



Inspiration Station

If she can see it, she can be it. The Inspiration Station is a very special part of our event expo that shows girls that they truly have limitless potential, that they can dream big and that if they work hard, they can reach their goals.

To do this, we invite a small group of extraordinary women in a variety of careers to be part of our *GOTR 5K Dream Team*. This team of women will spend time chatting with the girls (and any other attendees who want to visit!) and serve as examples of girls who chased big dreams and succeeded.

The station will be set up as a meet and greet area where girls - and any and all event participants - can walk through and ask questions as desired one-on-one or in small groups.

Participants can also enter to win drawings in this area and participate in other fun activities.

This is a can't miss part of Girls on the Run 5K day!

We are honored to feature a fantastic Dream Team at this event including the following women...



Vanessa Araiza
News Anchor, AZ Family

Vanessa Araiza joined Arizona's Family in September 2023. She serves as the 9 p.m. Anchor and reports and anchors for many other newscasts throughout the week. In her free time, Vanessa enjoys hiking and exploring beautiful Arizona.

Vanessa came to Phoenix from WFTS in Tampa, where she worked as the weekend evening anchor and senior reporter. While in Tampa, Vanessa traveled to Puerto Rico to cover the devastating earthquakes in February of 2020. Vanessa also broke a story involving inadequate and harmful living conditions in lower-income housing that resulted in legal changes within the city's jurisdiction.

Prior to Tampa, Vanessa served as a general assignment and breaking news reporter at WKMG in Orlando. In the year after hurricane Maria in 2017, Vanessa spent a month on the ground in Puerto Rico covering stories of the people there rebuilding their homes and lives.

Vanessa also spent time reporting for the CBS affiliate in Dothan, Alabama, Fox affiliate in Birmingham, Alabama, and for the ABC affiliate in Pensacola, Florida.

In every city Vanessa has worked in, she's also made it a priority to give back to the community she's serving. Throughout the years she's joined local groups and volunteered her time. In Birmingham she joined the Rotaract Club and read to lower income students as part of the Better Basics program. In Tampa, Vanessa joined the Junior League of Tampa and created the inaugural Family Food Fest that offered health screenings, free food, and literature for children.

Her care for the community she lives and works in carries over into her storytelling. Vanessa strives to tell stories that will make a difference and shed light on important topics that may not always get the spotlight they should. She's grateful to call Phoenix home and is looking forward to learning more about everything Arizona has to offer.



Denella Belin
Chef, Nella's Innovative Kreations

Denella Belin, a proud member of the Diné Nation and citizen of the Navajo Nation, embodies a unique blend of culinary expertise, entrepreneurship, and advocacy for Indigenous foods. With over 15 years of experience in the culinary industry, Denella has dedicated her career to representing the Navajo Nation and breaking barriers within her community's food system.

Her journey in the culinary world began with a solid foundation in both French Classical Cuisine and Native American culinary traditions. After earning her Associate of Arts in General Studies from Dine College and an Associate of Arts in Business Administration and Management from Coconino County Community College, Denella further honed her culinary skills at the Scottsdale Culinary Institute and is also an alumna of Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts in Scottsdale.

With a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix, Denella combines her culinary expertise with entrepreneurial knowledge. As the founder of Nella's Innovative Kreations, she showcases her creativity by exploring the fusion of French culinary techniques with Native American flavors. Nella's Innovative Kreations offers catering services, cooking classes, and food demos while highlighting the cultural foods that surround Arizona.

Denella's commitment to culinary excellence and cultural preservation extends beyond her culinary ventures. As a culinary educator, she inspires the next generation of Native American chefs, emphasizing the importance of incorporating traditional ingredients into modern cuisine. Her goal as a chef is to share cultural foods from various tribes and create healthy, simple recipes.

Through Nella's Innovative Kreations, Denella Belin continues to make significant contributions to the culinary world while honoring her Indigenous heritage and advocating for a more inclusive and sustainable food system within her community.



Natalie Crandall

Professional Dancer, Choreographer & Educator

Natalie Crandall began her competitive ballroom journey at the age of 6, and throughout her career she obtained multiple National titles as a pro/am competitor and 3 National Professional Titles in the American Rhythm & Smooth Divisions. Natalie has also participated on *So You Think You Can Dance* and performed an honor dance on PBS's *America's Ballroom Challenge*.

Natalie is now a full-time choreographer, educator and coach and is currently a faculty member on The Ballroom Project Convention founded by Lacey Schwimmer. She is also a Founding Guide for Kinrgy, a dance, fitness & wellness company founded by Emmy Award winning dancer and *Dancing with the Stars* host, Julianne Hough.

Natalie holds certificates in yoga, meditation and cycling and is an advocate for fostering community and promoting wellness through movement, in both the dance industry and beyond.

Natalie's infectious joy for dance and movement has brought her to global stages for brands such as Tony Robbins, Facebook, Lululemon and Alo. You will leave any movement experience with Natalie feeling rejuvenated and fulfilled.



Mary Dansie

Primate Collections Manager, Phoenix Zoo

Mary (Yoder) Dansie is a Zoo professional with over twenty years in the animal care field. She graduated college with a degree in Biology and later completed a Master's of Zoology at Miami University. She started her career with a three-month internship in Australia before moving back to the States and getting a job at the Akron Zoo. At Akron she worked with a variety of animals and taxa, but found she had a niche for primates. She took a job at the Cleveland Zoo where she specialized in primate care before moving to Arizona to become the Collection Manager of Primates at the Phoenix Zoo.

In her current role she manages a team of seven keepers and still gets to work hands on with the animals. She has traveled to Borneo studying orangutans, Brazil working with endangered golden lion tamarins, and Kenya helping colobus monkeys. She has a passion for being outdoors, running, and animals.



Noel Guevara

Manager, Community Partnerships & Programs,
Arizona Diamondbacks

Noel Guevara is in her twelfth year with the Arizona Diamondbacks as Manager of Community Partnerships & Programs. She is responsible for managing events and community programming with a focused strategy that serves underserved youth, military and first responders, education programs and youth baseball and softball organizations.

Guevara is responsible for creating and implementing community partner programs, outreach programs, and events that benefit our community and business partners. She has successfully managed projects such as the Be Kind People Project, a program that promotes kindness and empathy among youth, Girls Play Ball, a campaign to encourage girls' participation in sports, Winter Classic, a community event during the winter season, Native American Recognition Day, a day to honor and celebrate Native American culture, Hits for Heroes, a program to raise awareness and funds for military and first responders, Play Ball Fund, a fund to support youth baseball and softball organizations, and more. These initiatives have had a significant positive impact on our community. Guevara's leadership in co-leading the D-backs LGBTQ+ Team Player Resource Group is a testament to her commitment to inclusivity and diversity.

Born in Orange, California and raised in Anaheim, Guevara attended Northern Arizona University on a Division 1 soccer scholarship. She pursued her passion for communication and community engagement, earning a bachelor's degree in journalism with a minor in Public Relations. Outside of her professional life, Guevara shares her home with her wife, Vanessa, and their beloved pets, a corgi named Henry and an orange tabby named Oliver.



Landen LeBlond
Student Athlete

My name is Landen LeBlond, I am 17 years old and am a senior at Millennium High School, where I run track and cross country! I have been running since I was 8 years old, and it has been something I've enjoyed ever since! Outside of running, some of my favorite things include: pizza, hiking, dogs (I have 5!!), iced coffee, Taylor Swift, making new friends, and being with my family. Next year I will attend the University of Oregon, where I will study Human Physiology and run Cross Country/Track. When I get older, I want to become either a Pediatric Doctor or an Athletic Trainer. I want to continue running for as long as I can, but also help people become healthier and stronger!

Learn more about Landen, who is Gatorade Player of the Year for girls cross country and headed to the University of Oregon on scholarship to run Cross Country and Track and Field, [here!](#)

[And here!](#)



Reda Riddle-Bigler
Deputy Chief, Phoenix Fire

My name is Reda Riddle-Bigler, and I am a native of Phoenix, Arizona. I have worked for the Phoenix Fire Department for 23 years. I currently hold the rank of Deputy Chief and am one of the HR Deputies. I have worked in all capacities in the Phoenix Fire Department starting as a firefighter for 7 years. I was then promoted to Engineer where I drove and operated Ladders and Engines. With 12 years on the job, I was promoted to Captain and also became a paramedic. One of the opportunities as a Captain I had was to serve as the Public Information Officer (PIO) for the PFD. This was the most eye-opening experience in my career.

With 17 years in the fire department, I was promoted to Battalion Chief where I worked in operations at various battalions. In my most current rank of Deputy Chief I started as a Shift Commander, went on to be the Central District Commander, and then became one of two Deputies in Human Resources – where I am today.

I am a career woman but that doesn't come before my beautiful family of five. My husband of 19 years retired from the Air Force after 20 years and now works as a pilot for Southwest Airlines. We have 3 children; our oldest Alyssa is 17 and will be graduating high school and attending the United States Air Force Academy and will be a member of their women's gymnastics team. Our twin boys, Brody and Chase are 15-years-old. They keep us busy doing the things we love: sports, travel, and being outdoors.



ASU Center for Gender Equity
in Science and Technology
Arizona State University

Dr. Kimberly A. Scott

Professor, ASU

Executive Director, ASU's Center for Gender Equity in
Science and Technology

Dr. Kimberly A. Scott is a Professor in Women and Gender Studies in the School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University (ASU) and the Founding Executive Director of ASU's Center for Gender Equity in

Science and Technology (CGEST). The center is a one-of-a-kind research unit focused on exploring, identifying, and creating innovative scholarship about underrepresented women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Prior to becoming an academic, Scott worked as an urban educator with international and national institutions including a center for girls in Chiang Mai Thailand; the Educational Law Center in Newark, New Jersey; and the National Museum of African Art-Smithsonian. Having written and successfully raised millions in grant funding to support research and programs for girls of color and digital media use, Scott was named in 2014 as a [White House Champion of Change for STEM Access](#). The same year, the publication *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* identified Kimberly as one of the top 30 women in higher education.

Most recently, Scott has worked with philanthropic organizations towards systems change and trust based philanthropy. In 2023, she was seconded to the Henry Luce Foundation as the Senior Equity Strategist, Presidential Scholar in Residence. In 2022, Scott was named the Inaugural ASU Foundation Faculty Fellow focused on increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion opportunities in philanthropy, and expanding faculty involvement in philanthropy. She is the 2022 Recipient of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Distinguished Contributions to Gender Equity in Education Research Award. In 2018, she was invited to join the National Science Foundation (NSF) STEM Education Advisory Panel created to encourage U.S. scientific and technological innovations in education in consultation with the U.S. Department of Education, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Scott is the author of four books, including her latest, *COMPUGIRLS: How Girls of Color Find and Define Themselves in the Digital Age* (2021). She earned her B.A. from Smith College in Art History and French Literature, an M.S. from Long Island University in Curriculum and Instruction/Elementary Education and her Ed.D. from Rutgers University in Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education, and completed at Harvard's Business School the High Potentials Leadership Program.