



The Power in Philanthropy: Lessons Learned from Walking the Walk

Speakers

- Tonya Allen, President & CEO, The Skillman Foundation
- John A. Powell, Director, Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society, UC Berkeley
- Host: Debbie McKeon, President & CEO, San Diego Grantmakers

Highlights from the Session

- Fair and inclusive is not good enough. When you're invited, you're a "guest at the party" which translates to a soft expression for assimilation. The better way is to co-create something we all belong to. The future must be co-created.
- Philanthropic work is about making change not grants.
- Power is organized money and organized people. Board members are contributors to issues too, not just making decisions on funding.
- Philanthropy is love of people. If you come from a place of love, the fight is more robust.
- Conventional thinking around equity is to take from white people and redistribute to eliminate disparities. Disparities are decreasing but only because white people are less prosperous.
- Targeted universalism – targeting interventions for different groups. Invest in people so they can give back and fully participate.
- Speak from aspirations, not desperation.
- Belonging is hard work, some things may need to be dismantled.
- Saying is not brave, doing is.
- When you don't see people as people and instead see them as "other", it affects policies.
- Participate in the telling of your own story.
- Philanthropy should strive for contribution not attribution.