



Date: January 2022

Dear Next OnBoard members,

It has been a fulfilling two years of service with Next OnBoard. I have grown so much as a professional and a leader and I am grateful to OnBoard and each of you for the opportunity. The last few years have been unique as we have been challenged with navigating COVID while also being thoughtful about programming format. Without a committed and attentive leadership team, none of this would have been possible. I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to each of you for your commitment and dedication to Next OnBoard. I've made great connections and lifelong friendships and, for that, I am thankful.

I am looking forward to the 2022 program year as we continue to collectively progress our mission, support each other, and grow our networks. I hope to meet and interact with each of you at future Next OnBoard and OnBoard events. I also encourage each of you to take advantage of the mentorship program and utilize the opportunity to learn and gain perspective from the women of OnBoard who have graciously volunteered their time.

With Gratitude,

Nela Powell

2020-2021 Governance Chair

Interested in getting more involved with Next OnBoard in 2022?

1. Nominate yourself or a friend to be a Next OnBoard leader with any of our chair-elect positions. The chair-elect role is a two-year commitment in which you hold the chair position for a year and learn about the role and Next OnBoard organization, while year two allows you to assume the chair position and assume leadership responsibilities.

2. Volunteer with one or all of our Leadership Committees: Governance, Marketing, Events, and Membership and also have the opportunity to serve on an OnBoard committee. You can also refer your friends and colleagues to Next OnBoard to help us grow our network of talented professionals!

If you are interested in either becoming or nominating someone for a chair-elect for 2022-2023 or volunteering with any of our leadership committees, please take a few minutes to fill out our 2022 leadership survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NK7XQZB>

OnBoard Marketing Volunteer Opportunity

Do you have branding experience? Are you interested in getting more involved with OnBoard? If so, you may be a great candidate to help OnBoard promote their 30th anniversary! If you are interested in volunteering with OnBoard, please email Karstin Bodell at karstinbodell@gmail.com.

Membership Interest Survey – We’d Love to Hear from You!

Thank you to all of our amazing Next OnBoard members for another great year! Although most of this year has been virtual, we’ve enjoyed staying connected with you all through our virtual events and membership programs. Your input is requested to help us better understand what you enjoy most about Next OnBoard in addition to how we can make your experience even more valuable. Please click on the link below to complete our membership survey to help us make 2022 the best year yet:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCQ8HQK>

Congratulations to our 2021 Member of the Year Recipient

Next OnBoard has had a long-standing tradition of recognizing an outstanding member of the year. This award recognizes an honorable member of Next OnBoard who exemplifies what it means to be a “Nexter.” Recipients are early to mid-career professionals who serve as outstanding role models for advancing OnBoard’s mission. Congratulations to our 2021 recipients Katie Hoppenjans, *UPS*, Maddie Thykeson, *Gratus Capital*, and Nela Powell, *Formation Capital, LLC*.

2021 Events

We’ve had a great year filled with incredible speakers providing us with everything from professional advice to wellness tactics. We hope you enjoyed these events as well, and we can’t wait to see you at future Next OnBoard events!

Goal Setting for Growth: 2021 Kickoff Event – March 2021

The 2021 kickoff event was hosted by certified coach Hope-Elizabeth Sonam. Hope-Elizabeth led us through an interactive goal setting exercise designed to set meaningful goals based on core values. Participants also had the opportunity to network with other Next members in breakout sessions during this event.



Roadmap to Board Service for Early Career Professionals – April 2021

Our April panel event, sponsored by Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business, featured some incredible women: Grace Donnelly from the Atlanta Business Chronicle, Sirita Donaldson of NCR Corporation, Connie Engel of Childress Klein, and OnBoard President, Lisa Robinson. Throughout the event, panelists provided us with action items we can start doing today as we begin our journey to board service.



Recharge: Slow Down to Speed Up – July 2021

Our Recharge event was hosted by leadership expert and facilitator, Kafi London of Smart Women on Fire. Kafi walked us through simple mindfulness and gentle movement tools to slow your mind and move your body right from your desk.



Intentional Leadership and Executive Presence – August 2021

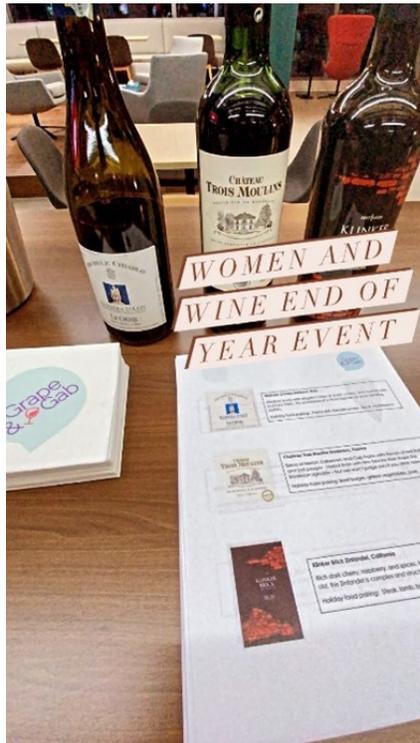
This interactive virtual event was hosted by Sue Reynolds-Frost and sponsored by Sloan Group International. During this event, Sue discussed perception, how we desire to be perceived, and what impacts perception.



SLOAN GROUP INTERNATIONAL
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Women + Wine: Tasting and Networking – December 2021

Our last event of the year was an in-person wine tasting and networking event held at JLL. During the event, Grape & Gab provided us with six fabulous wines from woman-owned vineyards. This was our first in-person event of the year, and we loved getting to see everyone face-to-face!



OnBoard's Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans Award Dinner

OnBoard hosted its Annual Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans Award Dinner on November 18th at The Gathering Spot. The LPWE dinner serves as the release of OnBoard's annual study results and also honors the recipient of the Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans Award. This year's program included keynote speaker Susan Booth who gave a powerful address and reminded us that the "imagined improbable can become the realized impossible." The program ended with the announcement of the 2021 LPWE award recipient, Duriya Farooqui. Duriya is the Board Director of Intercontinental Hotel Group, Tribe Capital Growth Corp I, and Intercontinental Exchange.



Next OnBoard's 2021 Group Mentor Program

As one of our most significant benefits of Next OnBoard membership, this year's mentorship program is our most successful yet! We have 9 impressive mentors and 39 mentees for this year's program! We cannot thank our mentors enough for the time they're dedicating to young professionals in our organization.

1. Leslie Curl, Partner with Bell Oaks Executive Search
 2. Renee Ducre, Senior Director, Warner Media/Turner Sports
 3. Mary Ford, CMO/CCO at Centegix
 4. Susan B Hitchcock, TLG Advisory Board and Founder-Emeritus of WIL
 5. Dori Miller, Principal at Collective Insights Consulting
 6. Stefanie Paulos, Prior Assistant Vice President at the Coca-Cola Company
 7. Rachel Perry, CPCU, Resident Managing Director at AON
 8. Lily Prost, Executive Vice President and CHRO at J.M. Huber Corporate
 9. Wanda Silva, Founder and President of Silva Capital Solutions, Inc.
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A very special thank you to the 2021 Next OnBoard Leadership Team

Nela Powell, *Formation Capital, LLC*, NOB Governance Chair

Kayla Draffin, *Equifax*, NOB Governance Chair -Elec

Katie Hoppenjans, *UPS*, NOB Membership Chair

Dorrie Paradies, *UPS*, Membership Chair-Elect

Maddie Thykeson, *Gratus Capital*, NOB Marketing Chair

Kristen Stigler, *JLL*, NOB Events Chair

Hope Sonam, *The Social Project*, NOB Events Chair

Alexis Isom, *Aon*, NOB Events Chair Elect

Be sure to check out [Next OnBoard's event page](#) for more information as we plan our events for 2022!



Next OnBoard is an affinity group of OnBoard which provides early-career professionals the opportunity to connect with senior executives interested in OnBoard's mission, learn about board governance and the path to senior leadership, and expand their professional networks

