



[Complete List of Conference speakers](#)



Charlese Banks

Founder/Owner, Socially Flyy

Charlese Banks is the Founder/owner of Socially Flyy Lifestyles & Events and has been a tastemaker in the SF Bay Area Entertainment Industry for more than a decade. She is also the Media Content Producer/Co-Founder of SBVRSL.com. Through years of experience she has mastered all the moving parts of creating successful live shows and special events. Since 2005, Charlese, has been working behind the scenes, advocating for artists and spearheading projects to nurture this thriving and complex culture. In 2016 she produced the REEL Black Films series (at Parkway Theater) and Welcome 2 the Dawn I and II, a live tribute to Prince featuring various artists (at the New Parish). A Bay Area native and passionate music fan, she is on a mission to make the entertainment industry better, for artists as well as audiences. Through a combination of expert management skills, a powerful network, and a socially flyy personality, Charlese is helping usher in a new wave of creativity and abundance in the Bay.



Victoria Boyington

Founder, California Women's Music Festival/ musician

Inspired by a documentary on Gloria Steinem, **Victoria Boyington** created the California Women's Music Festival in 2014 to cultivate a future for women in business, education, music and the fine arts. California Women's Music is currently the fiscal sponsor for Soundgirls.org. Victoria blogs for soundgirls.org about Women In Music and occasionally Music Education.

Victoria is a singer-songwriter and musician, performing with several bands- one of which specializes in children's music and is targeted at pre-school age children. Victoria is passionate about building up the community through the Fine Arts and making the arts more accessible.

Victoria holds a BA in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz and is currently a secondary Special Education Teacher.



Anje Collins

**Owner/Executive Director,
The Luxe PR Group**

Anje Collins is the Executive Agency Director of her own firm, The Luxe PR Group, The Art of Luxury and the newest division The Luxe Style Lab. With over 30 years' experience in the media relations and event production industry, she manages accounts in music, luxury, fashion, sports, hospitality, consumer and lifestyle practices at her Las Vegas based firm.

With a master's degree in public relations from UC Berkeley, Anje Collins began her career in the public relations department at Arista Records in New York City. Working with artists such as Pink, Outkast, Usher and Linkin Park assisting with tour based public relations and events at the VMA's, Grammy's, Billboard and The American Music Awards.

Later she worked as the urban music director at the world renowned nightclub S.O.B.'s in Manhattan specializing in live entertainment.

Anje spent part of her career in NYC and Miami producing live events, fashion shows, parties and client events. For Trice Magazine in New York City she produced some of the most highly publicized events in the magazine's history.

Anje co-founded the organization Women In PR, a movement that host's events, seminars, workshops and conferences for women in the public relations industry.



Mary Conde

Production Manager, Another Planet Entertainment

Mary Conde's first show was Bill Graham Presents "Day on the Green" in June 1982 with Journey, Toto, Santana and The Tubes. Working in a variety of roles, she spent the next 21 years with BGP. During her career as a Production Manager, she has done thousands of shows, and enjoys the variety and diversity that each day brings.

Mary has produced numerous fundraising events featuring political figures such as Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, President Barack Obama, President Bill Clinton, and His Holiness, the Dalai Lama. Mary's expertise in logistics, operations and production has earned her letters of commendation from the White House and the U.S. Department of State.

Mary manages the 8,500 capacity Bill Graham Civic Auditorium. Since joining Another Planet Entertainment in 2003, Mary has enthusiastically embraced the excitement and rewards of building the company. She currently oversees a production department that produces over 400 shows annually

She is currently working on Outside Lands, Treasure Island Music Festival, Clusterfest, and Life Is Beautiful. She worked previously on these Festivals: Laguna Seca Daze, Mountain Aire, Lollapalooza (did the first one in 1992), Hog Farm, Warped Tour, SFNYE, New Orleans By the Bay, Peter Gabriel's WOMAD, and Festival New Orleans.



A 30-year veteran of the music industry, **Kat Cook** has worked with many Grammy Award winning artists including Tracy Chapman, Taj Mahal, and Lila Downs. Her first job after graduating from San Francisco State University was in the nightclub division of Bill Graham Presents. That start in the live aspect of the music business led to a multi-faceted career which included nightclub booking, tour management, artist management, festival production, and event management. A few of the national tours she has worked on include Lilith Fair and Ozzfest. Kat currently manages multiple Grammy winner, Lila Downs, as well as San Francisco-based singer-songwriter, Lila Blue. She also currently handles the U.S. tour management for Grammy Award winning jazz artist, Gregory Porter.

Kat Cook

Personal Manager /Tour Manager



Kerry Fiero is the producer of *Girl Power!* Women working in the Music Industry Conference. Kerry began her career in the music industry as a personal manager, working initially at the nationally recognized management firm, The Rosebud Agency before starting her own company, Strive Management. She represented both signed and unsigned artists in R&B, Hip Hop and Jazz, including songstress Ledisi and big band Mingus Amungus. She produced The Strive for More Music Showcase which helped launch young talent into the music industry, including Kehlani and Rozzi Crane. Kerry's other roles have included working at an Entertainment Law Firm doing tour support/legal for R&B singer Goapele; being the Artist Liaison at the California Music Awards, Art & Soul Festival, Rockridge Music Fest and SFJAZZ; managing the SF venue Biscuits & Blues, and booking live music for the Oakland venue Maxwell's Lounge. Kerry has been an Adjunct Professor for 10 years at San Francisco State University's Music/ Recording Industry (MRI) Program and will start teaching at SAE's new Music Business Program this May. Kerry is a connector and always striving to find the win-win collaboration.

Kerry Fiero

**Producer, Girl Power!
Conference/ Co-Founder,
Fiero Flair**



Maya Finlay

**Audio Engineer,
Musician, Producer**

Maya Finlay is an audio engineer, producer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist based in San Francisco.

As a live sound engineer, Maya works at SFJAZZ Center, the Stern Grove Festival, the Independent, Elbo Room, the Boom Boom Room and Rock the Bike events like the Bicycle Music Festival. She has mixed monitors for Esperanza Spalding, Sheila E, Roseanne Cash, Ghostface Killah, Snarky Puppy, Lee "Scratch" Perry, and many more.

Her studio skills include music tracking and mixing, as well as performing and producing. Most of her studio work is done at Women's Audio Mission and at her home studio in SF.

Maya has extensive experience in other facets of the music industry, including web content creation and merchandising for heavy metal icons Metallica.

As a musician, she has played guitar, cavaquinho, keys/synth, voice and percussion with several Brazilian bands including SambAsia, BrazilVox, TropiCali, Sang Matiz and is currently producing an EP for her all-female band, Gringa, which will be released May 27.



Beti Gathegi

Diversity Program Manager, Pandora

Beti Gathegi is the Diversity Program Manager at Pandora. Prior to that she was at Lyft where she worked on diversity and inclusion efforts under the title of People Growth Specialist. She's a Bay Area native who received her B.A. in Communications and Marketing from Temple University. She doesn't mind the term social justice warrior and visited her 7th continent in 2017. Her favorite Pandora stations are Laura Mvula, Davido and Vampire Weekend.



Aisah Gemora

**Operations Manager,
Shoreline Amphitheatre**

As the Operations Manager of Shoreline Amphitheatre, **Aisah Gemora** is excited to kick off its 31st season and her first full season with Live Nation. Previously, she was the Booking/Event Operations Coordinator at the Event Center at SJSU where she coordinated and managed a variety of concerts and sporting events including NCAA basketball. With a knack for event logistics, Aisah has also been on the operations teams for large scale events and festivals including Stern Grove Festival, Outside Lands, Life is Beautiful, Bottle Rock Napa Valley, and Super Bowl City (SF). Deeply passionate about the live music experience and its ability to connect people, she has previously served as City Leader for the San Francisco chapter of Sofar Sounds, which seeks to connect artists and audiences by producing secret shows in intimate, nontraditional spaces all over the world. As a Bay Area native who grew up inspired by the DIY ethics and community in the all-ages local music scene, Aisah continues to support local and independent music, and can be found at a show on any given night she isn't working one - whether in an amphitheater, dive bar, or living room.



Fauziya Gipson

Artist Manager

Fauziya Gipson has enjoyed over 10 years working in the music industry. She began working at a nonprofit focused on cultural music events and exchange programs. This start gave her valuable experience working with international artists and providing for their needs and hospitality. At the nonprofit, she learned about event management, accounting, marketing and promotions and lead their children's event program. Fauziya has also worked as a sound engineer and house manager. In 2005, Fauziya took a break from the music industry to work in the Oakland Unified School District where her role as Principal's coach and budget guru continued to build skills she would later use in Artist Management.

Currently, Fauziya is the full time artist manager for the International duo Los Rakas. Los Rakas are a bilingual Hip-Hop group with influences in Reggaeton, Reggae, and Dancehall. During her work with the group Los Rakas has been nominated for a Grammy and received recognition from the City of Oakland, State of California and the US Congress. They have partnered with the Panamanian government and been invited to the White House as one of the top 100 innovators in the United States.

Fauziya holds a BA in Communications from Mills College where she was recipient of the Barrett Research Award. She is passionate about the arts and the positive effects of good music on the world and the soul.

Fauziya offers consulting services to artists and frequently provides support to senior musicians to keep the music alive!



After 28 years of running the most successful nightclub operations in San Francisco, **Dawn Holliday** recently retired from her position as general manager for Slim's and Great American Music Hall nightclubs. Dawn will continue her role as the producer behind the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass music festival, which she helped establish with the late Warren Hellman. She oversaw the expansion of the free one-day concert in a quiet corner of Golden Gate Park into a huge annual fete in the city. Last year, more than 100 acts performed across seven stages over three days for 500,000 music fans.

Dawn Holliday

Event Producer, Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Music Festival



Rose Kirkland is the Sr. Talent Buyer for Live Nation in San Francisco. She promotes concerts throughout the Bay Area at Live Nation's owned and operated venues – The Masonic, Shoreline Amphitheater, Concord Pavilion and Toyota Amphitheater along with third party Arenas and Theatres. The current project she is most excited about is a new festival called ID10T which she is producing alongside Chris Hardwick and SGE Entertainment. Rose is a San Francisco native who started Interning at Bill Graham Presents (now Live Nation) in 2005 while finishing up her degree in Communications at San Francisco State University. She was hired right before graduation in 2006 and has been with the company ever since.

Rose Kirkland

Sr. Talent Buyer, Live Nation



Sindee Levin is a Los Angeles based entertainment lawyer and music publishing administrator with more than a quarter-century of experience with rights management in music and film, for both domestic and international markets. She established both Sindee Levin Music and The Law Offices of Sindee Levin. Her broad knowledge of the workings of the music publishing industry have helped clients both increase their cash flow and fully realize the value of their musical assets. She has worked with many touring artists on collecting publishing monies when they tour in big and small venues, worldwide. She has also negotiated many merchandise agreements, a lucrative side for artists who tour.

Sindee Levin

Entertainment Attorney



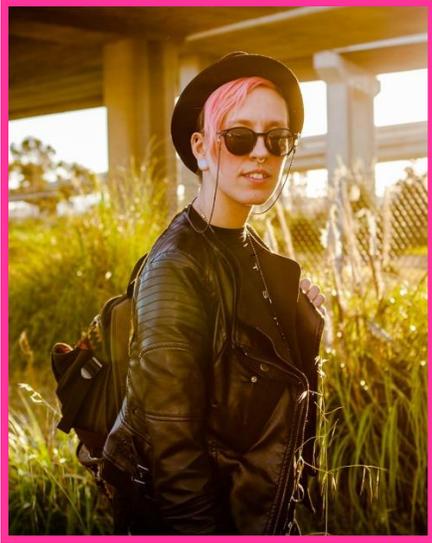
Gail Mitchell who is the Senior Editor (R&B/Hip Hop + other genres) Billboard Magazine. Her duties include pitching and writing cover, feature and news stories, profiles, Q&A's and special supplements for the magazine as well as its online sites, billboard.com and billboard.biz. In addition, Mitchell possesses a strong working knowledge of pop, rock, country and other genres. She interfaces regularly with company presidents, marketing/promotion and publishing executives, artists/managers, songwriters/producer, publicists, and TV/radio/print/online media on both the national and international fronts.

In her role as senior editor, Mitchell has moderated panels and Q&A's for industry organizations such as ASCAP, BMI, the Recording Academy and the Grammy Museum. She has also shared her industry expertise in stories and broadcast interviews for various media outlets including CNN

Entertainment, CNN.com, Anderson Cooper 360, NBC's Today Show, CBS This Morning, CBS News Radio, The Rachel Maddow Show, Charlie Rose, USA Today, E! True Hollywood Story, E! News, TV Guide Network, MSNBC, CNBC, ABCnews.com, BET, Centric, TV One, A&E, Extra, Reelz, BBC Television and Japan's WOWOW TV.

Gail Mitchell

**Senior Editor,
Billboard Magazine**



Sarah Sexton is the owner of Oaktown Indie Mayhem & Co-founder of OIM Records. She has been a promoter & talent buyer for a variety of Oakland music venues - most recently at Starline Social Club, a go to curator/producer for music festivals & crawls throughout the East Bay area and a minion for AEG Live. She has recently started attending UC Berkeley full time to study music and art subcultures. When she's not starting record labels, she's off causing trouble, trying not to get caught, and never saying sorry. Get it Kitty.

Sarah Sexton

Owner, Oaktown Indie Mayhem/Founder, OIM Records



Patti Silverman operates in the space where music and technology converge. While at Columbia Records in NYC, she developed a reputation as an early proponent of music tech. To run marketing campaigns for artists including Adele, Band of Horses and Passion Pit, Patti scouted innovative products and breakthrough technologies.

This interest in the “future of music” brought Patti to SF, where she joined the SF MusicTech Summit as Communications Director. In her role, Patti became a master connector, supporting innovation in the music industry by bridging relationships between tech, artists and labels. She continues to work with the community as an Advisor.

Patti Silverman

Advisor, SF MusicTech Summit



Victoria Theodore is a renowned pianist, composer, singer and music instructor respected for her wide-ranging musical versatility. In 2016, Victoria was hired as the keyboardist for Beyoncé’s Formation World Tour and spent the year on the road. For 8 years prior, Victoria toured with Stevie Wonder as his keyboardist & background singer. In 2013 Arsenio Hall came back to television and Victoria was chosen to be the keyboardist in Arsenio’s late night band, Posse 2.0. Her debut album of original music, “Grateful”, was released in 2015.

Victoria Theodore

Pianist/Composer/Singer/Music Instructor



Brittany Tilleman, Founder of YBR Promotions is a career entrepreneur as well as a fixture in the Bay Area. YBR Promotions was launched in 1999 as an alternative, grassroots outlet for music and event promotion in San Francisco. Since its inception, it has grown to become a multi-faceted all-inclusive service provider offering marketing, consultation, and comprehensive campaign management for the nightlife and entertainment industries including music, art, food, film, fashion, tech, and urban culture, as well as for corporate and non-profit organizations. YBR has managed to accomplish a great deal of success (\$500K in revenue), having promoted over 2,200 city events, concerts, parties, product launches and corporate events to date. Clients include Outside Lands Fest, Ruby Skye, Regency Ballroom, End Up, Fillmore, AEG/GoldenVoice, Red Bull, Lexus, Comedy Central, Live Nation, the SF Giants, SF MOMA and many more. Through years of intimate involvement in the San Francisco Entertainment Industry, Brittany expanded YBR Promotions into YBR Industries, which included Digital Marketing and entertainment platform The Word as well as Experiential Marketing Agency, Culture Culture (producing and promoting events, music, artists, and causes with originality and integrity).

Brittany Tilleman

**Founder, YBR Promotions,
Culture Culture, The Word**



Heidi Trefethen

**Classical/Jazz Hornist/
Instrumentalist/Sound Engineer
/Educator/Mentor**

Heidi Trefethen is a gifted classical and Jazz hornist, multi-instrumentalist, sound engineer, educator and mentor. She was hailed by CBSlocal.com in 2013 as one of the “Best Local Female Musicians in the East Bay.” Already able to play songs on the piano at age two, Trefethen became a seasoned performer, having begun her music career as a substitute hornist for the LA Phil at age 19. Since then she has taught and performed on stages all over the world, including Bosnia, Thailand, Italy, Germany, the UK, Guatemala, Canada and Israel. She currently performs with the Santa Cruz Symphony, North State Symphony, Symphony Napa Valley and Santa Rosa Symphony. She was also a founding member of the SFJAZZ Monday Night Band in 2013.

Heidi was not content to just perform. After finishing her Bachelor of Music degree at Brigham Young University, she studied Sound Engineering at California Recording Institute. For the last 18 years, often at Berkeley’s Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse where she has been a Front of House engineer since 1999, she has built a reputation for mixing exquisite sounding music both on stage and in the studio. Her list of her live sound clients includes Shawn Colvin, Odetta, Joan Baez, Joan Armatrading, Holly Near, Tammy Hall, Dar Williams, Al Stewart, John Stewart, and Buffy St. Claire.

She teaches Live Sound at Women’s Audio Mission as well as Music Production, Recording Mixing and Mastering and Audio for Visual Media at the acclaimed SFJAZZ Digital Lab. Her passion is mentoring and promoting women in the music industry and making it a more balanced field for women.

When Heidi is not working as a very busy and sought after musician and sound engineer, she can be found hanging out with her two cats, cycling, hiking in the redwoods and DJing.



Anasa Troutman

**Managing Director,
India Arie's Soulbird
Worldwide/
Founder/CEO, Eloveate**

Anasa Troutman is the Managing Director of India.Arie's Soulbird Worldwide and Founder/CEO of Eloveate, a Nashville based production company that produces high quality, high impact media that opens hearts and minds to the power of love, through art, culture and creativity. Anasa has spent the last 20 years as a writer, producer, cultural organizer and music industry executive.

In the late 90's, Anasa started a record label, managed, booked and did PR. One of her first clients was India.Arie, a singer/songwriter, musician who has sold over 10 million albums worldwide. They worked together prior to India's Motown deal, putting out her first recorded music and taking her on her first tour. But after several years in the music industry Anasa got burnt out from the traditional record business and left to embark on a spiritual journey of healing.

She received a fellowship and was gifted three years in an incubator at the Movement Strategy in Oakland to explore the power of art and culture in a political transformative conversation. She rejoined India.Arie and founded Eloveate, which has its own projects, and also works with other artists to help them innovate the way they do their work so that it's larger in scope, and deeper to align with the vision and values of a world where love is king.

Anasa has made it her life's work to create a culture of love and human connection through the use of art and creativity. She will soon launch She Stories, a storytelling platform for women.



Judy Tsang is the Director of Programming at Stern Grove Festival, a non-profit organization dedicated to producing an admission-free performing arts concert series in San Francisco. She curates a wide variety of musical and performance genres to serve the diverse communities of the San Francisco Bay Area. The Festival takes place in the stunning natural amphitheater at Sigmund Stern Grove, one of the most unique performance venues in the country.

Judy Tsang

Director of Programming, Stern Grove Festival



Pam Warren

aka "Pam the Funkstress"

Turntablist/ Recording Artist

Like the art of emceeing, the artistry of the DJ has long been hailed as a patriarchal craft, with few immediately recognizable female DJ's at the forefront. However, during her diverse career, as a member of the Oakland, CA based politically conscious recording group The Coup, **Pam the Funkstress** solidified herself as a reputable turntablist and recording artist, capable of holding her own ground in a male dominated industry.

The Funkstress's performances include marketing campaigns with SoBe Beverages and Sony Entertainment, a residency at radio station KBLX, as well as gracing the stage with Hip-Hop elites KRS-One, Grandmaster Flash, Sean "P-Diddy" Combs and comedy greats Mike Epps, Bruce Bruce, Earthquake, and Sommore.

In 2016, during what would ultimately be Prince's final tour – *A Piano & A Microphone* - Pam the Funkstress served as DJ at the official SF afterparty. Prince himself was so impressed by the enchanting skills of The Funkstress, that he later contacted her personally requesting that she join him on tour. After being dubbed "Purple Pam" by "The Purple One" himself, Pam toured with Prince until his untimely demise.

In 2017, The Turntable Queen will launch her online radio show, www.femalefunkradio.com, which will feature Pam spinning various genres of music including Rap, R&B, and EDM.

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Women working in the Music Industry Conference

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