CENTER FOLD

DISTINGUISHED DINNER

Welcome to the ISC2 East Bay Chapter Distinguished Dinner Event.

Connect with and really KNOW cybersecurity leaders over a not-so-virtual cup of locally crafted coffee. Browse through your fellow distinguished attendees, exchange insights, and build genuine relationships within our security community.

ISC2 EAST BAY CHAPTER

DO I KNOW YOU?

DISTINGUISHED DINNER EVENT

NOVEMBER 12TH, 2026



GUEST BOOK DIRECTORY

IDENTITY IN THE AGE OF AI



Name **Abhishek Neelakanata**
Title **ISC2 East Bay Chapter Programs Director**
Company Consultant
ISC2 ID 81827 Visa Board Member

Abhishek Neelakanata, CISSP, serves as ISC2 East Bay's Director of programs and is a highly experienced Cybersecurity Analyst with over a decade of experience span-ning finance, technology, and utility sectors. With a background in Risk Analysis, Security Control Assessment, and Vulnerability Management, he drives enterprise security by providing risk-based actionable insights aligned with internal security policies and standards. His foundational experience as an IAM Support Specialist is complement-ed by a CISSP certification, a Master's in Information Systems (MSIS), and a Bachelor's in Engi-neering (BE).



Name **Aditya Desai**
Title **Staff Software Engineer**
Company PayPal
Visa Member

Aditya Desai is a Staff Software Engineer at PayPal with more than 10 years of experience building large-scale distributed systems, cloud platforms, and identity and security infrastructure. His work spans authentication, authorization, cloud modernization, and highly available systems operating at large scale. More recently, he has been exploring security, authorization, and trust challenges arising from autonomous agents and non-human identities. Aditya is also a member of the FIDO Alliance Agentic Authentication Working Group, where industry participants are exploring authentication challenges for agentic systems.

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Name **Lan Jenson**
Title **CEO**
Company Cybertrust America
Visa Distinguished Guest

Lan Jenson, CISSP and PMP, is the CEO of Cybertrust America and a pioneering leader in regional cybersecurity governance. She works to secure digitization for underserved sectors, including local governments, smart cities, and SMBs. Co-chair of NIST GCTC's Smart Security and Privacy committee, Lan co-authored a NIST risk management guide for smart cities and launched executive education partnerships with top public affairs institutions. Her expertise centers on multi-jurisdictional cyber risk assessments, cross-sector team building, AI adoption safety, and advancing trust across public infrastructure.



Name **Al Lavassani**
Title **Chief Privacy Officer**
Company University of California Office of the President
Visa Distinguished Guest

Al Lavassani, CISSP, CIPP/US, is a visionary data protection executive and consultant specializ-ing in technology ethics, compliance, and responsible innovation. He currently serves as Chief Privacy Officer (CPO) for the University of California Office of the President and previously held executive leadership roles at Meta, SoFi, Lyft, Visa, and Wells Fargo. Al is an expert in AI Governance and data ethics, having advised organizations on preventing bias and regulatory fallout. He designed and implemented privacy programs ensuring compliance with complex regulations, including GDPR, CCPA, and HIPAA, while managing cross-functional security and privacy reviews for payment products. Holding an MBA, he specializes in establishing governance frameworks and driving organizational accountability.



Name **Aimei Wei**
Title **CTO**
Company Stellar Cyber
Visa Keynote Platinum Sponsor

Aimei Wei has more than 20 years of experience building successful products and leading teams in data networking and telecommunications. She has extensive working experience for both early-stage startups, including Nuera, SS8 Networks, and Kineto Wireless, as well as well-established companies like Nortel, Ciena, and Cisco. Prior to founding Stellar Cyber, she was actively developing Software-Defined Network solutions at Cisco. Aimei enjoys building a product from its initial design to its final launch. Aimei has an M.S. in Computer Science from Queen's University in Kingston, Canada, and an Undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Tsinghua University of China.



Name **Amit Kharat**
Title **Co-Founder**
Company Mavs AI
Visa Speaker Silver Sponsor

Amit is a cybersecurity entrepreneur and co-founder of Mavs AI, building next-generation runtime security for Generative AI use. With over a decade of experience in data-centric and enterprise security, Amit has played a foundational role in scaling global security platforms across BFSI, manufacturing, pharma, and government sectors. His work spans product strategy, go-to-market leadership, and deep customer engagement across North America, Europe, the Middle East, and India. At Mavs AI, Amit is focused on solving emerging GenAI risks, including sensitive data exposure, prompt-level attacks, and lack of runtime visibility, helping enterprises adopt AI with confidence and control.

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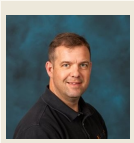
Name **Amy Kaur**
Title **Vice President**
Company SafeAeon
Visa Distinguished Guest

Amrit (Amy) Kaur is the Co-Founder and VP & Global Head of Sales at SafeAeon Inc., where she leads global sales strategy and partnerships for the company's cybersecurity services and SOC-as-a-Service offerings. Her experience across software development, operations, and cybersecurity enables her to connect technical innovation with real-world business needs. Amy specializes in helping organizations navigate complex security challenges and implement scalable, practical solutions. As an entrepreneur, she is deeply focused on building technologies and services that empower security teams and improve cyber resilience. Amy is also a strong advocate for women in cybersecurity, mentoring emerging professionals and supporting greater diversity in technology leadership.



Name **Ana Colocho**
Title **Executive Director, Cryptographic Controls**
Company JPMorganChase
Visa Distinguished Guest

Ana Colocho is Executive Director, Cryptographic Controls at JPMorganChase. She brings more than 25 years of IT experience, with expertise in cryptographic key management, data protection, and security architecture. She previously served as a Senior Cybersecurity Architect at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and held architecture roles at SAP and Chevron. She has supported the ISC2 East Bay Chapter and holds a bachelor's degree in Information Systems from the University of San Francisco.



Name **Andy Paterson**
Title **Information System Security Officer**
Company LLNL
Visa Member

Andy Paterson, CISSP, ISSO at LLNL, has 20+ years of field experience in Computer Network Defense (CND) and security compliance. He is a retired U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 who led vulnerability assessment missions and developed ACERT training in direct support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. His expertise includes managing threat and vulnerability for Safeway and serving as an ISSO for U.S. Coast Guard Classified LANs, where he developed DIACAP policy and maintained system accredi-tation. Andy specializes in RMF, Security Policy, and Computer Forensics. He holds a B.S. in Com-puter Science from Cal State East Bay.



Name **Anil Jethnani**
Title Sales Engineering Leader
Company Netskope
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Anil Jethnani is a Sales Engineering Leader and technologist based in Santa Clara, California, with over 20 years of expertise in cybersecurity and networking. He currently serves as Director of Sales Engineering (US West & US Healthcare) at Netskope, driving solutions across SASE, AI Security, Zero Trust, and Data Loss Prevention (DLP). Over his career, Anil has held leadership and technical roles at industry leaders including Zscaler, Palo Alto Networks, Juniper Networks, and Cisco. He specializes in guiding organizations through cloud transformations, securing digital environments, and building high-performing technical sales teams.



Name **Anthony Rodriguez**
Title **RSM**
Company Oak - Identity Security OS
Visa Platinum Sponsor

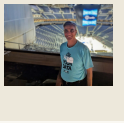
Anthony Rodriguez is a Regional Sales Manager at Oak Identity, based in the East Bay Area. Anthony was Oak's first US hire, joining before Oak emerged from stealth in July. Anthony previously worked with Oak's CEO/ Cofounder, Shai Morag, at Tenable - where Shai was Chief Product Officer. Between Tenable and Oak, Anthony was a Regional Sales Manager at Zafran Security, in the Exposure Management Space.

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Name **Arun Prabhu**
Title **CTO**
Company RANN Consulting
Visa Distinguished Guest

Arun Prabhu is a technology executive specializing in cybersecurity, digital identity, and biometric authentication platforms. He leads the design and delivery of enterprise SaaS solutions that secure users, devices, and transactions across governments and global enterprises. His work spans identity management, passwordless authentication, and zero trust architectures powered by AI driven risk analysis and behavioral biometrics.
Across private equity backed growth companies, Arun has helped create over $300M in enterprise value by modernizing legacy products into scalable cloud platforms and guiding M&A technology diligence and integration. He has built multi factor and risk based authentication systems, mobile digital identity platforms, and biometric verification solutions including face and fingerprint matching used in law enforcement, border control, and enterprise access systems Currently he focuses on next generation AI powered identity and biometric SaaS, enabling contactless identity enrollment, verification, and credential issuance, while advising organizations on security strategy, cloud transformation, and AI adoption. His passion is making strong security usable, turning complex protection into seamless everyday digital trust.



Name **Balaji V**
Title **Principal Architect | OG Cool Kid**
Company PG&E
Visa Partner

Balaji V, Principal Architect at PG&E and a cherished friend of ISC2 East Bay, is both a technology leader and the community catalyst who brings people together by coordinating the local community's "Cool Kids" gatherings. With over two decades of enterprise engineering experience at PG&E, Cisco, and Cognizant, Balaji specializes in designing secure AWS/Azure platforms, IaC automation, DevSecOps pipelines, and cloud-native architectures. He currently leads PG&E's enterprise AI strategy—pioneering Responsible AI governance, Agentic AI workflows, Model Context Protocol (MCP) gateways, and secure generative AI platforms. Balaji combines deep technical rigour with a warm, collaborative spirit.

Name

McKay's Taphouse & Beer Garden

Company McKay's Taphouse

Visa Gold Sponsor

McKay's Taphouse & Beer Garden is a Year-round CA Beer Garden (heated and tented in winter months). We are kid friendly till 9pm and dog friendly always. We have a full menu with scratch made American cuisine with a chef's twist. We feature 20 craft beers, wines, ciders and seltzers on tap as well as bottled beers, wine and a large selection of craft NA products as well as a full bar with cocktails. We offer Live Music on the weekends. Check our Event Page on our website for more details: www.mckaysbeergarden.com We also have a small, quaint Speakeasy indoors (The Angry Goat) open on Friday and Saturdays 6:30-11pm serving craft cocktails. #thegoat.pleasanton



Name

Bernard Brantley

Title **CISO - (Past Speaker)**

Company Corelight

Visa Speaker, Gold Sponsor

Bernard Brantley serves as the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) at Corelight. He joined Corelight from Amazon, where he led threat hunting and threat intelligence teams through advanced purple teaming for Amazon Consumer Payments. Previously, Bernard was the strategist and architect behind bleeding-edge network security monitoring and detection for Microsoft's High Value Asset (HVA) environments, including XboxLIVE. Earlier in his career, he held research and analyst roles at Alert Logic. Bernard is an advisor to several innovative technology companies, including emerging players in GPU-accelerated analytics. He is an active participant in technology workshops focused on shaping the federal government's strategy for the adoption of ML and AI. He attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

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Name

Bhavin Jayswal

Title **Sr Manager, Software Engineering**

Company GAP

Visa Distinguished Guest

Bhavin Jayswal is a futurist network strategist and technology leader with over two decades of experience architecting the digital backbone of global enterprises. He has led large-scale transformations, moving organizations from legacy networks to cloud-first, AI-driven, and secure edge architectures. A recognized thought leader in digital infrastructure, Bhavin's expertise spans SD-WAN, SASE, multi-cloud ecosystems, AI-powered networking, security, and next-generation collaboration platforms. His vision bridges boardroom strategy with hands-on engineering—simplifying complexity, driving resilience, and delivering multimillion-dollar efficiencies. Beyond the enterprise, Bhavin mentors youth robotics teams and inspires the next generation of innovators shaping the future of intelligent, autonomous networks.



Name

Bhawana Veenu

Title **Senior Business Development Executive**

Company Abottts Inc.

Visa Committee

Bhawana Veenu serves on the Career Committee for the ISC2 Chapter. She is an Identity and Access Management (IAM) professional specializing in Identity Governance (IGA) with over eight years of cybersecurity experience. She began her career in IT on the infrastructure side before transitioning into Data Loss Prevention (DLP) and later Identity and Access Governance. Since relocating to the United States in 2009, she has built her cybersecurity career across enterprise environments, focusing on strengthening access governance frameworks and supporting secure, scalable identity programs. Bhawana is passionate about continuous growth and professional development. As someone who has intentionally pushed beyond her comfort zone throughout her career, she is committed to helping aspiring cybersecurity professionals navigate their own journeys. She is always open to meaningful conversations and opportunities to contribute to the cybersecurity community.



Name **Bill Danigelis**
Title **Founding Member**
Company RedBlock
ISC2 ID 56396
Visa Silver Sponsor

Bill Danigelis is a founding member of RedBlock and a highly influential figure in the information security community. As Vice President of ISSA International and a past International Board member, he has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication. A founding member of the Silicon Valley ISSA Chapter, he has held numerous leadership roles at both the local and international levels. With over 14 years of security experience, he is a trusted advisor and expert in vulnerability management, intrusion detection, and risk management. Bill holds a CISSP and graduated from Syracuse University's Martin J. Whitman School of Management.



Name **Blake Allen**
Title **Business Solutions Mgr | Technology Talent & Solutions**
Company Ledgent Technologies
Visa Distinguished Guest

With four years of experience under his belt, Blake Allen has become a go-to resource for the Bay Area's cybersecurity community. Currently with Ledgent Technology, Blake has spent his career at various recruitment firms, honing a sharp instinct for matching the right talent with the right mission.
Blake specializes in helping Cybersecurity Engineers navigate their next career move—whether they're looking for the stability of a direct-hire role or the fast-paced challenge of project-based employment.
But he doesn't just fill seats; Blake acts as a strategic partner for local companies, helping them scale their IT and security initiatives to meet modern threats.
Blake is passionate about keeping the local talent pool strong and ensuring our regional tech scene stays secure and resilient.

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Name **Bob Gilbert**
Title **Vice President, Strategy & Chief Evangelist**
Company Netskope
Visa Keynote Platinum Sponsor

Bob Gilbert is the Vice President of Strategy and Chief Evangelist at Netskope, a market-leading cloud security company. Bob is a prolific speaker and product demonstrator, reaching live audiences in more than 45 countries over the past decade. His career spans more than 25 years in Silicon Valley, where he has held leadership roles in product management and marketing at various technology companies. He was formerly the Chief Evangelist at Riverbed, where he was a member of the pioneering product team that launched Riverbed from a small start-up of less than 10 employees to a market leader with more than 3,000 employees and $1B in annual revenue.

Bob was first introduced to the world of cybersecurity as a teenager in the 80s when he hosted a BBS and had to develop his own terminal software to prevent Russian hackers from infiltrating his site, which was being hosted from his parents' home.



Name **Brent Ichien**
Title **Regional Account Executive**
Company Endor Labs
Visa CSA Partner

Brent Ichien is a Regional Account Executive at Endor Labs, where he helps organizations securely adopt agentic software development and strengthen software supply chain security. He brings more than a decade of cybersecurity experience from start-ups to enterprises, and serves on the board of the Cloud Security Alliance - SF Chapter.



Name **Brian Kennedy**
Title **Solutions Architect, Sales Executive - Lab Leader**
Company Upwind Security
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Brian Kennedy is an enterprise cybersecurity leader with over 20 years of experience helping organizations manage risk across cloud security, identity, and data protection. Currently in Enterprise Sales at Upwind Security, Brian's career spans key roles at high-growth security firms including Astrix Security, Sysdig, CyberArk, and RSA. Beyond his professional track record as a top industry performer, Brian served as Vice President of the Silicon Valley ISSA Chapter. A dedicated mentor and four-time Platinum member, he has been a major contributor and vital pillar of support across ten years of our chapter's history.



Name **Brian Payne**
Title **ISC2 East Bay Chapter Director of Technology | Engineering Manager**
Company Trellis
ISC2 ID 2112205 Visa Member

Brian Payne, incoming 2026 Director of Technology, is a software development Swiss army knife, having worked on a wide scope of projects ranging from real-time audio/ video streaming to live-event ticketing and comparable insurance coverage quoting. He's held a variety of roles from Quality Assurance and Engineering Manager up to Vice President of Engineering. While remediating a data breach in 2013, he developed a passion for cybersecurity and secure software development practices, embracing the continuous learning required to defend organizations against evolving threat landscapes. He's currently an ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity (CC) holder preparing for the CSSLP exam.

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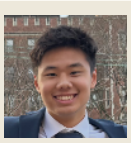
Name **Bryan Culp**
Title **Director Trust**
Company Box
ISC2 ID 822681 Visa Member

Bryan Culp leads Trust & Quality within Box's Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) group and is responsible for Customer Trust, GxP GTM, Third Party Risk Management, the company's Policy Program, and Quarterly Management Review. He previously led the Customer Trust team in Cisco's Security & Trust organization.
He is passionate about how SaaS companies build, maintain, and grow trust with customers and partners. He advocates for Environmental Social Governance (ESG) and participates in his local ISC2 and ISACA chapter meetings. Other interests include reading and writing, traveling, and being in nature.



Name **Carmen Parrish**
Title **Information System Security Manager**
Company LLNL
ISC2 ID 566296 Visa Member

Carmen Parrish, CISSP, is a leading Computer Scientist and Cybersecurity Strategist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), leveraging 39 years of experience to drive cyber security excellence. Her foundational roles at LLNL include Infor-mation System Security Manager (ISSM), Organizational ISSO, and Computer Support Group Leader. She holds an advanced graduate degree from UC Davis. A dedicated community leader, Carmen has served eight years in the executive role of Secretary for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter. Her technical expertise is complemented by her involvement in the Society of Women Engineers and Tau Beta Pi.



Name **Cayden Liao**
Title **Co-Founder - Lab Leader**
Company Veria Labs
Visa Silver Sponsor

Cayden is a co-founder of Veria Labs, building AI hacking agents that automatically find and fix security vulnerabilities. He has competed extensively in Capture the Flag (CTF) competitions and is the current co-captain of the #1-ranked CTF team in the US for three consecutive years, with a world 3rd place in 2025. Cayden regularly competes in many of the world's largest CTFs and is a two-time DEFCON CTF finals qualifier. When he was under 18 and ineligible to apply for the official U.S. Cyber Team, he instead joined as a coach and led the team to a 2nd place finish at the European Cybersecurity Championships.



Name **Chandrasekhar Das**
Title **Principal AI Architect**
Company I-Link Solutions
Visa Member

Chandrasekhar Das is a Principal AI Architect specializing in Cloud Security, Generative AI, and enterprise-scale cloud platforms, with more than 19 years of experience leading complex digital transformation initiatives. He has architected secure AI and cloud solutions for global organizations including Google, Wells Fargo, Verizon, and Broadcom, helping enterprises modernize infrastructure, deploy Generative AI responsibly, and strengthen cybersecurity posture. Chandrasekhar is recognized for designing secure AI architectures, implementing LLM guardrails, and enabling enterprise adoption of platforms such as Google Cloud, Vertex AI, and large-scale data ecosystems to deliver scalable, resilient, and secure AI-driven solutions.

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Name **Chris Bollerud**
Title **Chief Information Security Officer**
Company AppZen (Past President ISC2 SV)
ISC2 ID 1548879 Visa Distinguished Guest

Chris Bollerud, MBA, CISSP, CISM, is a software builder, technology leader, and startup advisor focused on making complex systems simple. His background spans more than 20 years of building software platforms and scaling engineering teams. Today, he advises startups on product-market fit and builds AI-driven tools that simplify complex workflows.

At AppZen, Chris served as Director of Engineering and later Chief Information Security Officer. He grew the engineering team from 3 to 30 and architected platform infrastructure supporting more than $50 billion in annual transaction processing. As CISO, he led global cybersecurity, compliance, and AI governance programs, strengthening enterprise customer trust and supporting business growth.

Previously a Master-level Engineer at HP, Chris combines technical depth with executive experience and a practical understanding of enterprise customer needs. He is Past President of the ISC2 Silicon Valley Chapter, where he promoted collaboration, mentorship, and practical technology leadership.



Name **Chris Gschwend**
Title **Major Account Manager**
Company Netskope
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Chris Gschwend is an experienced Major Account Manager based in the San Francisco Bay Area with a proven track record in computer networking and cybersecurity. Currently serving as Major Account Manager at Netskope, Chris helps organizations apply Zero Trust principles to secure cloud, data, and network infrastructure. His career includes nine years at F5 driving cloud transformation, application security, and territory growth, as well as an award-winning tenure at Johnson & Johnson where he earned President's Club honors. Chris holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Christopher Womack

Founding OffSec specialist
Casco
Fireside Chat Leader, Platinum Sponsor

Chris Womack helps enterprises and federal organizations reduce cyber risk through Casco's offensive security platform. His work focuses on helping organizations identify exploitable vulnerabilities, validate risk at runtime, and reduce engineering time spent on triage and remediation.
Previously at AWS, Chris worked on AI products and developer tools, helping bring Kiro, AWS's agentic IDE, to market. His background spans cloud application development and the use of AI agents to build software.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Christen Patterson

Lead Solutions Architect
VISA
Member

Christen Patterson is an accomplished solution architect and product leader with a strong history of delivering scalable, secure, and high-performance systems. Specializing in identity, cybersecurity, fraud prevention, cloud platforms, and data integration, she excels at bridging business needs with technical execution. Christen has a proven ability to define architectural strategies and lead global teams through digital transformation, with deep experience in financial services, payments, banking, and enterprise software. She holds an MBA from The Wharton School in Operations and Information Management and a BS in Biology from Stanford University.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Christopher Geraghty

ISACA-Sacramento Chapter Vice President
Goodheart Properties, LLC | ISACA Sacramento Board
Partner

Mr. Christopher Geraghty has served on the ISACA-Sacramento Board for nearly a decade, having been Membership Director, Secretary, and Instructor, and has been a member of ISACA Global for over 20 years. He is currently serving as the Chapter's Vice President. He holds the
ISACA CISA, CRISC, and the CDPSE certifications. He is also serving as an ISACA Accredited Trainer for CRISC. Chris has shared his passion for aligning business objectives with technology solutions as a consultant for over 40 years and this passion for achieving excellence has been the foundation of his long career of successful relationships.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Craig Porter

C-level Cybersecurity Advisor
Gartner
663861
Past Board, Member

Craig Porter, is an AI and Cybersecurity Analyst at Gartner, where he advises CISOs and securi-ty leaders worldwide on securing AI use across their organizations. He brings a deep strategic focus to security, rooted in a 15-year career that began in eCommerce development and technical project management. This hands-on foundation ena-bled him to successfully lead IT projects and cybersecurity teams. Craig also serves as the Director of Technology for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter, where he manages the technology supporting our member community. When he's not researching AI innovation, he's perfecting Ne-apolitan pizzas at home, biking across the Bay Area, or spending time with family.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Crystal Handy

Sr Account Executive
VulnCheck
Silver Sponsor

Crystal Handy is a Senior Account Executive at VulnCheck, where she works closely with security vendors and their product teams to integrate intelligence spanning the exploitation lifecycle into their product offerings. With 12 years in cybersecurity, she is motivated by helping security innovators strengthen protection for their customers.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Dan Barahona

Founder
AI Security University
Partner

Dan Barahona is the founder of AI Security University (aisec.university), which offers free courses, live-streams and virtual conferences on securing AI systems and using AI safely. He has spent more than 25 years in cybersecurity, and courses he has built have trained over 150,000 learners, including teams at more than 80% of the Fortune 100. Before AI Security University, he co-founded APIsec University.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Dan Farmer

Regional Sales Director
Singulr AI
Frequent Silver Sponsor

Dan Farmer, a security and sales expert, is a familiar face at ISC2 East Bay social gatherings and a highly valued friend, mentor, and sponsor. As Regional Sales Director at Illumio, he focuses on solving the challenge of security segmentation by decoupling it from network architecture, resulting in faster, safer, and less expensive solutions. Dan built his expertise at companies like VMware (where he led the Western US Global Accounts team for the SDDC Practice, delivering significant revenue goals and team mentorship), and Cisco Systems. He specializes in Solution Selling, Channel strategy, and SaaS.

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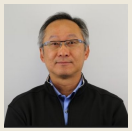


Name
Title
Company
Visa

Ashish Garg

Founder, Managing Partner
RIGA Cyber
Distinguished Guest

Ashish is a globally recognized leader in cybersecurity, AI security, and venture capital, with extensive experience bridging emerging technologies, enterprise security, and business strategy. As Founder and Managing Partner of RIGA Cyber and Adjunct Faculty at Dominican University of California, he drives innovation in GenAI governance and cybersecurity education. A Top 50 Cybersecurity Mentor in the U.S. (2024) and LinkedIn Top Cybersecurity Voice (2024), Ashish is at the forefront of advising Fortune 500 companies and startups on navigating the complex landscape of AI security, regulatory compliance, and cybersecurity innovation. He holds a PhD in Computer Science and Engineering, is a Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), and has published multiple papers and holds patents in cybersecurity.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Daniel Cheng

Sales Engineering Leader | ISC2 EB Board
Stellar Cyber
Frequent Speaker Platinum Sponsor

Daniel Cheng is the Head of North America Channel at Stellar Cyber, where he leads the strategy and execution of the company's reseller ecosystem. With a strong focus on enablement, trust, and execution, Daniel works closely with partners to help them successfully adopt and scale Stellar Cyber's AI-driven SecOps platform. Since taking on this role in early 2025, Daniel has played a key role in expanding channel awareness, developing a growing community of technical champions, and strengthening partner capabilities through certification and hands-on training. His work bridges business strategy and technical execution, ensuring partners are equipped to deliver real value to their customers. At the ISC2 East Bay Conference, Daniel will serve as Stellar Cyber Lab Leader, guiding participants through an interactive, hands-on session that demonstrates how a unified, open, and AI-powered SecOps platform can simplify threat detection, investigation, and response while improving operational efficiency and security outcomes.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Danil Panache

Senior Channel Solutions Architect
Horizon3.ai
Speaker Gold Sponsor

Danil Panache is a Senior Channel Solutions Architect at Horizon3.ai, focused on continuous autonomous penetration testing. With over a decade of experience in cybersecurity, including threat intelligence, security engineering, and working directly with SOC and CSIRT teams, Danil brings a practitioner's perspective on both offensive techniques and the defensive realities organizations face.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

David Affonso

Offensive Security Specialist | SaaS Penetration Testing
Horizon3.ai
Silver Sponsor

David Affonso is an Offensive Security Specialist and high-performing Enterprise Account Executive in Northern California. He currently drives strategic customer success at Horizon3.ai, focusing on autonomous penetration testing to help organizations find and fix attack vectors across external, identity, and cloud environments. David's expertise spans the SaaS security landscape, having held key sales roles at high-growth companies including JupiterOne and Synack. An award-winning leader, he has achieved President's Club recognition and holds ITIL and AWS Technical Accreditation certifications.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

David Nicholson

Solutions Engineer
Abnormal AI
Platinum Sponsor

David Nicholson is a Solutions Engineer at Abnormal Security, where he works with organizations across industries to address emerging AI-driven security threats and modern email-borne attacks. He came to cybersecurity from CNC manufacturing in the defense industry, bringing a hands-on, operations-first mindset to security challenges.
Before joining Abnormal four years ago, David spent 8.5 years at RSA NetWitness, working across SIEM, packet capture, and EDR technologies to help security teams detect and respond to advanced threats.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Dawn Ona

Senior Compliance Analyst
Veeva Systems Inc.
1240913
Board Member

Dawn Ona, ISC2 East Bay's Conference Hospitality Coordinator, and Senior Compliance Analyst specializing in Cybersecurity, Risk Management, and Procurement at Veeva Systems, is a security-conscious compliance and procurement leader. She has proven ability to identify and mitigate risks within the supply chain with expertise developing and implementing robust vendor vetting processes and Third-Party Risk Management. Dawn is a master at safeguarding sensitive data, and ensuring compliance with stringent security standards. Her roles involve monitoring compliance, advising management on control issues, and coordinating complex external security assessments, including HIPAA, SOC2 Type 2, and ISO 27001 audits. Dawn is skilled in commercial contract review and negotiation, provides training on contracting policies, and is Certified in Cybersecurity from ISC2.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Dennis Esselsagoe

Financial Professional
NY Life
2525890 Visa Member

Dennis Esselsagoe, MBA, MPP, is a results-driven investment professional with over a decade of experience in financial analytics, portfolio strategy, and risk management. A strong advocate for financial literacy and innovation, he also serves as a City Finance Commissioner and leads a fintech firm focused on advancing crypto intelligence. Dennis is passionate about integrating technology with finance to drive smarter investment decisions and financial empowerment. Dennis is the ISC2 East Bay Chapter Director of Outreach.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Dennis Moreau

Sr. Cybersecurity Architect
Systemic Trustability
Member

Dennis Moreau is Cybersecurity Architect, working with startups to extend security to emerging technologies.
Dennis has previously been a Cybersecurity Architect for AI within Intel's datacenter and edge computing divisions, a Sr. Engineering Architect for Cybersecurity in the VMware ATG, a Senior Researcher in the RSA Office of the CTO, a Founder and CTO of Configuresoft, as well as a Co-PI in Computation Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. Dennis holds a doctorate in Computer Science and has been tenured in that discipline. His research has been sponsored by Bell Labs, NASA/JPL, the NSF, the NIH, the NLM and IBM.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Derek Pizzagoni

Chief Information Security Officer | Advisory Board Member
Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA)
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
454370 Visa Member

Derek Pizzagoni, Chief Information Security Officer | Technology & Security Executive | U.S. Navy Veteran, is an accomplished technology and security executive with over 25 years of IT experience, including 15+ years leading enterprise-wide information security programs across healthcare, finance, and technology sectors. As a former Chief Information Security Officer, he has built and transformed security and IT teams, implemented scalable cloud and on-premise infrastructure, and guided organizations through complex risk, compliance, and governance challenges. Derek is passionate about mentoring high-performing teams, driving operational excellence, and fostering innovative approaches to cybersecurity. A U.S. Navy veteran, he brings a disciplined, strategic mindset to every initiative and is dedicated to advancing the field of information security.

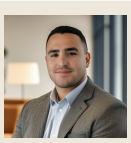


Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Dhawal Thakker

Principal - Cyber Risk and National Leader IRM/GRC
RSM US LLP
29978 Distinguished Guest

Dhawal Thakker, Principal – Cyber Risk – National Leader Governance Risk & Compliance, RSM US is the national leader in Integrated Risk Management service offering. Dhawal has over 20 years of experience assisting clients with building and implementing integrated risk management (IRM) programs. Dhawal's experience crosses several risk domains, including information security, privacy, information technology, compliance, operations, and third-party management.
Dhawal's experience includes building enterprise-wide unified risk and compliance programs and has led various projects helping clients mature IRM program posture through automation. Dhawal's primary focus has been developing regulatory risk and compliance solutions, data protection programs, and strategic implementation of information security programs. Dhawal has hands-on experience in designing, implementing, and managing GRC solutions to automate regulatory and compliance programs using tools like AuditBoard, ServiceNow, Onetrust, Archer, etc.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Dimitri Nazarian

Account Executive
Optiv Consulting
2387097 Visa Member

Dimitri Nazarian is an information security professional transitioning from enterprise identity and access management and identity governance sales into hands-on cybersecurity roles. He recently completed a Master of Science in Cybersecurity from Dominican University of California, gaining lab-based experience in security operations, incident response workflows, web application vulnerabilities and foundational Python scripting.
Through supporting NIST-aligned identity programs within large enterprise environments, he developed practical exposure to control frameworks, identity verification standards and cross-functional security collaboration. He recently achieved the CompTIA Security+ certification and is seeking entry to mid level cybersecurity, identity or governance analyst roles focused on structured risk evaluation, technical validation and disciplined execution.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Donald Hester

Cybersecurity Advisor
CISA
229562 Visa Past Board Member

Donald E. Hester is an expert Cybersecurity Advisor to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and a past leader of the ISC2 East Bay Conference Committee. With over 25 years of extensive experience in information systems and cybersecurity, he excels at aligning cyber risk management with business objectives. His proven expertise spans government cybersecurity, where he has consulted and audited over 180 clients nationwide, with a focus on local government. Donald is known for his strategic approach to protecting organizations, integrating risk tolerance and regulatory requirements into effective security solutions. He is committed to building ethical cybersecurity cultures and fostering a cybersafe world through education and collaboration.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Doug Barbin

President & National Managing Principal
Schellman & Company, Inc.
Distinguished Guest

President, Schellman & Company, LLC | National Managing Principal, Schellman Compliance, LLC - As the National Managing Principal, Doug Barbin is responsible for the strategy, development, growth, and delivery of Schellman's global services portfolio. Since joining in 2009, his primary focus has been to expand the strong foundation in IT audit and assurance to make Schellman a market-leading diversified cybersecurity and compliance services provider. He has developed many of Schellman's service offerings, served global clients, and now focuses on leading and supporting the service delivery professionals, practice leaders, and business development teams. Doug brings more than 25 years of experience in technology-focused services, having served as a technology product management executive, a mortgage firm CTO/COO, and a fraud and computer forensic investigations leader. Doug holds dual-bachelor's degrees in Accounting and Administration of Justice from Penn State as well as an MBA from Pepperdine. He has also taken post-graduate courses on Artificial Intelligence from MIT and maintains multiple CPA licenses, and in addition to most of the major industry certifications, including several he helped create.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Divakar Prayaga

CISO & Co-founder
PurpleLens.ai
Guest

With nearly two decades of experience in building cybersecurity programs ground up, from security analyst to CISO at large US Banks, E-Commerce and logistics industry, Divakar brings a practitioner's perspective on the challenges facing today's security leaders and the future of AI Cybersecurity.
As CISO & Co-founder of PurpleLens, he is building AI native validation platform that help organisations transition to AI, with focus on offensive security.
His interests span AI and cybersecurity, autonomous offensive security, emerging threats, importance of cyber communities and the evolving role of security leaders in an AI-first world.
He is passionate about sharing real-world lessons, challenging conventional thinking, and fostering meaningful conversations that help the cybersecurity community learn, adapt, and build what comes next.



Name **Diya Mukherjee**
Title **Co-founder**
Company Saffyr AI
ISC2 ID 2523073 Visa Board Member

Diya Mukherjee is an AI Governance Professional, Co-Founder of Saffýr AI, and Cybersecurity Compliance Analyst at Layer48 Technology Solutions based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Combining a background in Psychological and Brain Sciences from UC Santa Barbara with an MSc in Business Psychology from Kingston University, she specializes in building AI regulatory compliance automation and risk mitigation frameworks. Diya brings extensive expertise across AI compliance, cybersecurity, and governance, risk, and compliance (GRC) management. A dedicated board member and solid contributor to the ISC2 East Bay Chapter, she also serves as our newest Membership Chair.



Name **Eddie Borrero**
Title **Senior Vice President & Chief Information Officer**
Company Cyera
Visa Speaker Distinguished Guest

Eddie Borrero is an enterprise technology and cybersecurity executive with over 25 years of experience leading digital transformation, enterprise risk, and AI governance across large-scale organizations. Currently serving as Senior Vice President & Chief Information Officer at Cyera, Eddie leverages a deep background in cybersecurity—having spent over two decades as a CISO, including senior leadership roles at Blue Shield of California and Stellarus—to build secure, platform-driven, AI-enabled business models. Recognized as a 2024 Bay Area CISO Award winner, a HITEC 100 honoree, and a CISOs Connect 2026 C100 winner, Eddie is a patent holder (Objectively Managing Risk) and a widely published thought leader on human-centric security, data governance, and mobile security. A U.S. military veteran, chapter leader, and graduate of the Deloitte US Next Generation CIO Academy, Eddie holds the CISSP credential and serves as an advisor to boards and CEOs on enterprise AI regulation, continuous risk management, and strategic innovation.

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Name **Eric Charles**
Title **Director**
Company Biotech Industry
Visa Guest

Eric Charles is an experienced Project Manager in the Biotech Drug Development industry, with over 20 years experience managing teams working from the tightly focused, small Rare Disease indications all the way to huge metabolic and cancer diseases. Eric additionally has focused on developing Project Tracking solutions, via a number of various timeline/reporting software solutions, and Portfolio Analysis, bringing together project plans, finance budget management and resource management. Eric has recently begun to work on enterprise AI solutions in the Biotech industry, especially focused on how to enable appropriate AI tools to enhance productivity while imposing significant data guardrail security to guard the company's proprietary research data



Name **Eric Simmons**
Title **Sr. GRC Manager**
Company Philips
ISC2 ID 453188 Visa Past Board Member

Eric Simmons, EC Council Certified CISO, CISA, and CISSP, is a Sr. GRC Manager at Philips and a past ISC2 Board Member. He is an experienced Information Security Manager with expertise in IT strategy, DFARS/ITAR, HIPAA compliance, and IT operations. Prior to Philips, he was Manager of Information Security at Zag Technical Services. Eric holds a BA in Psychology from the University of the Pacific.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Eleanor Sigel

Security Architect
Casco
Platinum Sponsor

Eleanor Sigel is a Security Architect at Casco based in the San Francisco Bay Area. She holds a double B.A. in Economics and Mathematics from the University of Southern California, alongside studies at Sciences Po and DePaul University. Her professional background spans cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and academic research, including roles as a GTM Engineer Consulting for LiteLLM AI Gateway and a Predoctoral Research Fellow at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. She has also conducted quantitative research for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and USC's Department of Economics. Eleanor is skilled in QGIS, R, and French.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Eliza Wong

Cybersecurity Practitioner - ISC2 East Bay Conference Committee
Freelance
Committee Member

Eliza Wong, CISSP, is a cybersecurity practitioner and strategist specialized in hardening mission-critical infrastructure and automating regulatory compliance. Holding a Master of Science from Columbia University, Eliza's career is defined by a 12-year tenure at Adobe, where she led enterprise database security and served as a DevOps Security Champion. She is recognized for operationalizing SOC2, ISO 27001, and PCI DSS frameworks within highly regulated environments. Eliza combines technical depth in vulnerability management and cryptography with a strategic focus on Cyber Assurance, ensuring that security policy is seamlessly integrated into the DevOps lifecycle to protect enterprise-scale data assets.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Erica Cunningham

Senior Sale Practioner
Microsoft
638521
Committee Member

Erica Cunningham is a cybersecurity and technology professional with over 25 years of experience in enterprise security, risk management, and emerging technologies. With a Master's degree in Cybersecurity and a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology, she brings deep expertise in threat intelligence, vulnerability management, cloud security, Zero Trust architecture, security operations, governance, risk, and compliance (GRC). Her experience spans enterprise cybersecurity strategy, regulatory frameworks, security architecture, and AI-driven security solutions.
Erica is passionate about helping organizations securely adopt artificial intelligence, strengthen cyber resilience, in an increasingly automated world.
Erica combines technical expertise with executive-level business insight, bridging the gap between cybersecurity innovation, organizational risk, and measurable business outcomes.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Eugene Pakhomov

Subject Matter Expert
Black Duck
687682
Past Speaker Member

Eugene Pakhomov is an SCA and IAST Subject Matter Expert at Black Duck, where he helps employees and customers to better understand Black Duck products in those areas. Eugene started his career in the AI field and recently obtained professional certifications from Berkeley and Stanford to further deepen his expertise and apply the knowledge to solve challenges on the intersection of AI and Cybersecurity fields.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Evan Stewart

Cybersecurity Advisor | President
WWT | ISC2 Silicon Valley Chapter
1251534 Visa Partner

Evan Stewart is a cybersecurity and technology leader at World Wide Technology, where he advises enterprise clients on cybersecurity best practices. He also serves as President of the ISC2 Silicon Valley Chapter, leading one of the region's most active cybersecurity communities and fostering collaboration among practitioners, sponsors, and industry leaders. In addition, Evan is a Partner at XPS Ventures, supporting early-stage cybersecurity startups with go-to-market strategy, revenue acceleration, and ecosystem partnerships.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Evan Tsai

Founder| ISC2 East Bay Director Chapter Marketing
Phoenix Advisor
3550060 Visa Member

Evan Tsai is the founder of Phoenix Ascent Advisory, a governance consulting firm focused on helping organizations build resilient governance structures that withstand operational, technological, and regulatory pressures. With over 20 years of experience in internal audit, assurance, risk management, and governance, Evan brings a practitioner's perspective to identifying why controls fail—even when they pass testing. Beginning his career as a QA engineer at IBM, he combines a testing mindset with governance architecture to help organizations move beyond compliance toward lasting structural resilience. Evan is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and serves on the board of the ISC2 East Bay Chapter.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Gabrielle Aura

AE
Cyera
Gold Sponsor

Gabbie Aura is an Enterprise Account Executive at Cyera, where she partners with security, data, and technology leaders to help organizations understand, secure, and govern their most sensitive data as they accelerate cloud and AI adoption. With a background in cybersecurity and a focus on data security and AI governance, Gabbie works with organizations to bridge the gap between emerging technology, business innovation, and security risk. She is passionate about helping leaders move beyond traditional approaches to data protection and build the visibility, confidence, and controls needed to embrace AI securely.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Gabe Medina

Sr. Director IT Risk Assurance
RGP
Member

Gabe Medina is a business-minded IT audit professional with over 20+ years of experience leading process, risk, and compliance initiatives across a wide range of business life cycles. He has spearheaded efforts and held numerous roles across all lines in the Three Lines of Defense Model. Adept in establishing and maintaining IT/Financial risk and compliance programs, the execution of AI Audit/GRC, IT Risk Assessments, Third-Party Risk Management, Cybersecurity, ERP Security, and other Operational/Emerging Risk Assessments and Governance efforts. Still curious. Still skeptical. Still asking better questions. Driven by the belief that thoughtful auditor judgment, not just better tools, defines a great audit.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Gary Dylina

Director of Information Security
ISC2 East Bay Board Emeritus
478187 Visa Board Emeritus

Gary Dylina, CISSP, serves as Advisor Emeritus for Chapter Heritage and Culture at the ISC2 East Bay Chapter. His career spans cybersecurity, compliance, and technology operations across higher education, biotechnology, and cloud-based companies. He has held security leadership roles at Panorama Education, Narvar, and Pantheon. Gary combines technical expertise with collaborative leadership to build practical security programs, strengthen governance, and support organizational growth. A former chapter Vice President and Treasurer and Finance Director, he preserves institutional knowledge, champions chapter traditions, and mentors emerging leaders. He advocates continuous learning, community connection, and security practices that serve both people and business needs.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

George D. DeCesare

HITRUST - Board of Directors | SVP Risk
HITRUST
Distinguished Guest

George D. DeCesare is a prominent leader in the cybersecurity and risk management landscape, currently serving on the Board of Directors for HITRUST. Previously, he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Risk Officer at Kaiser Permanente, where he was accountable for technology risk management for 12 million members and a massive enterprise workforce. George's career spans over 20 years in healthcare, including roles as CISO and in-house counsel specializing in healthcare regulatory compliance, privacy, and cybersecurity law.
Beyond his corporate executive tenure, George served as a Captain for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for 17 years. During his law enforcement career, he was a specialist investigator in identity theft and served on the Advisory Council on Computer Forensics. He is a member of the Healthcare Industry Cybersecurity Task Force formed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and holds a Juris Doctorate from Northwestern California University School of Law and an MBA from Columbia Pacific University.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Gopi Ramamoorthy

Head of Security
Zscaler (Symmetry Systems)
425621 Visa Distinguished Guest

Gopi Ramamoorthy, with over 15 years in information security and compliance, has risen from engineering roles to leadership positions in sectors like Finance and Healthcare. At Fiserv, he managed security compliance for multiple units worth $350 billion in annual transactions, consistently maintaining an impeccable record of zero findings. Gopi's contributions extend beyond his core work; he's an active leader in infosec forums, served as ISC2 Silicon Valley President in 2013, and was on the ISACA Silicon Valley Board from 2014-2021. Certified with CISSP, CISA, CIPP/US, and CISM, Gopi is currently the Head of Security and GRC Engineering at Symmetry Systems, which has recently been acquiired by Zscaler. A dedicated professional and leader, Gopi's expertise is widely recognized and respected in the industry. In 2023 alone, Gopi has spoken at multiple conferences on Cybersecurity and Privacy and continues to share his knowledge and experience through multiple forums.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Gourav Nagar

Head of Information Security & IT
Upwind
541614 Visa Platinum Sponsor: Keynote

Gourav Nagar, head of Information Security and IT at Upwind, is a seasoned cybersecurity executive with over a decade of experience leading and scaling security programs at some of the world's most respected companies. He has held key leadership roles at Uber, Apple, EY, and BILL Holdings Inc., driving initiatives across security engineering, operations, threat detection, incident response, digital forensics, GRC, and infrastructure security.

In addition to his corporate leadership, Gourav is a recognized thought leader and a dedicated mentor to students and early-career professionals. He actively advises cybersecurity founders and contributes to the broader innovation ecosystem by helping startups shape their products, go-to-market strategies, and security vision. Gourav holds a Master's in Management Information Systems from Texas A&M University and maintains industry-leading certifications including CISSP, CISM, CHFI, and GCFA.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Guman Chauhan

Security Lead
Otsi
Speaker Partner

As a Cybersecurity Leader and Board member, I help organizations build security programs that not only protect but also enable growth, trust, and innovation. With two decades of experience leading large-scale security architecture, governance, and risk transformation initiatives, I've guided enterprises and government entities through complex digital evolutions to align security strategies with business outcomes. Holding CISSP, CISM, AWS, and other security vendor certifications, I bring a deep technical foundation paired with executive-level insight to bridge the gap between cybersecurity, compliance, and innovation. My passion lies in transforming security from a cost center into a strategic enabler of resilience through the responsible integration of AI and automation. As a Government Cyber Advisor, Mentor, and Speaker, I'm committed to advancing collaboration across the global security community to help emerging leaders grow and guide organizations toward stronger governance, ethical AI adoption, and measurable risk reduction. I have also authored a few journal and conference publications and contributed to advancements in AI-driven cloud security and data integrity.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Hillary Hernandez

Senior Vice President/Branch Director- Technology
Robert Half
Partner Member

Hillary Hernandez is an accomplished technology leader with 25 years of experience in IT staffing, consulting, and business strategy. As a top-performing leader at Robert Half, she has helped Fortune 500 companies and emerging enterprises build high-impact technology teams across cybersecurity, cloud, AI, and enterprise applications. Hillary has consistently ranking in the top 1% of the company. Beyond her professional achievements, she is passionate about empowering others, to advance in leadership and innovation. Hillary is an active member of the ISC2 East Bay & Silicon Valley Chapters, community volunteer, and frequent speaker on the intersection of talent, technology, and human con-nection. Known for her relational leadership style and strategic insight, Hillary continues to champion collaboration and excellence within the Bay Area tech ecosystem.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Indus Khaitan

Founder and CEO
Redblock
Speaker Silver Sponsor

Indus Khaitan is the CEO and founder of Redblock. Redblock extends Identity Security to disconnected apps. Previously, Indus co-founded Bitzer Mobile, a mobile security company acquired by Oracle. He holds a degree in computer science from the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

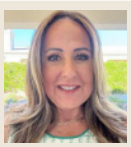


Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Irwin Cheng

Senior Cybersecurity Solution Analyst
Pacific Gas and Electric
400254
Board Member

Irwin Cheng, CISSP, MBA, is an accomplished cybersecurity professional specializing in Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC). Based in SF East Bay, he serves as a Cybersecurity Solution Analyst, assessing and managing cybersecurity risks across critical infrastructure. With over a decade of experiences in the energy/utility sector, he has a strong foundation in both technical and strategic enterprise risk. He successfully managed and streamlined global security risk and compliance, and automated audit processes. Irwin also contributes to the community as the Treasurer of the (ISC)² East Bay Chapter, fostering education and engagement in the Bay Area.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Jacqueline Ellman

West Coast Region Manufacturer's Representative

Distinguished Guest

Jacqueline Ellman is a results-driven sales leader in the technology and network solutions space. As National and Regional Account Manager for the Southwest Region (California, Hawaii, Arizona, and New Mexico) at NetAlly—a leading provider of innovative network testing, visibility, and performance tools—she drives strategic sales growth by focusing on creating efficiencies and reducing time to network issue resolution times across key accounts. She collaborates closely with partners and clients to deliver cutting-edge solutions that optimize network reliability, security, and efficiency for enterprise organizations.
With deep expertise in building strategic partnerships and fostering long-term client success, Jacqueline has a strong background in cybersecurity-adjacent technologies, including ransomware protection, security operations, and IT infrastructure health assessments.
Jacqueline combines technical acumen with a genuine passion for helping organizations thrive in complex digital environments. Based in Palm Springs, California, she is a licensed private pilot, an enthusiastic foodie and music lover, a dedicated mother, and a firm believer in the Golden Rule.
Jacqueline looks forward to meaningful conversations at the dinner and exploring ways to support your network and security initiatives.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Jake Solis

Regional Sales Manager | IAM Consultant - Expo

Netskope

Platinum Sponsor

Jake Solis is an Account Executive and Identity Security Consultant, serving as a trusted advisor and problem solver with 25 years of technology experience. As an accomplished entrepreneur, he co-founded 1+1 Technology, generating $5M in revenue and earning a spot on the CRN “Next-Gen 250” list. As Managing Partner at All Systems Global, he drove 700% revenue growth. Jake specializes in identity-first solutions, actively evangelizing security best practices as the founder of the Bay Area Zero Trust Networking Group. He is a dedicated community host for the ISC2 chapter.

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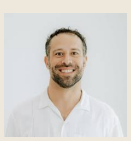
Jamie Garrison

Enterprise Sales Director - Expo

Intezer

Platinum Sponsor

Jamie Garrison is the Enterprise Sales & MSSP Director at INTEZER, driving success with AI/Autonomous SOC products for the world’s most trusted brands foundational player for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter and seven-year conference contributor, she has secured the highest non-board donation value. Her accom-plished career includes key leadership roles at Intezer, Stellar Cyber, Securonix, and Electric Cloud, specializing in enterprise sales across cybersecurity solutions. Jamie holds a BA in Communication Design from Chico State and dedicates time to the American Heart Association, NFL Alumni, and serving as a Board Member for Ladies of the Empire.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Jaryd Hickman

Director of Global Sales and Channel

D3 Security

Gold Sponsor

Jaryd Hickman leads sales and sales development at D3 Security, bringing over a decade of cybersecurity sales experience to the team. His background spans enterprise security solutions across DLP, NGFW, cloud security, email security, and managed detection and response. Jaryd is based in Austin, Texas.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Jing Zhang-Lee

Enterprise Security Architect - IAM

Gilead Sciences

427779

BoardMember-emeritus

Jing Zhang-Lee is an Enterprise Security Architect at Gilead Sciences, bringing over 20 years of expertise in IAM, governance, risk, and compliance. As a former ISC2 Board Director of Education, she significantly enhanced stu-dent involvement in our chapter through lasting scholarship and fundraising initiatives. Her expertise spans strate-gic planning, digital identity transformation, and security architecture, demonstrated by her certifications, includ-ing CISSP and CCSP.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Javier Garza

Solutions Engineer - Lab Leader
Snyk

Visa: Gold Sponsor

Javier Garza is a Technology evangelist that has written many articles on HTTP/2, Security and web performance, and is the co-author of the O'Reilly Book "Learning HTTP/2". In 2018, Javier spoke at more than 25 developer-related events around the world, including well-known conferences like Velocity, AWS Re:Invent, and PerfMatters. His life's motto is: share what you learn, and learn what you don't. In his free time he enjoys challenging workouts and volunteering for non-profits in areas like children and education.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Jean O'Neil-Opipari

STEM Program Coordinator
Las Positas College

Visa: Partner

Jean O'Neil-Opipari is the STEM Program Coordinator at Las Positas College, where she oversees strategic initiatives, industry partnerships, and student opportunities. An ISC2 East Bay Star, she has expertly coordinated the chapter's multi-year program at the college. With over a decade of leadership in educational program development and work-based learning, Jean excels at building sustainable bridges between academia and industry. She is a dedicated community leader and former President of the Granada High School Supporters Club.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Jennifer Cohen

Senior Channel Sales Manager
Horizon3.ai

Visa: Silver Sponsor

Jennifer Cohen's start in Security involved building a Snort server. After a few days of reading her coworkers' IM traffic she learned she had very boring coworkers. Since then she has moved over the dark side, Sales, but stayed with Security as she loves hearing about the fun things other hackers have done. After working for IronPort, Cisco, Agari, Sectigo, ColorTokens and a number of resellers, she is going out on her own to provide guidance to start-ups on how to get the biggest and fastest ROI when working with VARs.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Jignesh Ruparel

National Security ESA
ePlus Technology, Inc.

Visa: Member

Enterprise Security Architect at ePlus, Jignesh Ruparel advises executive leadership that directly align security architectures with business imperatives, compliance mandates, and operational resilience. With deep experience spanning multiple verticals including CTO and vCIO roles in technology,
Specializing in SASE, DSPM, DLP, AI Security and a broad range of strategic security expertise from Shift-Left to CDNs. Over 10+yrs in SD-WAN. Broad security knowledge with ability to have articulate technology into business needs. Consistently noted by peers to be "invaluable, savvy thought leader that inspires confidence with customers, is strategic & methodical in how he approaches engineering."



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Jim Danforth

Independent
ISC2 East Bay Chapter
BoardMember

Jim Danforth is a Cybersecurity Operations and IT Leader with over 25 years of technology experience, including a decade leading enterprise security programs across energy, healthcare, SaaS, and semiconductor sectors. As a Cybersecurity Manager at PG&E, Jim directed an 11-member operations team overseeing SOC functions, threat intelligence, vulnerability management, SIEM, and cloud/identity security. Certified in GSEC, GISF, and GFACT, his expertise spans NIST, ISO 27001, and HITRUST compliance. Jim also serves as the Director of Sponsorship for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter, driving community partnerships and supporting regional cybersecurity initiatives.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Jim Dempsey

Managing Director, IAPP Cybersecurity Law Center, and Senior Policy Advisor, Stanford Program on Geopolitics, Technology and Governance
IAPP
Distinguished Guest

Jim Dempsey is the Managing Director of the IAPP Cybersecurity Law Center, serving as the public voice and thought leader on cybersecurity law and policy. A leading expert in the field for three decades, he provides strategic direction and content for IAPP members, engaging with policymakers and industry leaders globally. Jim is currently a Lecturer at UC Berkeley School of Law, where he previously served as Executive Director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology (BCLT), helping secure Berkeley's top IP law ranking. His significant public service includes being appointed by President Obama to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (PCLOB); his extensive background also includes leadership roles at the Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT) and Assistant Counsel to the House Judiciary Committee. He is the co-author of Cybersecurity Law Fundamentals and a frequent contributor to Lawfare. Jim holds a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from Harvard University.

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Name
Title
Company
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John Lazar

Sr. Compliance Consultant | ISACA SV Board
PG&E | ISACA SV Board
Member

John Lazar, CISA, is a Senior Cyber Security Controls Assessor at PG&E, specializing in SOX IT General Controls testing. John has extensive experience mapping security policies to frameworks like NIST SP 800-53, NERC CIP, ISO 27002, SOC 2 and PCI DSS. He serves on the ISACA Silicon Valley Chapter Board of Directors as Vice President of External Affairs, supporting all portfolios and connecting with the C-Suite.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

John Lundgren

AE
Cyera
Gold Sponsor

John Lundgren is an Enterprise Account Executive at Cyera, where he works alongside security, data, and technology leaders to give their organizations clear visibility into sensitive data, and the controls to protect and govern it, as cloud and AI adoption accelerates. With a long career helping IT and Security teams put cutting-edge technology to work, John focuses on streamlining operations and turning technology investments into real business outcomes. He is passionate about helping leaders unlock the value of AI with trust and safety built in from the start.



Name **John Martinez**
Title **Technical Evangelist with Trust Issues**
Company Delinea
ISC2 ID
Visa Silver Sponsor

John Martinez is the Technical Evangelist at StrongDM and a long-time security practitioner who has worn many hats over the years. Before StrongDM, he worked in the Cloud Security space in Engineering and Customer-facing roles at Palo Alto Networks and Evident.io, where CSPM was created. Before that, he was a cloud security and operations practitioner at Adobe and Netflix.



Name **John MacInnis**
Title **CEO**
Company Upside Now
ISC2 ID 651762
Visa Member

John MacInnis, CISSP, is the founder of Upside-Now, a San Jose firm that builds WordPress websites and writes the copy for professional-services businesses. He brings more than 25 years of experience at the intersection of security, engineering and technology marketing. He began as a firmware engineer, then spent a decade as Director of Product Management at Phoenix Technologies, where his team shipped over a billion units of UEFI/BIOS firmware. He went on to roles at Intel, Cisco (Data Center Virtualization), Philips (Product Security, Enterprise SaaS) and HID Global (Identity and Access Management), and most recently served as Marketing Director at Truvantis, a cybersecurity consultancy. John holds a BS in Computer Engineering from the University of Michigan and an MBA from the University of Phoenix, and is a member of the ISC^2 East Bay Chapter.

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Name **Jonathan Randall**
Title **AD**
Company Snyk
ISC2 ID 92906
Visa Gold Sponsor

Jonathan Randall is a Strategic Account Director at Snyk.
He has worked on the business side of Cyber Security for 20+ years at large OEMs,
series A startups and everything in between.



Name **Jonathan Razo**
Title **CEO and Founder**
Company SCN+
ISC2 ID 287470
Visa Member

J. R. Razo is the founder of Security Consulting N+, LLC, where he provides fractional CISO and CPO services. He has 20 years of experience managing sensitive data environments, including PHI, PCI, and ITAR. Razo holds an MIT Sloan MBA and specializes in HITRUST, ISO 27001, and NIST frameworks.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Joseph Izzo

Chief Medical Information Officer
San Joaquin General Hospital
Visa Guest

Joseph Izzo, MD, is an emergency physician and addiction medicine specialist serving as Chief Medical Information Officer at a public teaching hospital in California's Central Valley. His work focuses on the intersection of clinical care, digital health, and clinical cybersecurity, reframing healthcare cybersecurity through the lens of patient safety. Dr. Izzo leads initiatives in innovation, AI governance, clinical informatics, and data infrastructure while continuing active clinical practice. He speaks nationally on the realities of securing healthcare delivery and the growing role of clinicians in cybersecurity leadership and will be speaking at the upcoming RSA Conference on the topic of bedside cybersecurity.



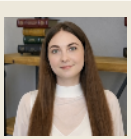
Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Karey Willms

Senior Field Marketing Manager - Expo
Netskope
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Karey Willms is the Senior Field Marketing Manager at Netskope, where she has led regional marketing strategy and execution since 2019. Her tenure at Netskope focuses on building and measuring demand-generating programs, managing high-pressure marketing deliverables, and maintaining brand consistency across social and email channels. Previously, she served as the North American Storage Lead at Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE), a role she transitioned into following the Nimble Storage merger. Her expertise includes expert channel management, Salesforce-driven ROI reporting, and negotiating competitive sponsorship agreements for major industry conferences.

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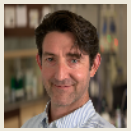


Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Karina Lelaisromant

Cybersecurity & Network Administration | ISC2 East Bay Chapter Conference Coordinator
ISC2 EB Board
2291901 Visa Member

Karina Lelaisromant serves as a Conference Coordinator Shadow for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and a Master's degree in Management with a specialization in Innovation Management. After moving to the United States, she transitioned into cybersecurity and earned an Associate of Science in Cybersecurity and Network Administration, along with the ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity (CC) certification. She previously worked 1.5 years as a Sales and Marketing Manager for safety monitoring systems in the aviation, maritime, and railway sectors, and 2.5 years as a Procurement Manager sourcing components and parts for turbine and generator manufacturing, as well as oil and gas pipeline fittings. Karina actively volunteers with the ISC2 East Bay Chapter and Pacific Hackers and is currently seeking opportunities in cybersecurity.

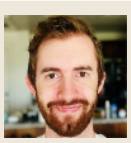


Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Karl Schneider

Founder and President
Diablo Technology Group, Inc
93249 Visa Member

Karl Schneider, CISSP, RHCE, MCSE, is a veteran IT and Security executive with 15+ years of leadership and consulting experience across manufacturing, technology, pharma, and finance sectors. As Founder and President of Diablo Technology Group, he serves as a fractional CIO/CISO, focusing on strategic technology roadmaps, cost reduction through automation, and risk management. Previously, as a fractional CIO/CISO for ENOVIX, he achieved SOX 404 compliance with zero violations and implemented the CIS Top 20 Critical Security Controls. Karl is the incoming Director of Operations and a crucial player in the design and execution of this conference, leveraging his expertise in building critical programs from scratch, including cybersecurity and disaster recovery.



Name **Kevin Revis**
Title **Sales Engineering**
Company VulnCheck
ISC2 ID
Visa Silver Sponsor

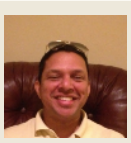
Kevin Revis, Senior Sales Engineer at VulnCheck and former Booz Allen Hamilton Technical Consultant, brings extensive expertise to discussions on vulnerabilities and AI. Holding a Master's in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Purdue University and CompTIA Security+ certification, he specializes in bridging machine learning concepts with real-world cybersecurity solutions. Revis offers deep technical knowledge in vulnerability management, supply chain risk mitigation, and algorithmic risk assessments, combined with hands-on experience securing embedded systems and federal infrastructure. His background in translating complex ML, data science, and security frameworks into actionable defense strategies makes him a valuable resource for evaluating AI-driven security risks and intelligence.



Name **Katherine Greathouse**
Title **Security Compliance & Custtomer Trust Lead**
Company Wordly.AI
ISC2 ID 869788
Visa Member

Katherine Greathouse, CISSP, is a Cybersecurity Leader, AI enthusiast, and strategic advisor with over two decades of technical expertise. She champions security as a business enabler, removing friction and building trust to support sustainable growth. Katherine currently drives Security Compliance and Customer Trust at Wordly and previously directed compliance and risk at Snowflake and dbt Labs. Her deep background spans six years at Intuit and five years at Chevron, where she specialized in IAM strategy, FedRAMP, SOC, and SOX compliance. A strong community supporter, Katherine frequently helps the chapter at our conferences and volunteers for major events like BSidesSF and DEF CON.

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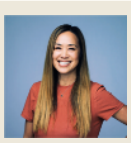
Name **Krishnan Thiruvengadam**
Title **Senior Product Manager**
Company Cisco
ISC2 ID 624759
Visa Guest

Krishnan Thiruvengadam is a Senior Product Manager at Cisco specializing in Identity, Zero Trust, and Posture. He leads product strategy for the Identity Services Engine (ISE) and TrustSec portfolios. He is a CISSP-certified expert with 21 years of experience in solution architecture and infrastructure scalability. He integrates AI/ML for endpoint analytics and spoof detection. Krishnan is a past board member for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter. Ask Krishnan about his children. He's got a lot to be proud of.



Name **Kyle Aitchison**
Title **Account Executive - Lab Leader**
Company Horizon3.ai
ISC2 ID
Visa Silver Sponsor

Kyle Aitchison has spent the past seven years in offensive security and penetration testing, working with teams to identify weaknesses in their environments and help strengthen their overall security posture. He enjoys taking an attacker's perspective and turning those insights into practical defense strategies that actually make a difference day-to-day, not just on paper. Over the years, he's partnered with security leaders across a range of industries to build proactive testing programs that give a clearer view of real-world risk beyond just checking compliance boxes.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Kimberly Quan

Principal TheQuan LLC

Guest

Kimberly Quan, SSAP, is an Education Specialist, GRC and AI Governance Consultant, and Principal at TheQuan LLC. With over 15 years in enterprise governance, eDiscovery, and digital forensics, she specializes in cybersecurity culture, human-risk behavior change, and Zero Trust adoption. At Juniper Networks, she led global security awareness programs—earning a CEO Excellence Award—and managed cross-functional governance across Legal, IT, and Compliance. Kimberly serves in leadership roles with Cyversity and InfraGard SF Bay Area, blending compliance expertise with community engagement, educational advocacy, and practical security program design.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Lance Turcato

CISO

Compliagence

Guest

Lance Turcato is a cybersecurity and IT risk executive known for leading enterprise governance, audit, and compliance programs across complex, regulated environments. He has built and matured cybersecurity governance frameworks, driven high-impact audit strategies, and advised senior leadership on risk, regulatory alignment, and emerging threats. With a reputation for pragmatic decision-making and collaborative leadership, Lance holds multiple technical certifications and is a licensed CPA. He is committed to advancing cybersecurity maturity and executive-level risk oversight.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Lauren Arce

EAE | Leader PACIFIC HACKERS | Leader BSides SF

Optiv

Partner

Lauren Arce, lives at the intersection of cybersecurity, creativity, and community. She works as an Enterprise Account Executive at Optiv, helping organizations solve complex security challenges, mostly to keep her cats fat and happy. Through Pacific Hackers & BSidesSF and her partner organizations, she create spaces where hackers, dreamers, and defenders unite because, in her own words, “I believe the heart of security is it’s community. It’s this passion for genuine connections that make security human, inclusive, and a hell of a lot more fun! “



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Malcolm Harkins

Chief Security & Trust Officer - Speaker

HiddenLayer

Platinum Sponsor

Malcolm Harkins is the Chief Security and Trust Officer at HiddenLayer, where he focuses on securing AI models and data. He previously held the role of Chief Security and Trust Officer at Cylance. Prior to that, he was the VP and Chief Security and Privacy Officer (CSPO) at Intel, leading the company’s security, privacy, and trust efforts. Malcolm is a respected voice on risk-based security and governance, promoting a balanced approach to managing risk, cost, and trust. He is an award-winning leader in the field of information security.



Name **Marco Palacios**
Title **President & Cofounder**
Company Pacific Hackers Association
Visa Partner

Marco Palacios is the Pacific Hackers Association President and the Global MDR Customer Success Manager at Fortinet. He started his career in IT and spent over a decade in IT operations before transitioning to Cybersecurity. A Blue teamer by heart, Marco has spent the last eight years specializing in defending organizations and building and implementing modern Security Operations. Marco is also a co-founder of the non-profit Pacific Hackers Association (PHA). Through the PHA, he mentors veterans and underrepresented communities to help them find non-traditional paths in the cybersecurity industry. He served in the United States Air Force and deployed as part of “Operation Enduring Freedom.” M.CyberSec, GCIH, GMON, GNFA, GISF, GSEC, GCED, SSCP, CySA+, Net+, and A+.



Name **Mark Tanis**
Title **President / CEO**
Company California Business Technology Inc
Visa Member

Mark Tanis is the President of California Business Technology (CBT), providing IT managed services, CRM, and ERP solutions for organizations with 5 to 100 employees. His career includes managing information systems and programs for Lockheed Martin, Aerojet, and various medical device manufacturers. Beyond his technical work, Mark is the President of the Pleasanton Rotary. He holds an M.S. in Nuclear Engineering, an MBA, and an M.S. in Applied Computer Science. He previously served as a Lead Faculty Chair at the University of Phoenix, instructing courses on business technology.

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Name **Mayuresh Ektare**
Title **SVP of Product Management**
Company Stellar Cyber
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Mayuresh Ektare, Senior Vice President, Product Management
Mayuresh is a seasoned product management executive with over 20 years of experience building category-defining cybersecurity platforms. He operates at the intersection of business strategy, product vision, and technology, with a strong track record of scaling organizations and driving product transformations.
Prior to Stellar Cyber, he served as VP of Product Management at Qualys, where he led the organizational transformation from vulnerability scanning to an agentic AI-driven Exposure & Risk Management platform. Previously, as SVP at Brinqa, he helped establish leadership in Risk Operations, and as a founding member of Zingbox, he built and scaled an IoT security solution from its inception through its acquisition by Palo Alto Networks. He also held leadership roles at Aerohive Networks and Trend Micro. Mayuresh holds several patents in cybersecurity and has a master’s degree in Industrial Engineering from Clemson University.



Name **Maxwell Teränen**
Title **Manager | CSA Board Member - Speaker**
Company Abnormal AI
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Maxwell Teränen is a Strategic Account Executive at Abnormal Security. He advises the Bay Area technology sector on the detection and mitigation of targeted cloud email attacks, including business email compromise and account takeover. His background includes roles as a founding sales leader at Vectra AI and enterprise positions at UiPath and Bloomberg LP. He was twice recognized as World Wide Account Executive of the Year.
Teränen is the President of the Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) SFO Chapter. He leads the regional advisory board and coordinates community engagement to advance cloud security education. He holds a degree in Economics from Saint Mary’s College of California.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Michael Blackwood

Regional Sales Director
Linx Security
Gold Sponsor, Member

Michael Blackwood is Regional Director at Linx Security, bringing nearly two decades of enterprise cybersecurity sales and go-to-market experience. He has built his career working with large strategic accounts and helping high-growth security companies scale, with previous roles at Anetac, Bishop Fox, Bugcrowd, Zscaler, RSA Security, and Blue Coat Systems. Prior to joining Linx, Michael was part of the founding go-to-market team at Anetac, which was acquired by Quest Software. He also co-founded the Portland chapter of (ISC)² and has deep experience across the cybersecurity community.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Mike Henkelman

Sr Solutions Engineer - Lab Leader
Corelight
Speaker, Gold Sponsor

Mike Henkelman is a Sr Solutions Engineer for Corelight with thirty years of technical experience that includes building enterprise data centers and NOCs for ISPs, doing edge router and switch development for Cisco, and running the Vuln Management and FedRAMP IL5 programs for VMWare. He frequently speaks at conferences such as DefCon and B-Sides.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Mitchem Boles

Field CISO
Intezer
491841
Platinum Sponsor, SpeakerMember

Mitchem Boles is an executive and strategic Field CISO for Intezer. His experience includes leading Information Security for a large healthcare network, directing Security Operations for a major U.S. electric utility, and roles in security leadership for energy & critical infrastructure, MSSP Services, and consulting. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University; certified CISSP, CCSP, and AWS; and his background of expertise includes: security strategy, SOC deployment, AI strategic implementation, security operations and staff development, tools differentiation, and risk management.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Murali Chandrasekhar

Senior Program Manager | President
Google | ISACA SV
394224
Partner

Murali Chandrasekhar, President of ISACA Silicon Valley, results-driven Information Security Professional with over 20 years experience in cyber defense, risk, and vulnerability analysis. Industry and Regulatory Standards expert: ISO 27001/2, NIST, PCI DSS, HITECH HIPAA, SOC, SOX, IL4/IL5, CJIS, ITAR. Key achievement: built comprehensive compliance program for Business Application Platform (Apigee / Appsheet), expanding certifications to over a dozen global standards, including ISO 27001, FedRAMP, HiTRUST, DMA & DSA.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Nachiket Deshpande

Principal Security Architect

657395 Visa Past Board Member

Nachiket Deshpande, CISSP, is a Security architect and engineering leader with more than 15 years of experience securing enterprise infrastructure and cloud environments. He designs secure cloud foundations, leads Zero Trust initiatives, and builds guardrails that help engineering teams deploy securely. His AI security work includes evaluating models for security risks and shaping governance for AI agents.
He has held principal-level security architecture roles and spent several years managing cybersecurity, risk, and regulatory initiatives. He holds AWS and Google Cloud certifications and brings hands-on technical experience to decisions about which risks to prioritize and how to address them at scale.



Name
Title(s)
Company
ISC2 ID

Nancy Maté

Information Technology Specialist |Vice Presdient

US Federal Governmant

348250 Visa Board Member

Nancy Maté has served in the Federal Government as the Cyber Security Manager for the US Navy and two of Department of Energy's National Labs. After serving in the Air Force as a meteorologist, Nancy moved into the IT field as a DoD contractor. She later migrated her role into cybersecurity with accreditation of an Air Force surveillance aircraft and then worked with Space Launch equipment, navy submarine simulators, and Army simulators. Nancy's specialty is the federal government authority to operate process. She was most recently an Authorizing Official Designated Representative. When Nancy's not at work, she enjoys overlanding, water sports, travel, and cooking. Nancy holds an MBA and CISSP and serves on the ISC2 East Bay Board as the Vice President.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Neha Duggal

CPO

P0 Security

Gold Sponsor - Playback Speaker

Neha Duggal is an accomplished product leader with deep expertise in cloud security, observability, and enterprise SaaS. With more than 15 years of experience, she has led multiple products from early concept to wide-scale customer adoption, built high-performing cross-functional teams, and driven product strategies that delivered measurable business outcomes.
Known for her strong technical grounding and collaborative leadership style, Neha excels at simplifying complex problems, aligning stakeholders, and executing at scale. She has a track record of launching differentiated security capabilities, improving product-market fit, and guiding organizations through periods of rapid growth and transformation.
Neha is passionate about building products that deliver real customer value, elevating product excellence within organizations, and mentoring the next generation of product leaders.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Neil Daswani

CISO-In-Residence | Co-Director Advanced Cybersecurity Certification Program Firebolt Ventures | Stanford Univerity

Distinguished Guest

Dr. Neil Daswani is a CISO-in-Residence at Firebolt Ventures and is Co-Academic Director of Stanford's Advanced Cybersecurity Program. After completing his PhD at Stanford University and leading security initiatives at Google, he co-founded Dasient, a cybersecurity company that Google Ventures invested in and was acquired by Twitter/X. After his time at Twitter, he served as CISO of multiple public companies, including LifeLock, Symantec's Consumer Business Unit, and QuantumScape. These days, he advises multiple venture capital funds and is focused on both securing artificial intelligence and using AI for cybersecurity applications. He has co-authored two books, "Big Breaches: Cybersecurity Lessons for Everyone" and "Foundations of Security: What Every Programmer Needs to Know." Dr. Daswani holds over a dozen patents, has published dozens of technical articles, and speaks frequently at top industry events. He earned a PhD and MS in computer science from Stanford, and his career journey started with earning a BS in computer science with honors and distinction from Columbia University.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Nelia Lanets

GRC Director
Stanford University
Member

Nelia Lanets is the GRC Director at Pocket Security and an IT Project Management Specialist at Stanford University, where she leads enterprise-wide system upgrades, compliance programs, and SaaS integrations. Specializing in the intersection of project management and cybersecurity, she conducts risk assessments using NIST CSF and 800-53 frameworks. Nelia holds a Master's in International Economics and a Master's in Educational Counseling. Her technical credentials include CompTIA Security+, CSM, and ITIL v4, with a CISSP in progress. She is proficient in Python, SQL, and cloud security across Google Cloud and Microsoft Azure environments.



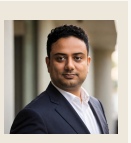
Name
Title
Company
Visa

Nelly Spieler

Technology audit partner focusing IT Audit
Frank, Rimerman LLP
Distinguished Guest

Nelly Spieler, Partner, has nearly 20 years of auditing, consulting, and management experience working with companies worldwide. She oversees the Technology Assurance and Risk Management department that includes ISO, SOC, CSA STAR Level 2 certifications, and other key attestations. Given that a significant portion of Nelly's clients operate in various public clouds, she has extensive expertise in cloud security as well as in the Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) field. Nelly works with privately held, pre-IPO, and public companies and has acted as an internal and external auditor for her clients. Nelly received her M.B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley (UCB), Haas School of Business. She is also a CISA, CIP/T, and has ISO 27001/42001 certification. In the past, Nelly served on the Board of Directors and as the President of the San Francisco chapter of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA).

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Nishant Sharma

Director, Threat Researcher
Zscaler/SquareX
Distinguished Guest

Nishant Sharma is a seasoned cybersecurity professional with deep expertise in threat research, browser security and hands-on technical training. He currently serves as Director, Threat Research at Zscaler and was previously the Head of Cybersecurity Research at SquareX (acquired by Zscaler). With over a decade in cybersecurity education and research, he has held leadership roles including VP Labs R&D at INE.com and Head of R&D at Pentester Academy, where he led the development of thousands of hands-on labs spanning host, network, and cloud security across AWS, GCP, and Azure. These labs have been used by learners in over 125 countries worldwide. Nishant is a frequent presenter at DEF CON, Black Hat, and OWASP events, and has delivered 10+ trainings, 15+ conference talks, and authored 9+ open-source security tools.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Olga Zlatkova-Georgiev

Fraud Risk Strategist & Director
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the ACFE
Partner Member

Olga Zlatkova-Georgiev, a fraud prevention leader with 20 years of experience across banking, credit unions, e-commerce, and lending, specializes in fraud investigations, strategic mitigation, and global team training. Having worked across Europe, North America, APAC, LATAM, and CAR, Olga brings a global perspective to reducing fraud losses and driving innovative solutions. A Subject Matter Expert in payments and fraud, she contributed to the CPFPP certification and helped launch California's Justice for Fraud Victims Project. As Training Director for the ACFE San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, she has led impactful events and built strong industry partnerships—committed to educating and empowering the next generation of anti-fraud professionals.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Paul Baber

Principal Consultant
Baber Technical Consulting
1166584 Visa Member

As founder and visionary of Baber Technical Consulting, Paul has expertise in all aspects of IT. Prior to creating the firm, he held industry positions in practically every IT function, from teaching computer skills and programming to serving as the IT director for a 30-person IT department. He has designed and implemented multi-site, multi-city networks for thousands of users as the chief technical lead and has also led teams of application developers developing business systems for desktop and web. He is also the author of a large computerized asset- and document-tracking system used by a major Bay Area utility company.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Paul Grabow

Principal Advisor
Cybersecurity Grant Advisors
4515 Visa Guest

Paul Grabow has dwelled in this field for the past 34 years. Primarily public sector, having worked in all three branches of Government (2 Federal, 1 State). US Senate's first appointed CISO. Now an independent researcher focused on applied R&D Gen AI technologies and cybersecurity. Research focus is on applying current and developing Gen AI technologies to Cybersecurity Programs (including all program functions).
He gives presentations on envisioning a Future State Cybersecurity Program 2028.

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Paolo Marquez

Head of Audit & Advisory
Trenta AI
Partner

Paolo Marquez is a Cybersecurity Leader at RS Assurance, specializing in risk and compliance for mid-size to enterprise companies. With over 13 years of advisory and management consulting experience at prominent firms like RSM and Grant Thornton, Paolo is an expert in industries including technology, financial services, and blockchain. He leverages his strong background in IT and federal attestation services to help clients achieve industry-defined cybersecurity standards. Paolo has led engagements for SOX 404, SOC 1/2, FedRAMP, NIST, and HIPAA/HITRUST, delivering robust solutions for complex business and IT environments.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Peter Chen

Senior IT Engineer
SMUD
55116 Visa Past Board Member

Peter Chen is a Senior IT Engineer at EBMUD and a highly credentialed leader in the Bay Area security community. He holds the CISM, CRISC, CISA, and GIAC, reflecting mastery in security management, audit, and risk control. Peter previously spent an extensive career at Oracle as a Security Analyst and Manager. He has provided significant service to the ISC2 East Bay Chapter for nearly eight years, currently serving as Director of Operations. In this capacity, he secures our conference and meeting spaces, assures the physical safety of all in-person operations, and mentors chapter members. He holds an MS in Information Security from Lewis University.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Patricia Titus

Field Chief Information Security Officer
Abnormal AI
Keynote Speaker - Platinum Sponsor

With over 25 years of experience as a cybersecurity leader, Patricia Titus now leads as Field Chief Information Security Officer at Abnormal AI. Her extensive background includes CISO positions at prominent organizations such as Booking Holdings, Markel Corporation, Freddie Mac, Symantec, Unisys, and the Transportation Security Administration. Throughout her career, she has been responsible for developing and implementing security strategies that align with business objectives and ensure adherence to global regulations. Recognized for her expertise in areas like risk management, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity operations, and crisis management, Patricia has a proven track record of optimizing security frameworks, improving business resilience, and incorporating innovative solutions, including AI, into security practices. She currently contributes her expertise by serving on the boards of Black Kite, The Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Glasswing Ventures.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Poonam Dhillon

Strategic Operations for the Office of the CISO and CIO | CSA SF
Blackhawk Networks | CSA SFO
Partner

Poonam Dhillon is the Technology and Security Programs Liaison at Blackhawk Network, where she facilitates the operational and strategic alignment for the Office of the CISO and CIO. In her role as a Board Director for the Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) SFO Chapter, she coordinates regional cybersecurity programming focused on education and cross-functional collaboration. With 16 years of experience in organizational development and business improvement, Dhillon converts technical roadmaps into structured security culture initiatives. As a certified NLP Business Coach, she applies Neuro-Linguistic Programming to improve communication and align enterprise security objectives with the human-centric values of the organization.

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Name
Title
Company
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Poorna Rajaraman

Senior Security Architect
Cisco
1818985
Member

Poorna Rajaraman, CISSP and CISM, is a Senior Security Architect at Cisco Systems with over 15 years of experience in security architecture and digital transformation. She specializes in building and implementing comprehensive AI governance and Technology Risk Management programs across enterprise-scale environments. Poorna focuses on developing secure-by-design solutions, automating regulatory compliance for GDPR and CCPA, and architecting robust security controls within CI/CD infrastructures. She has extensive experience in scaling security operations and streamlining privacy risk reviews using automation tools and cloud-native platforms like AWS and Salesforce.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Radek Urban

MSSP Engagement Engineer
Securify.us
1579438
Board Member

Radek Urban, CISSP, is an information security architect scaling resilient business infrastructure. He directs cross-functional compliance, audit readiness, and risk-based programs. Career highlights include managing multi-million dollar budgets and leading incident response for high-stakes Biopharma and MSP sectors. Radek establishes security governance, manages cyclical audits, and implements vulnerability management programs to meet rigorous global standards.



Name **Rene Brandel**
Title **CEO-Speaker**
Company Casco
Visa Keynote Platinum Sponsor

Rene Brandel is the Cofounder & CEO of Casco (YC X25). Casco performs always-on security testing against apps, APIs, and cloud infra. Previously, he was the Head of Product at AWS and inventor of "Kiro" - AWS' agentic IDE. He has a long-standing passion for AI, cloud, and developer tools. In fact, he won Europe's largest hackathon in 2016 with a voice-to-code agent before generative AI became a common-place technology.



Name **Rhea Lynn Mascarinas**
Title **Lead Researcher**
Company QuietConversion
Visa Conference Committee

Rhea Lynn Mascarinas is the founder of QuietConversion, where they study how cognitive load shapes decision-making in cybersecurity. Through interviews and field experiments, Rhea Lynn explores what makes it easier for people to ask questions, evaluate unfamiliar companies, and decide whom to trust. They turn those findings into fun, low-friction ways to learn. As a volunteer on the ISC2 East Bay outreach committee, they brought that research to the conference passport challenge, where asking for a secret word helps attendees start a conversation and learn what a sponsor does. The chapter named them its Director of Fun.

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Name **Robert Cunningham**
Title **Client Security Advisor**
Company Optiv Security
ISC2 ID 547594
Visa Committee Member

Robert Cunningham, CISSP, CCSP, CISM, is a Client Security Architect at Optiv Inc and the Director of Sponsorship for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter. With 17+ years of experience, Robert specializes in partnering with executives to build best-in-class Security Architecture for global organizations using multiple cloud environments. As former Head of Cyber Security at Berkshire Hathaway Homestate Companies, he was responsible for developing a risk register and administering a security program for 2,000+ users. Robert is an expert strategist, defining security standards based on industry frameworks like NIST, CSA CCM, and CIS, spanning the entire CIA Triad.



Name **Robert Moore**
Title RSM
Company Cranium.ai
Visa Member

Robert Moore is a cybersecurity professional with nearly a decade across various different disciplines including penetration testing, endpoint security, cloud security, identity security, and AI security. He currently works at Cranium AI, where he helps enterprises secure and govern their AI systems. Beyond work, he is a husband and a dad of three who loves nothing more than spending time watching his daughter's ballet class and doing puzzles with the family. Recently, he and his wife took their kids to Honolulu, Hawaii and their kids fell in love with the culture, meaning they'll be taking many more trips there.



Name **Robin Basham**
Title **CEO/CISO | President**
Company EnterpriseGRC Solutions | ISC2 East Bay Chapter
ISC2 ID 549699 VISA President Board Member

Robin is a veteran GRC and Cloud Cybersecurity leader, renowned for transforming security postures and driving organizational resilience. As a former CISO (AdaptHealth) and current CEO/CISO of EnterpriseGRC Solutions, she excels at architecting integrated security and privacy solutions, implementing complex GRC and ERP platforms, and advancing Zero Trust and DevOps principles. A recognized expert, Robin regularly advises boards and executive leadership, particularly in audit recovery and GRC program maturation. She holds certifications (CISSP, CISA, CGEIT, CRISC-NA) and is a pioneer in Cloud and Virtualization security. With extensive experience across diverse industries—including SaaS, healthcare, finance, and technology—Robin has consistently delivered strategic security solutions. She is also a dedicated contributor to the cybersecurity community, notably through her leadership with ISC2 East Bay and her involvement in Cloud Security Alliance projects. Robin is currently Lead Security Architect for a major Bank



Name **Rohit Valia**
Title **CEO**
Company Tumeryk
Visa Member

Rohit Valia is the CEO and Founder of Tumeryk.com, an enterprise AI security pioneer. His vast domain expertise spans fintech, cloud computing, AI/ML, and analytics. He has held leadership positions at FICO, IBM, Oracle, and Sun Microsystems. He led development of the first software firewall (SunScreen Firewall), launched the world's first pay-per-use infrastructure-as-a-service solution (Sun Grid), led Product Management for the first Java 2EE certified application servers. He drove the successful transformation of the leading financial services AI/ML platform at FICO by crafting strategies to offer real-time SLAs for billions of financial transactions in the cloud

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Name **Ron Herardian**
Title **Founder & CEO**
Company Aethercloud AI
ISC2 ID 758602 Visa Member

Ron Herardian has a 20-year track record of success in enterprise software as a founder, investor, board member and advisor serving in multiple engineering, consulting and CxO roles. In his last role, Mr. Herardian was responsible for operations including DevOps and InfoSec, including SOC 2 and GDPR compliance. Ron Herardian has a 20-year track record of success in enterprise software as a founder, investor, board member and advisor serving in multiple engineering, consulting and CxO roles. In his last role, Mr. Herardian was responsible for operations including DevOps and InfoSec, including SOC 2 and GDPR compliance. Mr. Herardian, who has worked for IBM Lotus, Cisco and Oracle in the past, is a graduate of Stanford University, a member of the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and a Senior Member of the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM). He is a speaker at conferences and events, as well as a published author who has co-authored a book and written many whitepapers and articles.



Name **Ryan de Temple**
Title **Deputy Associate Program Lead**
Company LLNL
ISC2 ID 482969 Visa Guest

Ryan de Temple is the Deputy Associate Program Lead at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), where he drives cybersecurity strategy and operational execution across complex, high-stakes environments. With deep expertise spanning enterprise security architecture, endpoint protection, GRC, and large-scale infrastructure operations, he leads multidisciplinary engineering teams focused on resilience, risk reduction, and mission assurance.
Ryan is known for building high-performing technical teams, operationalizing security at scale, and aligning cybersecurity investments with measurable risk and cost outcomes. His experience spans national security (DOE, DoD), enterprise environments, and high-growth organizations, where he has consistently translated complex technical challenges into strategic, executable programs. He holds a Master of Science in Cybersecurity and is CISSP certified.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Sarbani Mulchandani

President and Executive Director
Kids teach tech
Partner

Sarbani Banerjee Mulchandani is the President and Executive Director of Kids Teach Tech (KTT), a youth lead organization where youth create and teach programs in technology for underserved youth. Our youth lead in person classes and camps teach skills often not learned until college or even graduate school; and include beginning to advanced AI & machine learning, drone building & flying, robotics, website development, mobile app development, 3D Design & Printing, game coding and more. Sarbani has an Engineering Degree from University of California, Berkeley, and prior to KTT spent over 20 years in the tech industry starting in Technology and Strategy Consulting and finishing by running Oracle Applications Strategic Partnerships Globally at Oracle.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Sarvesh Deshmukh

Director of Sales - Expo
Happiest Minds Technologies Ltd
Silver Sponsor

Sarvesh Deshmukh is the Director of Sales for Infrastructure Management & Security Services in North America at Happiest Minds Technologies. With 23 years of IT Sales leadership, he drives North American market growth, specializing in Digital Transformation, Security Services, and Infrastructure Management. He ensures effective sales-to-delivery transitions leveraging Happiest Minds' expertise in AI, cloud, and security. Focused on business efficiency and superior customer experience, he builds robust client relationships through strategic and collaborative execution.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Scott Alford

Senior Cybersecurity Advisor
CISA
1004506
Guest

Scott Alford is a cybersecurity leader and educator focused on advancing national resilience and offensive security workforce development. As a Senior Cybersecurity Advisor with CISA, he collaborates with critical infrastructure partners across industry and government to strengthen operational security and incident preparedness.

He also serves as a lecturer at San José State University, where he teaches advanced cybersecurity labs and mentors students competing in national cyber competitions.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Sean Cordero

Chief Ai Security Officer - Speaker
Cyera
39950
Gold Sponsor

Sean Cordero is a distinguished Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and innovator, holding certifications including CISSP, CRISC, and CISM. His career highlights include transforming information security systems for Fortune 100 companies and developing highimpact security strategies. He notably boosted revenue from a Fortune 5 client by 70% through programmatic risk management and reduced operating expenses by 25% through vendor renegotiation. Sean's leadership extends to recognized thought leadership, having presented at major conferences like RSA and earning MVP Awards for Executive Advisory. His expertise drives improved risk management outcomes and strengthens enterprise security.



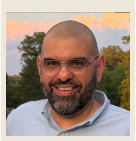
Name **Shashwat Sehgal**
Title **CEO/Founder - Panelist**
Company P0 Security
Visa Speaker, Gold Sponsor

Shashwat Sehgal is the Founder and CEO of P0 Security, re-architecting Privileged Access Management (PAM). He specializes in automating access for the “identity explosion” within production stacks. Previously, at Splunk, he led OpenTelemetry initiatives for microservices, and at Cisco Meraki, he used ML for automated network troubleshooting. He is an IIT-Delhi and Columbia Business School graduate.



Name **Simon Ng**
Title **Founder**
Company Three Points Coffee
Visa Member

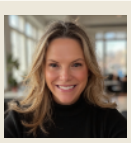
Simon Ng is the founder of Three Points Coffee, a small-batch specialty roastery, and an IT leader with 15+ years of experience. As Carta’s first IT hire, he spent eight years building the global IT function from the ground up across 9+ regions, scaling it from about 350 to roughly 2,000 employees at its peak. A builder and operator at heart, he leads with integrity, resilience and generosity. Today he brings that same hands-on approach to the roasting table, where every bag is sorted, roasted and packed by hand.



Name **Deen Saleh**
Title **Founder, CEO**
Company Root Zero Vault
Visa Member

Hosameldeen (Deen) Saleh is the Founder & CEO of Root Zero Vault and architect of the RSBIS protocol, pioneering structural trust and verifiable AI governance. Holding CPA, CISA, and MBA credentials, Deen brings 17 years of experience in financial governance, risk control, and IT audit. He focuses on replacing probabilistic AI guardrails with deterministic mathematical controls, using tamper-evident BLAKE3 hash chains to validate and execute actions safely in real time. Deen aligns autonomous agentic systems with frameworks like EU AI Act, COBIT, and ITAF to enforce provable cybersecurity and compliance.

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Name **Sonja Petri**
Title **Account Executive**
Company Horizon3.ai
Visa Silver Sponsor

Sonja Petri is a cybersecurity professional and Account Executive at Horizon3.ai. With 15+ years of experience partnering with executives and technical teams, Sonja helps organizations strengthen their security posture through autonomous penetration testing and continuous security validation. At Horizon3.ai, she works with defenders across critical infrastructure and complex enterprises to uncover exploitable weaknesses, prioritize remediation based on real-world risk, and build greater resilience against evolving threats.



Name **Srinivas Akella**
Title **Founding CEO, Wootcloud**
Company WOOTCLOUD/Netskope
Visa Platinum Sponsor

Srinivas Akella is an entrepreneur and a technologist with a strong cyber security, cloud, and SaaS background. He founded WootCloud Inc, an IoT Security company. In this role, he has architected the WootCloud product line and oversaw the execution of all phases of products and solutions across WootCloud’s IoT Security portfolio. WootCloud is now acquired by Netskope Inc. Srinivas has over 25 years of experience in Engineering and Leadership roles. He holds four patents in IoT Security. His most recent roles have been in the cyber security industry as CTO/CPO, CEO at WootCloud, Principal Engineer at Elastica (BlueCoat, Symantec), Qualys, and Webroot.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Sriram Santhanam

Chief Cyber Officer
Human Managed
442761 Visa Partner

Sriram Santhanam is a cybersecurity executive, entrepreneur, and board advisor with over 20 years of experience leading technology and security transformation. He is currently building a startup focused on AI governance and secure autonomy, following senior leadership roles at Gap Inc. and Human Managed and earlier technology consulting work with organizations including Toyota Financial Services and Stanford.
An active voice in the cybersecurity community, Sriram serves on the Board of Directors of the ISACA San Francisco Chapter and speaks regularly at industry conferences, including RSAC, Gartner, and Identiverse. He is passionate about mentoring emerging leaders, advancing responsible AI adoption, and fostering innovation across the technology ecosystem.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Stephen Bartolini

Partner | Moderator
NextPeak
Distinguished Guest

Stephen Bartolini is an outcome-driven technology-risk management leader and Partner at Next Peak, adept at driving business transformation through reengineering and embracing cutting-edge technologies. With over two decades of experience, he is a trusted advisor to executive leadership on cybersecurity risks and response strategies. This includes significant leadership roles as Executive Director of Cybersecurity & Technology at JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Senior Director positions at CA Technologies. His expertise spans building global, cross-functional teams that deliver value by engineering innovative solutions within rapidly changing, highly regulated environments across Financial Services, Technology, and Telecommunications. Stephen holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University and is a Certified Information Security Manager (CISM).

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Name
Title
Company
Visa

Stacy Ditta

Partner Liaison Conference Committee ISC2 East Bay Chapter
Committee Member

Stacy Ditta is a cybersecurity professional with an M.S. in Cybersecurity and interests in security risk management, AI governance, and emerging technologies. She serves as Executive Operations Chair for ISACA Sacramento and contributes to community engagement, educational initiatives, and collaboration with Bay Area chapters, including ISC2 East Bay. and Cloud Security Alliance San Francisco, where she helps connect professionals, support educational initiatives, and strengthen the cybersecurity community.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Stephen Rogers

Bad Golfer (AE)
GDT - General Datatech
Member - Sometime Sponsor

Stephen Rogers is a bad golfer and an Account Executive at GDT, where he focuses on expanding client bases and nurturing stakeholder relationships. A veteran of the United States Marine Corps, his current leadership in the San Francisco Bay Area enterprise sales market builds on a career including roles at Trace3, Insight, and Zones, LLC. His history features tenure as District Sales Manager at SHI International, Director of Sales at FusionStorm, and Sales Manager at SYNNEX. Stephen holds a B.S. in Business Administration from California State University-Chico and maintains certifications as an NVIDIA AI Advisor and Tines Partner Sales specialist.



Name **Steven Lai**
Title **Senior Consultant**
Company NAE Group
ISC2 ID 48887
Visa Past Board Member

With over 25 years of experience across Silicon Valley and the East Bay, Steven Lai is a distinguished Information Technology and Computer Security Consultant. As a Senior Consultant at NAE Group, Steven brings deep technical expertise in enterprise network infrastructure, disaster recovery, and systems integrity. A CISSP and veteran network engineer, he holds both an MS in Computer Science and a BS in Physics from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. During his tenure as Director of Technology for the ISC2 East Bay Chapter, Steven was instrumental in maintaining the chapter's digital infrastructure and advancing its mission of professional security excellence.



Name **Steve Wilson**
Title **Chief AI Product Officer**
Company Exabeam
Visa Distinguished Guest

Chief Product Officer at Exabeam, Steve Wilson leads product strategy, product management, product marketing, and research. He is a leader and innovator in AI, cybersecurity, and cloud computing, with over 20 years of experience leading high-performance teams to build mission-critical enterprise software and high-leverage platforms. Before joining Exabeam, he served as CPO at Contrast Security, leading all aspects of product development, including strategy, product management, product marketing, product design, and engineering. Wilson has a proven track record of driving product transformation from on-premises legacy software to subscription-based SaaS business models, including at Citrix, accounting for over $1 billion in ARR. He has experience building software platforms at multi-billion dollar companies like Oracle and Sun Microsystems.

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Name **Stephen Xu**
Title **CEO Co-Founder - Speaker**
Company Veria Labs
Visa Silver Sponsor

Stephen Xu is a Lead Security Researcher and Offensive AI expert. As Co-Founder of Veria Labs, he builds autonomous red-teaming agents that continuously test software for critical vulnerabilities. A competitive hacker by background, Stephen specializes in finding the logic flaws that static analysis tools miss—recently uncovering zero-day RCE exploits in major AI platforms.



Name **Subbu Rama**
Title **CEO BalkanID**
Company BalkanID
Visa Silver Sponsor, Speaker

Subbu Rama is a 3x founder and the CEO and Co-founder of BalkanID, a company specializing in identity security access governance solutions. With close to 2 decades in the tech industry, he has a strong background in infrastructure, AI, cybersecurity, and cloud computing, holding product, engineering, and cybersecurity roles. Prior to BalkanID, Subbu co-founded Bitfusion, a startup focused on virtualization technologies for AI and GPU infrastructure, which was later acquired by VMware (Dell Technologies). He is passionate about building innovative solutions that tackle complex challenges. Subbu holds a Master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is an Early Career Award Recipient.



Name
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Company
Visa

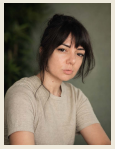
Sudesh Gadewar

Head of Security/President
Blackhawk Network/ CSA SF
Partner

Sudesh is the Founder and leader of the CSA San Francisco Chapter and Head of Global Security at Blackhawk Network, where he drives security strategy across one of the payments and digital rewards industry's most complex global operations.

His work bridges enterprise leadership and community impact, he's deeply invested in advancing security collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and thought leadership across the global cybersecurity ecosystem. Beyond the boardroom, Sudesh is committed to developing the next generation of security professionals, volunteering as a lecturer at San José State University and UC Berkeley.

Known for combining strategic vision with authentic community engagement, Sudesh brings both executive authority and genuine investment in the field's future.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Sunny Allen

Founder
Who Technologies
Borard Member

Sunny Allen is the Founder and CEO of Experience Technologies and a privacy professional specializing in encrypted protocols. As the founder of BirdCalls.is, she developed an end-to-end encrypted video platform featuring advanced screenshot blocking and minimal-knowledge infrastructure. Sunny previously served as the Principal Investigator for BioMONSTAAAR, a DARPA-funded venture focused on democratizing space technology through open-source bioreactors. Her leadership history includes serving as CEO of Sternidae Industries and Partner at LCFTA. A former volunteer at BioCurious, she holds a B.A. from the University of Kentucky and studied Biochemistry at the University of Louisville.

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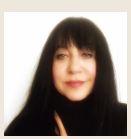


Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Syed Ghayur

VP of Solution Engineering
ArmorCode
894695
Distinguished Guest

As VP of Global Sales Engineering, Syed Ghayur drives adaptable, scalable sales engineering strategies for technology leaders, building a solid foundation of success allowing customers transform their businesses via cloud and network solutions. With deep expertise in Networking, IaaS, public cloud, and related industry and technical concepts, Syed Ghayur provides thought leadership and critical insights to developers and customers to steer product design and solution selection.

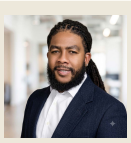


Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Seyma Atik-Holmes

Fractional CISO
freelance
391501
Guest

Seyma Atik-Holmes, CISSP, C-CISO, C-EH, C-HFI, C-REA, is a Bay Area IT & Technology leader who works in the intersection of cybersecurity, AI, and high reliability engineering. With a background in 5-9s engineering, information security, data protection, and corporate forensics, she is always interested in understanding how emerging technologies & future trends reshape risk.
Outside of work she recharges in low-tech things: reading books, spending time around horses&other animals, nature, listening to informative, fun podcasts that make chores bearable, and close circuit of friends.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Travail Robertson

Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA)
Caltrans
Visa Member

Travail Robertson is moving into governance, risk, and compliance after nine years in California public service at Caltrans. He leads IT asset governance for more than 1,100 devices supporting 300+ staff, handles security-related device incidents in ServiceNow, and previously ran labor compliance testing and corrective action across 20+ multimillion-dollar public-works projects. Travail is an AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner preparing for the Solutions Architect – Associate exam, recently completed a NIST CSF 2.0 GRC capstone, and is focused on third-party risk and security compliance. He holds a B.A. from UC Berkeley and lives in the East Bay.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Tim Prendergast

Father of CSPM, CEO - Moderator
Entrepreneur
Silver Sponsor, Moderator, Speaker

Tim Prendergast is the CEO at StrongDM, a Sequoia-backed startup disrupting PAM/IGA and ushering in the future of Identity Security. Before joining StrongDM, Tim was the founder of Evident.io and inventor of CSPM, exiting to Palo Alto Networks as the category leader. I served as the first Chief Cloud Officer in a Fortune 1000 company at PANW. Before Evident.io, Tim was the principal architect for Adobe's Cloud Team — designing and securing the elastic AWS infrastructure that created the success story that has become the poster child for digital transformation. Tim is the Founder of StrongDM and a long-time innovator. He has one mission — enable seamless, secure access for admins and engineers across the globe.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Tolgay Kizilelma

Director, MS Cybersecurity Program - Assoc Cybersecurity Professor
Dominican University of California
537081 Visa Partner

Tolgay Kizilelma, Ph.D. is a business-driven IT/Cybersecurity GRC leader and trusted business partner with three decades of experience in education, healthcare, distribution, and government sectors. He is the founding Director of the MS in Cybersecurity program and teaches online Cybersecurity GRC courses as an Associate Professor of Cybersecurity in the Barowsky School of Business at Dominican University of California. Tolgay has also served as the CISO for multiple University of California campuses. Early in his career, he managed the U.S. IT operations for a leading national fuel systems integrator and distributor. He has more than 50 industry certifications, a B.S. degree in computer engineering, an MBA, and a Ph.D. focusing on information security. He also volunteers for various non-profit organizations as a board member, and frequently participates at cybersecurity conferences as a presenter. His contribution to the cybersecurity community was recognized with the 2022 C100 Award – Top 100 CISOs by CISOs Connect.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Travis Johnson

Security Sales Lead
Google
Distinguished Guest

Travis Johnson is a results-driven Enterprise Technology Sales Professional who translates elite competitive experience into measurable business outcomes. As a former collegiate All-American, WAC Defensive Player of the Year, and NFL athlete, he leverages discipline and teamwork to drive success. Throughout his sales journey, Travis consistently surpasses quota by building strong customer re-lationships and strategically aligning technology solutions to specific business objectives. His ap-proach is rooted in trust, strategy, and execution. As part of a high-performing team, Travis is committed to mentorship and elevation, collaborating closely across internal teams to ensure col-lective success for the customer and the organization.



Name
Title
Company
Visa

Varun Prasad

Managing Director
BDO
Distinguished Guest

Varun Prasad is a managing director at BDO's third-party attestation practice. In his current role, he works with tech companies to evaluate their cybersecurity posture and assess compliance with SOC 2 and various ISO standards to help them meet customer requirements and build trust with stakeholders. He focuses on complex and emerging security, privacy, cloud, and AI assurance requirements.
Varun is an IT audit and risk management professional with 15+ years of progressive experience gained through various roles for Big4 firms and world-leading corporations across multiple geographies. He has managed and executed a variety of IT audit-based projects from end to end. He has provided various IT audit and assurance services, such as SOC 1/SOC 2 examinations, ISO 27001/42001/22301 audits, cybersecurity assessments, SOX testing, and privacy reviews. Varun is the VP of the ISACA SF chapter and part of ISACA's IT Audit and Assurance Task Force.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Varun Kumar Vellanki

Sr Staff Infosec Engineer
Gap inc
2371325
Member

Varun Kumar Vellanki is a Cloud Engineering leader and Azure Solutions Architect Expert currently driving infrastructure modernization at Gap Inc. He specializes in Infrastructure as Code (IaC) and DevOps automation, managing large-scale environments using Docker, Jenkins, and Chef. At Gap, he leverages extensive expertise in Azure Resource Manager (ARM) templates and hybrid cloud virtualization to streamline CI/CD pipelines. With a background spanning Red Hat Linux, VMware ESX, and Oracle Cloud, Varun integrates advanced monitoring via Splunk and New Relic to ensure high-availability retail operations.

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Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Victor Ramensky

Board Member ISC2 Northbay Chapter, Cybersecurity and Vendor Mgt Consultant
ISC2 NBC Treasurer
573245
Partner

Victor Ramensky - Current ISC2 North Bay Chapter Treasurer and former Chapter President Retired ISO Bank of Marin - IT & Security Professional with over 35+ years in IT Management. Computer technologies expertise in areas such as Cybersecurity, BI, IT management, software programming, office suites, internet/intranet, communications, networking, databases, business software, and data analysis, and has held CISSP, CSM, PMP and ITIL certifications.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID
Visa

Victor Yu

Delado
Director of Support
467382
Board Member

Victor Yu, CISSP and GCIH, is the ISC2 East Bay Chapter Director of Careers, and Cybersecurity & Awareness, and Director of Support at Deledao. With over 20 years of cybersecurity and security operations experience, Victor brings extensive expertise in incident response, IAM, MFA modernization, and SIEM optimization across Fortune 500 and federal environments. For the conference, Victor serves as Director of Cybersecurity and Awareness, where he leads cybersecurity education initiatives, oversees community outreach, and manages student volunteers to foster hands-on learning, interactive learning labs, and volunteer engagement.

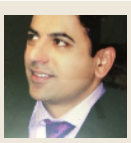


Name
Title
Company
Visa

Vijay Vattikuti

VP of Identity Strategy
Oak - Identity Security OS
March Speaker, Platinum Sponsor

Vijay Vattikuti is Chief of Identity Strategy at Oak, where he shapes both product and go-to-market for the identity data fabric behind continuous, AI-agent-driven governance of human, non-human, and agentic identities.
With more than 25 years in identity and access management, Vijay has held leadership roles at Astrix Security (Cisco), Saviynt, CyberArk, Idaptive, and Centrify/Delinea, and began his career as an Active Directory engineer at Microsoft. He helped build Astrix into a trusted name in Non-Human Identity and agentic AI security. He holds a Master's in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Arlington and is a Certified Agentic Security Professional.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Wasif Gilani

Head | CPO SAP Data Custodian | VP SAP Multi-Cloud Organization

SAP

Visa Guest

Dr. Wasif Gilani is Head and CPO of SAP Data Custodian - SAP Multi-Cloud Organization where he focuses on the cybersecurity strategy and architecture for SAP Cloud. Before this, Wasif led multiple strategic cloud data security and data protection solutions, including SAP's Key Management Service, Contextual Access Control, Transparency and Monitoring, Tokenization, Data Discovery, and Data Anonymization. Wasif was the Head/Chief Product Owner of the SAP Data Custodian solution, when it won the prestigious International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) innovation award in 2019.



Name
Title
Company
ISC2 ID

Zeid Zumot

Sr. Manager, Cyber Security Engineering

Synopsys

308098 Visa Member

Information Security executive with 25+ years of IT and cybersecurity leadership experience, specializing in building and scaling security programs from the ground up. Proven track record leading global teams and 24/7 SOC operations, reducing incidents by 75% through advanced threat detection, phishing prevention, and workforce training. Directed $3.5M+ enterprise security initiatives across cloud and on-prem environments, deploying SIEM, EDR, firewalls, and vulnerability management solutions. Trusted advisor to Fortune 500 and high-growth companies, aligning security strategy with business goals while maintaining 100% customer retention. Expert in incident response, compliance, threat modeling, and secure development practices. CISSP, CISA, and CCSP certified leader.

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Zia Macchiwalla

Security Transformation Associate Director

Accenture

890072 Visa Member

Zia Macchiwalla is a Security Transformation Associate Director at Accenture with over 26 years of experience driving client security, risk management, and compliance. Certified in CISM, CIPP/E, and Google Cloud Digital Lead, she specializes in scalable security future states, data protection, and governance. Zia bridges AI and cybersecurity by creating agentic workflows, data-driven risk models, and audit register accelerators. Known for leading global operations teams and mentoring talent, she delivers robust security strategy, risk burndown programs, and client data protection controls across complex enterprise environments.

Hold the gate!

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