



New Power in Philanthropy

Speakers

- Paloma Aguirre, Coastal and Marine Director, WILDCOAST
- Cait Kelly, Program Manager, Connect w/San Diego Venture Group
- Armand King, Co-founder & Chief Operating Officer, Paving Great Futures
- Adriana Loson-Ceballos, Director of Network Resources, Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy
- Dominique Navarro, Co-chair, Latina Giving Circle of San Diego
- Samuel Tsoi, Lead Organizer, Welcoming San Diego
- Host: Sid Voorakkara, Principal, Ten Page Memo

Notes from Session

- After the 1985 Mexico City earthquake, the city was completely destroyed. But the people came together to face the disaster and were looking for any survivors under the rubble. They silenced the city to hear the survivors.
- There is an idea of belonging that is wrapped around citizenship. Need to co-create a space where native born and immigrants can come together to figure out what it means to be citizens. In San Diego County, immigrants make up 1/4 of the population and 1/3 of the workforce but do not have proportional power.
- Connecting entrepreneurs with investors they need so they can make a lasting impact. Leaders and people in power are not as diverse as the people in the community.
- Philanthropy is giving what you can and recognizing your own privilege. Dominique's grandmother would buy items to take back to Mexico to give back to her community. She entrusted that her gifts would be used to make a difference. We are all philanthropists and should be at the power table.
- Right now there is dissonance and disconnect. Three fourths of the people working in foundations and nonprofits believe the work they are doing is making a change, but only one fourth of them see themselves in philanthropy in the future. Upcoming generation is most diverse in philanthropy but they don't see themselves in it.
- We have to be honest about your own privilege. Recognize it and silence ourselves so that others can speak. Communities especially value the chance to speak for themselves.
- Intervention and prevention are still missing. To solve the problems we are facing today, we have to go to the root of why they are happening.
- The climate change deniers are vocal and influential and there is an environmental impact that comes from this movement. We are losing ground on the narrative on climate change. How can we change it?
- It is the 30 year anniversary of Tiananmen Square. How do we want to be remembered? Are we going to be remembered for building a wall or the Statue of Liberty?



- How should funders engage more in communities of color?
- Funders can engage more in communities of color by hiring a person from that community to do the work and pay them above livable wage. Also be aware of your own implicit bias.
- To build power, invest in the community. Give money to organizations doing good and let them grow.
- It takes power and money to move into leadership positions. Only 7% of congressional staffers in leadership positions are people of color. DC internships are unpaid, so they are only available to the students who have the means to live in DC and support themselves. These are mostly wealthy, white kids. Those with internships are usually then hired on as staff.
- After winning an award at a major philanthropic ceremony, someone approached Dominique and said “you are so well spoken.” This type of patronizing comment is insulting and deflating.
- Communication rules the nation.