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CLASS OF 2024

OCTOBER 2024

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If you are interested in contributing or nominating REALTORS® for certain stories, please email ocrealproducers@n2co.com.

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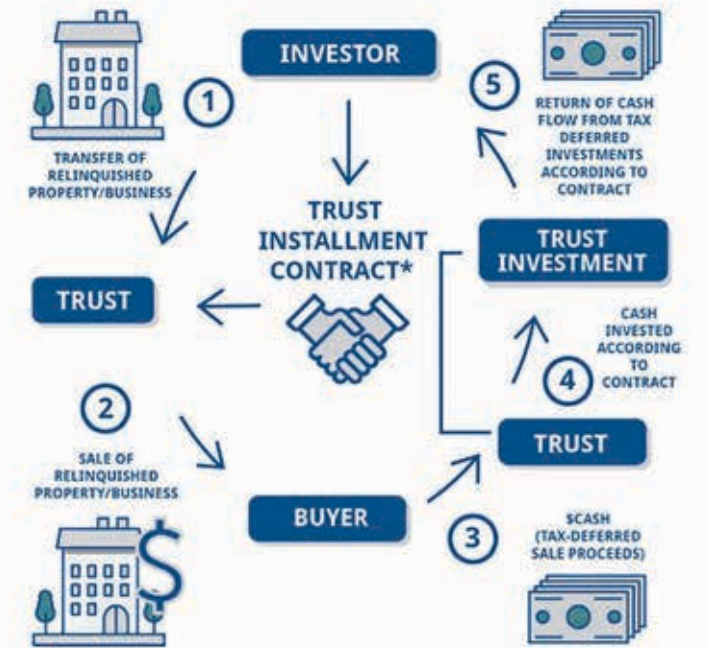
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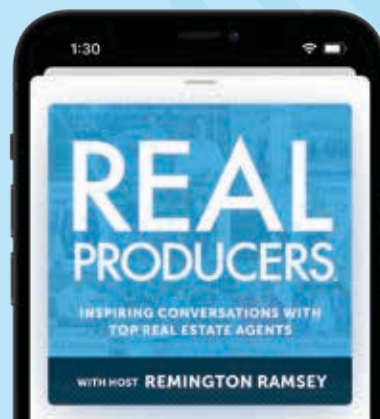


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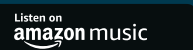
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"You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours." — Psalm 128:2 (NIV)

Dear Real Producers of South OC,

As October arrives and the bustling summer real estate season slows down in South Orange County, we're not just shifting gears; we're entering the critical fourth quarter of 2024.

This month offers a chance for reflection and anticipation, much like the journey of every standout Real Producer in our vibrant South OC real estate community. It marks our final push of the year, bringing renewed focus and energy as we review our progress and prepare for

a strong finish. October is a crucial time to consolidate our achievements and strategically position ourselves for end-of-year success, both professionally and personally.

Let's take this moment to reflect on the outstanding efforts and results that define our industry and the dedication and perseverance that inspire us to excel in all areas of our lives. In this special issue, we are proud to honor our Class of 2024 40 Under 40 honorees, who exemplify this excellence through their remarkable performance in the real estate industry. We invite you to explore the stories of these outstanding young professionals throughout this issue



Warm regards,

MICHELE KADER
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and, if you have the opportunity, take a moment to congratulate them on their impressive achievements.

As we celebrate our 40 Under 40 honorees and enter the final quarter of 2024, let October be a time to reflect on our progress and embrace the season's energy as we work towards a fulfilling end to the year.



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40 UNDER 40

CLASS OF 2024

We are thrilled to bring you this special edition of *South Orange County Real Producers*, spotlighting our exceptional 40 Under 40 honorees in the local real estate community. These dynamic professionals are the rising stars, innovators, and trailblazers to watch in the years ahead.

These South OC real estate professionals, aged 40 and under, were nominated by their industry peers, which was heavily weighted. They were selected not just for their impressive sales achievements, but for their professionalism, dedication, creativity, community involvement, and exemplary character.

They are true leaders, generously sharing their knowledge, time, and mentorship with the next generation of REALTORS®.

Many of these standout agents have been honored with industry awards and are actively engaged in charitable initiatives and causes. Some have graced the pages of previous issues, and we're thrilled to celebrate them again in this special feature.

We proudly present the 2024 *South Orange County Real Producers'* 40 Under 40 honorees—remarkable agents and even more extraordinary individuals.

Nick Ahrens

True North SoCal Compass

Nick Ahrens is a senior partner at Compass, leading the True North SoCal team with exceptional skill and passion. Starting his real estate career in 2013, Nick quickly established himself as a top performer. His impressive accolades include being named in the Top 40 Under 40 and ranking in the Top 1% of REALTORS® nationally, along with receiving Pinnacle, Chairman, Titan, and Diamond awards.

A San Clemente native and USC graduate with a degree in American history, Nick originally entered real estate with a passion for flipping houses. However, he soon discovered a greater joy in helping families find homes that enhance their lives and achieve their wealth goals.

Nick's approach is grounded in honesty, integrity, and a deep commitment to understanding and addressing clients' needs from their perspective.

Outside of work, Nick enjoys surfing, hiking, and playing guitar. He is supported by his spouse, Jen Hood, and their daughter, Vivian. Nick's short-term goal is to assist others in achieving success through real estate, while his long-term vision is centered on creating meaningful impact for families and communities.



Sean Allen

Anvil Real Estate



An exceptional REALTOR® with Anvil Real Estate, Sean Allen brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to his clients. With a career that began in 2016, Sean has consistently demonstrated excellence in the field, winning Top Sales by Volume and Top Transactions by Units at his previous brokerage.

Born in Fullerton, California, and raised in Temecula, Sean is a Cal State Fullerton liberal arts graduate who leverages his background in roofing and construction to offer unique insights and value to his clients. His expertise in real estate transactions, combined with his strong

communication skills and dedication, sets him apart in the competitive market.

Sean's passion for real estate is matched by his commitment to his clients and family. Married to Tawney, with two children, Carter and Blair, Sean enjoys golfing, cooking, baking, and coaching his children's sports teams. He is actively involved with community organizations, such as NEGU and CHOC Hospital, and values his connections with his church, Harbor Point Church.

Guided by Zig Ziglar's belief that "You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great," Sean continues to build his business and enrich the lives of those he serves.

Eric Babcock

The Babcock Team Real Broker

Eric Babcock, the dynamic team lead of The Babcock Team at Real Broker, has been a prominent force in real estate for the last six years. Eric's success is driven by innovative marketing strategies and a commitment to authenticity.

Raised in Rancho Santa Margarita, Eric's deep-rooted values of transparency and communication shine through his personalized approach, ensuring clients know exactly who they're working with. Eric's real estate career was inspired by his mother, Nancy Babcock, a longtime industry professional. His passion for helping people and building lasting connections fuels his work.

In his spare time, Eric enjoys a range of activities from weightlifting and snowboarding to attending

church, football, basketball, and supporting charities like Tunnels to Towers, OUR Rescue, Wounded Warrior Project, and the Tim Tebow Foundation. With a family-oriented focus, Eric cherishes time with his high school sweetheart and wife, Staci, and their three children, Bennett, Rory, and Jameson.

Looking ahead, Eric aims to achieve \$100 million in annual sales and contribute to global housing needs by building 20 homes a year, reflecting his devotion to both personal and professional growth.



Andrew Baker

Arbor Real Estate

A talented REALTOR® at Arbor Real Estate, Andrew Baker has built a stellar reputation since starting in the business in 2017. Known for his integrity and ethical approach, Andrew's success is driven by strong mentorship from industry leaders Scott Singer, Matt Perry, and Kristin Barry, combined with his commitment to honesty and community involvement.

Andrew's passion for real estate began early, fueled by childhood visits on his bike to open houses. His educational background in communication and marketing from Auburn University complements his professional endeavors, allowing him to connect deeply with clients and build lasting relationships.

With accolades like the Arbor Real Estate Rookie of the Year and Most Dependable awards, Andrew's mission is to help clients achieve their dreams through significant financial transactions. Looking ahead, he aspires to reach \$500 million in sales over the next two years, guided by his motto, "The Power Of Deep Roots."

His community engagement, including coaching football at Newport Harbor and serving as a youth group leader at Grace Fellowship Church, underscores his commitment to making a positive impact.



Jordan Bennett

**Jordan Bennett & Associates
Regency Real Estate Brokers**

Jordan Bennett, associate broker at Regency Real Estate Brokers and leader of Jordan Bennett & Associates, has been a powerhouse in real estate for over 15 years.

Jordan's success stems from his meticulous follow-up skills, a commitment to treating others well, and a unique listing approach involving remodel strategies. Recognized as one of *Realtor Magazine's* 30 Under 30 and a top agent at his previous firm, KW Mission Viejo, Jordan is known for his strong work ethic and innovative solutions.

Originally from Toronto, Jordan now calls Orange County home, where he enjoys beach volleyball,

surfing, and spending time with his family, which includes his wife, Kayleigh, their 16-year-old son, Theo, and 13-year-old daughter, Emma. Jordan is also dedicated to his faith and his community involvement through charities like Global Christian Relief, Pacific Justice Institute, Novo, and Compassion International.

Jordan's long-term plan is to own 100 doors in Orange County and give back by gradually giving his portfolio away throughout his semi-retirement, although he has no plans to ever truly stop working.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Mitchel Bohi

**The Forum Group
Compass**

Mitchel Bohi has been a stand-out figure in real estate for seven years and counting. A top-notch REALTOR® with The Forum Group, Mitchel continues to impress while his numbers underscore his commitment and expertise. As a member of the

second-largest producing team in Dana Point at Compass, Mitchel's accolades include Rookie of the Year and the Highest GCI award from 2019 to 2021.

Growing up in Orange County and educated in Switzerland with a degree in international design management and project management, Mitchel's passion for real estate began early. Inspired by

his love of architecture and hands-on experience in buying, selling, and flipping items from a young age, he transitioned seamlessly into real estate. Known for his consistency, honesty, and solutions-driven approach, Mitchel is always accessible to his clients, ensuring their needs are met with integrity.

Off the clock, Mitchel enjoys golf, beach outings, and family time with his wife, Cambria, and their sweet daughter, Cadence. He is also involved in charities like BILY and Art for Healing. His personal and professional goals focus on helping people, reflecting his belief that success is measured by the positive impact he makes.



Tyler Bowman

**Bowman Luxury Homes Group
Compass**

A principal at Compass and leader of the Bowman Luxury Homes Group, Tyler Bowman has wasted no time, rapidly rising through the ranks in less than three years in real estate. His diligence earned him a spot in the *South OC Real Producers' Top 40 Under 40* in 2023 as well.

Born and raised in coastal Orange County, Tyler leverages his deep local knowledge and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Concordia University to provide unparalleled service. His success stems from hard work, transparent communication, and a genuine connection with clients. Tyler's unique approach to

real estate, blending his marketing acumen with a client-centered strategy, sets him apart in a competitive market.

Beyond work, Tyler enjoys beach vacations with his wife, Alise, and their two children, Brixton and Banks, as well as family outings to Disneyland and golf rounds. With a steadfast commitment to integrity and community, including support for Bullies and Buddies and the Wounded Warrior Project, Tyler Bowman is dedicated to building a lasting legacy of excellence in real estate.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Tyler Brown

**Tyler Brown & Associates
Compass**



Tyler Brown, a standout in Southern California's real estate scene, leads Tyler Brown & Associates with a blend of finesse and integrity that has earned him an exemplary reputation. Based in Newport Beach, California, Tyler and his team excel in the coastal Orange County market, specializing in luxury waterfront properties, new construction, investment opportunities, and value-added ventures.

With a deep understanding of both residential and commercial real estate, Tyler's personal management of a substantial portfolio adds a layer of authenticity to his approach. His lifelong residency in Laguna Beach and Newport Beach enhances his local market expertise, enabling him to offer nuanced insights and passionate service.

Tyler's dual degrees in business administration and hospitality management from Cal Poly Pomona underpin his strategic acumen and commitment to outstanding client service. His ability to navigate the competitive Orange County market with exceptional skill has fostered a loyal client base and a robust referral network. Tyler's meticulous attention to detail and dedication to exceeding client expectations highlight his relentless drive and integrity.

Recognized for his expertise in new construction, luxury sales, and off-market properties, Tyler also excels in relocation services, leveraging a vast national network to ensure seamless transitions. His stellar performance and unwavering commitment make him a deserving honoree on the 40 Under 40 list.

Paul Brutoco

Engel & Völkers

Paul Brutoco has made it his personal mission to create a positive impact on his clients and community as a remarkable real estate advisor with Engel & Völkers. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a degree in business management with an emphasis on IT, and had a lengthy career in marketing with Fortune 500 companies, enabling him to cultivate his talents in communication, client-relationship management, negotiation, and networking before launching his real estate career in 2021.

Paul is a family man, married to his wife, Caitlin, for 13 years. They have two daughters, Isabella and Coralina, as well as a son, Leo. Paul enjoys cooking,

traveling, playing and watching sports, and spending quality time with his loved ones. He is also involved in his neighborhood and the ever-growing list of children's school activities as his children get older. His business mantra is "Keep making the name better," passed down from his Italian grandfather, which motivates him to always do right by people.

Paul's short-term goal is to help at least 25 families each year while also spending more time with his loved ones. In the long run, he aspires to develop a sustainable and reliable business and have several real estate investments of his own while being present for all his children's milestones.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Kayla Cardona

The Oppenheim Group



A distinguished REALTOR® with The Oppenheim Group, Kayla Cardona is also a prominent reality TV star on Netflix's "Selling the OC." Since entering real estate in 2019, Kayla has achieved remarkable success; her accolades include snagging an Executive Award and recognition as a Top 1% Agent on Zillow.

Originally from South Orange County, Kayla transitioned from a decade-long career in the beauty industry to real estate, driven by encouragement from clients and her own drive. Her success is anchored in her faith, persistence, a strong work ethic, and impeccable integrity.

Kayla's standout qualities include her strategic personal branding and innovative marketing approach.

As a single mother to 17-year-old Jordan, Kayla is dedicated to building a better future for her family while balancing her thriving career and personal endeavors. Outside of real estate, Kayla is a dynamic life coach, media podcast host, and speaker. She is also deeply involved with her church, Oceans, and proudly serves as a missionary in the Philippines, focusing on children's education, Bible study, and feeding programs. Passionate about community support, she contributes to Foster Love and envisions creating women's shelters and orphanages.

Max Carr

First Team Real Estate

Max Carr is a distinguished real estate professional renowned for his deep passion for the OC coastline and his transparent, client-focused approach. Leading his team with a commitment to excellence, Max's expertise spans the entire home-buying and selling process, providing clients with comprehensive education and unparalleled service. His dedication to building wealth through real estate investment and fostering value-driven relationships has solidified his reputation in the industry.

With annual production in the tens of millions and a 100 percent five-star rating from more than 50 reviews, Max's exceptional concierge service extends well beyond the closing of a transaction. Supported by a superior team, he ensures that every client's experience is seamless and rewarding. His approach

has garnered a loyal client base, with over 70 percent of his sales originating from repeat and referral business.

Max's skillful negotiation and meticulous attention to detail have consistently delivered impressive results, including substantial savings for clients and maximized returns on property sales. His dedication to exceeding client expectations is evident in his impressive track record and the high praise he receives for his comprehensive service and outstanding results. Max Carr's unwavering commitment to his clients and the real estate industry makes him a standout honoree for the 40 Under 40 award.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Laura Ann Clinton

Bullock Russell Real Estate

Laura Ann Clinton embarked on her real estate career in 2021 after relocating from New Hampshire to California. Despite beginning with no local network, Laura's relentless drive and proactive approach have quickly propelled her to success as a REALTOR® with Bullock Russell Real Estate.

Laura's transition from a labor and delivery nurse to real estate was inspired by her desire for a new challenge and her passion for helping others through major life transitions. Her unique blend of genuine care, honesty, and exceptional service distinguishes her in the industry. Laura takes pride in building strong client relationships and delivering thoughtful, personalized strategies to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Laura is diligently working towards several brokerage awards this year and aspires to build a team in the future. Inspired by her husband, Jesse, who also works in sales, she remains focused on maximizing her potential in every aspect of her life. The couple are the proud parents of Joelle (14), Aria (11), Justus (9), and share their lives and home with two rescue dogs.

In her free time, Laura enjoys beach walks, paddle boarding, whale watching, and practicing aerial silks, an acrobatic art form performed on suspended fabric. She is also deeply committed to giving back, donating 10 percent of commission from each transaction to local nonprofits.



Hunter Crane

Crane Group Coldwell Banker Realty

Leading the Crane Group since 2016, Hunter Crane is a phenomenal REALTOR® with Coldwell Banker Realty. Recognized with the Coldwell Banker International Presidential Elite award, Hunter's success stems from his commitment to authenticity and a full-service approach. This approach is exemplified by his business's comprehensive solutions, which include decluttering, staging, and access to a network of painters and contractors who complete projects with deferred payments through escrow.

Raised in San Clemente, Hunter attended Northern Arizona University before becoming inspired, at age 21, to venture into the real estate business by his mother, Katrina Crane, a longtime Realtor. He finds

fulfillment in the daily interactions with diverse clients and embraces the ever-evolving nature of the industry.

Outside of real estate, Hunter enjoys surfing, snowboarding, and playing guitar. He recently married his fiancée, Shelby, this month. His personal goals focus on creating a supportive and enriching environment for his future children, mirroring the positive childhood he cherished. Hunter's motto, "Be curious, not judgmental," reflects his approach to both business and life.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Mark Elmasry

Douglas Elliman Real Estate



Mark Elmasry exemplifies dedication and passion in both his real estate career and his personal life. A graduate of Cal State Fullerton, Mark initially pursued a path in physical therapy while excelling as a professional mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter.

His journey took an unexpected turn when he discovered his true calling in real estate — a field his family has long been involved in. Embracing this new direction in 2013, Mark quickly transitioned into a full-time real estate professional, driven by a relentless commitment to achieving the best results for his clients and building lasting relationships.

With nearly 11 years in the industry, Mark's approach mirrors the discipline he honed through MMA training. He channels this

self-discipline into delivering exceptional service, helping clients enhance their quality of life through strategic real estate investments. His enthusiasm for transforming clients' dreams into reality — whether it's finding the perfect home or securing a lucrative investment — fuels his success.

Mark's success is also attributed to his high level of personal engagement. Fluent in Arabic and English, he provides personalized service and maintains a strong network of repeat and referral clients. Balancing his professional achievements with family life, Mark enjoys spending time with his wife, Leah, and their young son, Ezra. His journey from MMA to real estate showcases his ability to adapt and thrive, making him a standout recipient of the 40 Under 40 award.

Kaylyn Floryan

The Floryan Group Legacy 15 Real Estate Brokers

A talented broker with The Floryan Group at Legacy 15 Real Estate Brokers, Kaylyn Floryan is driven by a deep passion for helping others. A native of Rancho Santa Margarita with a business degree in finance from Cal State Fullerton, Kaylyn started her real estate career in 2013 part-time while still in college, guided by her mentor. A strong start and helpful collaboration at such a young age has paved the way for her continued success in the industry while snagging her brokerage's top producer award.

Kaylyn's innovative approach to social media marketing and her expansive network set her apart in a competitive market. Her commitment to collaboration

and mentorship has not only fueled her growth but also helped nurture new talent in the industry.

Outside the office, Kaylyn enjoys traveling, hiking, and working out. She and her husband, John, along with their one-month-old son, Christian, love exploring new destinations. Their family dog, Fabio, a social media-savvy shih tzu, adds much entertainment and joy to their lives. Actively involved with her church, Calvary South OC, Kaylyn is passionate about community outreach and looks forward to furthering her impact at the local level in her hometown of San Juan Capistrano.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Simon Guy

**Right Guy Real Estate
Keller Williams Realty**



With over 17 years in the real estate industry, Simon Guy of Right Guy Real Estate stands out as a leading force at Keller Williams. Starting his career at age 18, Simon's work ethic and integrity have driven remarkable results, culminating in consistent success year after year.

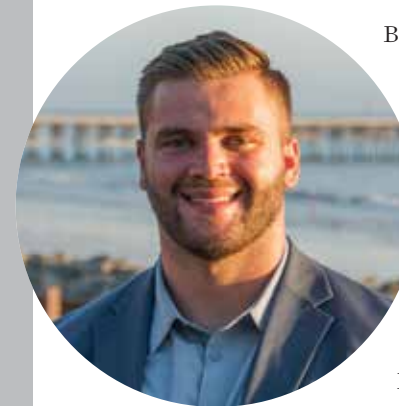
Raised in Dana Point and a graduate of Fresno Pacific with a degree in business organizational leadership, Simon blends local expertise with strategic insight. His commitment to hard work and doing right by clients sets him apart. Simon's unique approach is grounded in his focus on

client satisfaction and integrity, reflecting the values instilled by mentors like Gary Keller and Josh Stern. What Simon finds most fulfilling about his work is using his skills and knowledge of the real estate market to better his clients' lives by creating opportunities for building wealth through real estate investing and improving their living environment.

In his spare time, Simon enjoys surfing, snowboarding, and wake surfing while actively supporting South Shores Church. Alongside his wife, Daisy, Simon keeps quite busy with their three young children, John (7), James (5), and Jet (1). He is also focused on his fast-growing house-flipping venture, aiming to flip a dozen houses this year.

Brandon Halperin

Anvil Real Estate



Brandon Halperin is a distinguished real estate professional at Anvil Real Estate, making an impact in the Orange County market since 2022. Originally from Brooklyn, New York, and raised in Thornton, Colorado, he brings a diverse background and fresh perspective to the Southern California real estate landscape.

His proactive, client-first approach and commitment to excellence have earned him notable accolades, including the

Anvil Real Estate Rising Star Award.

A former football player, Brandon graduated with a degree in business management from Metropolitan State University of Denver. His transition to real estate has been guided by hard work, discipline, and integrity, which he carries into every

client interaction. Known for his honesty, transparency, and strong relationship-building skills, Brandon has cultivated a loyal clientele primarily through referrals.

Brandon's family, including his mother, two older sisters, and three nieces, remains in Colorado, while he has made San Clemente his home with his girlfriend, Rachel, and their two dogs, Molly and Jackson. An avid powerlifter and passionate fantasy football enthusiast, he actively supports animal rescue organizations like Paws 4 Pets.

Looking ahead, Brandon aspires to rank among the top 1% of agents in the country, with plans to mentor new agents and further his contributions to the real estate industry. His long-term goals include purchasing a home and traveling to Europe.

Dana Halden

**The Forum Group
Compass**

Dana Halden is a dedicated REALTOR® with Compass and member of The Forum Group. Since starting his real estate career in 2021, he has quickly established himself by focusing on client needs and delivering exceptional service. Born in Montana and raised in Oregon, Dana moved to Orange County in 2004, where his passion for real estate blossomed.

Dana holds a business degree from Concordia University, Irvine. After a successful career in technology sales, he transitioned into real estate, applying his corporate skills to solve clients' challenges and enhance their experience. His approach is defined by

honesty and a genuine desire to help clients achieve their dreams.

Outside of work, Dana is devoted to his family, including his wife, Julie, and their two children, Jackson (7) and Alivia (4). He enjoys golf, family vacations, and coaching his son's sports teams. Active in his community, Dana supports South County Outreach by organizing holiday food drives. Looking ahead to 2025, he aims to be more intentional about taking family vacations, coach more children's sports, and take time to enjoy all facets of life while balancing his growing business.



Eric Hudes

**The Hudes Group
Keller Williams Realty**

Eric Hudes, president of The Hudes Group at Keller Williams Realty, is a dedicated REALTOR® committed to client success. Since launching his real estate career in 2014, Eric has built a strong reputation for excellence, focusing on delivering exceptional results for his clients.

An Irvine, California, native and San Diego State University graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing and Advertising, Eric transitioned from the corporate world to real estate in search of a more impactful career. He specializes in crafting tailored real estate plans that help clients achieve their goals while building and protecting their wealth. His "Burn the Boats" mentality emphasizes that there is no Plan B, driving him to work extremely hard to ensure his business thrives.

Eric and his wife, Kristina, have been a dynamic team in real estate for nearly a decade, balancing their professional success with parenting their children, Isabelle and Dominic, and caring for their rescue dog, Zoey. Passionate about family, pickleball, and fantasy football, Eric aims to build his real estate and investment portfolio to generate enough passive income to dedicate more time to family, friends, and personal enjoyment of life.



Kristina Hudes

**The Hudes Group
Keller Williams Realty**



Kristina Hudes is the dynamic CEO of Keller Williams Realty's The Hudes Group, where she has been turning dreams into reality since 2014.

Growing up in Orange County and Santa Cruz, Kristina's journey in real estate was inspired by her parents, although it wasn't her initial career choice. With a background in business marketing from San Diego State University and East China Normal University in Shanghai, she pivoted to embrace

real estate, driven by a passion for meeting new people and a desire for self-employment.

Kristina's success is attributed to a client-focused approach, innovative systems, and a relentless drive for results. Recognized

again this year as one of *South Orange County Real Producers'* Top 40 Under 40, her unique qualities include creativity, enthusiasm, and exceptional problem-solving skills.

Outside of work, Kristina treasures time with her husband Eric, their children, Isabelle and Dominic, and their pitbull, Zoey. She enjoys swimming with them, traveling, using her Peloton, and car karaoke with her daughter. Actively involved in supporting OC Parent Guide, Fit4Mom, and senior communities, Kristina aims to double community and client events in 2025 while growing her team and real estate portfolio. Her guiding philosophy is, "Life is 10 percent what happens to you, and 90 percent how you react."

Steven & Samira Hurd

**Hurd Homes
eXp Realty**

A powerful husband-and-wife pair with a passion for real estate and community service, Steven and Samira Hurd are the co-founders of Hurd Homes at eXp Realty. With combined industry experience spanning over 28 years, the couple's expertise has earned them numerous accolades along the way.

Steven's knack for creating efficient systems and Samira's exceptional problem-solving skills make them stand out in the real estate market. Their emphasis on delivering unparalleled client service and their proactive approach have been key to their continued success. Growing up in Orange County, both Steven and Samira were inspired to enter real estate by their personal experiences and observations of witnessing the positive impact of homeownership on people's lives.

Beyond their working hours, Steven and Samira are deeply involved in their local community, contributing over \$10,000 annually and holding active roles with the Rancho Santa Margarita Chamber of Commerce and Diamond Partners of the local homeowners association, SAMLARC. Steven enjoys a nice cigar and a glass of whiskey or time at the beach, and Samira is into all things related to design. Together, the Hurds enjoy exploring new restaurants, traveling, and look forward to welcoming their daughter, Charlotte Grace, this month. Their vision is to build a team that mirrors their high standards and to continue making meaningful contributions to their local community and to the lives around them.



Ryan Immel

**The Immel Team
Pacific Sotheby's International Realty**



A luxury REALTOR® with The Immel Team at Pacific Sotheby's International Realty, Ryan Immel has been a formidable figure in the real estate industry since 2015. Based in Dana Point, Ryan's deep local knowledge has propelled his career as he continues to set ambitious goals and exceed them.

A Northern Arizona University graduate with a degree in business marketing, Ryan was inspired to enter real estate by his father, Phil Immel, a respected broker. Ryan's approach to real estate is defined by his high attention to detail and commitment to delivering a white-glove service experience. His expertise in marketing — spanning

print, video, and social media — ensures that every listing receives maximum visibility. Growing up in Dana Point and Mission Viejo, he possesses an intimate understanding of the local market, offering invaluable insights to both buyers and sellers.

Outside of real estate, Ryan enjoys spending quality time with family and his wonderful girlfriend, Julia, DJ'ing with his brother, body surfing, and exploring his creative side through painting and video production. Gazing into the future, Ryan hopes to get married and start a family while maintaining a healthy lifestyle, traveling more, and obtaining his broker's license in the near term.

Brittany Leighton

X Real Estate

An inspiring broker with X Real Estate, Brittany Leighton has been building a solid reputation for savvy negotiations since 2005. Also known for her meticulous attention to detail, community outreach, and passionate drive, Brittany continues to crush expectations year after year.

Brittany was raised by a Marine father and a determined, focused mother who instilled in her a strong work ethic and the importance of giving back while growing up. Brittany set her sights on selling coastal real estate when she was in grade school, her path into real estate sparked by the admiration she had at age 7 for a neighborhood REALTOR®.

Brittany's approach combines organizational prowess, innovative marketing, and a deep commitment

to community involvement. With a strong spirit of giving back, she sponsors a child in need with every transaction she completes, something she says she finds incredibly rewarding and which reflects her commitment to helping others.

Brittany balances her professional success with personal fulfillment, including coaching soccer for AYSO and enjoying escape rooms with her children. Brittany's short-term goal is to inspire the next generation of Realtors, while her long-term vision is to provide her children with a beautiful and comfortable home in Orange County.



Joey Leisz



The Leisz Team Century 21 Affiliated

A motivated partner with The Leisz Team at Century 21 Affiliated, Joey Leisz has been steadily making a name for himself in real estate since 2016. A San Clemente native, Joey blends his background in communications and political science from CSU Channel Islands with over 40 years of family experience in real estate.

Joey remains passionate about connecting sellers with the perfect buyers and guiding first-time homeowners through the daunting process. His business merges traditional real estate techniques with innovative marketing strategies,

including social media and hosting unique events. This approach, coupled with Joey's commitment to transparency and authenticity, has set The Leisz Team apart.

Joey lives in San Juan Capistrano with his wife, Sydney, their daughter, Wren, and their soon-to-arrive baby boy. Outside of the office, Joey enjoys surfing, golfing, and photography. He actively contributes to his community through volunteering with A Walk on Water and serving as the publicity chair for the San Clemente Rotary. Looking down the road, Joey aspires to continue growing The Leisz Team and giving back to his San Clemente community as much as possible.

Thomas Morley

The Right Guy Real Estate Group Keller Williams OC

Thomas Morley, a devoted REALTOR® with Keller Williams OC Coastal and a key member of The Right Guy Real Estate Group, began his real estate journey in 2021. Having quickly made a mark, Thomas was recognized as a Rising Star at his brokerage last February. Thomas attributes his success to early mentorship from Karyn Sontag and ongoing guidance from Simon Guy.

Originally from the United Kingdom and now based in Orange County, Thomas holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology from UC Santa Barbara. His passion for real estate was sparked by an interest in investing and a desire to assist people through significant life transitions. He

values honesty and transparency above all else, while always going the extra mile for his clients.

Recently married to his high school sweetheart, Lauren, Thomas shares his life with her and their beautiful English cream golden retriever, Moseley. An active individual, Thomas enjoys running, has a love-hate relationship with golf, and loves cheering on his favorite soccer team, Leeds United. His ambitious life goals include doubling his sales volume next year, increasing his reading from 24 books annually to 48, and achieving fluency in Hebrew.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Nura Motal

Nura Motal Real Estate Group Compass



President of the Nura Motal Real Estate Group at Compass, Nura has been a driving force on the Orange County real estate scene since 2007. Nura is known for her deep understanding of the local market and her innovative approach to the business. Her team's unique listing services and commitment to maximizing home values have set new pricing standards and earned accolades such as being named one of the 2023 *Real Trends*

Top Professionals and *Orange Coast Magazine's* All Stars.

Growing up in Laguna Niguel and Dana Point, Nura has a lifelong connection to the area, which fuels her passion for showcasing its unique charm. Her educational background in psychology and social behavior from the University of Irvine complements her instinctive grasp of aesthetics and buyer appeal.

When she's not working, Nura enjoys tennis, hiking, surfing, improving her golf game, and spending time with her cat, Harry, "who thinks he's a dog." Motivated by her favorite quote, "Whatever your life's work is, do it well!" Nura's long-term goal is to further expand her reach in luxury coastal markets and grow her team while continuing to deliver exceptional service.

Christian Pace

The Pace Team Harcourts Signature Properties

An associate broker with Harcourts Signature Properties, Christian Pace leads The Pace Team with great gusto. Raised in Riverside, and inspired by a high school recommendation from his best friend's mother, Christian found his calling in real estate in 2018.

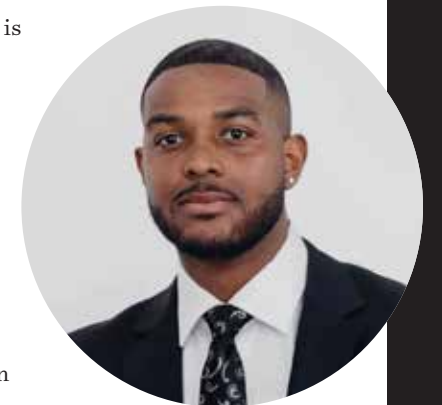
Since launching his career, Christian has quickly risen to prominence, known for his confidence, style, and exceptional kindness. Christian also excels in blending art and strategy to create successful outcomes for clients. He finds his work deeply rewarding as he views each transaction as a creative process, akin to crafting art and music.

Outside of work, Christian treasures quality time with his wife, Jasmin, and their two sons, Carter and Crue. He enjoys hitting the gym, boxing,

and reading. Christian is also passionate about supporting youth sports programs, particularly in underserved areas.

Professionally, his short-term goal is to exceed \$100 million in annual sales, with a long-term vision of becoming one of the world's few Black billionaires.

Guided by his favorite quote, "If you look good, you feel good. If you feel good, you play good. If you play good, they pay good," Christian continues to thrive and inspire.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Wyatt R. Parker

Anvil Real Estate



Wyatt Parker, known as “The Big Agent” at Anvil Real Estate, has quickly made a mark in the industry since starting in 2023. His dedication and innovative strategies earned him the Anvil team’s Growth Partner of the Year award.

A graduate of Fort Hays State University with a degree in exercise science, Wyatt sought fulfillment beyond traditional career paths. His unique approach to real estate blends relentless improvement with a strong personal connection to clients. The “30-10 rule” of daily calls (30 cold calls with homeowners and 10 follow-up calls each day, five days a week) Wyatt employs has significantly contributed to the growth of the listing side of

his business, while an emphasis on genuine relationships sets him apart in a competitive field. Originally from Kansas City, he brings the same energy to real estate that he applies to his competitive powerlifting and adventurous hikes around California.

Wyatt is passionate about mental health advocacy and community service, volunteering at local food banks. In the short term, he aims to grow his business and win more powerlifting medals each year. Long-term, he envisions starting a family and further scaling his business. He also plans to assist his family in building a home in Hawaii and to lead by example in all his endeavors.

Crystal Schantzen

Anvil Real Estate



Crystal Schantzen, an accomplished REALTOR® with Anvil Real Estate, combines personal commitment and professional expertise to serve her clients. After starting her real estate career in 2007, she re-entered the field in 2021 with renewed energy and a focus on delivering exceptional results.

Originally from Calgary, Alberta, Crystal now enjoys the sunny climate and vibrant lifestyle of Orange County. Her academic background in speech pathology from the University of Texas at Dallas has enriched her approach, empowering her to build trusting relationships with clients and prioritize their needs.

Outside of work, Crystal treasures family time with her husband, Sean, their two sons, Isaiah and Ethan, and the family’s dog, Ranger, and enjoys paddleboarding, mountain biking, and snowboarding. She also loves traveling and making meals for family and friends. Deeply committed to helping improve the lives of others, Crystal is an active member of the Relief Society, a global lay ministry offering vital support to individuals and families, and was a foster parent for several years in Texas.

Looking ahead, Crystal is committed to continually learning and staying engaged with changes in the real estate industry. She strives to provide the best version of herself to her family, clients, and community. Her mantra, “The harder you work, the luckier you get,” drives her relentless pursuit of excellence in real estate.

Stephanie Peterson

Stephanie Peterson Group Arbor Real Estate

Stephanie Peterson is a distinguished REALTOR® with Arbor Real Estate, where she leads the Stephanie Peterson Group. A native of Corona del Mar, she embarked on her real estate career in 2015 and quickly established herself as a prominent figure in the industry.

With a B.S. in international business from the University of San Francisco, Stephanie combines her academic background with a deep-seated passion for real estate, honed from growing up in a real estate development family. Her success is rooted in her commitment to empowering her team and fostering a culture of collaboration, innovation, and customer satisfaction, and her agile marketing strategies and compelling social media presence resonate with today’s connected clients, setting her apart in the competitive coastal Orange County market.

Stephanie finds fulfillment in helping clients achieve their dreams and aims to become the top agent in coastal Orange County by expanding her market knowledge, leveraging her network, and providing exceptional service to high-net-worth clients.

Active in her community, Stephanie supports Make-A-Wish® Orange County and the Rob Machado Foundation. In her free time, she enjoys pilates, tennis, and pickleball, as well as spending time with family and friends.



Nicole Schatz

Compass

A local REALTOR® with Compass, Nicole Schatz has made a remarkable impact since starting her career in 2020. Specializing as a San Juan Capistrano expert, Nicole’s personalized approach and white-glove service set her apart in the industry.

Originally from Orange County and a California State University Long Beach alumna with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Nicole’s local knowledge and genuine relationships with clients are key to her growth. Her proactive strategies, such as finding off-market properties and offering comprehensive support to sellers, showcase her passion for her role as a trusted guide.

Outside of her busy work schedule, Nicole enjoys playing tennis, exploring the outdoors, and traveling with her husband, Yannick, and their two young

daughters, Indigo and Kilana. She is also actively involved with the charity event Marbella on a Mission, which supports the American Cancer Society and Family Assistance Ministries.

Nicole’s favorite quote, “Happiness is the key to success,” reflects her philosophy that joy in work leads to success. Short-term, Nicole is working on growing her real estate business while enhancing client experiences. Long-term, she aims to contribute more to community causes and achieve a balanced life that allows her to enjoy quality time with her loved ones.



Jeremy Schultheiss

Coldwell Banker Realty



Known for his integrity and high-touch client service, Jeremy Schultheiss is a first-class REALTOR® with Coldwell Banker Realty.

Starting his real estate career in 2019, Jeremy has quickly made a name for himself, earning accolades such as *Real Producers' Rising Star* and being listed among *Orange Coast Magazine's* top real estate agents the last several years.

Raised in Grass Valley, California, Jeremy holds a bachelor's degree in English literature from Point Loma Nazarene University. His transition to real estate was

driven by a desire to provide a better life for his family. Jeremy prides himself on treating clients like family, a personalized approach that fosters plenty of repeat business and appreciated referrals.

In his spare time, Jeremy enjoys running, surfing, and playing golf, all while being a devoted family man to his wife, Elyssa, and their young daughter, Kaia. He also dedicates time to his community through active involvement with Young Life and Harbor Point Church. Jeremy's short-term goals include building a successful real estate team, obtaining his broker associate's license, and creating a financial legacy for his children. Throughout it all, he is guided by his motto: "Do the right thing, no matter what."

Darren Shepherd

Compass

Hailing from Reno, Nevada, Darren Shepherd has been busy making his mark in South OC real estate since 2014. As a respected principal at Compass, Darren's expertise and dedication are evident. His consistently impressive sales volume underscores his growing influence in the industry. Recognized with numerous accolades, including his former brokerage's Diamond, Chairman, and Hall of Fame awards, Darren attributes his achievements to his focus on transparency, hard work, and collaboration.

Darren's passion for real estate stems from his love of guiding clients through complex processes and achieving their audacious goals. He finds fulfillment in turning ambitious visions into reality, driven by a desire to help clients reach what they once thought impossible.

His approach to the business is characterized by putting clients first, seeking innovative solutions, and being exceptionally coachable and collaborative.

Beyond working hours, Darren enjoys traveling with his wife, Chely, and their children, Darren Jr. and Layla, as well as all things sports and aviation-related. He is also committed to philanthropic endeavors, actively supporting the Kidney Foundation. Darren's short-term goal is to enhance his team's effectiveness, while his long-term vision includes world travel and sharing unforgettable experiences with his family.



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Chris Sidlow

**EQTY | Forbes Global Properties
eXp Realty**



A personable REALTOR® who recently joined forces with EQTY | Forbes Global Properties at eXp Realty, Chris Sidlow launched his impressive real estate career in 2017. Since then, Chris has become a prominent figure in the industry, thanks to his innovative approach, likeable personality, and dedication.

Chris's real estate days began at Zillow.com, where he honed his real estate acumen before transitioning into a full-time Realtor, a decision he describes as transformative. His success is rooted in his exceptional ability to connect with clients, leveraging his online real estate background to build lasting relationships and turn

strangers into lifelong clients. His strategy includes effective lead generation and engaging open houses, and his relatability and sense of humor distinguish him in a tight market.

A Mission Viejo native now residing in Huntington Beach with his wife, Guita, and their young son, Kian, Chris is passionate about surfing, mountain biking, and exploring new hobbies like auto racing. He also has a soft spot for charities and community events that take on racism and marginalized communities, completing the Leadership Tomorrow program to gain a profound understanding of the inner workings of the city government. Chris's five-year plan is to own 25 rental units and achieve \$40 million in sales.

Brittany Soroudi

The Soroudi Team | Keller Williams OC Coastal Realty

Brittany Soroudi is a distinguished REALTOR® at Keller Williams OC Coastal Realty, where she leads The Soroudi Team. Since launching her real estate career in 2014, Brittany has excelled in the luxury market, driven by professionalism, extensive networking, and a commitment to exceptional results.

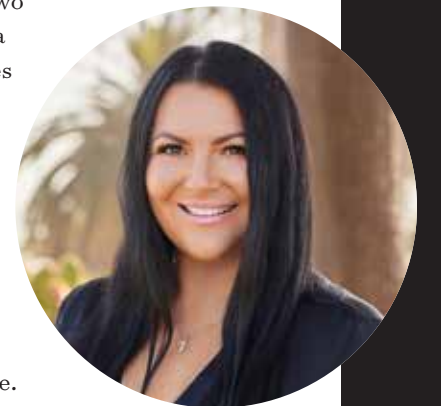
Brittany's deep-rooted knowledge of high-end real estate, combined with her personalized, concierge-style service, sets her apart. She offers a tailored client experience and expert negotiation skills, ensuring the best outcomes for her clients.

Raised in Laguna Beach and an alumna of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Brittany transitioned from a background in broadcast journalism and entertainment management to real estate with a vision of impactful client service.

Married to her business partner, Benjamin, and mother to two wonderful children, Sophia and Wylder, Brittany values family and community.

In the short term, they aim to build a business that supports a lifestyle focused on quality time together and giving back. Long-term, they aspire to grow a team that delivers exceptional service.

With a commitment to helping clients achieve their dream lifestyles, Brittany proudly represents her brand with the slogan, "Sold by Soroudi!"



40 UNDER 40: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

Bryan Suarez

Anvil Real Estate



An experienced REALTOR® and mentor with Anvil Real Estate, Bryan Suarez has been a driving force in the industry since 2013. Bryan's background in business marketing from the University of Nevada and hands-on experience in his family's flooring business fuel his passion for helping clients achieve their dream of homeownership.

Bryan's focus on continuous improvement truly sets him apart. His obsession with refining his skills — whether through scripting, networking, or open houses — demonstrates his drive to be one percent better every day. This discipline,

combined with strong mentorship and a keen understanding of market dynamics, has been key to his ongoing success.

Beyond work, Bryan enjoys spending time with his wife, Roya, and their two young children, Beckham and Lyla. An avid golf enthusiast and sports fan, he loves cheering on the USC Trojans, Chargers, and Angels. Bryan is also involved in charities like Promise 4 Paws and Toys for Tots. Looking ahead, he aspires to become a broker, build his own team, and delve into property investment and development down the road.

Stephania Weisz

Anvil Real Estate



A dedicated REALTOR® at Anvil Real Estate, Stephania Weisz is also a passionate mentor who combines her nursing background with a strong commitment to her clients and support for new agents. Since starting her real estate career in 2018, her success has been driven by her consistency, client-focused approach, and a reputation for honesty and integrity.

A native of Los Angeles and now an Orange County resident, Stephania's pivot to real estate was driven by her desire to support her family more directly. With a bachelor's degree in nursing from Loma Linda University, she brings a compassionate perspective to her real estate practice, emphasizing education and patience over quick sales.

Married to Adrian for 13 years, Stephania is the proud mother of three children that keep her quite busy — Danielle (11), Alexander (8), and Joshua (5). Balancing family life with a love for reading, CrossFit, and community involvement, including PTA sponsorships and organizing local events, Stephania exemplifies balance, both at home and in her career. Her guiding motto, "Just keep swimming," reflects her resilient spirit and ongoing drive to exceed expectations.

This year, Stephania's short-term goal is to surpass \$10 million in sales volume, which she is on track to achieve. She is also currently studying for her broker's license to provide even more value to her clients. Personally, she strives to be a great wife, mother, and friend.

Cindy Vu

Davin Emmons & Associates | HomeSmart Evergreen Realty

A promising REALTOR® with HomeSmart Evergreen Realty, Cindy Vu is a key member of the Davin Emmons & Associates team. Since starting her real estate career in 2022, Cindy has achieved remarkable success, and her attentiveness to clients is unmatched, as she often makes herself available around the clock to meet their needs.

Cindy's innovative approach and fresh perspective set her apart in the competitive real estate market. Her ability to blend creative strategies with a personal touch helps her clients stand out and achieve their homeownership dreams. Recognized for her outstanding performance, Cindy was honored with the

HomeSmart National Diamond Award in 2023 and named one of the Top Producers at HomeSmart Evergreen Realty last year.

A Vietnam native who grew up in Orange County, Cindy holds a bachelor's degree in international studies from UC Irvine. In her off hours, she enjoys cooking, traveling, and horror films. With a supportive partner, John, and her Maltese, Tobi, Cindy is looking forward to growing her family and her business. Her personal mantra, "Do more than just exist," drives her motivation to make a meaningful impact in the lives of everyone she meets.



Casey Wootan

The Ward Team | CENTURY 21 Affiliated

A prominent member of The Ward Team at CENTURY 21 Affiliated, Casey Wootan continues to make significant strides in the real estate industry. Since starting his career in 2015, Casey has built a reputation for innovation and client-focused service in San Clemente and Garden Grove.

A Cal State University San Marcos graduate with a bachelor's degree in history, Casey hails from a family deeply entrenched in real estate; his father spent over 30 years as a commercial broker at CB Richard Ellis. Casey finds deep fulfillment in guiding clients to achieve their real estate goals and always strives to make the process as seamless as possible.

In addition to his professional endeavors, Casey enjoys life with his spouse and 11-year-old Labrador retriever. His personal interests include snowboarding, surfing, and golfing, and he remains dedicated to giving back to his community. Casey actively supports organizations such as Trout Unlimited, the Alzheimer's Association, and California State University San Marcos (CSUSM) sports. On the horizon, Casey's goals include expanding his real estate investments and starting a family.



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