



# MAIA

## 2025 MAIA Board Members

*MAIA is registered as a 501c3 nonprofit organization in the United States and is legally registered as Asociación MAIA in Guatemala. All MAIA board members have renewable three-year terms for another three years. Each board member is also a member of at least one of the following committees: Executive, Finance, Fundraising, or Local (Guatemala) Support.*

**PRESIDENT: Bill Ernstrom** (*Golden, CO*)

Bill worked in large and small entrepreneurial companies during his 20-year career as a business leader. Bill successfully founded and guided, as president & CEO, a venture-backed company through start-up, rapid growth, market leadership, acquisitions, and eventual sale. Bill embarked on a new journey in faith, personal development, and facilitation in midlife. Since then, he has attended numerous trainings, co-facilitated YPO forum retreats, and led spiritual weekend retreats. Bill holds a BA in physics from Hamilton, a BSEE from Columbia, and an MBA from Harvard. Bill lives in Golden, Colorado, with his wife and son.

**VICE PRESIDENT: Meg Ounsworth Steere** (*Boston, MA*)

Meg's professional experience is diverse—from a park ranger in the early 2000s to her current role in repositioning historic buildings for redevelopment. Her favorite things are the north Maine woods, writing, swimming, traveling, and attempting to say at least hello or thank you in as many languages as possible. She loves to improve organizational efficiency and efficacy. She holds a Bachelor's in French, a focus in Environmental Studies from the University of Virginia, and a Master's in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She lives with her husband and children outside of Boston.

**SECRETARY: Angel del Valle** (*Guatemala City, Guatemala*)

Ángel del Valle is a social anthropologist with 12 years of experience in research, project implementation, and monitoring and evaluation in thematic areas, including adolescent empowerment, education, child marriage, agency, social norms, gender-based violence, youth engagement, and policy advocacy to improve social protection frameworks. He has led experimental and mixed-method evaluations of programs designed to empower adolescent girls in marginalized settings, including rural and indigenous populations. Ángel has promoted the expansion of programs focused on adolescent girls in Belize, Guatemala, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and El Salvador and has supported efforts to reach Native American girls in the United States. He has also served as an advisor to national governments and multilateral institutions, promoting evidence-based policy design to meet the needs of the most marginalized populations. Ángel serves as the Country Representative for the Guatemala Office of the Population Council.

**TREASURER: Christi Nielsen** (*Whitefish, MT*)

Christi holds an accounting degree from the University of New Orleans. She worked for numerous years for the National Flood Service and in campaign finance reporting for New Orleans elections. She is active in nonprofit work focused on preserving historic buildings in New Orleans and lives in Whitefish, Montana.

**Ana Teresa Bixcul** (*Ciudad Vieja, Guatemala*)

Ana graduated from MAIA's original wraparound program in Monte Mercedes, Sololá village. She is one of the first trilingual members of her community. Ana has represented MAIA and Maya women at Denver, NYC, and Seattle events. She works as a Human Resource Coordinator for Urban Smalls in Antigua, Guatemala, and is pursuing a degree in business administration. Ana lives in Ciudad Vieja, Guatemala. Ana serves as the President of the Board of Directors of Asociación MAIA, the legally registered entity in Guatemala.



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**Joanna French** (*Oakland, CA*)

Joanna is originally from Denver, CO, and has lived and worked in Colorado, Washington, Bolivia, Guatemala, and most recently, California. She is passionate about transformative education, gender and racial equity, community development, and participatory research and has spent 10+ years working in the nonprofit sector. From 2015 to 2018, she worked as an Investment and Innovation Manager and then Director of Engagement for MAIA Impact. She currently works as Senior Manager of Research and Policy for Innovate Public Schools and lives in Oakland, California.

**Michelle Dorion** (*London, UK*)

Michelle is Guatemalan and a second-generation principal who has participated in the family advisory board since its inception in 2007. She serves as Executive Director of the family office and leads the NextGen and Philanthropy initiatives, focusing on education, access to opportunity, and emergency support. Her background is in international relations and finance, having worked in banking in the US, Europe, and Japan for many years. Michelle is Co-Founder and Vice Chair of the London-based Institute of Imagination, which creates physical and temporal experiences for children and families to develop their imaginations. Michelle was a member of the board of directors of Bacardi Ltd. (2001-2005), serving on the Audit, Nominations, and Remuneration committees. Michelle earned her MBA from the Kellogg School and her BA from Dartmouth College. She lives in London with her husband. Michelle serves as the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of Asociación MAIA, the legally registered entity in Guatemala.

**Greg Goldberg** (*Denver, CO*)

Greg is a partner with the Holland & Hart LLP law firm and chairs the firm's government investigations group. He formerly served as an Assistant US Attorney with the US Department of Justice. He now counsels individuals and companies facing government investigations by federal grand juries and federal and state enforcement agencies. Greg graduated from Dartmouth College and Columbia Law School.

**Sonja Gustafson** (*Seattle, WA / Antigua, Guatemala*)

Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, Sonja graduated from the University of Oregon Honors College and earned her MBA from the University of Washington. She worked at Microsoft, developing the Encarta brand, and raised her two children while serving on the Meridian School (K-5) board and later the Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS). While on sabbatical in Guatemala, Sonja and her family fell in love with the country, built a home, and cultivated a community there. Her interests include languages, travel, hiking, reading, and visiting national parks. She and her husband split their time between Seattle, USA, and Antigua, Guatemala.

**Marta Julia Ixtuc** (*Sololá, Guatemala*)

Marta Julia is a Maya Kaqchikel from Sololá, where the MAIA Impact School is located. As a Mayan woman, she brings a unique perspective to her leadership role. Marta Julia has worked with the communications team at Friendship Bridge for 14 years and has committed her professional and personal career to empowering women in Guatemala. She holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in business administration and lives in Sololá.

**Andrew Kane** (*Denver, CO*)

Andy retired in 2017 from investment banking after 30 years of financing affordable housing and public infrastructure nationally. That followed ten years as an attorney practicing municipal finance with a large national law firm in Philadelphia. Andy earned a JD degree from the University of Virginia School of Law and a BS in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He is a member of various bar



associations and The Explorers Club. He lives in Denver and Maine.

**Ana Rocio Monzón Woc** (*New York City, NY*)

Rocio is a dual-qualified attorney admitted to practice in New York and Guatemala. She was born and raised in Coatepeque, Quetzaltenango (Guatemala), and she obtained her first law degree at Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala City. She then worked at the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration until she relocated to the United States to pursue a Master of Laws at Harvard University. After completing her degree, she moved to New York City to work at an international law firm. Rocio is currently an associate at Eversheds Sutherland, focusing on international disputes and law. Rocio is passionate about education, mentorships, human connections, and traveling.

**María Isabel Matzir Miculax** (*Chimaltenango, Guatemala*)

María Isabel Matzir Miculax is a Maya Kaqchikel woman, leader, and Human Rights Defender focused on water and territorial rights. She has been an ally of MAIA since 2012. María Isabel resides in Guatemala and has studied Archaeology at the School of History at the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. Currently, she is an advocate on Human Rights, Water, and Territory issues at various organizations such as Peace Brigades International, the Center for Legal Action in Human Rights (CALDH), Maíz de Vida, Convergencia Waqib Kej, the Protection Unit for Human Rights Defenders (UDEFEQUA), Radio Dezurda, Radio El Pueblo K'iche' Opina, Ensenyants Solidaris, La Mirada de los Pueblos, and Prensa Comunitaria.

**Xochitl Oseguera** (*Oakland, CA*)

As Senior Vice President of MomsRising and its Spanish-language arm, MamásConPoder, Xochitl Oseguera directs one of the nation's most successful programs to educate and mobilize Latina moms online and on the ground. She has over 25 years of experience working with, reaching out to, and educating Latinx people in the USA. Oseguera spearheads all of MomsRising's Spanish-language initiatives, managing and overseeing a team of staff and organizers who help shape public policy and register members of the Latinx community to vote. A leading national strategist and spokesperson on various issues, including economic justice, women's and children's health, immigration, criminal justice reform, gun safety, etc. She is frequently covered by top Spanish- and English-language media outlets and called on to confer with state and federal lawmakers. She lives in California.

**Concepción Petzey** (*Sololá, Guatemala*)

Concepción Petzey Sosof, a 28-year-old Maya Tzutujil woman from Santiago Atitlán, now residing in Sololá, is the only member of her family to achieve a university degree. She is the Treasury Manager at Cooperativa Integral de Ahorro y Crédito Soluciones. Concepción is a public accountant and has completed a master's in International Accounting and Auditing Standards with an Emphasis on Fiscal and Business Compliance. She is an active leader in community and political movements. During MAIA's Legacy Starfish Program, she was a distinguished, perseverant, resilient Girl Pioneer. Concepción's story is a testament to achieving MAIA's 4 organizational goals. Concepción serves as the vice president of the board of directors of Asociación MAIA, the legally registered entity in Guatemala.