



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 19, 2021
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Santa Barbara Foundation Welcomes New Trustees

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CA – The Santa Barbara Foundation (SBF) is pleased to welcome Matt Rowe, James Rogers, and Tracy Stouffer to its Board of Trustees. These three additions join the ranks of esteemed colleagues including current Board Chair Pamela Gann, Stephen Hicks, Susan Richards, Diane Adams, Phil Alvarado, Randall Day, Donna France, Angel Iscovich, Danna McGrew, Robert Nakasone, Ernesto Paredes, Cathy Pepe, Ginger Salazar, Niki Sandoval, and Michael Young.

“We are thrilled to have James, Matt, and Tracy join us as we work to improve the quality of life in Santa Barbara County and support our most vulnerable community members,” said Jackie Carrera, President & CEO of the Santa Barbara Foundation. “Their experience, knowledge, and passion for our county will add value to the Foundation and in turn the community-at-large.”

The Santa Barbara Foundation also acknowledges the tremendous contributions of outgoing Trustee, Jennifer Murray who has provided over 16 years of service. Most notably as Chair of our Investments Committee, Jennifer guided the organization’s investments, recently adding a Socially Responsible Investment pool to the investment portfolio. [Learn more about Jennifer’s contributions to Santa Barbara County.](#)

James Rogers

“I feel like the luckiest person in the world to call Santa Barbara my home,” said James Rogers, new SBF Trustee and Apeel Sciences Founder and CEO. “I don’t



know of any other place on earth where science, agriculture, and pop culture combine so seamlessly; Apeel Sciences could only have taken root in this special microclimate we call Santa Barbara. I'm honored to join the Santa Barbara Foundation Board to support the Foundation's investment in the world changing enterprises, organizations, and ideas that our community continues to germinate."



James Rogers - Photo Courtesy Apeel Sciences

James is Founder and CEO of Apeel Sciences, a company that's fighting the global food waste crisis by using materials found in nature to help food last longer — a sustainable approach to the world's growing food demands.

James leads corporate strategy and Apeel's team of award-winning scientists in developing plant-based technologies that keep fruits and vegetables fresh two to three times longer. James received dual undergraduate degrees from Carnegie Mellon University in Materials Science & Engineering and Biomedical Engineering and his Ph.D. in Materials from the University of California, Santa Barbara where he also received his MS in Economics.

The World Economic Forum recently recognized James as a Young Global Leader, a community focused on addressing issues such as climate change, world hunger, and sustainable food systems. In 2019, Fortune Magazine named James one of their "40 under 40" and under his leadership, Apeel has been honored repeatedly as one of Fast Company's Most Innovative Companies and World Changing Ideas.

James resides in the Funk Zone and has called Santa Barbara home for the past 13 years. In addition to the Santa Barbara Foundation, he serves on the UCSB Alumni Association Board and is passionate about finding ways to improve and strengthen the local community. When he's not building Apeel, James can be found exploring the central coast, walking the beaches, admiring the work of local artists, hiking,



surfing, hunting succulents, listening to music, driving the canyons, practicing yoga, and discovering new dining experiences.

Matt Rowe



Matt Rowe - Photo Courtesy Matt Rowe

“In joining the Santa Barbara Foundation as a Trustee I aim to broaden the scope of my community involvement,” said new SBF Trustee Matt Rowe. “SBF devotes its resources to tackling the most pressing needs within our community and I wanted to be a part of shaping and delivering that key service. Santa Barbara County has been a wonderful place for my family and me to live and I feel strongly about giving back and making it a better place for all of its residents.”

Matt is a Financial Advisor and Certified Investment Management Analyst, with a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws from Monash University, Australia. He was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia where he practiced law for a brief period before immigrating to the United States in 2000. There, while living in New York City, Matt made the transition to a career in wealth management and later moved with his family to Santa Barbara in 2008.

Matt serves on several nonprofit boards including the Santa Barbara Family YMCA, where he previously served as Board Chair; the Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara and the Sansum Diabetes Research Institute. He was awarded the Golden Triangle of Distinguished Service Award by the Channel Islands YMCA in 2019.

Matt and his wife, Natalie, have two daughters, Kelsey and Hailey. Matt is an avid runner and has completed five marathons, including three New York City marathons, as well as two Santa Barbara Pier-to-Peak half marathons.



Tracy Stouffer

“In joining the Santa Barbara Foundation’s Board, I look forward to being a part of an organization that is hyper-focused on the most critical and urgent needs of the community which we live in,” said new SBF Trustee Tracy Stouffer.



Tracy Stouffer - Photo Courtesy Tracy Stouffer

Tracy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Cornell University and a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario. She moved with her family to Santa Barbara from Denver in 2009 to manage Nuveen Asset Management’s International Growth Strategy portfolios. Tracy began working in the financial industry in 1981 and recently retired. Previously, she was an international portfolio manager for several firms, including Dreyfus Founders Funds, Federated Global Investment Management, Clariden Bank (Credit Suisse), and TIAA-CREF. She holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a member of the CFA Institute.

She is currently a member of the board of Habitat for Humanity, serves on the Finance and Family Services committees, is a member of the Research Committee of the Women’s Fund of Santa Barbara, and a sustainer on the Women’s Board of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

About Santa Barbara Foundation

The Santa Barbara Foundation, the largest community foundation in the region and the county’s go-to resource for investment and capacity-building, strives to mobilize and elevate all residents to thrive. Nearly every Santa Barbara County nonprofit organization and essential community project has been supported by the Foundation during its almost 93-year history.



The Foundation is working to improve areas that affect quality of life in Santa Barbara County including child care, workforce development, and workforce housing. The Foundation connects those who give with those in need - and all who dream of stronger communities. To learn more, please visit SBFoundation.org.

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