ASEP Board of Directors Roster & Bios

Tany Blasko – Executive Director since August 2017 & staff member since 2014.

Tany's passion for youth development and social justice lead her to ASEP five years ago. Her background is in sustainable agriculture and entrepreneurship where she managed urban farming and youth development programs in Boston, MA. At ASEP, Tany has had the opportunity to innovate program and business operations with her previous roles as Development Director and Program Director while simultaneous earning her MBA from Babson College. Today, Tany is proud to lead the ASEP team with a vision for equity and quality education services. In her free time she loves to explore the CA coast and host community dinners with family and friends.

Allyson Halpern, Board President, member since 2013

Allyson is a nonprofit professional skilled in growing philanthropic engagement for mission-driven organizations. She has an undergraduate writing degree, and a master's of nonprofit management, both from Carnegie Mellon where she also served on the adjunct faculty. She is currently Director of Advancement at 826 Valencia, which provides free writing programs for under-resourced students in San Francisco. In a family with two working parents, she aspired for her children's after-school programming to go beyond babysitting to be a quality educational experience. ASEP fulfills this need, and does so with a unique spirit of equity, community and fun. When Allyson is not caught up in some nonprofit cause, you can find her wise-cracking with her daughters, sneaking a Scrabble turn on her iPhone and trying to get her black Lab to drop his tennis ball.

Aaron Darsky, Secretary, member since 2014

Aaron Darsky is a partner at LEDA Law where he works to to advocate tenant rights and personal injury claims. Aaron received a bachelor of arts degree from Michigan State College of Business and his juris doctorate from Golden Gate University School of Law. He is a member of the State Bar of California, and admitted to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He is the single father of two sons, both of whom attended ASEP while at McKinley, and are now at Everett Middle School. ASEP's program has been essential to making Aaron's life work as a single dad and he appreciates how hard the team works to find programs--such as Digital Sound Arts--that can capture the energy and imagination of students in the challenging post-school hours. In his free time, he can be found driving his sons to soccer, attending their tournaments and seeing and playing rock music (sometimes with his sons!)

Covahne Michaels – General Board Member since 2018

Covahne is a Marketing Executive with 20 years experience in Consumer Food and Technology companies including Kraft Foods, J.M. Smucker, and Yahoo! She has an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth and a BS from University of Colorado at Boulder. Covahne has two boys currently enrolled in ASEP's McKinley Elementary programs. She's seen how affordable, reliable, quality after school programming significantly enhances the experiences and happiness of students and creates peace of mind for parents. She's passionate about giving back to the organization that has provided so much to her family and the SF public school community. In her free time she enjoys yoga, running, and any unstructured time she can get with her boys and husband.

Ellie Karlsson, General Board Member since 2017

A veterinarian and animal welfare advocate in biomedical research, Ellie earned her DVM from the University of California, Davis and is a Diplomat of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Her involvement in the field spans academia, government, non-profits and startups, where she promotes the humane care of animals while supporting researchers who are advancing health and medicine. Ellie has 3 boys in ASEP McKinley, who've participated in Comprehensive and Club programming. After joining the McKinley community in 2013, Ellie saw that ASEP was integral to supporting her family through compassionate care and high quality arts enrichment. In her downtime Ellie enjoys exploring the city, being outdoors, cooking, crafting, and travelling.

Rute Ferreira, General Board Member, since 2018

An architect and urban designer with a background spanning public realm, affordable housing and community buildings, Rute loves the energy of cities and is passionate about getting people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with making them better places for all. Rute has practiced in the UK, Sweden, Portugal and the US. Alongside her design practice she has led research studies and workshops, authored picture books about the urban fabric and taught at several universities. Rute's twin daughters are in third grade at McKinley and the ASEP comprehensive program. They love chess club, food ed, dance and art.Rute is at her happiest discovering new places on foot, reading and drawing with her kids, and cooking with friends.

Rebecca Kee - General Board Member since 2017

Rebecca is Head of School at Potrero Kids, a preschool founded with the mission of providing high-quality early education to the diverse Potrero Hill community. She began her career in education 14 years ago as a public school teacher in San Francisco, and has also worked for nonprofit organizations that support financial equality and women's entrepreneurship. Rebecca has two sons enrolled at ASEP Daniel Webster and appreciates how the high-quality programming enables public school students to experience innovative enrichment activities together. In her free time she enjoys playing guitar, making color-coded spreadsheets, and baking more cupcakes than her family can eat.

ASEP Board Skillset & Gaps

Board Member/Prospect	Occupation/ Description	Board Responsibility	Referring Contact	Resume Received	Met with ED	Met with Board Designee	Recruitment Status	Technical Expertise												Leadership					Access to Resources/Networks						
								Technology	Finance	Marketing	Legal	HR	Public Relations	Volunteerism	Consulting	Real Estate	Hospitality	Corp. Com. Relations	Leadership	Business	Gov't/Policy	Comm. Org.	Small Business	Academia	Major Donor Fundraising	Personal network	In-kind Services	Media Services	Elected Officials	Ethnicity	County
Current Members																															
Tany Blasko	Executive Director	Executive Director							X	X	X	X							X			X									
Allyson Halpern		Board Chair												x				x	x			x			x	x	x				
Aaron Darsky		Secretary									X																				
Rebecca Kee		General Member						X						X			X		X		X								X		
Ellie Karlsson	Veterinarian	General Member													X									X							
Shannon Beck		General Member																													
Rute Ferreira		General Member													X	X										X					
Covahne Michaels	Marketing Exec	General Member								X										X											
Prospects																															
Candidate A	Accountant		Joe Smith	Yes																											