Speaker and Panelist Bios

Dr. Valerie Young
Co-Founder
Imposter Syndrome Institute

Dr. Valerie Young is co-founder of Imposter Syndrome Institute. Widely considered the leading expert on impostor syndrome she has spoken at over 100 colleges and universities. A former manager at a Fortune 200 company herself, she’s also shared her highly relatable and practical advice with U.S. and European organizations.

Valerie’s work has been cited in publications around the world. She’s author of the award-winning book The Secret Thoughts of Successful Women: Why Capable People Suffer from the Impostor Syndrome and How to Thrive in Spite of It with Crown Business, available in six languages.

Valerie earned her doctoral degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst where she studied internal barriers to women’s achievement. Although her research subjects consisted of a racially diverse group of professional women, much of her original findings have proved directly applicable to anyone with impostor feelings.

Amber Conley
Vice President, Supervision and Risk Management
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Amber Conley is a Vice President in the Supervision and Risk Management (SRM) Division at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, located in the Denver Branch. She joined the Reserve Bank in 2002 and spent several years in community bank supervision as a field examiner and central point of contact for a portfolio of State Member Banks. Since 2011, Amber has served in multiple leadership roles within the Examinations and Inspections Department, and currently has responsibility for the Regional Banking and Specialty Area (IT, BSA, Trust) supervision functions and the Department’s Central Operations and Resource Engagement team.

Alison Felix
Senior Economic Research Policy Advisor
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Alison Felix is a Senior Policy Advisor at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. In this role, she is responsible for briefing the Kansas City Fed’s president—a member of the Federal Open Market Committee—on economic and business activity in the Tenth District. In addition, she conducts research on issues related to public finance, labor dynamics and regional growth trends.

Alison recently served as Vice President and Denver Branch Executive where she conducted research and outreach related to the economies of Colorado, Wyoming and northern New Mexico. She used her time in this position to broaden her understanding of the Tenth District regional economies, as well as recruiting and working closely with the Branch’s board of directors.
**Teesha Miller**  
**Vice President and Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion**  
**Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City**

Teesha Miller is vice president and director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion. She also serves as an advisor to the Bank’s Management Committee.

Previously, Teesha served as assistant vice president and community affairs officer (CAO). In this role, she led the Tenth District’s Community Affairs Department with responsibility for developing strategic direction and leading the execution of the Bank’s community and economic development initiatives that address challenging issues affecting underserved communities and small businesses. She also represented the Bank on the System’s CAO Subcommittee and managed the Community Development Advisory Council. She was promoted to her current position in March 2023.

Teesha has over 20 years of experience developing and executing outcomes-based programs for underserved and underrepresented communities. Before joining the Bank in 2021, she served as Executive Director of Youth Ambassadors, Inc., a Kansas City workforce and life skills development nonprofit that prepares underserved youth and young adults for careers and life. In this role, she was responsible for board cultivation, staff development, program management, community engagement, public and private sector partnerships, social justice advocacy, and overall strategic direction.

**Helen Young Hayes**  
**Founder and CEO**  
**ActivateWork**

Helen Young Hayes is the founder and CEO of ActivateWork, whose mission is to help diverse individuals achieve their fullest potential through the dignity of work. By providing access to and training for successful careers, ActivateWork moves individuals to economic flourishing, creating triple wins for employers, placements, and the community. ActivateWork’s employer partners benefit from highly skilled employees who become next-level performers. ActivateWork’s clients experience more than a doubling in average annual income upon placement.

Helen is a 20-year veteran of the financial industry. She was Managing Director of Investments and Portfolio Manager of the flagship Janus Worldwide and Janus Overseas Funds at Janus Henderson Investors, an asset management company headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

In 2018, Helen was selected as a Denver Business Journal’s Outstanding Women in Business and a 2019 Girl Scouts of Colorado Woman of Distinction. Helen was also a 2020 Colorado Technology Association Talent Champion of the Year, a 2020 GlobalMindED Inclusive Leader and a 2021 Colorado Women’s Chamber of Commerce Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Business. In 2022 Helen was a Denver Business Journey Diversity Equity and Inclusion Award Winner and a ColoradoBiz Magazine Top Entrepreneur Finalist. Helen was a 2023 9 News Leader of the Year Finalist.
Loren Furman
President and CEO
Colorado Chamber of Commerce

Loren Furman was named President & CEO of the Colorado Chamber on January 1, 2022. Prior to becoming President, she served as the Chamber’s Senior Vice President of State & Federal Relations since 2008 and led the Chamber’s engagement on all State and Federal governmental issues that affect businesses statewide. In that role she was the primary spokesperson for the organization, and as a member of the leadership team, was actively involved in operational issues including hiring and communications strategies, membership, and strategic approaches for the organization.

Loren moved to Colorado in 2005 from Florida where she worked in Florida politics for many years. In 2005, she served as the Legislative Director for the CO Department of Personnel & Administration and worked with the Governor’s Office and Legislature on state workforce issues. Prior to that time, Loren worked for the lobbying firm of Floridian Partners and lobbied many business and local government legislative and regulatory interests ranging from insurance, public safety, telecommunications, IT, business regulation and tort reform. Prior to that role, she worked as a Policy Analyst in the Majority Office of the Florida House of Representatives and worked closely with legislators to achieve House leadership priorities.

Susana Salamun
Director of Staff Development
Alpine Bank

Susana Salamun is the Director of Staff Development for Alpine Bank, member FDIC. She acts as the strategic and administrative leader of Alpine Bank's ongoing efforts to help its employees reach their highest potential and advancement in the organization.

She was born and raised in Mexico and worked as a computer science professor. She moved to Colorado in 2012 and transitioned her career from engineering to banking, and has worked in electronic banking, compliance, information technology, inclusion and engagement and development for Alpine Bank. She translates banking resources into Spanish and has voiced radio and TV ads in Spanish.

Susana serves on the board of directors for the Aspen Community Foundation, the State of Colorado Minority Business Advisory Council, B:Side, and the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado.

Andrea Enright
The Boot Factor

Andrea Enright is a small-town girl, living in a Colorado world. She’s been an entrepreneur since 2001, specializing in strategic storytelling and meaningful messaging for both corporate and coaching clients. Andrea is now passionate about helping professionals get brave with their personal brand--as well as the rest of their life. Her past includes content marketing, B-movie acting and plenty of hitchhiking in dangerous countries. She is currently working on a memoir and a podcast called Permission to be Human.