

Key Biographies

Vicky Durand Liljestrand President & Co-Founder

As a co-founder of Liljestrand Foundation, Vicky Durand Liljestrand has been deeply involved in its transformation and growth over the past fourteen years.

Vicky graduated from Punahou High School and spent her formative years in Hawaii as a young surfer. In 1957, she won The Makaha International Surfing Championships, an early surfing contest. Along with her mother, who was also an accomplished surfer, Vicky was invited to Club Waikiki in Lima, Peru as mother-daughter Hawaiian surfing ambassadors.

Her interest in fashion led her to establish a sportswear and textile design company that she directed for a number of years. Based in California and Hawaii, the company's products were distributed by boutiques, department stores and museum shops across the country.

Vicky also taught for many years at a Title I School in Waianae, Hawaii. While teaching, she collaborated actively with community groups to provide better education and services for her students.

Vicky received her AA from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles and BS at California State University Long Beach in Family and Consumer Science, both with a focus on apparel manufacture and fashion design. She holds an MS from Oregon State University in Clothing and Textiles with a minor in Adult Education. Vicky is certified in Secondary teaching and Special Education.

Kristi Cardoso Executive Director

As Assistant Director of Liljestrand Foundation since 2018 and Executive Director since 2020, Kristi has been working to develop partnerships, public programming, fundraising capacity and communications strategies.

Kristi received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in photography from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, with a minor in Art History. After working for renowned interpretive design firm Ralph Appelbaum Associates in New York for two years, she moved to Hawaii and spent over ten years with Girl Scouts of Hawai'i, building its fundraising infrastructure from the ground up. As Director of Fund Development and then Director of Corporate Relations for the Girl Scouts, Kristi oversaw annual giving, major gifts, partnership development, grants and events.

Born in Hawaii, Kristi grew up in Indiana, Missouri, Virginia and Pennsylvania. When she isn't working at the most beautiful office in the world, Kristi can be found hiking or on the beach with her family.