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**30 Young
Professionals
Leading the Future
of Learning &
Work**

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The Thirty Under 30 Program has been an incubator of leadership in our industry for over a decade. Each year, the program recognizes thirty young professionals that embody the knowledge, skills, and drive needed by today's modern learning leaders.

The cohort engages in multiple learning and development opportunities throughout the year, beginning with Learning 2021 Online, and continuing via many digital, virtual, and in-person experiences throughout the year.

There are over 300 alumni from the Thirty Under 30 program from all around the globe, many of whom have continued to grow in their careers and become essential learning leaders for the organizations they serve. The members of this year's cohort will continue to build upon that impressive body of work.

This book introduces you to each member of the Thirty Under 30 cohort for 2021. I encourage you to reach out and connect with each of them. As you do, you will see similarities among the group, including their desire to give back, their passion for their work, and their ambition to grow personally and professionally.

Please join me in congratulating this year's Thirty Under 30 cohort. We are honored to host and support this group of young leaders, and look forward to the impact they will have on the future of learning.



David Kelly
Executive Director
The Learning Guild

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A note from this year's cohort leaders:

Now, more than ever, with changing learning economies and infrastructures, connecting with like-minded individuals focused on creating incredible educational experiences is vital. Connecting with like-minded individuals who have continued to be change-makers in their respective learning communities, in spite of these radical, global changes, is a great way to build on each other's learning and continue to be impactful.

Whether it be in the food and beverage industry, K-12, corporate, adult education, the governmental sector, or otherwise, the 30 individuals that were chosen to be highlighted in this year's Thirty Under 30 cohort represent the best of the best. They come from all over the world- Germany, The United States, Hong Kong, and Indonesia- and all deeply care about building excellent learning experiences.

We are thrilled to be guiding this year's cohort towards building and creating life-long partnerships with other changemakers in this field, as it is our belief that these life-long friendships lead to more impactful collaboration within the larger learning and development industry. Although we had hoped we could help build these bridges together in Orlando at this year's conference, we carry on with optimism and look forward to having the opportunity to meet in person next year.



Dalia Abbas
Instructional Designer
Springboard
2020 Alumnus



Keiko Takeshita
Program Manager & Analyst
Dept. of Homeland Security
2020 Alumnus



Hannah Duffy
LMS Specialist
Conference of State Bank
Supervisors
2020 Alumnus



Megan Underwood
VP Canada & Global Director
Learning Design
Practera
2020 Alumnus

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KELSIE

BAILEY

Learning and Performance
Specialist

**Coca-Cola Beverages
Florida**

Kelsie Bailey is a learning and performance specialist at Coca-Cola Beverages Florida. Kelsie is passionate about using her love of both education and psychology to deliver learning solutions that motivate and inspire learners. Prior to her work at Coca-Cola Beverages Florida she worked as a learning designer at Power Design Inc. and Saint Leo University.

Kelsie has also completed her master's degree in instructional systems and learning technologies at Florida State University. Professional highlights include streamlining the learning intake process, redesigning outdated learning programs to fit learner needs while utilizing new learning technologies, and creative instructional design.

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ANGELICA

BARROSO

Talent Development
Analyst

Lockheed Martin



Angelica Barroso is a learning and capability development consultant at Lockheed Martin, currently leading multiple leadership and organizational development programs. Angelica holds a bachelor's degree in management with a concentration in international business from Florida State University and a master's in human resources and change management from the University of Central Florida. In addition to her primary job functions, she has a commitment to diversity and innovation. Angelica recently contributed to development of an automated tool to conduct nominations to leadership programs across the entire enterprise. Driven by her value of service, she takes great pride in helping individuals and businesses become the best version of themselves.

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**ASHLEIGH
BOWEN**

Instructional Designer
University of Alabama

Ashleigh Bowen is a social entrepreneur and a cutting-edge instructional designer who encourages change and diversity. She is currently an instructional designer for the University of Alabama's College of Continuing Studies and has experience that ranges from K-12 to higher education.

Ashleigh has always considered herself a lifelong learner in pursuit of the newest, in-demand skills. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in educational leadership from the University of Alabama and holds a master's degree in human capital development from the University of Southern Mississippi. Ashleigh has a keen interest in the utilization of virtual reality experiences for educational purposes and has an aptitude for developing quality immersive applications.

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JULIA

BRÜCKL

Regional Expert in Learning and
Development

Allianz



Julia Brückl is a regional expert in learning and development at Allianz Group in Munich, Germany. With five years of experience in the field of human resource within the Allianz Group, she found her passion within the learning and development field. To increase her theoretical knowledge, Julia is finalizing a master's degree in business psychology with a focus on leadership psychology. In her current role, Julia steers all talent management and learning activities in the Central Eastern Europe region.

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LUCY

CHEN

Head of Learning Design
Curious Cardinals

Lucy Chen is the head of learning design at Curious Cardinals, a global platform that supports middle and high school students as they discover and pursue their passions with the guidance of mentors. Lucy leverages the power of human-centered design to build effective and enjoyable learning experiences.

Previously, she was a founding coach at Maven to grow cohort-based courses, and she built curriculum for refugees in Berlin, designed a Machine Learning Bootcamp at Springboard, and led education strategy at Mural.

Lucy was a founding graduate from the innovative university, Minerva, and received a master's degree in technology, innovation and education from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

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JENNIFER

DEMCHAR

Instructional Designer

Morgan & Morgan



Jennifer R. Demchar is an instructional designer at Morgan & Morgan; she was previously at Chewy.com. Jennifer resides in Boynton Beach, Florida. At Morgan & Morgan, Jennifer closely partners with the Litify Case Management Software Product Team to create dynamic training solutions, delivering to attorneys and case staff firmwide.

She graduated from Nova Southeastern University with a bachelor's degree in secondary English education and an ESOL endorsement. Jennifer is working toward obtaining her PMP certification through an executive certification program for project management at Florida Atlantic University, with an expected completion date of December 2021.

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**DANIELA
ECHEVERRI**

People Development
Specialist

***Publix Employees Federal
Credit Union***

Daniela Echeverri is on a mission to help companies build and leverage a culture of learning. As a people development specialist at Publix Employees Federal Credit Union, Daniela helps to build and deliver a comprehensive new-hire program and enhance the learning experience. A graduate of the University of South Florida with a bachelor's degree in education, Daniela has worked with Fortune 500 companies to design and deliver complex functional training programs and deliver results company-wide.

Daniela serves her local ATD Suncoast Chapter as the vice president of operations. Her passion for continuing education has led her to earn certifications through ATD and other organizations such as Logical Operations and the University of South Florida's MUMA College of Business.

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DAVID

EIFERT

Senior Specialist,
Learning Solutions

SourceAmerica



David Eifert holds a master's degree in instructional design & technology and bachelor's degrees in education. He has held full-time positions as instructional coach, teacher, and instructional designer. His experience ranges from corporate instructional design to K-12 education and adult learning in face-to-face and virtual environments.

David is an instructional designer at SourceAmerica, a government-adjacent nonprofit organization that provides employment to people with disabilities by connecting a network of nonprofit agencies to federal government contracts.

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CALEN

FITZSIMMONS

eLearning Developer

EPRI



Calen Fitzsimmons is an experienced content developer skilled in learning experiences and people-to-people relations. A goal seeker who is strong in leadership, professional communication, training, multimedia, and learning content creation, Calen has strong media and communication skills and a bachelor's degree focused in digital film with an emphasis in production from Grand Canyon University and a master's in management and leadership from Western Governors University. Calen works at EPRI as an eLearning developer implementing new and emerging technologies such as VR, AR, and a new learning system to establish a program containing 95 courses, initially for new chemistry technicians, and ultimately for other job roles for the nuclear industry.

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**FRANCESCA
FLEMING**

Instructional Designer
*Girl Scouts of
San Jacinto Council*



Francesca Fleming is a lifelong learner who earned a bachelor's degree in health from Texas A&M University. Upon graduation, she worked as a nutrition program coordinator and saw the need for online learning to increase public outreach. This inspired her to return to school to obtain her master's degree in instructional technology. With over five years of instructional design experience, she has worked with a range of clients and has become fluent in blended learning, instructor-led training, eLearning, and job aids. She is also proficient in adult learning methods (ADDIE/ Bloom's Taxonomy), Kirkpatrick's Four Levels, learning authoring tools, and LMSs. Currently, she executes state-of-the-art learning strategies with the Girl Scouts of America, San Jacinto Council, in Houston, Texas.

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**KELSEY
GLASER**

Senior Analyst,
Sales Programs

Salesforce

Kelsey Glaser is a sales programs manager at Salesforce helping enterprise sellers reach their potential. She helps equip them through engaging, relevant content. Kelsey is passionate about designing learning experiences that resonate with the learner. She completed her degree in media, information, & technoculture at Western University in Ontario, Canada. Born and raised in Cape Town, South Africa, Kelsey relocated to Toronto, Canada as a girl and loves to travel.

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CASSIE
GROSJEAN

Senior Global Business
Development Advisor

Oracle



Cassie Grosjean is a senior BDR enablement advisor at Oracle NetSuite out of Austin, Texas. In the past five and a half years, she has prospected into SMB businesses and partnered with current customers to help them expand. For the past two years, Cassie has trained and coached recent college grads through a 12-month sales program to prepare them for promotion to a closing sales role. She co-founded an Employee Resource Group focusing on bridging the generation gap in the workplace. She has been on the board for Oracle's Toastmasters public speaking club for the past two years. Cassie has an overarching passion for helping those around her reach their personal and professional development goals.

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DINYE

HERNANDA

Senior Learning and
Development Manager

Greator GmbH

Dinye Hernanda is a passionate people-development specialist based in Germany. She combines a human-centered design approach and strong business orientation to create impactful development programs. Her expertise lies in the development of innovative learning experiences in rapidly scaling businesses. As a trained coach and experienced mentor, Dinye is also a big fan of social learning.

Born and raised in Indonesia, Dinye is a versatile multilingual who loves to connect with people from all walks of life and to create a diverse and inclusive culture around her. She holds a bachelor's degree in international business, an MBA, and a master's degree in change management. Her career mission is to create human, scalable, and sustainable L&D infrastructures and practices that enable high-performing teams.

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AMBER

HUPP

Training Operations &
Deployment Associate

KPMG



Amber is passionate about learning and development. Currently, she leads the deployment of KPMG Advisory L&D virtual trainings and ILT onboarding programs. She has a strong interdisciplinary background and is skilled in multi-platform training delivery and learning management systems.

Amber enjoys expanding her knowledge into many areas of L&D and has served on several workstreams outside of her daily role. Most importantly, she leverages a technical focus, operates with the learner's experience in mind, and continuously looks for ways to be innovative in her approach to deliver engaging and successful training programs.

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**MINGMING
JIANG**

Instructional Designer
**UC Berkeley
Executive Education**

Mingming Jiang is an instructional designer at UC Berkeley Executive Education, where she has worked with 25+ professors to design online and blended programs for executives, entrepreneurs, and corporate teams around the globe. Over the past eight years, working in learning and development at places such as Singularity University and Stanford d.school, she has designed leadership training and professional development programs for 35+ companies. Mingming received a master's degree in learning, design and technology from Stanford University.

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GARRETT

KOHN

Manager, Training
Attentive



Garrett Kohn is a training manager at Attentive, the premier personalized mobile messaging platform, where he leads a team tasked with onboarding and training employees during a phase of explosive growth. Garrett and his team have provided learning tools that have empowered more than 300 employees to succeed in roles ranging from entry to executive level, across every time zone in the continental U.S., both remote and in person.

Garrett holds a master's degree in education and a bachelor's in sociology. He is a proud active member of the Army National Guard, serving for more than eight years including a deployment to the Horn of Africa in 2019. He currently serves as Company Executive Officer.

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ARI

LA VINE

**KNA Sales Learning and
Development Associate**

The Kellogg Company

Ari La Vine started her career with The Kellogg Company as a sales intern in 2016. Over the last five years, she has held four different roles across Kellogg's Sales organization leading to her current role in learning and development as a learning specialist.

Aside from her day-to-day tasks, Ari sits on two committees within the Kellogg African American Resource Group; she recruits diverse top talent to the organization; she created and leads an intern mentorship program; and she raises her hand for various special projects.

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**MELISSA
LAYTON**

Manager, Digital Adoption
and Instructional Design

AMN Healthcare



Melissa Layton has always prioritized her passion for education for herself and others. Her thesis at UC Berkeley focused on the intersections and impacts of technology in education. After college, she began to grow in the L&D space with a position doing technical training at AMN Healthcare, moving into digital adoption. Now, she has found her stride by expanding her scope to leading the overall content design within the organization. In 2019, Melissa's team was awarded the Brandon Hall Excellence in Technology Bronze award for their advancements in performance technologies using WalkMe.

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SHARON
LO

Training Manager
Fairfield Residential

Sharon Lo is the training manager at Fairfield Residential, overseeing the training and development for the corporate and construction organizations. Her passion is to integrate instructional design, visual design, UI/UX, and technology to create immersive and scalable learning experiences that impact strategic objectives.

Prior to joining Fairfield, Sharon worked as a digital learning leader and instructional designer in multiple organizations across industries. As the digital L&D manager for Helix Electric, she led a team to refresh traditional multi-day workshops into extensive blended programs that focused on applying skills learned on the job and led the implementation of the organization's first LMS to all 2,500 employees company wide.

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KHADIJA

MOORE

Organizational Development
Manager

Gildan



As an experienced organizational development strategist, Khadija Moore helps global companies empower talent and transform culture to drive business performance. Consulting with executive leaders and key stakeholders, Khadija determines, designs, and deploys innovative solutions that improve employee engagement, process efficiency, customer satisfaction, market competitiveness, and other key performance indicators. Khadija's work has been recognized internationally, and she has been named a Top 20 Global Thought Leader & Influencer on HR. A writer for industry publications and a featured speaker at conferences, she holds a bachelor's degree in international business management and the CPTD (Certified Professional in Talent Development) certification.

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**TIFFANY
OWENS**

Training Specialist
Wharton-Smith

Tiffany Owens is an experienced training specialist with a demonstrated history of working in the library and construction industries. She has worked in teaching and training for the general public and staff development, both in the Field and Office. Tiffany is presently working on obtaining a bachelor's degree in technical education and industry training as well as a master's certificate in instructional design from the University of Central Florida.

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AMREEN

POONAWALA

Product Manager,
Digital Public Goods

UNICEF



Amreen Poonawala is a product manager at UNICEF, in the Office of Global Innovation, where she drives product strategy and development for solutions that leverage technology such as AI, blockchain, and XR for social good. Previously, she worked as a management consultant at Accenture, focusing on digital transformation projects and working closely with clients to support their technology adoption journeys. She is also the co-founder of ChalkEd, an award-winning edtech solution that aims to make online learning more engaging and equitable. She recently completed her M.Ed in technology and innovation from Harvard University and has a bachelor's in industrial engineering from the University of Toronto. Amreen hopes to further leverage her background in business, technology, and education to create social impact solutions in a global context.

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MARY
SARKISSIAN

Learning Experience Designer
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin

Mary Sarkissian is a learning experience designer (LXD) at Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB) with over a decade of professional experience varying in K-12, higher education, and corporate settings. Mary has supported organizations in varying sizes in educating and developing target audiences through tailored instructor-led training (ILT), computer-based training (CBT), and leadership development programs. An enthusiast for education, Mary has recently earned her master's degree in instructional design and has passed the Associate Professional of Talent Development (APTD) Certification.

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MAGGIE

SHIBLEY

eLearning Developer/
Visual Designer

**The Center for
Leadership Studies**



Maggie Shibley is an eLearning developer and visual designer at the Center for Leadership Studies. In 2018, she received a bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she discovered her passion for learning development through co-founding and hosting workshops for a 2D animation club. Maggie strives to assist individuals in meeting their goals by create unique remote learning experiences for a diverse audience while accommodating modern learners' evolving needs. In addition to eLearning development, her experience with graphic design, content writing, designing for accessibility, and designing for translations allow Maggie to apply a holistic perspective to her work.

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JORDAN

SIJANSKY

Educator

Clear Creek ISD

Jordan Sijansky is a science educator and department leader at Clear Creek Independent School District in Texas. She has over six years of experience in academic teaching, curriculum development, and innovative technology in the classroom. Jordan earned her bachelor's degree in marine biology from Texas A&M University. For the past three years, Jordan has focused on blending traditional, hands-on learning with innovative technology to create a well-rounded and engaging learning environment for all students. In addition, she has worked closely with local marine conservation organizations to encourage students of all ages to get involved in preserving our marine ecosystems. Jordan's career goal is to share her passion for science and technology as she inspires students to bridge the gap between the seemingly impossible and ultimate success.

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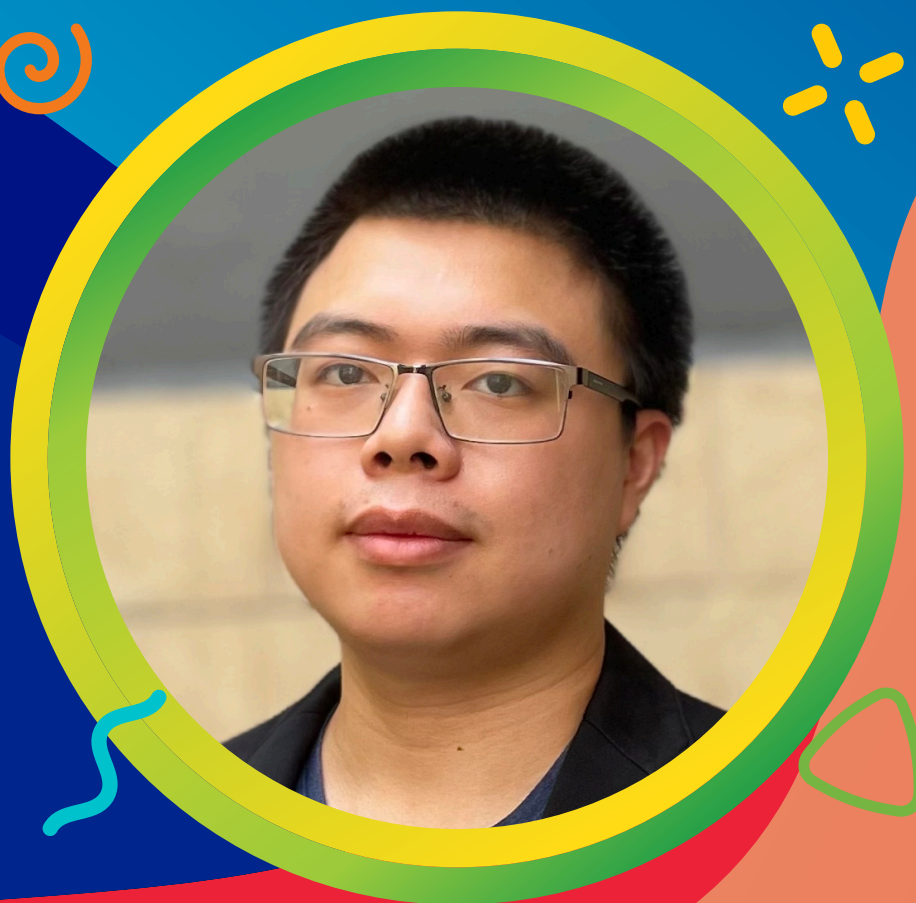
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TREVIN

SUSANTO

Product Manager

Ruangguru



Trevin Susanto graduated from City University of Hong Kong in 2016 with a degree in business economics and decided to enter the education sector. Trevin is an associate product manager at Ruangguru and leads the Early Learning and Game Development effort in the company. Throughout Trevin's tenure, he has contributed to many aspects of the company, including but not limited to the core learning experience, assessments, adaptive learning, lifelong learning, gamification, and the company's homework helper, Roboguru.

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**JACLYN
TAYLOR**

Employee Development
Coordinator

Valencia College

Jaclyn Taylor has been in the learning and development field for the better part of a decade. Having worked in front-facing, back-of-house, start-up, and corporate environments, she guides her development journey with the idea that authenticity and empathy are the most important values for any professional. She has a bachelor's degree in business management from Stetson University, and a master's in organizational leadership from Quinnipiac University. She works in employee development at Valencia College in Orlando, Florida, co-creating and facilitating competency-based content for employees at all levels, promoting employee recognition across the college, and reinforcing the importance of performance management.

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**KAVINDYA
THENNAKOOON**

Curriculum Engineer
2U



Kavindya Thennakoon was a dean's fellow at the Stanford School of Education, where she designed and co-founded Tilli; a game-based, social-emotional learning tool for early learners with a mission of ensuring that no child grows up to be either a perpetrator or victim of sexual violence. She is a curriculum engineer at 2U designing the company's first blended learning experience for UX/UI designers. Previously she worked for Arimac building their user experience research (UX) capability and at the MIT Media Lab as a civic entertainment researcher. Her work has spanned Ed-Tech, strategy, and development.

Kavindya focuses on grassroots education through Without Borders, a social enterprise based in Sri Lanka that she co-founded in 2014. Kavindya won both the inaugural Queen's Young Leaders Award and the Harvard Global Trailblazers Award for her impact within the local education space.

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BROOKE

WINSTON

Learning Content Developer
and Facilitator II

Brooke Winston is a learning experience designer who hails from Jacksonville, Florida. She works for Availity, a healthcare software company, with prior experience throughout the healthcare sector.

Brooke enjoys tackling learning problems in creative ways, including incorporating principles from other industries, like user experience design, graphic design, behavioral science, and neuroscience. She wants to change the way people learn for the better.

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LATARSHIA WOOTEN

Learning Experience
Designer

Salesforce



LaTarshia Wooten is a learning experience designer for Global Sales Enablement at Salesforce with a background in communication and educational media. She has four years of experience programming eLearning courses. She also has experience implementing and serving as an administrator on a learning management system as well as programming videos using a variety of tools.

In the last few years, she's had the opportunity to speak at various conferences, such as DevLearn and Learning Solutions. She believes that learning should be engaging and inclusive and provide value to the learner.

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About

LEARNING 2021SM

Learning leadership starts at Learning 2021, the premier event for learning leaders. The event focuses on exploring the most critical themes in learning leadership today, providing individuals the tools they need to better serve the organizations they lead. Catering to senior leaders, those who aspire to become great leaders, and everyone in between, Learning 2021 has the people, content, and community you're looking for.

[Learn More](#)

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Over the past 10 years, the Thirty Under 30 program has welcomed participants from more than 150 organizations, including Accenture, American Red Cross, CDC, Ernst & Young, Farmers Insurance, Google, Hilton Worldwide, LinkedIn, NBCUniversal, Procter & Gamble, SAP, Square, The Boeing Company, The Kellogg Company, Twitter, Verizon Wireless, Wegmans, and many more.

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