



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

NATO 2019 Advisory Board Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship Recipients

NATO's Diversity and Inclusion Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the NATO 2019 Advisory Board Diversity and Inclusion Scholarship.



Samantha Beauchamp

Operations Auditor, Cinema West

Samantha Beauchamp has worked in movie theaters since 2007, starting as a concessions cashier. She has worked her way through each step—supervisor, assistant manager, general manager, and is now in corporate as an internal operations auditor. She received her bachelor's degree in 2015 from California State University San Bernardino and spends her free time reading and traveling. She recently married her high school sweetheart. They live with their three kids and two cats in northern California.



Martin Hubbard

Owner, Platinum Cinemas/M&M Entertainment

Martin Hubbard is the owner and president of Platinum Cinemas/M & M Entertainment based in Minneapolis, MN, with three locations totaling 14 screens. Martin has 17 years of industry experience. He is also actively involved with North Central NATO.



Ganga Jasenthuliyana

General Manager, Movie Works (Pvt) Ltd

Ganga Jasenthuliyana lives in Sri Lanka. With her husband, she manages Movie Works (Pvt). Since she joined Movie Works (Pvt) she has helped open an additional 12 cinemas over the course of seven years. She has over 20 years' experience in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors. In 2005, she volunteered full-time doing post-tsunami relief work, rebuilding communities and livelihoods. She and her husband have two children ages 11 and 10.



National Association of Theatre Owners

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE



Robert A. Johnson, Sr.
Cinema Operations Manager, Paragon Cinema

Robert Johnson is a member of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana, a federally recognized Native American tribe. He served on the Tribal Council from 1993 to 1995 and is a former Chairman of the Tunica Biloxi Tribal Gaming Commission. Robert is actively involved in community affairs, including The Avoyelles Autism Group and STEPScenla Annual Color Run benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He is an avid supporter of and volunteer for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and Pink October.



Kavitha Reddy
Director of Operations, Athens Movie Palace

Kavitha Reddy attended the University of Tennessee, earning a bachelor's degree in political science. She attended law school in Chicago and was admitted to the Tennessee bar in 2012. In 2013, her parents purchased a vacant theater with intentions to remodel the twin-screen theater after the other twin screen in town closed. She started at the theater in 2014, helping with contracts and business matters. The theater opened in 2015, and she serves as the Director of Operations, handling everything from the day-to-day operations to all of the business end for the five-screen theater. She is involved in her community through various boards and outreach with the theater.



Susan Tive
Co-Owner, City Lights Cinemas

Susan Tive is the co-owner of City Lights Cinemas in Florence, OR and Head of Philanthropy for Salt Lake Film Society in Salt Lake City, Utah. She has worked in the film exhibition industry for almost 20 years with both for and non-profit organizations. In 2006, along with her husband, Michael Falter, and several other independent cinema leaders, she helped start the Art House Convergence, which has become the largest annual gathering of independent cinema operators in the country. Susan is passionate about the importance of cinematic storytelling and actively champions its vital role in strengthening community, creating experiences of empathy and generating important dialogue.



Jill Woodworth
General Manager, Marcus Theatres Corp.

Jill Woodworth is the General Manager at the Marcus Renaissance Cinema in Sturtevant, Wisconsin. She started as a concessions attendant for Marcus Theatres when she was 16 and never looked back, working her way up through four locations in three different states. Jill earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and is halfway to accomplishing her personal goal of watching a movie in every Marcus location.