now vice president at Resolute Consulting LLC.

- **Elizabeth Carpio** is now director of strategic planning for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona.
- **Ron Carpio** is now chief of trauma integrated services at PSA Health Agency Art Awakenings.
- **Demion Clinco** became the president of the Pima Community College Governing Board.
- **Becky Daggett** announced her candidacy for Flagstaff City Council in 2020.
- **Anne DeGraw** became communications director for Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego.
- **Kimberly Demarchi** (Phoenix) is now senior associate general counsel in the Office of General Counsel at Arizona State University.
- **Randi Dorman** ran for Tucson city mayor in 2019.
- **Sarah Douthit** has been appointed to chair the Committee on Probation, which is a standing committee of the Committee on Superior Court under the Arizona Judicial Council under the direction of the Chief Justice.
- **Coral Evans** announced her candidacy for the House of Representatives in Legislative District 6.
- **Lenay Dunn** is now deputy director of the Regional Education Laboratory West (REL West) at WestEd.
- **Tim Elinski** has launched his new business in Globe, Pin Drop Travel Trailers, where he designs and manufactures vintage-inspired teardrop travel trailers.
- **Angelica Garcia** (Phoenix) is now deputy business administrator for the Division of Employment & Rehabilitation Services at the Arizona Department of Economic Security. She is also pursuing a Master of Arts in public policy and administration at Northwestern University.
- **Brian Garcia** has been sworn in to practice in Gila River Indian Community Tribal Court.
- **John Glenn** is now senior project architect at Bonstra Haresign Architects in Washington, D.C.
- **Trista Guzman Glover** was appointed as Director of Boards and Commissions for the Office of the Governor.

- **Trista Guzman Glover and Sue Sisley** (Phoenix) are honorees in the Arizona Capitol Times inaugural Women Achievers of Arizona.
- **Peter Griffin** is president and CEO of Musicians on Call and he was recently named Most Admired Nonprofit CEO for 2019 by the Nashville Business Journal. He was honored by TIAA as a Top 100 Difference Maker for 2018. He also serves as a corporal with the Nashville Office of Emergency Management.
- **Nora Hannah** is now director of The Arizona Together Impact Fund.
- **Luis Heredia** is now the executive director of the Arizona Education Association.
- **Mike Holmes** is now the center manager for Biolife Plasma Services.
- **Matthew Isiogu** is now assistant director of health care management finance, rate development and data at AHCCCS.
- **Julie Katsel** has been appointed to the Arizona State Lottery Commission.
- **Elaine Kessler** was named Businesswoman of the Year by the Gilbert Chamber of Commerce.
- **Nikki Lee** was sworn in for the Tucson City Council in 2019.
- **Amy Love** was honored by Arizona Legal Women and Youth Service for her work on the Supreme Court Juvenile Adjudication Set Aside work group.
- **Amy Love** received the Best Government Lobbyist Award from the Arizona Capitol Times for the 2019 Best of the Capitol awards.
- **Chad Marchand** is pursuing a Doctor of Professional Studies in Homeland Security at St. John's University.
- **Jacob Jones-Martinez** is now the chief of staff for Luis Avila of Iconico Campaigns.
- **Chris Stoller Michelena** is now a senior advisor at the International Republican Institute.
- **Fletcher Montzingo** was appointed by Arizona Senate President Karen Fann as senior fiscal policy advisor at the Arizona Senate.
- **Kate Morley** was recognized by Mass Transit's 40 Under 40 for 2019.

- **Julie Morrison** received honorable mention recognition in the 2019 Arizona Author's Association literary contest for her poem "Western Girl."
- **Debbie Nez Manuel** (Phoenix) and **Alfred Urbina** (Tucson) have been appointed to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Study Committee.
- **Joanne Osborne** was the lead legislative coordinator for the Arizona Manufacturers Council's inaugural Made in Arizona Tour.
- **Nicole Pasteur** joined Congressman Greg Stanton's team in Washington, D.C. as communications director and policy advisor.
- **Ricardo Pereyda** is now a member of the Flowers and Bullets Collective.
- **Lea Marquez Peterson** was appointed to the Arizona Corporation Commission by Governor Ducey and announced her candidacy for the Arizona Corporation Commission is now president of Marquez Peterson Group, LLC.
- **Christian Price** is president of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, which received the award for Best Industry, Trade & Professional Association from the Arizona Capitol Times for the 2019 Best of the Capitol awards.
- Former Flinn Foundation program manager **Emily Rajakovich** was appointed as director of human resources for the State of Arizona.
- **Beatriz Rendón** (Phoenix) is now vice president, strategic initiatives for educational outreach & student services at Arizona State University.
- **Janet Regner** was honored for her life of service in the *Verde Independent's* 2019 Women Leaders & Entrepreneurs of Sedona - Verde Valley.
- **Samuel Richard** is now principal at Arizona Governmental Affairs and his former firm, Creosote Partners, received the Best Lobbying Firm Award from the Arizona Capitol Times for the 2019 Best of the Capitol awards.
- **Daniel Ruiz** was appointed by Governor Ducey as the state's chief operating officer.
- **Larry Sandigo** joined Congressman Greg Stanton's office as the director of outreach and policy advisor.
- **Kyle Sawyer** became the chief legislative liaison and policy advisor for AHCCCS.
- **Cynthia Seelhammer** is now interim town manager for the town of Tusayan.

- **Jami Snyder** was appointed director of AHCCCS.
- **Ruth Soberanes** was appointed to the Arizona Commission on the Arts.
- **Benjamin Taylor** (Phoenix) is a member of the transition team for newly appointed Maricopa County Attorney Allister Adel.
- **Benjamin Taylor** was appointed by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to the citizens committee vetting applications for Maricopa County Attorney.
- **Charlene Tarver** has been named to the Georgetown University African American Advisory Board.
- **Jenny Holsman Tetreault** is now chair of the board of directors for the Valley of the Sun United Way.
- **Christine Thompson** received the University of Arizona Alumni Association Advocacy Award for her extraordinary efforts in promoting education.
- **Alec Thomson** is now executive director for #AZ Complete Count Committee to work on the 2020 Census.
- **Drew Trojanowski** (Phoenix) is now assistant vice president for strategic initiatives at ASU Knowledge Enterprise.
- **Alfred Urbina** is now an associate judge in the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Court.
- **Mary Venezia** (Tucson) is now chief of staff, enrollment management at the University of Arizona. She was also selected by the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as a 40 Under 40 honoree for 2019.
- **Cheyenne Walsh** has founded Cheyenne Walsh PLC, a government-relations and public-policy consulting firm.
- **John Winchester** is the executive director of the Northwest YMCA Pima County Community Center.
- **Carl Zaragoza** is now vice president of elected leadership at Leadership for Educational Equity.



## In Memoriam



**Kevin Velasquez**

Fall 2014 Fellow

## Prepared by

**Dawn Wallace, Sara Larsen, Linda Kissel**

Arizona Center for Civic Leadership

Flinn Foundation