# Board of Director Biographies





## **Celeste Bell**

Celeste Bell is a human resources professional with over 14 years of experience in the talent space. She currently works as Vice President of Talent for Publicis Media, a publicly traded global advertising and marketing agency in New York. Prior to Publicis, she ran Talent Acquisition for Major League Baseball for 10 years, worked in Benefits for the National Basketball Association and interned for the Atlanta Falcons, Ladies Professional Golf Association and the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Celeste graduated with a bachelor's degree in Exercise and Sports Science from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and went on to get her master's degree in Human Resources

Management and Development from New York University and a certificate in HR Analytics from Cornell.

In her personal life, Celeste is on the Board of Directors of Play Like A Girl, an organization that's inspiring girls to realize and live out their limitless potential through STEM and sports. She's also a mentor and active supporter of All Star Code. In her free time, she enjoys playing with her dog Jessie, reading and running. She's run a full marathon (26.2 miles) in each of the 50 states and in 2018 became the first woman in the world to run 8 marathons on 8 continents in 8 days (including the debated 8 th continent Zealandia). Her next running goal is to run a marathon in every country of the world.



#### **Danielle Gaw**

Danielle Gaw is the Director of Corporate Partnerships for the Nashville Sounds Baseball Club, the Triple-A Affiliate of the Texas Rangers. The start of the 2019 season marked her sixth season with the Sounds and ninth in baseball. She began as the Community Relations intern with the team in January of 2014. She previously worked for the Houston Astros and the Mizzou baseball team.

With the Sounds, Danielle oversees all aspects of the corporate partnerships department – contract writing, inventory management, partnership activation and more. She also manages the Community Relations team.

In the fall of 2018, Danielle became a mentor in the inaugural class of the MiLB Women in Baseball's LIFT (Leaders Inspiring Future Talent) Mentorship Program. The mission of the program is to develop the next generation of women executives and continue to retain quality female professionals in the baseball industry.

Danielle was born and raised in a rural Missouri town north of St. Louis. From a young age, she loved playing softball and basketball, and watching all sports, especially the St. Louis Cardinals. She played competitive basketball and fast pitch softball from age seven through her senior year in high school. Danielle attended Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri and majored in Sports Management and Marketing. She is the second oldest of four sisters who were all active in sports.

When she's not at First Tennessee Park, Danielle enjoys hanging out with her rescue dog (Merle), visiting local record stores, traveling to new places and visiting baseball stadiums.



## Michaela Kirk

Michaela Kirk is a Nashville native, which is a rare find these day, who graduated from Lipscomb University with a Bachelors in Civil Engineering and a Masters in Engineering from Vanderbilt University. She joined Turner's Nashville office four years ago and today serves as the business development engineer. She can often be found on the weekends running the greenways/streets of Nashville training for an upcoming race or playing a pick-up game of soccer. Michaela wants to be a fashion designer when she grows up.



### Deann Moore

Deann Moore has wide-ranging expertise she brings to the board of Play Like a Girl. She has extensive professional experience in the STEM industry and is currently Senior Director of Change Management at Asurion. She serves on the board of the Nashville Chapter of Association of Change Management Professionals and has served as Finance chair of her church.

Deann brings a passion for coaching, mentoring and investing in the future generation of strong female leaders. She has been recognized for contributions to leadership development, team building and diversity and inclusion as a recipient of the Team Player and Seasoned Leader awards at Asurion.

Deann holds a degree from University of Tennessee, Martin. In her spare time, she enjoys golfing, live sports events, travel, cooking and is an avid Tennessee fan.



# Aqiyla Reed

Aqiyla Reed is a Senior Analyst for Parallon/HCA Healthcare. In her seven years of service, she has led initiatives increasing vendor relationships, and yearly hospital revenue. Aqiyla also develops the summer internship curriculum for working students pursuing degrees in IT.

Aqiyla earned her bachelor's degree in Business Information Systems from Tennessee State University where she was involved in various organizations. During her time at the University, she worked as a conference coordinator and peer reviewer for PhD candidates. Aqiyla completed her Master of Business Administration in Information Technology Management at Western Governors University where she was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship for women in leadership from HCA.

Aqiyla believes strongly that "we make a living by what we get but, we make a life by what we give." She is very active in local Nashville nonprofits. She was appointed in 2016 to the Board of Directors for Nashville Education Community and Arts Television organization, where she funds a full scholarship for young women from 13-18 to participate in the organization Spring/Fall Break TV production camps. She also serves as a member of The Tennessee State University Business Information Systems Advisory Board.

In 2017, she was nominated as one of Nashville's top five Emerging Leaders in Technology. Aqiyla is a mentor for I.T Girls, an organization designed to foster, inspire and encourage young women to pursue opportunities in Technology. As a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc, Aqiyla is involved in several service projects, voter registration and has assisted with Nashville's local election campaigns.



#### Sara Toussaint

Sara is currently a Vice President in Wells Fargo's sports marketing team. Her sports background also includes: business development for the Boston Blazers, partnerships for Major League Soccer, and labor relations for Major League Baseball. Sports Business Journal named Sara to the 2018 class of Game Changers: Women in Sports Business.

Before joining Wells Fargo, Sara worked at Allied Minds directing marketing efforts and scouting investment opportunities. She also managed alumni relations for the University of Chicago covering the East Coast. She started her career at Covington & Burling in Washington, DC first as a legal assistant and later in public relations and marketing.

Raised on the South Side of Chicago, Sara earned her BA in Public Policy from the University of Chicago and an MBA from NYU.