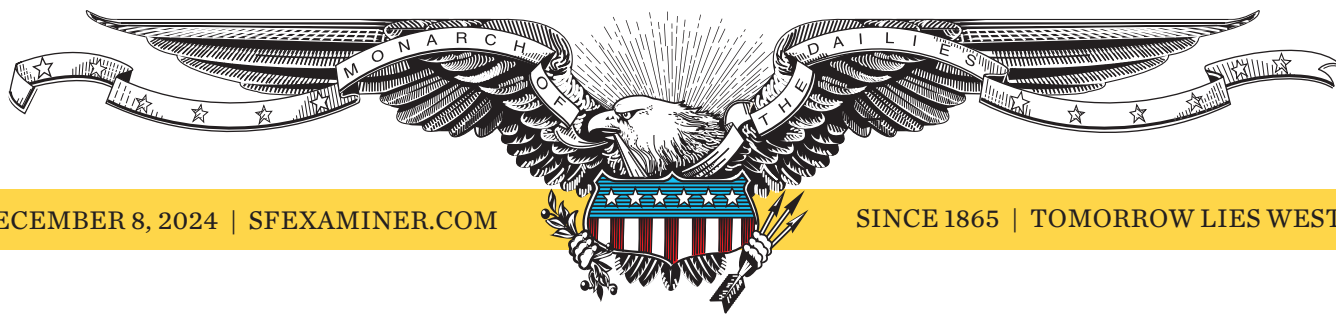


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Advancing Opportunity Through Education

Kim Mazzuca's transformative leadership has made a profound impact on advancing educational equity across the Bay Area and beyond. As the President and CEO of 10,000 Degrees for 25 years, Kim has dedicated her career to supporting students from low-income backgrounds to succeed in college and beyond. Guided by the values of compassion, equality and justice, Kim has led 10,000 Degrees to become a model for empowering first-generation college students, achieving graduation rates that far surpass national averages, and fostering a network of alumni committed to giving back to their communities.

Since taking the helm in 1999, Kim redirected 10,000 Degrees' mission to focus entirely on students from low-income backgrounds. This involved a shift to 100% need-based scholarships, removing GPA or test scores requirements, and developing college access and success programs led by near-peer mentors who guide students through their entire college journey. These changes have significantly expanded the organization's reach and impact: 93% of 10,000 Degrees students are from communities of color and 92% are first-generation. Over 80% of their four-year college students graduate within six years, and their community college students transfer to and graduate from four-year colleges at twice the national average.

Under Kim's leadership, 10,000 Degrees has grown from serving 400 students in Marin County to reaching over 16,000 students and families annually across the Bay Area and Utah. 10,000 Degrees' model has gained national recognition by organizations such as the National College Attainment Network (NCAN) and continues to inspire systemic change in educational equity. But Kim is most proud of the lasting impact 10,000 Degrees has had on its alumni.

"Today, you can find thousands of 10,000 Degrees alumni in our community—working in health care,

education, business, nonprofits, and many other industries—and all raising second-generation college students," Kim says. "It is a tremendous honor to be a part of an organization that transforms students' lives and creates a growing community of good people dedicated to creating a more just and equitable world."

Kim's passion for equity is deeply personal, shaped by her upbringing as a first-generation college graduate in South San Francisco and life experiences that instilled her commitment to compassion, justice, and service. A graduate of the College of San Mateo and San Francisco State University, she furthered her education at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and completed doctoral studies in Organization and Leadership at the University of San Francisco. Her resilience and hope also stem from her personal fight for parental rights as a same-sex parent, culminating in a landmark California Supreme Court case that reunited her with her daughters and advanced LGBTQ+ family rights. Now living in Santa Rosa with her partner, Anne, their two dogs, and their blended family of four children and a grandson, Kim enjoys cycling, hiking, and traveling. Today, you will often hear Kim say to 10,000 Degrees students and staff, "never give up."



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