

SECOND ANNIVERSARY EDITION

SANTA BARBARA
LIFE & STYLE

MAGAZINE

JULY 2015

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welcome
TO THE
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(left) Joanne Rapp
(middle) Michelle Pickett
(right) Maritza Mejia-Wilson

On Joanne: *Peter Cohen* Silk Blouse & Pants
On Michelle: *Peter Cohen* Silk Blouse & Skirt
On Maritza: *Allora by Laura* Skirt, *Twilley* Bustier, *Sally Lapointe* Scarf

Photographed by Carly Otness

Morton Capital Management Celebrates SANTA BARBARA WOMEN MAKING WAVES

Katherine Harvey Fellows
Multigenerational Community Impact

Written by Caroline Harrah

The Journey Matters

Maritza Mejia-Wilson was immensely proud to be the first in her family to graduate from college. But she was also struck by the sobering reality that many in her own extended family would never experience the privilege of higher education or the opportunities presented therefrom. In 2010, Maritza co-founded Adsum Education Foundation—an organization that raises money for local undocumented students to pursue higher education. Adsum, Latin for “I am here,” personifies the Santa Barbara spirit of “showing up” for the underserved and marginalized, and reflects the “new face” of philanthropy in which anyone, regardless of age or resources, has the opportunity to make a difference. Maritza’s vision has been propelled forward in part by her participation in the Katherine Harvey Fellows leadership program, which aims to cultivate the next generation of philanthropy in Santa Barbara.

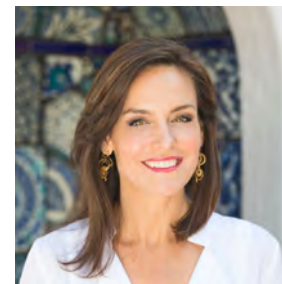
Innovation through Cross-Generational, Multidisciplinary Collaboration

According to the California Association of Nonprofits, Santa Barbara has one of the highest per capita number of nonprofits in the state. Despite the area’s affluence, the sheer number of charitable organizations—each competing for a share of resources—is daunting. The Katherine Harvey Fellows program—formed in 1999 by the Santa Barbara Foundation and run in partnership with Leading From Within, an organization that develops high quality leadership programs focused on meaningful change in our community—takes motivated young leaders through 18 months of experiential training and mentorship. The program’s goal is to create a dynamic network of community leaders who can collaborate to have a more meaningful and targeted impact on the issues they are passionate about. Michelle Pickett is a Katherine Harvey Fellows alumna whose pro bono legal assistance has helped dozens of local nonprofits. Michelle says, “The Katherine Harvey Fellows program changed my traditional view of philanthropy from one defined by financial gifts and volunteered time to one where I am actually helping to solve targeted problems. We all have a role, and when we work together we can collectively contribute to the greater good.”

Wave of the Future

The Katherine Harvey Fellows model has helped create an established network of 95 current and alumni fellows representing more than 80 charitable organizations in Santa Barbara County. Fellows serve as catalysts for community impact by engaging diverse individuals, spanning multiple generations and multiple sectors, including nonprofit, for-profit, and government sectors. Joanne Rapp, a Katherine Harvey Fellows mentor and decades-long leader in philanthropic and charitable causes in Santa Barbara, says, “I continue to be inspired by the enthusiasm and ingenuity of the Katherine Harvey Fellows. It’s a lot of fun to work with like-minded people of all ages who have a variety of experiences to bring real solutions to our community.”

For more information about Katherine Harvey Fellows and Leading From Within, please go to www.leading-from-within.org/katherine-harvey-fellows.



Caroline Harrah is a wealth advisor at Morton Capital Management, a mother of two and a passionate volunteer serving on multiple non-profit boards and committees in Santa Barbara. Morton Capital Management is a financial advisory and wealth management firm established in 1983 that works with individuals, families, foundations, and businesses to create personalized, goal-driven strategies to empower their vision of the future. At Morton Capital Management, *Your Journey Matters*. Caroline can be reached at 805-259-9379 or CHarrah@MortonCapital.com.

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