

Get on Board
February 5, 2022
Ochsner Baptist

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Bivian "Sonny" Lee III
Founder & CEO, Son of a Saint
Topic: Non-Profit Growth and Sustainability
9:00AM-10:00AM

As Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Son of a Saint, Bivian "Sonny" Lee III has dedicated his life to enhancing the lives of fatherless boys. Prior to founding the organization, Sonny served as chief aide to Tom Benson, owner of the New Orleans Saints and the New Orleans Pelicans. He also previously served as the Director of Operations for the New Orleans Zephyrs AAA Baseball Team and Director of the New Orleans Jazz Institute.

Sonny graduated with honors from St. Augustine High School and later earned a degree in Marketing and Management from the University of New Orleans. He is currently pursuing his Executive Master of Nonprofit Administration (EMNA) at the University of Notre Dame. A TEDx

speaker on community service, decision-making and the importance of education, Sonny's nonprofit work has been highlighted on CNN, Al Jazeera America, NPR along with local television stations and newspapers.

His work on behalf of his community and the Son of a Saint organization has garnered him numerous awards, including:

- 2020 Urban Heroes Award, The Urban Conservancy
- 2019 "A-List" Honoree, Adore Magazine
- 2018 Homer Hitt Alumnus of the Year, University of New Orleans
- 2017 Southerners of the Year, Southern Living
- 2017 Role Model Award, Young Leadership Council (YLC)
- 2017 Children's Hero Award, Children's Bureau of New Orleans
- 2016 New Orleanian of the Year, Gambit Weekly
- 2015 Angel Award, Blue Cross Foundation
- 2015 Ten Outstanding Young Americans, United States Junior Chamber
- 2014 People to Watch, New Orleans Magazine
- 2013 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award
- 2013 Champion of Change Award, Crescent City Chapter of Links, Inc.
- 2013 Millennial Change Maker Award, Spears Consulting
- 2011 40 Under 40, Gambit Weekly



Elaine Garvey

Elaine Garvey Coaching and Consulting, LLC

Topic: Board Effectiveness - Best Tips & Common Pitfalls

10:15AM-11:15AM

Having spent over 25+ years in the world of public accounting and building on a career of working with and developing people, Elaine is working on starting her own business focused on coaching individuals and leadership teams.

During her time as a Director with a regional CPA firm and as a managing director with a global professional services company, she has worked with many clients and most recently had a focus on serving not for profit organizations. These ranged from higher education institutions, arts

and culture organizations, to others such as community focused foundations. Her work with boards and executives in these organizations provided unique insight into board governance and operational practices. Elaine has also served on a number of boards, both as a general board member and in officer roles.

Elaine has frequently presented on the topic of board governance and was the co-author of *Board Effectiveness: What Works Best, 2nd Edition*, a joint publication of PwC and The Institute of Internal Auditors.

She has been recognized twice as one of City Business' Women of the Year.

Elaine lives in New Orleans with her daughter, Evie and their animal family.



Melissa Sawyer

Founder & CEO, Youth Empowerment Project (YEP)

Topic: Board Leadership & Non-Profit Collaboration/Partnerships

11:30AM-12:30PM

Melissa is a Founder and CEO of Youth Empowerment Project (YEP). Melissa received her B.A. from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec and her M. Ed from the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE). Melissa first came to New Orleans through Teach for America (TFA) and she returned to the city after receiving her Master's Degree in order to help reform the state's juvenile justice system.

In 2004, Melissa and two other juvenile justice advocates founded YEP as the first program of its kind in Louisiana to support formerly incarcerated youth transition back into their families and communities. Over the past 17 years, YEP has expanded to provide mentoring, high school equivalency preparation, employment readiness, and out-of-school time programming to young people across the Greater New Orleans region.

Among the significant recognition she has received for her leadership at YEP, Melissa was recognized by the Times-Picayune as one of the 300 people "who have made New Orleans, New Orleans" (2018) and Gambit Weekly selected her as New Orleanian of the Year (2016).

Panel Discussion

Topic: Board Best Practices - Recruitment, Fundraising, and Engagement
1:00PM-2:30PM

Moderator



Essence Banks
Junior League of New Orleans, Speaker Chair,
Women's Leadership Summit 2022

Panelists



Karen Blessey, MD, MS, FACP
Senior Physician, Medical Director of Physician Recruiting, Ochsner Health

Dr. Karen Blessey, a New Orleans native, graduated from medical school at LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport and completed her internal medicine residency training at LSU Health

Sciences Center in New Orleans. In addition to her medical training, she holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond and a Master's in Physical Chemistry from the University of Colorado. Dr. Blessey practices internal medicine in uptown New Orleans at the Ochsner Baptist primary care clinic. With over 15 years of experience, Dr. Blessey assists patients with preventative care and chronic disease management. She has served on the Board of Directors of Ochsner Health since 2018.



Alice Glenn

**Association of Junior Leagues International Board Member
Past President of the Board of Directors of Junior League of New Orleans
CEO, Glenn & Associates, LLC**

Alice Franz Glenn believes that advocacy and philanthropy are the two most impactful means to effect change. As such, she is the Founder and CEO of Glenn & Associates, LLC, a consulting firm specializing in strategy, development, and community affairs that helps organizations leverage advocacy and philanthropy to maximize impact. Throughout her twodecade career Alice has worked on political campaigns and with organizations such as the United Way, Loyola University of New Orleans, and the Louisiana Restaurant Association.

Through her education, career and volunteer efforts, Alice has developed expertise at the intersection of the political, philanthropic, and business communities. She earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, and master's degree from Tulane University. She has supported political candidates and government officials, having recently completed a term as Legislative Assistant to Speaker Pro Tempore Walt Leger, the second ranking member of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

Alice's philanthropic and volunteer efforts are focused on gender equity, family support, and education. She is active with a number of non-profit organizations, currently serving as an at-large board member of the Association of Junior Leagues International as chair of the Issues committee and a member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. Locally, Alice serves on the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations(LANO), Citizens for One Greater New Orleans, the United Way of Southeast Louisiana's Campaign

Cabinet; the Executive Committee and chair of the Allocations committee of Women United; the Board of A Shared Initiative, Inc.; an Institutional Advancement Committee member for the Academy of the Sacred Heart; and the Advisory Board for the Humanities and Social Sciences at Tulane's School of Professional Advancement. She is a sustaining member of the Junior League of New Orleans after serving on its board of directors three times, including as Board President in 2018-19. She has chaired and has served on numerous event committees.

Leveraging her breadth of experience, Alice regularly speaks on the ways in which government, philanthropy, and business intersect, as well as coalition building, gender equity & leadership, and the history of the nonprofit industry.

A south Louisiana native, you can often find Alice enjoying live music, Louisiana culture and traditions, and good food. Along with her spouse, Brodie, and two children, she is proud to call New Orleans home.



Andrew Koehler
Commercial Supervisor, Intralox
President of YLC

Andrew Koehler is a commercial supervisor at Intralox, a global business-to-business manufacturing company headquartered in Harahan, Louisiana. Working at Intralox for 10 years, Andrew's areas of focus are project management, CRM applications, and data governance. In addition, Andrew operates as the business lead for Intralox's award-winning customer service department.

Outside of Intralox, Andrew proudly serves on the Young Leadership Council's board of directors. Since 2016, Andrew has held a range of leadership roles at YLC: Project Leader, Vice President of Membership, and currently President of the Board of Directors.

With a passion for continuous improvement, Andrew's motivation is to leave a positive mark in his community, city, and region.

A graduate of Brother Martin, LSU, and LSU's MBA program, Andrew lives in New Orleans with his wife, Alexandra, a family Nurse Practitioner, and sons, James and Thomas.