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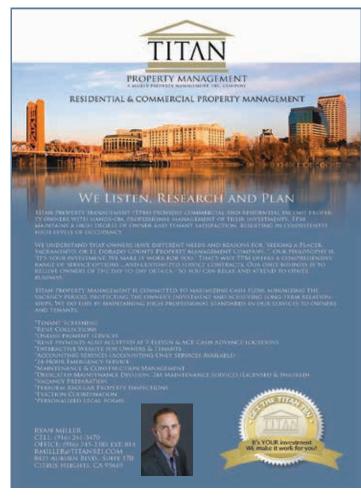




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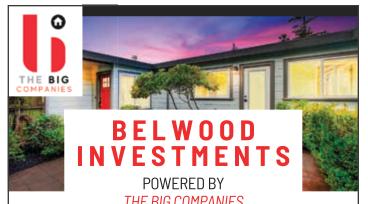
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Common Questions About

Sacramento Real Producers

Real Producers is a national concept currently open in 125 markets across the country. With the one-year anniversary of Sacramento Real Producers, I wanted to take the time to answer some pretty common questions.

What is the purpose of Real Producers magazine?

The mission of *Sacramento Real Producers* is simple. We strive to inform and inspire the top-producing real estate agents in the Sacramento market and connect them socially. We do this by telling their personal stories. How they have succeeded and failed. What drives them to achieve year in and year out. Where do they spend their time when they are not working, and what are they passionate about other than real estate. We give local top-producing REALTORS® a platform to tell their story in a way they have not been able to do so before.

The secondary focus is to provide an avenue for our affiliate partners to create and continue relationships with these top performers, on a level that they might not be able to achieve on their own.

Who receives this magazine?

This magazine is mailed to the top 500 producing agents in the greater Sacramento area, according to volume each year. This is based on the 2020 MLS; the ranking is annual and resets every year. This year, the minimum production level for our community was over \$11.5 million. Just to be included in this group is an accomplishment that testifies to your hard work, dedication and proficiency.

What is the process for being featured in the magazine?

It's really simple – you can nominate other REALTORS® (or yourselves!). We will consider anyone brought to our attention; we don't know everyone's story, so we need your help to learn about them! A nomination currently looks like this: You email us at katie.macdiarmid@realproducersmag.com with the subject "Nomination: (Name of Nominee)." Please explain why you are nominating them to be featured. It could be that they have an amazing story that needs to be told; perhaps they

overcame extreme obstacles, they are an exceptional leader, have the best customer service, or they give back to the community in a big way. The next step is an interview with us to ensure it's a good fit. If it all works out, then we put the wheels in motion for our writer to conduct an interview and write an article, and for our photographers to schedule a photoshoot.

What does it cost to be featured?

Zero, zilch, zip, nada, nil. It costs absolutely nothing! We are not a pay-to-play model whatsoever. We write real stories about real producers, so nominate away, friends!

Who are the preferred partners?

Anyone listed as a "preferred partner" in the front of the magazine is a part of this community and a top professional in their industry. They will have an ad in every issue of the magazine, attend our events, and be a part of our online community. We don't just find these businesses off the street, nor do we work with all businesses that approach us. One or many of you have recommended every single preferred partner you see in this publication. We won't even meet with a business that has not been vetted by one of you and "stamped for approval." Our goal is to create a powerhouse network, not only for the best REALTORS® in the area, but the best affiliates, as well, so we can grow stronger together.

How can I refer a preferred partner?

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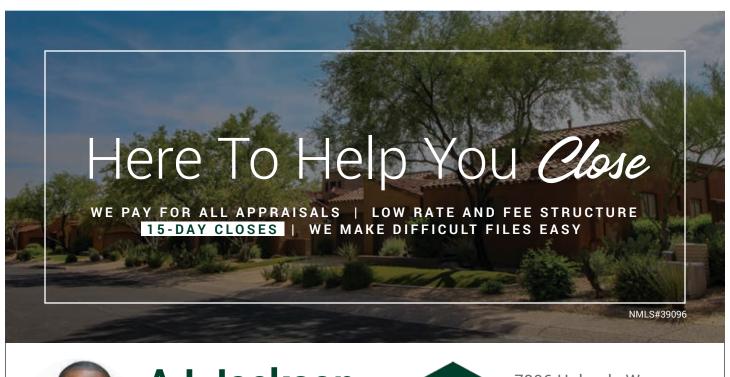
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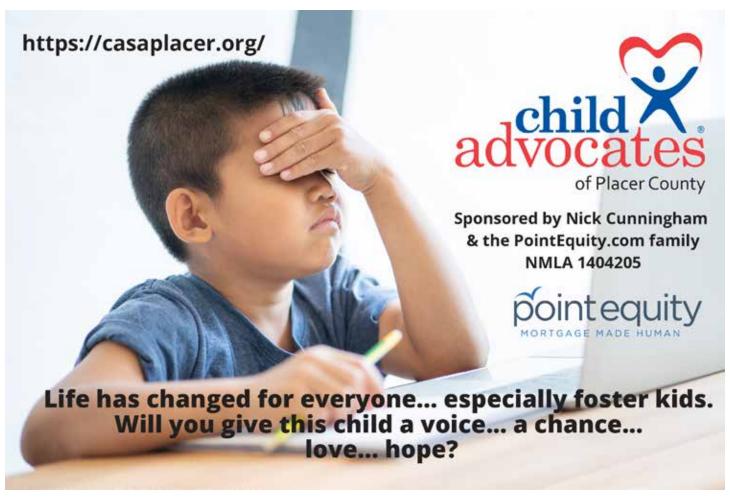
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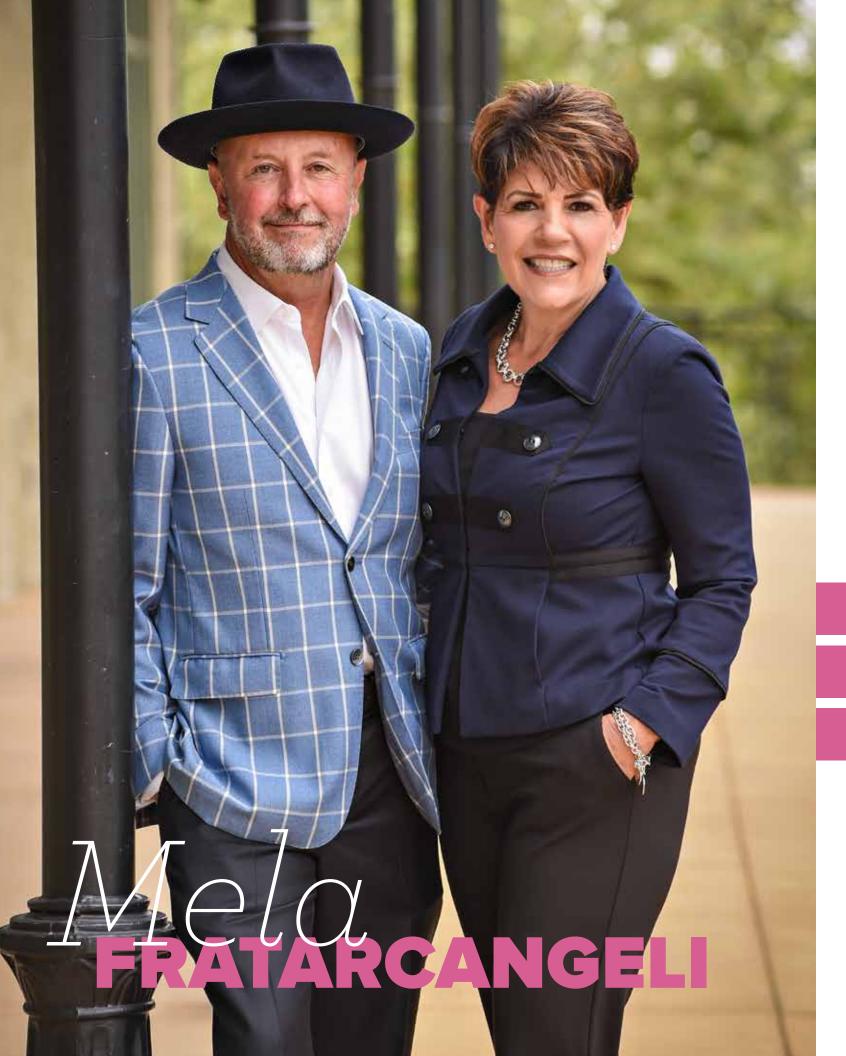
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FRATARCANGELI

DRIVE TO DESTINY

If you believe that each of us has a purpose in life, you can find examples all around you.

One who lives that ideal is Mela Fratarcangeli.

As Founder and CEO of Mela Fratarcangeli Real Estate Group at Keller Williams, Mela fulfills her destiny with her tireless drive no matter what hurdles she may face.

One of the most rewarding parts of her work is being part of someone's story.

"It means a lot to me to know that I'm helping them identify what they want, and then creating a plan to make it happen," Mela emphasizes. "This has always been a relationship business for me from my beginning in the industry 18 years ago. I remember at that time working with people who had small children. Today, I'm working with some of their children. It's really about developing those relationships."

GETTING HER START

Good things come to those who move forward in life. And that was definitely the case with Mela. Real estate is her third career.

"Out of college, I started out in the investment industry as an Investment Advisor. I was in that line of work for 17 years — at a time when there were very few women in the field," Mela recalls.

After that, Mela got into the banking side, and ended her career at CitiBank, where she was responsible for a staff of 50 brokers offering investment advice.

Mela's business success seems to have been hard-wired.

As she says, "I come from a family of entrepreneurs. Growing up, I always felt I would have my own business and that I would do something with investing."

DESIGNS ON HER FUTURE

Through life, Mela has collected artwork. In fact, for a time, she owned two art galleries — two Thomas Kincaid Art Galleries. At the time, Mela lived in the Bay area. She also decided to begin her real estate journey. It wasn't long before her family moved to El Dorado Hills. Soon, Mela sold her art galleries and moved to the area.

As she built her real estate business, she brought lessons learned from her prior experience with her.

"It helped me that I had been in business and that I had also previously started my own business from the ground up," she says. "It was a great learning opportunity for me. That's the way I looked at it. I had to learn everything I could about a place I had never lived. I learned the old-fashioned way...doing open houses every weekend and getting involved in my kids' school and activities."

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. . .



GAINING GROUND

From the start in 2003, it was clear that Mela was a natural fit for the industry. Along the way, she met her husband, Nick Konovaloff in 2010, and they were married in 2013.

She set to work, putting her tenacity to work, meeting people and discovering how she could meet their needs.

"I just wanted to do everything I could to figure it out," she says with a spark. "I looked at who was doing this successfully and then learned from those people. I've always been super competitive by nature—pushing myself. I was taught growing up that there's no reason to do something and not do it at the highest level possible."

Through time, the signs of success have definitely been there. In fact, Mela and Nick have sold nearly 500 homes.

RISING ABOVE TOGETHER

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Along the way to writing her success story, Mela has faced hurdles in life. One of those happened several years ago when she faced stage 3 cancer. In time, Nick faced a cancer diagnosis of his own.

"Going through that defines you," Mela says. "I was really sick during that time, but I was able to keep working through the whole time. It gave me something to do, and I am very grateful for that."

Today, Mela and Nick are moving forward. Mela is cancer-free and Nick is making good progress in his journey, too.

Their journey together has definitely been rewarding.

"When I was diagnosed with cancer, we were dating. Nick proposed to me after I was diagnosed. I believe we have a destiny and people come into your life for a reason," Mela emphasizes. "He was there every step of the journey. The tenacity I've always approached life with is what we did with the diagnosis. He has done the same. This has helped me become the person I was destined to be."

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Family is at the heart of life for Mela and Nick and their five children that they have between them.

In their free time, they enjoy exploring the region's wine country. They also have a passion for road trips and spending time with their children.

Giving back is also central to who they are. Mela sits on the Board of Directors for Zafia's Family House Foundation, an organization that provides lodging for the families of critically ill children. They also support Stand Up to Cancer. With each house they sell and each referral they receive, they make a donation of \$250, with a goal of donating \$50,000 this year.

Those who get to know Mela appreciate her relentless pursuit of solutions.

"Nick and I are people of our word," she says with a smile. "We do what we say we're going to do. We do the right thing even if it's not the easy thing to do."

With each day, Mela continues to help others achieve their dreams...with her drive to destiny.





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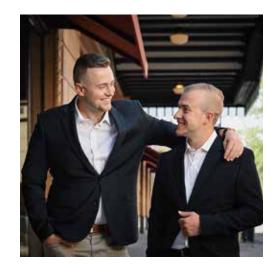




WALTER:

DYNAMIC CINEMA PRODUCTIONS

MEXT GENERATION INGENUITY



Matthew Walter is a dynamic guy running a dynamic business. His production company, Dynamic Cinema Productions, offers the full gamut of online media services for REALTORS® and brokers, including photography, walk-through and lifestyle videos, aerial coverage, and virtual staging to name a few. Other services offered by DCP include 3D matter-port, 2D and 3D floor plans, grass replacement, custom websites, and team commercials.

"Because of the level of professional needs for REALTORS®, including virtual listing tools and team videos, I offer a broad range of services and consider my business a one-stop-shop for REALTORS® and broker teams," Matthew explains.

"There are a lot of businesses in the media production industry, but creative depth is limited," he continues. "I genuinely believe I have some of the best talents between myself and the people I have worked closely with, in this region. I will do whatever it takes to make sure clients are satisfied and continue returning for more business."

Matthew brings a modern and innovative eye to production, an eye that has been cultivated since childhood when he first got into photography and videography. "My bes



friend brought over a camera one day when we were younger, and I became really intrigued by the editing process—creating something from nothing and telling a story through visualizations."

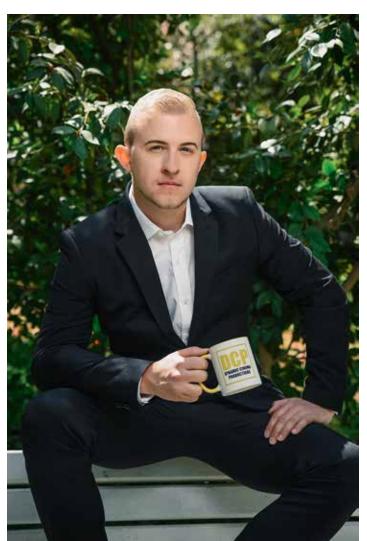
Matthew was in middle school when he first picked up a camera and began learning to construct stories through editing. He became so enamored by video production that he started focusing his time on learning about the industry. After high school, he moved to Sacramento and enrolled in video and photo production courses.

After about six months, Matthew decided he was ready to be his own boss. He bought all the equipment he needed for his own production company and dove right into building Dynamic Cinema Productions. He realized that real estate was a great area to start investing his time and building a network of clients.

While real estate has been the foundation of his company ever since, Dynamic Cinema Productions also offers non-RE-ALTOR® related services, such as weddings, tourism/commerce, city projects, business captures, headshots, commercials, events, and more.

•••

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looking to scale the company by expanding their team into a warehouse space for in-house productions, such as head-shots, sets for interviews, product photography, and other creative needs

While Matthew works hard to build his business, when he isn't working, he enjoys reading, staying healthy by cooking, working out, and exploring new places with the people he loves, including his new puppy, Kuna, a Pomeranian Husky mix.

"I believe in dedication, hard work, and doing whatever it takes to reach your goals," says Matthew. "We all have our own story to write, and I am passionate about telling those stories in the most creative and dynamic way possible."



To get Matthew, Collin, and Dynamic Cinema Productions to take care of your media production needs, or for more information:

WEBSITE:

www.DynamicCinemaProductions.com PHONE: 530-417-6170.

••• "I am really looking to bring stories to life through media production and to continually expand my creativity," Matthew explains. "Telling these stories not only contributes to my fulfillment and success, but it helps my clients grow in their respective industries as well. While there are many other services we offer and are looking to offer, this is what I am most passionate about."

No matter who he works with, Matthew remains in constant communication with his clients throughout the entire production process, and even afterward, to ensure an exceptional customer experience from start to finish. While he has built the business primarily by himself for the last four years (in addition to partnering with other local professionals), he recently partnered with his brother, Collin, and is excited to grow the business even more as a team.

Collin was an engineer before joining Dynamic Cinema Productions. He has shared Matthew's interest in photography and video since they were kids and even taught Matthew a few things on the camera when they were younger. Now that they are in business together, they are



66

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marguerite 110 EXPREALTY Crespillo



Despite the many challenges Marguerite Crespillo has had to endure in life, including homelessness, chronic family illness, loss, and just this last summer, breast cancer, she has not only learned to survive but to thrive and build a life that she loves.

Marguerite was mostly raised by a single mom. At 8 years old, she found herself homeless, living out of a truck and camper shell with her mother and two brothers, in Mountain View, CA.

> "I was just a kid so I didn't think much about dumpster diving for food. I made it fun," Marguerite says.

Growing up without means, Marguerite quickly learned the basics of entrepreneurism. She collected walnuts around town and sold them for five dollars a bag. She even got her brothers and friends to

> gather and collect them for \$2, so she could make a small profit.

Marguerite floated from low-wage job to low-wage job until the age of 22, when she decided to look for more opportunity in Sacramento, where her uncle lived. She got a job as a cocktail waitress and met her husband, Joe, just three months later.

Marguerite and Joe had their son, Jordon, in 1988. Having been a cocktail waitress, she decided to create a beverage catering business with a friend, which ultimately led to Marguerite and Joe buying a bar in 1990. Marguerite got her real estate license in 1993 and was able to buy their dream home in the country just a year later.

She was doing so well that she decided to sell their bar and focus strictly on real estate. Now pregnant with their second son, Jacob, Marguerite went to work as an assistant and buyer's agent for a top-producing REO agent. After selling 18 houses in her first six months, she definitely found her passion.

"I loved helping people see what was possible with homeownership and I realized I could be the architect of our family's financial future as well as have the freedom to work around our growing family," she says.

By 1996, Marguerite and Joe were expecting their third son, and decided it would be best for Marguerite to work more from home and open their own brokerage. This became an extremely valuable decision when their oldest son, Jordon, was diagnosed with ALD (Adrenoleukodystrophy), and required a bone marrow transplant in Minnesota requiring them to move their family across the country to focus on his treatment.

"So many people stepped in to help us during this difficult time and we are forever grateful. They even helped us start the JordonFund Golf tournament to help us financially, which ultimately turned into an annual event for 10 years, helping raise hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations to work towards a cure and help other parents going through similar treatment," Marguerite explains.



Marguerite and her husband, Joe.



WHEN LIFE BECOMES challenging,
IT IS TIME TO TAKE A STEP BACK AND EVALUATE WHAT IS important at that time in your life. Mostly taking time to $just\ breathe$ AND NOT COMPARE YOURSELF OR YOUR LIFE TO OTHERS, BUT stay focused ON WHAT IS MOST *important* to you.



Marguerite and Joe persevered and kept Realty First growing. "What I loved most was being able to build my real estate business my way with hosting client parties and building relationships instead of cold calling and spending thousands of dollars advertising," says Marguerite.

his name.

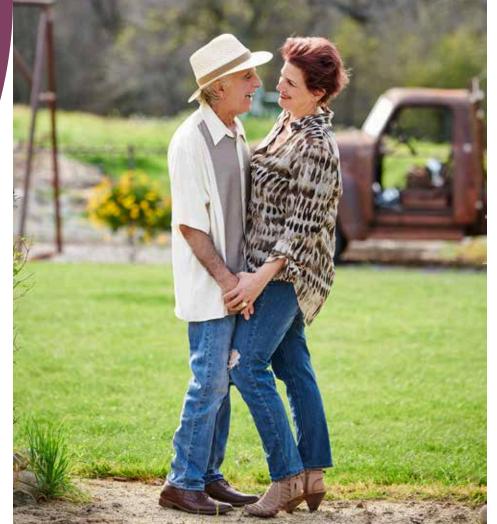
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Then, the market crashed. Marguerite and Joe survived by pivoting to REOs. In 2009, they decided to purchase a franchise and opened three offices. Marguerite's business soon took off again. She was selling between 200-300 homes a year, and was the 2012 Wall Street Journal Real Trends #7 REALTOR® in California and #66 in the Nation.

careers, Joe was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. The stress of dealing with the disease and running a brokerage of 120 agents eventually became too much, and they decided to sell their business in 2015.

"I figured I could do just as well running my own team instead of a brokerage," Marguerite explains.

Marguerite joined eXp Realty in 2016 and it couldn't have worked out better. Marguerite grew her eXp team nationally and because of the company's revenue-sharing model, Joe was able to retire in 2018. Joe still helps Marguerite in her business as her "eye candy at showings," as she affectionally refers to him, and he has also ventured into the world of stand-up comedy.





Joe's assistance became vital, when in May of 2020, Marguerite was diagnosed with breast cancer. "I've always been a strong self-sufficient person, but that knocked the wind out of my sails," says Marguerite.

Then the market took off. Luckily with the help of Joe, a strong team and support network she was able to continue working through treatment. Having the back up of all the benefits of eXp also allowed her to focus on her health, instead of worrying about their financial picture.

"Honestly, I was able to work right through it. I had bad days, but I was honest and upfront with my clients, and everyone worked with me. I finished chemo in August and had surgery in September. Today, I feel amazing. Better than I have in years. I have focused on my health, eating well, exercising and have lost weight."

Today, Marguerite is passionate about passing on everything she has learned throughout her life and career to other agents. Her message: to build a business around your life, not the other way around.

"I am not convinced there is any such thing as balance—it is a constantly fluctuating energy," she says. "When life becomes challenging, it is time to take a step back and evaluate what is important at that time in your life. Mostly taking time to just breathe and not compare yourself or your life to others, but stay focused on what is most important to you."

Marguerite and Joe celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in May of 2021. They have six children and eight grandchildren. They live in their dream home in the country, where they have been for the last 27 years. They have a dog, two cats, mini horses, goats, chickens and ducks.

"The beauty of 'success' is it can change as life changes," she says. "The version of success I had when my children were little is different now that they are adults. I love that it can change as we change. But mostly, it is the ability to build a life that you love and don't want to escape from!"



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SPRING EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

If pivoting is the name of the game this year, then our Sacramento Real Producers community are experts in the field, as evidenced by our quickly shifted location change for our Spring Event! It was a wonderful evening of reconnecting in person, mingling and making connections, and enjoying the fun atmosphere of Gander Taphouse in Loomis. Thank you to our sponsors for the evening: Fairway Independent Mortgage, Good Life Construction, North American Home Services, Point Equity Residential Lending, and VA Loans of California. In addition, thank you to Aura Design Company and Indulge Beauty Studio for their help in making the night truly special. Enjoy the photos from the evening, and we can't wait to see you at our next event!























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Meet Theresa and Elizabeth, the founders and lead designers of Aura Design Co. – a company with the intention to cultivate designs that kindle emotion and engage others in the perceptions of their surroundings. In addition to being sisters and best friends, Theresa and Elizabeth are creatives, artists, and passionate entrepreneurs who aspire to *inspire* others through the art of design.

Based in Sacramento, they specialize in Interior Design (both residential and commercial), as well as floral and event design (both personal and corporate.) Aura Design Co. builds their aesthetic to be centered around the combination of elements of light, shadow, form and texture to complement the architecture in which they dwell. Their goal in design is to create a feeling – using their expertise to captivate, inspire, and impact people's psyche and mental awareness.

"We believe design should tell a story, and we place an emphasis on ensuring that the narrative of the story is intentional whether it is for your home or business."

When it comes to serving the real estate industry, Aura Design Co. is able to provide high level, professional Residential Interior Design services, and can be the essential took in your repertoire for any client who may need a new build, renovation, or simply just furnishing design services with an elevated eye for design.

As designers, they embrace the definition of their name Aura: "the distinctive atmosphere or quality that seems to surround and be generated by a person, thing or place." The results are designs that emulate a distinctive atmosphere and feeling for their client and all those who connect with it. Their team has a true love for design, a passion for nurturing the human spirit, and an appetite for the challenge of creating meaningful designs that construct a world better than they found it.

For more information, please visit: auradesigncompany.com



























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Photo by: Danielle Hatcher

INDULGE BEAUTY STUDIO



Rachel Lesiw of Indulge Beauty Studio, photographed by: Danielle Hatcher.

Sacramento Real Producers is thrilled to introduce you to photographer Rachel Lesiw of Indulge Beauty Studio. Founded with a passion for wanting all women of every shape of size to feel absolutely beautiful, Indulge Beauty Studio exists to be a part of this life-changing movement of empowering women to indulge in themselves – to take the time to invest in themselves, knowing that when you feel good about yourself, it makes you confident; when you're confident, you can accomplish anything.

Over time, Rachel moved beyond photographing solely women and quickly realized that this same message resonates not only with women, but with men and young adults as well. Thus, Indulge Beauty Studio now serves a varied clientele with portraits, personal branding, and content for social media platforms.

"My personal branding sessions are a great way to update your current imagery. You'll receive a mixture of headshots and content images that you can use on your website, marketing materials, and social media," Rachel shares.

Understanding that taking photos can be intimidating, or even anxiety-inducing, for many people, Rachel is here to guide you through the process. When you contact her to book a session, you will discuss what you are looking for in regards to your imagery – new headshots, content images, the "feel" you are looking for, and most importantly, what are some things about you that can incorporate into your shoot? "I love when people include hobbies, pets, anything! This is what makes you relatable and if it's a part of you, then let's incorporate it!"

Rachel always tells her clients, "You might feel awkward at times during your shoot, but I promise that I will never let you look bad." And she means it. When you work with Indulge Beauty Studio, you can take confidence in knowing that the best version of you will be captured, and you might even enjoy the process along the way.

For more information, please visit: www.indulgebeautystudio.com



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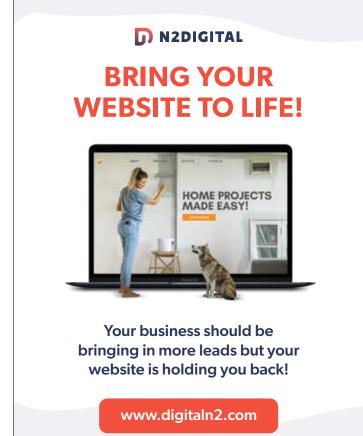
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Mimi Nassif Luxury Estates, Inc.

WORKING WITH INTEGRITY. WALKING WITH A PLAN.

Vision is an extremely powerful quality in life and business. It is the quality that inspires action — and results.

That's the spirit Mimi Nassif carries.

As Broker and CEO of Mimi Nassif Luxury Estates, Inc., Mimi leads by example, working with integrity and walking with a plan to put her clear vision of the future into action — no matter what challenges may be faced.

"Consistency is a big key for me,"
Mimi explains. "I always make sure
that I have set out goals for the future,
and that I have a good plan in place to
reach them."

Mimi has a relentless drive to pursue her plans for the future.

"I think that has been a big reason for my success through time," she explains. "I don't quit, and I never take 'no' for an answer. I always like to challenge myself to overcome obstacles and reach higher goals."

EARLY PATH

Mimi first earned her real estate license in 2012. Before that, she had taken her career in a different direction.

"I worked with my husband, Dr. Firas
Nassif. He is a dentist and I worked in
his clinic as an Office Manager," Mimi
recalls. "Before I worked as the Office
Manager, I focused on my education by
studying business, marketing, fashion
design and architect engineering. While
working full-time and raising my children, I decided to go back to school to
focus on interior design. I didn't know it
then, but that was the foundation of my
next step ... real estate."

CRUCIAL CROSSROADS

Life was definitely moving forward in the right direction for Mimi and Firas. Then they reached a pivotal crossroads in life in 2011.

"That's when my husband was diagnosed with cancer. At the time, they gave him just two weeks to live," she remembers. "At that point, I felt I needed a career change. I wanted to have something where I knew that I would be able to depend on myself and provide the best life for my kids, regardless of the circumstances."

As Mimi considered her options, one seemed to automatically rise to the top of the list.

"When I look at homes, I see more than just what meets the eyes. I see all the elements, floorplan, design,

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construction, materials, land ... and the all-encompassing character of the home. In fact, even before I became a real estate agent, I was always helping my friends with their home-buying, and giving them my opinions on decorating."

RISING ABOVE

So Mimi studied and earned her license. In the meantime, her husband received care in a Houston hospital. At the same time, Mimi traveled back and forth to Houston while caring for her three young children at home.

"It was the only facility that offered the level of care he needed for his condition," Mimi says. "His treatment went very well. In fact, today, he is cancer-free."

Mimi began her real estate journey.

It's safe to say that she got off to a flying start. In fact, she earned International Rookie of the Year honors during her first 12 months in the business.

That was just the start.

During her second year, she shared the stage with Keller Williams' Gary Keller, sharing her perspective and experiences from her first year in the business.

As she recalls with a smile, "That was an amazing opportunity. It was huge momentum in my career to be able to speak in front of 13,000 people about focusing on one goal at a time in order to perform at a high level and succeed. I love inspiring other people and helping them become successful."

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Mimi hasn't slowed down through time.

In fact, she has made a habit out of continuing to perform at a very high level.

That comes as a natural result of Mimi's committed work ethic, and her passion for serving others.

"I always try my very best on everything," Mimi says. "The main thing is I love how I can be part of people's legacy ... home is the largest investment they make in their lives. I love being part of that success."

In time, she built her own team as a Broker in 2015 — Mimi Nassif Luxury Estates, Inc. Today, the team features 20 professional agents.

"I earned my Broker's license in 2015 and started my own firm," Mimi says.

"I love the opportunity to coach and inspire other agents to become successful in their own careers. In the process, I don't believe in hiding anything when it comes to what allowed me to become successful. I think that's an important way for all of us to grow ... by looking at people who are successful, listening to them and following the things they do."







LIVING AND WORKING WITH PURPOSE

Mimi definitely lives her life with a sense of purpose.

"Sometimes, people want to hold on to the things that helped them get where they got, but I don't hide anything when it comes to sharing ideas that can hopefully help others create their own success."

The team makes its presence known through the work it does on behalf of clients throughout the area. In fact, Mimi Nassif Luxury Estates, Inc. recorded an impressive total of \$60 million in sales volume in 2020.

Away from work, Mimi and Firas cherish time spent with their children — Sophia, Michael and Anthony.

"I love spending time with my kids and family. Truly, family is the most important thing in my life," Mimi emphasizes. "One of our favorite things that we like to do together is getting away. We like to go on one- or two-day short vacations together." Mimi and her husband take great pride in giving back to the community by donating and raising funds for numerous organizations, including CASA, Blue Heart International, Stand Up Placer, and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

As Mimi says, "We are blessed to live in our community. They were with us during our downtime and the reason why we were successful; I appreciate them from the bottom of my heart. I depended on my community and they, in turn, believed in me. I will never let them down."

RESULTS ON AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Each day, the ranks of those entering the real estate industry continue to expand, with the next generation of REALTORS®.

As Mimi considers her career and the passion she has for supporting those on her team, Mimi offers advice for those who are starting their own path in the profession.

"One thing that I like to say to new people in the real estate business is to find the people around you who are successful. Then listen to them and follow the things they do," she says. "Also, I think it's very important to be determined and to have the will and ambition to succeed."

Those who meet Mimi and have the opportunity to work with her benefit from her leadership and the vision she brings to life and those around her.

"I always walk with a long-term plan," Mimi says. "If you plan it and work hard for it, you will definitely reach it."

Day by day, Mimi makes a positive impact by working with integrity and walking with a plan.

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