

municipal government levels in California, Schmitz has set the path for the future of arts and culture, focusing on accessibility and cultural relevance. The list of Schmitz's accomplishments is long. Her work as executive director of Casa Romantica, a historical cultural institution in San Clemente, has resulted in generating continuous high-quality cultural events involving either world-class artists of diversified genres or educational programs for children. Casa Romantica had its attendance double this year under her leadership. In addition, she also founded the Dana Point Symphony.

CEO Space Orange County, Irvine

Dave Phillipson, Chapter President

CEO Space is the world's oldest and largest network for CEOs and entrepreneurs. Approximately one third of the organization's members are investors, including millionaires and billionaires. In just five meetings in the last year, CEO Space has generated more than \$3 billion in funding for its members. CEO Space helps entrepreneurs, small business owners, corporate executives, inventors, authors, speakers and investors with power networking, improving business plans, marketing and branding, getting capital compliant, legal structure and accelerating business actions, among many other things. As chapter president, Dave Phillipson has hosted more than 600 meetings for entrepreneurs in Southern California, most of which were Orange County and has helped thousands of entrepreneurs during that time.



CGS Business Solutions, Mission Viejo

Nick Chavis, Managing Principal

Nick Chavis is managing principal and founder of CGS Business Solutions, an IT professional services company that provides technology experts who build world-class information systems. The company is celebrating its sixth year anniversary and its third year on the Orange County Business Journal's "Fastest-Growing Companies" List. Chavis, a member of the North Carolina Lumbee Indian Tribe, is a certified minority business owner specializing in IT business solutions and consulting services. For the last 18 years, he has been serving some of Orange County's largest corporations. He is also a guest lecturer at his alma mater, California State University Fullerton, where he has advised both undergrad and graduate business students on being an entrepreneur and career growth strategies.



City Girl Prepper, Seal Beach

Jennifer Stewart-Tai, Founder/President

City Girl Prepper is changing the way women discuss preparedness. By offering emergency preparedness education and ready-made supplies in a home party setting, women are gathering to prepare for any disruption that comes their way. First responders recommend that everyone has at least 72 hours of supplies, and City Girl Prepper is helping families get prepared. Jennifer Stewart-Tai decided to start City Girl Prepper in 2013 after discovering how unprepared her community was for an emergency. Her backpacks are designed for women with women's fit gloves, feminine hygiene products and comfort items. She has also worked with local schools to have supplies in the classroom and presented information on 72-Hour Kits to Boy Scout troops, home owners associations and community organizations. She is inspiring women to be self-reliant and courageous in their lives.



Community Preservation Partners LLC, Irvine

Anand Kannan, President

As head of Community Preservation Partners (CPP), Anand Kannan has a direct role in enriching the lives of affordable housing residents across the country. He is responsible for leading the preservation and development teams at CPP — a wholly owned subsidiary of WNC & Associates Inc., a leader in the affordable housing industry. Under Kannan's leadership, CPP's award-winning rehabilitation work in the multi-family space is considered top-notch within the industry, and the proof of that is in the company's explosive growth rate. Kannan joined CPP in 2010 and grew its portfolio to 2,000 affordable housing units in 2012. Since then, he has increased CPP's portfolio to almost 4,000 units. His company's projects have improved the lives of thousands; bringing residents upgraded infrastructure, public spaces, sustainable energy and a host of convenient amenities. He is a frequent speaker at affordable housing industry conferences and is well regarded for his innate ability to take complex transactions and make them seem effortless.



Corent Technology, Aliso Viejo

Feyzi Fatehi, CEO

Feyzi Fatehi has spent his career building high-performance, high-tech organizations including multiple independent business units at HP and four

technology startups in Silicon Valley and in Southern California with valuations ranging from \$100 million to \$1 billion, including Corent Technology. Corent Technology is the provider of SurPaaS®, a disruptive SaaS-enabler and software delivery as a service platform. A highly respected and enthusiastic advocate for cutting-edge technology, Fatehi has been an industry speaker around the globe from London to Rome and from Singapore to Sydney, including speaking at events at Harvard Business School, Wharton, Stanford, Pepperdine, Cal Tech, USC and UCLA. Elected to the board of the Technology Council of Southern California in 2007, he has served as chairman of its Orange County chapter since 2008. He is a member of the IBM Partner Advisory Council, UCI Engineering Leadership Council, UCI CEO Roundtable, and a board member at OC Tech Alliance, and at the Software and Information Industry Association.



Devise Interactive, Santa Ana

Dalip Jaggi, Principal

Dalip Jaggi has been recognized as a young entrepreneur, an active soul who is always looking to do more and do better. At the age of 25, he is the founder of the digital agency, Devise Interactive, and hosting company, Hostannual.com. Dalip has tripled Devise Interactive's business and staff. The company works with organizations such as USC, Edwards Life Sciences, Ingram Micro, Cisco Systems, AstraZeneca, and many other advertising agencies in Orange County. He is also the director of technology for Orange County's newest and hottest startup, EvaDrop, a smart shower that will help you save water while you shower. Away from his different ventures, Dalip stays very active in his community. He is the interactive chair at the AD2 Orange County Chapter and the digital lead and chair at Forge54, a nonprofit organization.



Drive Me Cookie LLC, Costa Mesa

Kohlman Verheyen, Doughmmander in Chief

Drive Me Cookie fired up its oven and hit the streets of Orange County in Oct. 2013. This custom Mercedes Sprinter van is outfitted with a full commercial kitchen featuring a professional oven, freezer and refrigerator. Drive Me Cookie serves piping hot homemade cookies and customized ice cream sandwiches at private catered events, public street vending events, and even home and office deliveries. Based in Costa Mesa and operating all over Southern California, Drive Me Cookie has served more than 100,000 people and baked over 300,000 cookies at events with notable clients such as Kelley Blue Book, Honda, Toshiba, Blizzard Entertainment, Keystone Pacific Property Management and the Irvine Co. In the past six months, Drive Me Cookie has doubled its full-time staff, tripled its total staff, and is amid completely revolutionizing internal and external customer service protocol.



Excelerate Test Prep, Newport Beach

Ladan Davia, President

Excelerate Test Prep is the only SAT/ACT software on the market that targets the specific concepts being tested by every question answered incorrectly on a practice exam. Factoring in fatigue and other variables that could interfere with each student's performance, this unparalleled technique helps students achieve their ideal scores after completing just three tests—at no cost to the students. In contrast, most modern, high-quality test prep courses cost an average of \$2,400 and take six weeks to complete. By making elite test preparation a feasible option for all students, Excelerate Test Prep is aiming to revolutionize the American education system. Since winning the Business Plan Competition at Chapman University, Excelerate has provided its software to school districts in Oakland, Los Angeles and Berkeley as a supplement to their college preparation programs. In the past two years, these schools have reported that their students have improved their overall scores by an average of 300 points after their first practice tests. Excelerate has been published in numerous magazine editorials and helps roughly 80,000 people through the website.



Genea, Irvine

Michael Wong, CEO/President

In the years under Michael Wong's leadership, Genea, which provides cloud-based software and services for the commercial real estate industry, has grown from 9 million square feet to more than 115 million square feet. Equally important to its growth, Genea has retained 100% of its customers implemented under Wong's tenure. His strong work ethic along with his unwavering focus to deliver service offerings that enhance the daily lives of his customers are at the core of Genea's success. Wong envisions Genea becoming the leading provider of technology solutions for the commercial real estate industry. The company's value-enhancing ACS Cloud offering establishes Genea's relationship with the customer. It is the only cloud-

