

the
YOUNG
and the
GUEST
LIST
2014

A GUIDE TO WASHINGTON'S MOST INFLUENTIAL
40-AND-UNDER LEADERS

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Ashley Williams, Blowdry Bethesda



OPPOSITE PAGE: SHANA GLENZER, JOHN PAUL FARMER, JILL MELNICKI, JAKE WARD AND REBECCA MARK

YGL2014





SHANA GLENZER (1)

VP OF SOCIAL MARKETING, SOCIALRADAR

SOME PEOPLE SAY THERE ISN'T A TRUE STARTUP CULTURE/COMMUNITY IN WASHINGTON. DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE?

I disagree. Whether it is the hundreds of startup companies that take advantage of the community and resources at 1776, or the dozens of large successful companies that continue to partner with and share their experience with smaller organizations, the area has a true entrepreneur community. They're rooting for each other and we're relying on them for the launch of SocialRadar.

FAVORITE APPS? SocialRadar, Alien Blue, SnapDash

3 WEBSITES YOU VISIT DAILY?

Twitter, Facebook, Digg

JILL MELNICKI (2)

COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WHAT TECHNOLOGY CHANGED YOUR LIFE?

On a personal level, I was thrilled with the introduction of Google Hangouts. Last year, I held 12 weeks of virtual Saturday meetings with classmates from around the country as we built a potential tech startup, where group

collaboration was absolutely necessary. Speech-recognition software has also made a huge difference in my level of productivity.

WHAT IS THE MOST PRESSING WORLD PROBLEM TODAY?

Misdirected personal and societal energy. Meaning, we focus on the wrong things because we're looking for quick fixes and easy solutions or because we're just uninformed. In the meantime, significant problems go unmet because they lack serious, long-term attention.

FAVORITE CHARITY/CAUSE? The FAIR Girls (www.fairgirls.org) team works tirelessly to prevent the exploitation of girls worldwide with empowerment and education programs.

REBECCA MARK (3)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MANAGER, MICROSOFT

HOW DO YOU THINK THE LOCAL TECH INDUSTRY WILL EVOLVE OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

Years ago, the local focus was on the Northern Virginia tech corridor but now there's a lot more energy across this entire area. We have city-wide conferences geared toward the "technorati" such as Social Media Week, incubators that are actively helping cultivate

a local startup community, and a growing willingness by government to embrace technology. Having the federal government — our primary local employer — invested in maintaining a vibrant startup community is certainly a good thing. As a result of this changing tide over the past five years, the business community is taking note.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES? Checking out shows at the 9:30 Club, Black Cat, Rock & Roll Hotel etc., being the first to Yelp about new restaurants, traveling

JAKE WARD (4)

CO-FOUNDER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE APPLICATION DEVELOPERS ALLIANCE

MOTTO/QUOTE YOU LIVE BY? "Don't be cocky. Don't be flashy. There's always someone better than you." — Tony Hsieh, Zappos CEO

FAVORITE BOOK AND BOOK YOU ARE CURRENTLY READING? "Liars Poker" by Michael Lewis and "David and Goliath" by Malcom Gladwell, respectively.

FAVORITE LOCAL HANGOUTS/RESTAURANTS/BARS? Sidecar

WEBSITES YOU VISIT DAILY? Hacker News, DevsBuild.It, ESPN.com

JOHN PAUL FARMER (5)

INNOVATOR/ENTREPRENEUR

SOME PEOPLE SAY THERE ISN'T A TRUE STARTUP CULTURE/COMMUNITY IN WASHINGTON. DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE? I believe you can find an entrepreneurial community anywhere you find people. Washington has a diverse culture that welcomes people from all across the country and around the world. That can be a great breeding ground for innovative ideas and new approaches.

WHAT TECHNOLOGY CHANGED YOUR LIFE? I look at the Internet of Things, open data, digital health, 3D printing and additive manufacturing as a few of the game changers on the horizon, and their potential is really exciting.

MOTTO/QUOTE YOU LIVE BY? "It always seems impossible until it's done." — Nelson Mandela

FAVORITE APPS? Twitter, Nextdoor, and any health app using Blue Button data