



Amanda Haas is a best-selling cookbook author, culinary instructor, and public speaker who has spent decades helping women cook—and live—in ways that support their health.

As former Culinary Director at Williams Sonoma, Amanda led the brand's test kitchen for seven years, overseeing hundreds of food SKUs and teaching millions of home cooks through classes, demonstrations, and video. She is the author of four cookbooks with more than 120,000 copies sold, including the best-selling *The Anti-Inflammation Cookbook*.

Today, her brand House of Haas supports women through midlife with practical, evidence-informed guidance blending food, wellness, and lived experience—delivered through Instagram, Substack, and partnerships with brands she genuinely believes in.

Her newest cookbook, a revised edition of the best-selling “The Anti-Inflammation Cookbook,” (Chronicle Books), will be released next April.



A'shanti F. Gholar is the President of Emerge, the nation's only organization dedicated to recruiting, training, and empowering Democratic women to run for office—and win. Before the pandemic, A'shanti became the first Black woman to lead Emerge in February 2020. But she wasn't new to the Emerge family then. A'shanti grew up in Las

Vegas and co-founded Emerge Nevada in 2006—crediting Emerge Nevada’s success in building the first majority-woman state legislature in the country as one of the reasons her nieces and nephews are growing up in a better Nevada.

She went on to be named Emerge’s national political director in 2016. As political director, A’shanti expanded Emerge’s strategy to include the South, seeing it as fertile ground for Democrats. As president, she led the organization in pivoting to center the women of the New American Majority - Black, Brown, and Indigenous women and women of color, as well as LGBTQ+, young, and unmarried women - a political force for winning elections in this country and who deserve better representation in office. Under A’shanti’s leadership, Emerge has experienced unprecedented growth and success. With affiliates in over two dozen states, more than 1,200 alums in office, and over 6,000 Democratic women trained to run for office and win, Emerge has become a force to be reckoned with in the political landscape. A’shanti’s vision and strategic direction have been instrumental in this journey.

Before coming home to Emerge, A’shanti was a grassroots organizer and activist for women, communities of color, and progressive causes for over 20 years. She has experience building coalitions, developing programs, and engaging in community and political engagement. Before Emerge, A’shanti served as the National Deputy Director of Community Engagement and Director of African American Engagement for the Democratic National Committee. A’shanti has also served as the Manager of National Partnerships for United Way Worldwide, a political appointee in the Obama Administration at the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Director of Public Engagement for the 2012 Democratic National Convention Committee in Charlotte, NC. A’shanti’s contributions have not gone unnoticed. She has been recognized by She The People as one of the women of color in politics who would play an impactful role in the 2020 elections and beyond. Her influence has been featured in CQ Roll Call Magazine, and she has been named a top woman of color in policy by Walker’s Legacy. Her dedication to progressive activism has been acknowledged with the Changemaker Award by African American Women in Business Careers and the Transformational Leader Award by GAIN Power. A’shanti’s role as an Aspen Institute SOAR Fellow, Sisters on the Planet Ambassador for Oxfam America, and an Equity Advisor for Sephora further highlights her commitment to making a difference.

She is also the founder of The Brown Girls Guide to Politics and its award-winning podcast, which was recently recognized by The Guardian as a “practical guide to progressive activism.”



Susan McPherson is a serial connector, angel investor, keynote speaker and corporate responsibility expert. She is the founder and CEO of [McPherson Strategies](#), a communications consultancy focused on the intersection of brands and social impact. She is the author of [The Lost Art of Connecting](#) (McGraw-Hill). Susan has 30+ years of experience in marketing, public relations, and sustainability communications, speaking regularly at industry events including SXSW, Massachusetts Conference for Women, BSR, DLD, Worth Women and Techonomy, and contributing to the Harvard Business Review, Fast Company, and Forbes. She has appeared on NPR, CNN, USA Today, The New Yorker, New York Magazine, and the Los Angeles Times.

Susan is the recipient of Forbes magazine's 50 over 50—Impact 2021, Worth Media's Worthy100, and the 2026 Women in Sustainability Leadership Award and currently serves on the boards of The 19th News and the US Chamber of Connection.



Jill Keuth is a women's empowerment and leadership coach, speaker, and community builder with eleven years of experience helping women reconnect with their innate selves, the person they were before the world told them who they should be. She believes that reclaiming ourselves from systemic conditioning is how we find the power to dismantle the systems around us.

Jill is the founding leader of Broomfield Bonfire in Colorado, which she grew from a living room gathering of 36 women to 160 members in just five months. To be courageously ourselves and take aligned action in our personal, professional, and political lives, we all need a bonfire of women around us so we know we are not alone.

When she's not coaching, speaking, or leading Broomfield Bonfire, she's running an anti-racist book club and texting her two college kids, hoping to hear back.

A woman's empowerment coach who read Shannon's chapter about Bonfire and realized she didn't have one, Jill Keuth showed up to the No Kings protests with flyers, opened her living room the following week, and founded Broomfield Bonfire. It takes courage to be yourself, and none of us should have to do it alone.