

women

Meet the women who will change the way we live, work and play by the year 2020.

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PHOTOGRAPHY
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In this issue, *Arizona Woman* celebrates the past 20 years. But what does the future hold? We assembled a panel of judges to identify 20 women who will make an impact on the state during the next decade or so. They represent a variety of fields — everything from law enforcement and education to retail and non-profits.

The decisions weren't easy. We received more than 100 nominations, which included some pretty amazing women. Many of them are at the pinnacle of their careers, having already made huge strides in their businesses and in the community.

In reviewing the nominations, we focused on up-and-comers with tremendous potential, including women we thought had more new challenges to meet, even if they already were at the highest levels. Some of these women may not be household names yet, but they're definitely leaders to watch.



THE JUDGES: GRETCHEN JACOBS, GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS LOBBYIST FOR GREENBERG TRAUB; ALISON RAPPING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VALLEY LEADERSHIP; MARY JANE ROGERS, VICE PRESIDENT AND REGIONAL MANAGER, MEDIA AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR IPHIGENIA CHASE; KATHY TULOFIELLO, BUSINESS CENTER DIRECTOR, THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC AND AZ CENTRAL COFFEE; CHRISTINA LEONARD, EDITOR OF ARIZONA WOMAN AND BIZAZ MAGAZINES.



CHRISTY MCCLENDON

TITLE: CEO
COMPANY: IMPROVING CHANDLER AREA NEIGHBORHOODS
AGE: 34

WHAT SHE'S DONE: Christy McClendon's non-profit in Chandler lures vulnerable kids into after-school programs and away from drugs, violence and organized crime. At least twice a month, she slips into a police car and searches the streets for youths hanging out where they shouldn't.

A little more than half of those she approaches show up for her free programs in a small downtown building, swelling daily attendance to about 140 in October. Since she started riding with police last spring, ICAN program attendance has increased 50 percent. The classes teach youths how to build social skills, manage their lives and resist peer pressure. The agency has grown resources by nearly \$300,000 over the past two years.

WHAT'S AHEAD: McClendon is forming new community partnerships and

expanding services. She's focusing on meeting Chandler's needs for now but would love to see other communities model similar projects after ICAN. "It's critically important to my personal mission on how to meet the needs of people who are less fortunate, who have less resources," she says.

ON BOARD: McClendon also is president-elect of the Arizona chapter of the National Association of Social Workers' board of directors. She graduated from the Chandler Leadership Institute, serves on various councils and committees, and volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Rape Crisis Center and as a court-appointed special advocate.



JESSICA PACHECO

TITLE: SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
COMPANY: ARIZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
AGE: 33

WHAT SHE'S DONE: Since Jessica Pacheco started at the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry in January, she has helped re-establish the group's presence and influence at the state Legislature and in the Arizona business community. She also is the vice chair of the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

WHY WE'RE COUNTING ON HER: She wants to make sure all Arizona businesses thrive. That means working to improve the state's tax and regulatory climates, as well as educating the future workforce. That includes everything from beefing up math and science programs to increasing foreign languages — from K-12 to the university level. "We're not only not only competing here in Arizona, but we're competing globally," she says.

WHY WE THINK SHE CAN DO IT: Pacheco has a unique background. She was born and raised in Brazil. She worked in the corporate world at Arizona Public Service Co. for 10 years. She's smart and well-spoken. And she has three young children. "My motivation and working in

public policy here is really trying to establish an environment in which my kids, and hopefully their kids, will grow up in and allow them to thrive," she says.

JUDGE'S COMMENT: "Jessica's voice, and that of her group, will be heard at the Legislature as it tackles issues such as immigration and taxation and the need to build the state's links to the global economy."

WHAT'S SHE DONE: Jordan Rose founded one of the largest female-owned law practices in Arizona. It started eight years ago as a one-person firm and has grown to about 31 people in the state. Her full-service practice focuses on

business and real estate. Rose's specialty is land law, particularly in the Pinal County area.

WHAT'S AHEAD: Rose Law Group opened branch offices in Idaho and has plans to open in New Mexico, Nevada, Washington and Colorado. Rose believes her firm's "outrageous client service" sets it apart, and she hopes to continue to expand. The firm's attorneys have their hands in many of the big issues facing Arizona, including smart growth, sustainable communities and charter-school issues.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT: The firm has fun. "We work hard and play hard," she says.

"Every month, we have a half-day fun day, which my assistant and I plan and keep secret, and everyone in the firm participates. These have ranged from laser tag, to feng shui-ing the office, to Camelback Inn spa day, to a treasure hunt through downtown Scottsdale, to a shooting range with the president of Qwest."



JORDAN ROSE

TITLE: FOUNDER/PRESIDENT
COMPANY: ROSE LAW GROUP
AGE: 36

HOW SHE GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND: Her community work is extensive. She's on the Central Arizona College Foundation board of directors, the Phoenix Symphony board of trustees, the Make-A-Wish board of trustees, the Center for Autism Research board of trustees and the advisory boards for the Phoenix Museum of History and Teen Lifeline, a teen suicide hotline. Last year, she served as co-vice chair for the American Heart Association's Heart Ball, and this year, she's a committee chairwoman for the same cause.

JUDGE'S COMMENT: "Jordan's success offers a great example for talented young attorneys who want to get out of big law firms and start their own. Her expansion plans are significant. And her involvement in key issues for the state and her non-profit focus ensure she will continue to have a big impact."



DEVIN RANKIN

TITLE: FINANCE CONSULTANT
COMPANY: RANKIN CONSULTING LLC
AGE: 29

WHAT SHE'S DONE: Devin Rankin has the Midas touch when it comes to raising funds. For four years, she was a fundraiser for the Arizona Democratic Party, and she still raises money for the party as a consultant.

Democrats outraised and outspent their GOP counterpart by nearly four-to-one in the 2006 campaign cycle, a funding peculiarity in a state where Republicans outnumber Democrats by more than 160,000. Since then, Rankin started her own firm and trains other state party directors on how to raise funds.

WHAT'S AHEAD: Rankin will continue to play a role in politics by raising funds and helping grow the Democratic Party. She hopes to someday use her fundraising know-how to aid non-profits. Rankin, who is an active member of the gay community, also devotes her time to the Human Rights Campaign. She's focus-

ing on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and hate-crimes legislation.

JUDGE'S COMMENT: "She's relentless. She never gives up. ... She also thinks out of the box."